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the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God."

But full surrender to God and to His whole will is not as simple as it may seem. To come forward to an altar of prayer on an appeal to give oneself for the Lord's service is not all that is involved in these Scriptures. When we read (Rom. 6) of death and resurrection with Christ, we are not faced simply with an historical fact. This teaches the truth of our identification with Christ at Calvary. But these are not mere words. When the Holy Ghost faces a soul with the question of its own crucifixion, he may squirm or rebel. Our own plans, our own desires, are to go to the cross. When our will really moves over into the will of God and we allow the Holy Spirit to take His sword and cut the central nerves of self, then an inner cleansing and transformation take place in the heart of the believer.

Consecration is not first to God's service, but to God Himself; then we shall know His will about our service. Christians need to enter into a life of holiness—sanctification through death and resurrection. Until this be true, the ranks of Christian workers will continue to be filled with much "dead wood," and selfishness and carnality will continue to play their deadly role in church life and in Christian circles.

The third requisite for victory is appropriating faith. When the soul has yielded everything to God, faith leaps upward. He who has called us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice will honor that sacrifice when surrender is complete. Then the Holy Ghost will fill the heart, and the fire of God's love will burn in the soul. When a soul has set up this milestone, spiritual progress and fruitful service are sure to follow. Cleansing can take place in an instant, but the maturing and the testing process continues to the end of life.

Thank God, there is a place where a soul can "stand perfect and complete in all the will of God." "He is able . . . to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him." Blessed will that one be who says one eternal "Yes" to God for time and for eternity, and then holds still as the Holy Ghost probes the soul about the past, the present and the future. As one has said, "Sanctification is the marriage of the soul to God." There is peace, rest and fruitfulness in a life where Christ is Lord of all.

## THE QUESTION OF DIRECTION

By F. Lincicome, in "Free Methodist"

The great thing in life is not so much where you stand as the direction in which you are moving. We are all moving. The law of life is progress or degeneracy. There are two principles in every breast—a progressive principle and a retrograde principle. Hence we are going forward or backward. Someone said we need not stay where we are. I will go them one better than that and say we cannot stay where we are. There are no stationary periods in life, physically, mentally or spiritually. We are living souls and never twice the same.

Life is not built on a level; it is built on an incline. When we stop climbing we are likely to slip, and that slip may result in a slide. There are always two forces at work—the force of construction and the force of destruction. There is aways an upward pull or a downward drag. So if you decide you are going forward, you will have to do two things—help yourself and fight yourself. One of the first questions for us to settle is the question of direction. The world usually pushes a man in the direction he makes up his mind to go. If he desires to go up, it will push him up. If he makes up his mind to go down, it will push him down.

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have slept in anything remotely resembling a bed. Disease rages on unchecked and unattended.

Much of this is due to superstition, ignorance, and sin. In India, for instance, people will not butcher their beef to sustain human life, but rather will give the grain that they should eat to preserve the life of the animals which they hold sacred. Life is out of balance because of the religious belief of the people.

Dense darkness hangs like a pall over much of Africa, and has been lightened but little. One reason for this is the fact that the task is so great for the pitifully small handful of missionaries engaged.

And where people do not have the light of salvation they are victims of falsehood and superstition on the grand scale. One but needs to travel through Latin America to see how false ideas have been imposed upon the people and how holy things have been brought down to the common level of the street, and at times, of the gutter. As this is being written, the press describes the mass conversion of 50 million untouchables in India from the Hindu to the Buddhist religion, which is but from oue form of dakness to another. Oh that they would turn to "the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world!"

Sometimes people are exercised over the question as to whether the heathen are lost without the gospel. The Bible is plain enough on this point, that all men everywhere are lost, and are only saved through faith in Jesus' name. That which needs to concern us is what will happen to us if we fail to obey the great commission of Jesus Christ. How can we claim his presence if we fail at this crucial point?

"Occupy till I come," is his word that comes to us from the Word. Regardless of what it costs or what it takes, we are to press on until the Lord himself signals that our work is done!

The cost of doing foreign missionary work has greatly increased. Missionary supports have scarcely kept pace with the rising costs, and every bit of equipment which is taken abroad requires a larger outlay than ever. Obviously, this is no time to retrench in giving!

We must be true to the trust that God has given us. And how great is this trust! As another has pointed out, if we do not give this year, we virtually say that the missionaries should come home. If we give no more than we gave before, we are saying the missionaries may stay on, but launch nothing new. But if we give what we have been giving and add to it, we say to the missionaries, press on and reach all possible before "the night cometh, when no man can work!" (John 9:4).

## THE MYSTERY UNLOCKED

Ah, the mystery was unlocked. In the secret chamber lost souls were pled for and claimed. The Holy Ghost knew just where they were and sent them along.

Mark this: If all who read these lines would thus lay hold upon God, with the holy violence and unconquerable perseverance of faith-filled prayer, a good many things would give way, against which we have been beating with our puny human wisdom and power in vain.

The prayer power has never been tried to its full capacity in any church. If we want to see mighty wonders of divine grace and power wrought, in place of weakness, failure and disappointment, let the whole church answer God's challenge: "Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" (Jer. 33:3).—J. Hudson Taylor.