

MISSIONARY PAGE

Now Africa

It couldn't happen in Russia—but it did! It couldn't happen in Poland—but it did! It couldn't happen in Czechoslovakia—but it did! It couldn't happen in China—but it did!

We thought that Communism would not spread, would not take root, would not bear fruit, but we were wrong—sadly, tragically wrong! For godless, pagan Communism has blighted the mind, warped the soul, and enslaved the body of millions of men and women. Now, their countries are closed to the Gospel; Christian missionaries are banished; and any worship must be carried on in secret and by stealth.

And now Africa stands in the path of this vile thing! Africa, with newly awakened minds and national awareness, is being mesmerized by Communism. Literature, enticing and subversive, is flooding the country. First generation literates are grasping feverishly at anything printed, and are lending attentive ears to radio broadcasts that incite rebellion and create unrest.

This is the dark Africa of Missions. This is the last continent to show signs of awakening—it can be the lost continent if the Christian Missions are hampered, or go too slowly.

Flooding the African cities are magazines and papers sent from China, Prague, and Russia. Beautifully illustrated and printed in two, three and four colors, they appeal to the eye, and plant seeds in the mind. Sold far below cost, they are within reach of all who can read, and are made available for one purpose only—for Propaganda.

The president of a college in Africa said his teachers go to bed early, setting their alarm clocks for 1.00 a. m., when they can tune in on Radio Moscow with clearest reception. For-saking sleep, they listen: and in listening, they can fall into the snare for Communism.

What can we do? Those who have fled the tyranny, darkness and death of Communism know that only the Gospel of Jesus Christ can save, and hold off this iniquitous tide. But we must meet the enemy on his own ground.

In Liberia, the Sudan Interior Mission has begun the building and erection of a radio station, ELWA. This will beam Gospel programs into the homes and hearts in many countries of Africa. We cannot take funds by force for propaganda, as is true in the Communist State; but we do cry to God and to His stewards for the means with which to rush the completion of ELWA, that we might thus preach the Gospel and save some.

But it is in the field of literature that we stand committed to fight the enemy. Communism boasts that China was won through the power of the pen. The same tactics are being used now in Africa—the "plum" which Communism seeks. The unbelievable wealth in men and materials is the prize for which Communism is striving.

But it is their souls that we seek, and this is the greatest prize of all.

It is with a sense of urgency that we write this. Things are happening in Africa, and to paraphrase Phil. 1:12, we would that the things which are happening in Africa would fall out unto the furtherance of the Gospel there.

We say again, Africa is no longer awakening—she is AWAKE—awake to the benefits of education and industry—awake to the incalculable value of its vast continent; awake to the pride of national autonomy; and awake to everything but the danger which confronts her!

The vast wealth of Africa is being sought by subversive, soul-enslaving powers. To an awakened people, the blandishments and overtures of Communism are appealing. To an ignorant people, they are captivating.

The people of Africa must know of the dangers confronting them. They must hear the Gospel now while their country is still open, and freedom to preach is still possible.—The Evangelical Christian.

TRUSTEES OF THE GOSPEL

"The glorious gospel . . . committed to my trust."

(I Timothy I: II).

What is a trustee? Let us see. Suppose a man dies, a rich man, we will say. He leaves a large inheritance to a number of heirs. And of course he has made a will, in which he has named the heirs and carefully defined the inheritance falling to each one. He appoints you the executor of his will and the trustee of his estate. That means that as soon as the man dies the whole of his wealth is for the moment in your hands. But is it yours to keep for yourself? By no means. Very likely he has included you among his heirs, and left you a generous share of his riches. But he has also conferred upon you a special honour and a sacred responsibility by making you his trustee. In this capacity you are to seek out every fellow heir, and carefully to pass on to each the portion of the inheritance due him.

Obviously the discharge of this trust may in some cases be easy, in others not so easy. One of the heirs may live next door to you, another in the same town, still others in not far distant places. All this is easy. Only a personal call, a letter, a short journey, and their shares are distributed. But other heirs are not so easily found. They live in foreign lands, and their addresses are not known. They have not heard of the death of the benefactor, nor of their being among the heirs. What shall you as the trustee do? Shall you consider your duty done when you have given to those heirs near at hand their portions, and deem it too much trouble to take further steps to discover the remaining heirs? Can you conclude that you are justified in appropriating to yourself the fortune that belongs to them? No, surely not, if you are in any degree worthy of the trust committed to you! You will employ every means, and rest not until you have searched out the last heir, and made him the happy possessor of his inheritance.

Now the fact is that a man has died. His name is Jesus Christ. And He has left a glorious inheritance, described in His published will. Many of His heirs have been found in this country, and have been put in possession of their riches. But many more are scattered abroad, in Africa, Asia, South America, China, and other lands, and these know nothing as yet of their good fortune. Because of their ignorance they suffer spiritual poverty, sorrow, and hopeless despair. Yet they are His heirs,

REPORT FROM R. B. MISSIONARY SOCIETY AT MILLVILLE, N. B.

We have been wondering if some of our Highway friends would be interested in reading a report from our Missionary Society here at Millville and if you would have the space for same in your most valuable paper, and we in return would enjoy reading a report from other societies of our denomination.

Our society has an average attendance of about twenty-five members, all interested in the advancement of our missionary work, as our church here has contributed a number of workers to our African field, including the late Sister Ida Kierstead, wife of the late Rev. I. F. Kierstead, their son, Rev. Eugene Kierstead, Rev. Wm. Morgan, jr., and another who is prepared to go, Rev. Karl Gorman.

Our society is now under the capable leadership of our president, Mrs. Clowes Palmer, secretary, Mrs. Lewis Hoyt, who has held that office for the past 14 years. Our organist is Mrs. Lester Hull. We hold our services the last Wednesday evening of each month.

Our services consist of song service, scripture reading and prayer, and sometimes a special number in song by our good pastor, Brother Owens, his wife, or some of the members; a Bible quiz, speed-tests in finding certain scripture verses, letters from some of the missionaries in Africa and other missionary readings, then closing with testimonies by those present.

The three societies on our circuit sometimes exchange presidents who bring the lesson for the evening.

At one of our recent services our lesson for the evening was given by an "Invisible Guest" in the form of a letter from one of our former members, Brother Karl Gorman, which was enjoyed by all present.

We send out cards to the sick, bereaved, etc., and in addition to our regular missionary budget, our society makes special gifts of money to our missionaries in Africa, also Sister Thelma Rose in Haiti, and we trust the Lord may enable us to do far greater things for Him.

At this time of writing our church has just concluded a revival meeting with Brother Pratt, of Indianapolis, and from the results of this we are expecting some new names on our roll call, for which we heartily praise the Lord!

May God richly bless all of our societies and use each and everyone of us for the advancement of His Kingdom in the Homeland and across the sea.

Yours in His glad service,
Mrs. Lewis Hoyt (Sec'y)

provided for by His will, just as truly as those at home. And you are one of the trustees of this Gospel. Have you done your very best to give them the good news?

"The glorious gospel . . . committed to my trust!" Ponder well these wonderful words, until they thrill and inspire you. He has put you in trust with the Gospel for these heathen souls. He has chosen you, has trusted you. He is depending upon you. Are you being true, or are you disappointing Him? Oh, the consequences involved—to them, to you, to HIM! God help you to do your very best!

—Dr. Robert H. Glover.

The King's Highway

Pentecost DISPENSATIONAL AND PERSONAL

Samuel Chadwick, D. D.

"And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:3-4).

The Whitsuntide festival once a year turns our attention to the events of Pentecost. It is the birthday of Christendom. The Christian dispensation was inaugurated on that day by the gift of the Holy Spirit. It was the most wonderful day the world had ever seen since God made man in his own image. It closed a dispensation that had lasted for thousands of years, and opened another that will continue till the end of time. It was a sample day. The signs were temporary but their significance is for all generations. Within the proceedings of that day may be found all the forces manifest in all succeeding days. As the day so is the dispensation.

The Preparation for Pentecost

The preparation for Pentecost may be said to have been going on from the beginning. Through all the history of Israel God had been preparing the world for the coming of His Son, and the Son came that this gift to the race might be procured. But there was an immediate preparation in the work of Christ. The Holy Spirit could not be given until the work of Christ was accomplished.

In John 7:30 we are told of Christ's words on that occasion were spoken of the Spirit which was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. The words quoted by Jesus find their interpretation in the symbolism of the Old Testament. In Ezekiel 47, and Zechariah 13:1; 14-8, we have the new dispensation set forth under the figure of a river. That river flows from the place of sacrifice, in Ezekiel from under the altar, and in Zechariah from the fountain opened for sin and uncleanness. In Revelation 21 the river flows from a throne on which is the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. How completely this is fulfilled in Jesus Christ! The Spirit comes from the cross. Calvary is the explanation of Pentecost. The gift of the Spirit is the purchase of His Blood. Until sin had received its atonement, the Spirit could not come. Until that was accomplished Christ's glorification could not begin, and until He was glorified the Spirit could not be given.

There was also a preparation of the disciples. He needs a prepared people. In this also there was an extended and immediate preparation. Through all their intercourse with Christ they were being familiarized with the Spirit. They knew Him for He abode with them in the person of their Lord (John 14:17). But as they neared the end He spake much to them of the Spirit which should be given them when he should have returned to the Father. He taught them concerning the Spirit, He told them of their great privileges in Him. Thus He prepared their minds to seek and to receive Him, and begot within them a great desire for His coming. This preparation was completed after the ascension of Christ into heaven. With the promise that they should be endued with power not many days hence, they returned to the Upper Room and there continued in earnest, believing prayer, ten days waiting the promised gift.

These are the abiding conditions of the

The King's Highway

The Purpose Of Pentecost

By Rev. J. W. Hill

Pentecost celebrates the inauguration of the dispensation of the Holy Ghost. This dispensation is the crowning glory of redemptive grace. Here is concentrated all the accumulated glory of past dispensations. It may be justly affirmed that the dispensation of the Holy Ghost is the perfective complement of God's gracious dispensations. The history of redemption is marked by three distinct dispensations, representing the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. The dispensation of the Father unfolds the unity of God, in which the Father, as the moral governor of the universe, is conspicuous. "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord."

The prime idea with the Fathers was "One Lord, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders." The object of this dispensation was to check idolatry, and bring the race back to the knowledge and worship of the true God.

In this dispensation crude forms of worship were instituted to meet the demands of an untutored, fallen world. God revealed Himself in panorama, and taught the people by object lessons. The burning bush, the pillar of fire by night, and of cloud by day, were symbols of the Divine presence and glory, while sprinkling priests, bleeding beasts, and smoking altars were mediums of Divine worship.

By graduations of light corresponding with the spiritual receptivity of the race, the world hastened on to the dispensation of the Son—a dispensation which marks a new era in the history of redemption. When the fulness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, that He might redeem them that were under the law. God who at sundry times, and in divers places, hath spoken unto us by his prophets, hath in these latter days, spoken unto us by His Son Jesus Christ. In this second dispensation, the Son is preeminent. The dispensation of the Son was short. Having instructed the world in righteousness, and made an atonement for sin, He transferred the arena of His mission to heaven, where He ever liveth to make intercession for us. The dispensation of Christ seems to have been rather transitional, than to establish a permanent phase of religious experience.

Indeed, the same may be said of the dispensation of the Father. The first dispensation, with all its lessons and experiences, was designed to prepare the world for the advent of the Messiah, the law being a schoolmaster to bring the people to Christ, that they might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

Christ's dispensation was designed to prepare the people for the advent of the Holy Ghost, as the third person of the Trinity, who was to usher in the new and last dispensation. In this dispensation the Holy Ghost is conspicuous. In each of these epochal dispensations, the whole Trinity has been present, hence they are not to be regarded as rival dispensations. The Father and the Holy Ghost bear a faithful testimony to the Son at His baptism.

The Son came to bear witness of the Father, and to reveal Him to the world. The words which He spake were not His, but the Father's who sent Him. He came not to do His own will, but the will of the Father. His whole incarnate life was a manifestation of the Father. "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me, or else believe me for the very works' sake."

Spirit's coming! Glorify Christ; search the Scriptures concerning the Spirit; and pray for His coming and assuredly your Pentecost will not be long delayed.

The Signs of Pentecost

Signs signify quality and mission, and the signs of Pentecost are full of meaning. A cyclonic wind which filled the house and a cloud of fire accompanied His coming. Christ had Himself spoken of Him as the wind at once so mysterious and so manifest, and John the Baptist had described His baptism as one of fire. The form in which He comes signifies the kind of work to be done. He came upon Jesus not as a fire but in the form of a dove; He comes upon the disciples not as a Dove but as fire. In the sinless Son there is no need for wind or fire. In the sinful disciple there is no home for the Dove. For us the Spirit is fire.

The figure is familiar enough. It has influenced our daily speech in every direction. We speak of friendships as warm, and of love that burns. We mourn our chilling reserve and cold indifference. We speak of passions that are fiery and of enthusiasms that are at white heat. Christ sets them ablaze. He kindles within them a moral and spiritual enthusiasm that purifies, impassions and transforms them. The flame sat upon each of them as a tongue of fire. Not the tongue of the learned, or of culture, or of eloquence, but of fire. That is the gift of God and the mighty weapon of His people. The Spirit is a Spirit of utterance, and Spirit-inspired speech is always forceful, appropriate, and effective.

The Marvels of Pentecost

The greatest marvel of that marvelous day was the effect of the Spirit's coming upon the disciples. What a change it wrought in them! It set fire to their understanding. It turned those common-place fishermen and tax-gatherers into prophets, teachers, and advocates. They received the Spirit of Truth, Who taught them all things. It gave them courage as well as certainty. Their shrinking timidity and cowardly terror were burnt up in the blaze of the Spirit's baptism. You look in vain for the Peter of the judgment hall on that day. He is a new man. The Peter of the fire and the Peter baptized with fire are nothing akin. It filled them with power. What force there is in their speech! What an unconscious look of strength there is in their bearing! A different company from that baffled band at the foot of the Mount of Transfiguration! It filled them with joy. They were so full of gladness, people said they were drunk. They were intoxicated with God, not wine.

Spirit-filled men are always joyful. No wonder the effect upon the world was so startling. They were astonished, arrested, and perplexed. Sixteen different nationalities listened to a man who knew no language but his own, and each heard the word in his own tongue! As they heard they were convicted of their sin and cried out in distress of soul. And three thousand of them were savingly converted to God that day.

Have you received the Spirit, or are you resisting Him? Have you had your Pentecost, or are you living on the Old Testament side of the Cross?

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