

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

## MAKING CHRIST KNOWN IN THE REGIONS BEYOND

By P. W. Thomas  
In Pilgrim Holiness Advocate

Foreign missionary work has always been somewhat of a difficult undertaking, but in recent years it has also become a highly complex one. No two fields are quite the same except in the fundamental spiritual need of the people. Even the climate varies, to say nothing of the language, the customs and the government. And no matter how often the work of missions is discussed, it seems that the story is never fully told; while one problem is being solved another is in the making, and while one victory is being celebrated we must make ready for another battle! But if we cannot keep abreast of all the missionary news we can bear upon our hearts the need of the work, and we can give to it the necessary support of Christian love, of prayer and finance.

\* \* \* \* \*

Supporting the work of foreign missions calls for more than the giving of money. The whole effort from the human standpoint is based upon our love for Jesus Christ and our response to His command to preach the gospel to every creature. Jesus said to Peter, "Lovest thou Me more than these? . . . Feed My sheep."

The expression, "A passion for souls" has come into frequent use. What may be more scriptural to say, and certainly what is needed most, is an intense, wholehearted love for Jesus. The Bible shows us those men who loved Him with all their mind, soul and strength, willingly laboring and suffering to carry out His will.

A missionary was asked if he liked the work he was doing in Africa. He replied, "Do I like this work? No, because wife and I do not like dirt. We have reasonably refined sensibilities. We do not like crawling into the vile native huts through goat refuse. We do not like ignorance, filthiness and brutishness. But is a man to do nothing for Christ that he does not like? God pity him, if not. Liking or disliking has nothing to do with it. We have the Lord's orders to 'go' and we go. Love constrains us."

\* \* \* \* \*

Some of the most effective supporters that the work of foreign missions has had have been people with little money to give, but they gave themselves. Their zeal and fire quickened others around them. Often when interest in the work lagged their persistent love and faith kept things going.

Such saints form a priestly class who labor in prayer and intercession for the gospel work in distant lands. Waiting upon God with tears and supplications they have been able,

through the Spirit, to pull down the strongholds of the Enemy. After all is said and done, this holy war is a spiritual struggle and is won or lost on higher levels than the window sill of the bank teller's cage.

\* \* \* \* \*

Oh, yes, funds are still needed. The facts show that an increase in our giving has become well nigh imperative. Dollars with dwindling purchasing power pose real problems for missionaries. Nevertheless, the more urgent need is for men and women who are entirely given up to God, people who are sanctified wholly and have the fire of the Holy Ghost upon their souls. They are needed here at home and they are needed to go to the edge of the dark jungles of sin there to make a highway for our God.

When the materialistic concept of Christianity pervades the soul, as it does so commonly these days, there is little willingness to exchange the bright prospects in the homeland for the uncertainties and the sacrifice that missionary work sometimes entails. This is one of the tragic results of "lukewarm" Christianity. But, blessed be God, there is a place in Divine grace where His will is the sweetest pleasure of the soul and where the vision of the whitened fields is clear and compelling!

\* \* \* \* \*

Once we come to see the true nature of the church of Jesus Christ, the work of making Him known is going to claim our best and our highest effort. Such wisdom is from above and comes to the soul through the Word and by Divine revelation.

Judged in the light of heaven, which is the Christian way of evaluating anything, the church of Jesus is the only truly successful institution known to man. Every enterprise that is human in its origin deals with the things of time, but the work of salvation which is God's thought, not man's, deals with eternal things.

After General MacArthur's request that missionaries be sent to Japan, it seems a great pity that so few Christian workers responded. The Roman Catholics put three times as many missionaries there as did the Protestant churches. But it is not the appeal of such men as General MacArthur that should move us most, nor is it the call of our church for missionaries, rather it is the voice of the Son of God that has the first and deepest claim upon our hearts!

\* \* \* \* \*

Time grows shorter! The sands in the hour glass of the Times of the Gentiles are running out. The King is at the door!

Let none of us wait longer to do what we have thought of doing for so long. There is a procrastination even among religious people that serves the purposes of the Enemy. It is

this business of withholding good when it is in our power to do it; it is this saying, "I will go" and then not going; it is the putting things off that we can and should do for Christ and missions now.

## MISSIONARIES

Who are these  
That run along the highways of the world  
And seek in meanest suburbs with their feet?  
They are the troubadours of God.  
Blowing an airy melody along earth's aisles  
As solid as the masonry of dreams.  
They are the wise eccentrics  
Who reason with divine hilarity.  
They are the canny merchants  
Who buy the hearts of the nations for their  
Prince,  
They are the vivid tailors  
Who push the thread of ages through their  
hands.  
They are the white militia  
Who take no blood to spill it, save their own.  
They are the blessed coolies  
Who lift the loads of folly on their backs,  
And dump them into truth's dissolving  
streams.  
They are the blithe outrunners  
Who trek the world's long reaches for old  
trails  
Whereon to lay the pavement of new years.  
They are the grave cross-bearers  
Who bear stern wooden gibbets on their backs,  
And nail their loves and treasures to the  
beams.  
They are our princely brothers,  
Born of the womb which bore us,  
Who speak for us amid the courts of life.  
—Henry Barnett.

## SHUT THE DOOR

A man was trying to converse with a friend over the telephone. "I can't hear. I can't hear!" was all he could say to him. At length the other man called out sharply, yet distinctly, "Shut your door, then try."

He knew the locality—motor-cars whizzing by, horses' hoofs clattering, and other street noises.

The man shut the door at once, and was then able to hear his friend's message.

How often God is there, speaking to our hearts in His wonderful way, and thoughts of the outer life protrude. The voices of this life—its work, cares or pleasures—get mixed up with God's voice, and so we miss hearing that voice. Often we make no effort to shut off the earthly ones.

—Christian Standard.