

# Go Ye Into All the World and Preach the Gospel to Every Creature

## MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Hartland, M. S.,  
March 10, 1946.

Dear Friends:

I have just returned from our afternoon meeting here at the Station. I spoke from that great verse found in John 3:16. The need of the world is Jesus. The good news of how "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have eternal life." To be able to tell a group of people that God loves them and to give this great proof of His love—the giving of His only begotten Son—that is the greatest announcement we can make to men and women, and, thank God, His love is for "whosoever will."

We had planned to have a month of study for our preachers and native elders, here at Hartland, but it seems that the time for this had not come. On March the 4th we were to have begun our studies but one thing and another has made it so that our students could not attend, so we shall have to re-arrange for a more opportune time. I have been thinking of how valuable it would be if we could have a school of this nature regularly, so that our workers and young people could further their preparation for service in the Master's harvest.

The scarcity of rain this summer has made food scarce and this, coming after last year's crop failure, has made the famine more serious than usual. Almost daily there are troops of donkeys and companies of natives going to or coming from Paulpietersburg. Some have to travel long distances and it is very sad to see some of them returning without any food, and with the news that a fresh supply will be available in a few days. The rain that did come in January was too late for some parts, but for others it was still in time so that if we have some more within a few days we shall have better crops locally than we had last year. It is a good reminder of our dependence upon God.

We do thank God for the lovely baby He has given us. Last Sunday in our service two native Christians were praying that she would become a missionary. Our greatest desire for her life is that she would fulfil the will of God for her.

I take this opportunity to say, "Thank you," to all who have written us letters and sent cards; for the parcels containing presents and for the money that has been sent to us. May God bless you for remembering us in this way. We also thank you all for praying for us as we try to tell these natives, and some times white people, the Gospel message.

We are glad to notice the slowly rising tide of spiritual life among our people out here. I believe that God has a great plan for the salvation of

many souls about us here. We have on our programme for the year, quite a few revival meetings and we shall be glad to know that those who can pray and believe will join us in asking for a harvest of souls in 1946. The need is so very great that we are forced to admit that we are but reaching the fringes. The heathen are being born faster than they are being saved.

When we arrived back in Africa in 1937 we found many new sects had come into this district and since then their number has continued to increase, but the general tendency is to allow more and more of the old heathen customs and sins in these churches and sects. There is just as great a need of the message of a full and free salvation as there was when this work was first started. The circumstances have changed vastly. Education and civilization have become more common but salvation is still scarce. In this part of the country as in so many places at home the popular testimony is that we do not and cannot know if we are saved or not till the day of judgment. Or the other extreme that everybody is safe and is saved.

We are beginning to think about Beulah again, as we have to think a few months ahead when it comes to sending letters and reports, and we are very interested in the success of the new Bible Institute at Woodstock. May God continue to lead on to greater things and may we be given special blessing in His service this year.

Yours, happy in the Master's service.

C. D. M. SANDERS

## THE JOY OF HARVEST

J. B. Chapman

DAVID enunciated God's unfailing promise to those who give themselves to the task of winning souls to Christ in the words, "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him" (Psalm 126:6).

The picture of this rejoicing harvester involves a wide and serious sowing, "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed." No one can read these words of condition without seeing a man going out with his sack or basket of seed on his left shoulder while with his right hand he scatters seed on promising ground and on shallow soil.

Yesterday a mother bewailed her inability to win her son to Christ. But on careful inquiry we discovered she had sought no others' sons, but had depended on finding a harvest of rejoicing from a restricted sowing. Our word to her was, "Sow beside all waters." Go out and seek the sons and daughters of others, and it may be God will send another to reach and save your own. Sow! Sow widely Sow in the earnestness represented by tears. And keep everlastingly at the task.

Who can tell which will prosper, whether this or that? Sometimes the most unlikely are the first to hear and heed. Publicans and sinners come in sometimes ahead of those who have been brought up "in the lap of the gospel."

The gospel word is evangelist, whose work is evangelism, and whose word is evangel—good news. But news is not really news until it is published. We do not win more people to God for the very simple reason that we do not work harder at the task. Sometimes we want to criticize some one for the way he goes after the soul winning task (his method of approach to individuals, his plan for giving the public invitation etc.), but the principal criticism is not due someone for the way he does it, but rather to the whole of us for the way we do not do it. If we sowed more seed amidst true tears of heart concern, we would have a fuller, richer harvest.

It is wonderful for the farmer to have smooth fields, efficient tractors and modern machinery. But it is often observed that the rough, barren country supports more people than the rich farming section. Likewise, it is undoubtedly a good thing to have talent and tact in the business of soul winning. Yet, there is more credit due humble people who speak with stammering tongues and sing with untrained voices for the kingdom of Christ than is due orators and artists. Bishop Peck, one of the most eloquent preachers of his day, said: "If my eternal salvation depended upon my winning a hundred souls for Christ during the next ten years, I would come right down out of the pulpit and go after them personally." And, after the joy of personal salvation, there is no joy so great as that which comes to one who has led a soul to Christ.—*Herald of Holiness.*

## MY FIRST CONVERT

HOW my heart leaped for joy when I heard the tidings of my first convert! I could never be satisfied with a full congregation and the kind expressions of friends; I longed to hear that hearts had been broken, that tears had been seen streaming from the eyes of penitents. How I did rejoice, as one that findeth great spoil, over one poor laborer's wife who confessed that she felt the guilt of sin, and had found the Saviour under my discourse one Sunday afternoon! . . . I remember well her being received into the church, and her dying and going Home. She was the first seal to my ministry and, I can assure you, a very precious one indeed. No mother was ever more full of happiness at the sight of her first-born son. Then could I have sung the song of the virgin Mary, for my soul did magnify the Lord for remembering my low estate, and giving me the great honor to do a work for which all generations should call me blessed, for so I counted the conversion of one soul.—*Charles Haddon Spurgeon.*