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EDITORIAL

SENDING OUT MISSIONARIES

The custom of sending out missionaries is as old as the Church of Jesus Christ. In the 13th Chapter of the Acts of the Apostle we have an account of the first missionaries who were sent out by the early church. It reads: As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Ghost said: Separate Me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

So they being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed, etc.

Notice in sending out these first missionaries there was Divine and human co-operation. First, the Holy Ghost had called Barnabas and Saul to this specific work. Every missionary and preacher needs to have a definite call from God to the work of the ministry of the gospel before he should attempt to go. He must, like Paul, feel: "Woe is me if I preach not the gospel."

Second: I notice that the church that was a spiritually minded church, and was praying and fasting and ministering to the Lord, recognized their call, and made provision for their going, and sent them out. And yet the word declares that they were sent forth by the Holy Ghost. He was the greatest factor, and still must be in calling and equipping men for the gospel ministry and in carrying on the Lord's work successfully. Our Brother and Sister Kierstead, whom we have so recently sent to Africa, both felt a definite call from God to that work. And so urgent was their call that they were willing to make the sacrifice which was great in order to respond to that call. Our brother left a good position with good pay to take very much less and go to a foreign field, and also Sister Kierstead seemed just as willing to sacrifice the companionship of her many friends and relatives and take her little family to a great heathen country where they of necessity must be deprived of very many advantages and conveniences of the home land. But they are willing and glad to do this that many of those who are in heathen darkness may have the light. God bless our noble, self-sacrificing missionaries. Friends, seeing that God has called them and sent them forth, and has been pleased to leave us at home, it seems that the least we can do is to give them our best support by our sympathy, prayers and money.

Many of their friends cannot understand why they should make such a sacrifice, and

some have remonstrated and tried to discourage them from taking such a course. And when asked why they do such a thing, the best answer that our missionaries can give is: "Because God wills it so."

SELECTIONS

From "Instructions to Young Converts" by Charles G. Finney

One of the first things young converts should be taught, is to distinguish between emotion and principle in religion. By emotion I mean that state of mind of which we are conscious, and which we call feeling—an involuntary state of mind that arises of course, when we are in certain circumstances or under certain influences. There may be highwrought feelings ,or they may subside into tranquility, or disappear entirely. But these emotions should be carefully distinguished from religious principle.

By principle, I do not mean any substance or root or seed planted in the soul. But I mean the Voluntary decision of the mind, the firm determination to act out duty and to obey the will of God, by which a Christian should always be governed. When a man is fully determined to obey God: I call that principle. Whether he feel any lively religious emotion at the time or not, he will do his duty cheerfully, and readily, and heartily, what ever may be the state of his feelings. This is acting upon principle and not from emotion. Many young converts have mistaken views upon this subject, and depend almost entirely on the state of their feelings, to go forward in duty.

Young converts should be taught to pray without ceasing. That is, they should always keep a watch over their minds, and be all the time in a prayerful spirit. They should be taught to pray always, whatever may take place. For the want of right instruction on this point many young converts suffer loss, and get far away from God. For instance, sometimes it happens that a young convert will fall into some sin, and then he feels as if he could not pray, and instead of overcoming this he feels so distressed that he waits for the keen edge of his distress to pass away. Instead of going right to Jesus Christ in the midst of his agony, and confessing his sin out of the fulness of his heart, and getting a renewed pardon, and peace restored, he waits till all the keenness of his feelings has subsided, and then his repentance, if he does repent, is cold and half hearted. Let me tell you, beloved, never to do this; but when your conscience presses you, go then to Christ, confess your sin, fully and pour out your heart to

Some times people will neglect to pray because they are in the dark, and feel no desire to pray. But this is the very time when they ought to pray. You should go right to God, and confess your coldness and darkness of mind. Tell Him just how you feel. Tell Him, "Oh Lord, I have no desire to pray, but I know I ought to pray, "And the Spirit may come and lead your heart out in prayer, and all the dark clouds will pass away.

NOTE.—These are but a few instructions given in Mr. Finney's Lectures on Revivals of Religion," but I would advise any one desiring help, and inspiration in Christian living to read this book, "Finney's Lectures on Revivals of Religion." It will stir you up, inspire your faith and give you light on many dark problems.—Sel.

QUARTERLY MEETING REPORT

The quarterly meeting of District No. 3 convened with the church at Black's Harbor, N.B., Feb. 23rd to 26th.

The opening message of the meetings was brought to us by Rev. H. S. Wilson, who spoke to us from Matthew 6-10. Friday, 7.30 p.m., Rev. E. R. Bradley brought a soul searching message from the text found in Hebrews 12-14.

On Saturday at 2.30 p.m., the business session of the meeting took place with the vice-president, Rev. E. R. Bradley, occupying the chair. Scripture reading was from Psalm 19. Prayer was offered by Rev. H. M, Kimball. Minutes of last meeting were read and approved. Roll call found the following ministers and delegates present: Rev. E. R. Bradley, Rev. H. S. Wilson and Rev. H. M. Kimball. Delegates from the following places: Jonesport, Calais, and Crawford. A welcome and privilege was extended to the visitors.

Election of officers resulted as follows: President, Rev. H. M. Kimball; Vice-President, Rev. F. A. Watson; Secretary, Sister Ora Beal; Treasurer, Brother Gaudett; Highway Agent, Rev. E. R. Bradley.

The devotional committee was appointed by the chair.

Reports were read from all the churches on the district with a note of victory and encouragement in each of them. Bro. Beal gave a verbal report on the work in Millbridge, Me., which is being carried on by Bro. Bradley. This was also a good and encouraging report. Sister Perkins gave a verbal report on the new work being undertaken in Wesley, Me., by Bro. Wilson. She also brought in a report of victory. For all these things we praise God and take courage.

A vote of thanks was then given the church at Black's for their kind entertainment.

Resolved that time and place of next meeting be left in the hands of the secretary.

Resolved that present S. S. Comm. continue to function.

A real time of praise and worship took place at this time and the glory of God was surely upon His people. The report of the Devotional Committee was brought in and accepted, and meeting adjourned.

Saturday evening. 7.30 p.m., Rev. H. S. Wilson spoke to us from Ezek. 37-3.

Sunday, 9.30 a.m., Sister Lee gave a wonderful exhortation from St. John, 14th chapter, making us feel homesick for heaven.

At 11 a.m., Rev. E. R. Bradley spoke to us from Isaiah 50-11, theme "Who Kindled Your Fire?" Bro. Bradley spoke to us again at 2.30 p.m., Romans 10-13. This was another inspired message.

The closing message was brought Sunday at 7 p.m. Rev. H. S. Wilson was the speaker. Text, "What shall I then do with Jesus which is called Christ?"

God blessed and honored His word and gave us during the meetings five seekers.

We feel that this was a good and timely meeting and we give God all the glory for all that was accomplished.

ORA BEAL, Sec'y.

The death rattle in the throat, will change the position, but not the condition of the soul.

SIN, never wears its grave clothes when trying to damn a soul.

If I were to be lost, I would sooner go to perdition from the jungles of Africa, or from the sands of India, or from the interior of China, than from gospel lighted America.

—W. G. Ketcheson.