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Truth Never Dies

Truth never dies; the ages come and go;
The mountains wear away, the seas retire,
Destruction lays Earth's mighty cities low;
And empires, states, and dynasties expire;
But caught and handed onward by the wise,
Truth never dies.

Though unreceived and scoffed at through
the years,
Though made the butt of ridicule and jest,
Though held aloft for mockery and jeers;
Denied by those of transient powers possessed,
Insulted by the insolence of lies,
Truth never dies.

Truth answers not; it does not take offense,
But with a mighty silence abides its time,
As some great cliff that braves the elements,
And lifts through all the storms its head
sublime;

So truth unmoved, its puny foes defies,
And never dies,

— J. N. Watros

Light for the Heathen

ELLEN G. WHITE

God's work in the earth in these last days is to reflect the light that Christ brought into the world. This light is to dissipate the gross darkness of ages. Men and women in heathen darkness are to be reached by those who at one time were in a similar condition of ignorance, but who have received the knowledge of the truth of God's word. These heathen nations will eagerly accept the instruction given them in a knowledge of God.

Very precious to God is His work in the earth. Christ and heavenly angels are watching it every moment. As we draw near to the coming of Christ, more and still more of missionary work will engage our efforts. The message of the renewing power of God's grace will be carried to every country and clime, until the truth shall belt the world. Of the number of them that shall be sealed will be those who have come from every nation and kindred and tongue and people. From every country will be gathered men and women who will stand before the throne of God, and before the Lamb, crying, "Salvation to our God, which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb." Rev. 7:10.
—"Counsels to Teachers," pp. 531, 532.

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

Another Open Door

RECENTLY we were strangely and happily surprised. Just as we had finished dinner one day, our gateman came in stating that there was a man outside who desired to see me. On inquiring who the man was, and getting no satisfaction, I sent the gateman back to learn the stranger's name and business. He soon returned with the man's name written in Arabic, with the statement that he was from Shanghai. This at first seemed strange to us, but on meeting the man and conversing with him somewhat, we felt that we were face to face with another of God's marvelous providences. Brother Davis, Du Fu Gu, one of our native evangelists, and I spent a very interesting afternoon with him, and the Spirit of the Lord was with us.

This man, Sha Fi Er by name, is a Jew by nationality, a Mohammedan by birth and by early training and profession, but is now a Sabbath-keeper at his home in far-off northwest Kansu, with a company of close to two hundred followers. There they have a place of worship, and often as many as four hundred meet to worship upon the Sabbath day. They have never observed the first day of the week, and for many years have been praying that they might find God's Sabbath-keeping people with whom they might unite in church fellowship.

Sha Fi Er was born in Mecca, is a single man sixty-one years old, but would pass for forty-five. Up to the age of seven, he lived in the city of his birth, after which time he went to Cairo to be educated, and was graduated there at the age of twenty-nine. Shortly after finishing his school work, he went with his parents and others to Turkey, and from thence journeyed northward to what is now Southern Russia, where they remained for eight years. There his father died. Their next move was toward China. They migrated, a company of upward of fifty, to central Sin-Kiang, far to the west of Kansu province, remaining there a few years. Fifteen years ago the company moved to their present location, in the Kanchow district of Kansu province.

Thirty years ago, as he was taking the boat when leaving Egypt for Turkey, Sha Fi Er was presented with a copy of the Holy Scriptures, which he later

learned to love. When he first compared this holy book with the Koran, he found much in which the two books were alike; but after continued and more thorough investigation, he was convinced that this book contained much that was lacking in his Koran; and in his heart he became a Christian, although for years he made no outward profession of his faith. After leaving Russia he openly proclaimed his faith, and began to work for his own people.

Of the fifteen years spent in Kansu, the first few he was entirely at his own expense in his missionary work, engaging in business for a livelihood. But as the numbers of believers increased, they felt it their duty to care for the temporal needs of the one who spent his time so untiringly in their behalf. So for the past six years he has been supported by gifts and donations from his people, and has thus been enabled to devote his time fully to their spiritual needs.

At the time of this visit to us, Sha Fi Er was returning from a rather extended trip to Singapore and South China, where he has relatives. He had appointments en route with the Mohammedans, feeling it his duty to tell them of the faith which he has in Jesus. I am convinced that this man is no fanatic, but a real Bible student. He has read the Bible through from Genesis to Revelation seventy-nine times, and stands ready to accept its teachings.

It will be of interest to our readers to learn how this man found us. At the railway station in Hankow, he met a lady colporteur with *the Signs of the Times*, and purchased a copy. He noticed our church name, and inquired of the colporteur where our mission was located. Inasmuch as all the workers at the Hankow headquarters except Sister Gillis were away, he was directed to come to us. So instead of purchasing his ticket direct to Djenchow as he had planned, he bought to Yencheng, bent on finding us and knowing for himself if there were others in China who with him are keeping the seventh-day Sabbath according to the Scriptures.

In the course of our conversation many points were brought up upon which we were agreed, and this is not strange; for Sha Fi Er has taken the Bible as his guide, even as we have. He told how his people observe the Sabbath. At sundown on Friday evening a bugle is sounded, and from that time until the following evening the Sabbath is kept. He is quite a student of history, but has not studied much into the prophecies of the Bible. I gave him copies of Daniel and Revelation and of some of our other publications, all of which he gladly received. May the Lord bless these silent messengers as they go into that far corner, that they may be faithful witnesses for Him.

Thus the doors are thrown open for our message to go to far off Kansu, and the way is prepared for

the giving of the gospel to the Mohammedans of this great country; and Kansu above all other provinces is their stronghold. Out of a population of upwards of ten millions, over eight millions are reckoned as Mohammedans. It is calculated that nine-tenths of the Mohammedans in China reside in the three provinces of Kansu, Shensi, and Yunnan; and Kansu is said to possess more than twice as many as either of these other two. Some authorities give to China as many as thirty millions of Mohammedans, while others list them from twenty to twenty-five millions. If these figures approximate the truth, it will be seen that the proportion of Mohammedans in Kansu must be very great, inasmuch as the total population stands between ten and eleven millions.

It seems as though Honan were destined to be a gateway to the regions beyond. Three years ago the tidings went through to Shensi, and now the way is prepared for the message to be preached in her sister province.

Thirty-five days of continuous travel, after leaving the railway in West Honan, takes this man to his destination, at an expense of something like fifty dollars Mex. (\$25 Gold). He gives an earnest invitation to us to visit them this fall, and is himself desirous of entering school that he may qualify for ordination. For years he and his people have been praying to God that He would send help in the form of a living preacher, and he returns to his people with renewed hope and courage at what his eyes have seen and his ears have heard. He with us thanks God for the privilege we have had of meeting. If we may serve as channels for this grand, glorious truth to go to these "regions beyond," to the Lord be the glory.

Yencheng-ho, Honan.

O. J. GIBSON.

Kiangsu Province, China

FOLLOWING the Shanghai general meeting in April, I made immediate preparation to spend the months of May and June in visiting the stations north of Shanghai, and strengthening the work at the new stations north of Wenchow and Bingwu, in Chekiang province.

As the places nearest Shanghai often receive help from the foreign workers, I first visited Dzang Zoh, where the native workers were in the midst of a series of special meetings. The prophecies of the second and seventh chapters of Daniel having just been explained, I used the next five evenings in the study of the eleventh chapter of Daniel, speaking also of the meaning of the world war and its relation to Armageddon. The people seemed anxious to know the significance of the terrible conditions prevailing in the world.

Dzang Zoh is a strong heathen center, and our workers have found its people unusually indifferent to the message, being so bound down by superstitions. However, we are confident that more honest souls are to be won there for the Master, and the workers are determined to press on, not permitting adverse circumstances to discourage them.

The next station en route was Tseu Tsaung, and I was greatly encouraged to see the progress the work had made there since my visit several months before. The believers who were baptized last December, although they had been severely tried by the enemy, had been true to the message, and were rejoicing in the hope of our Saviour's soon return. There are a large number of new Sabbath-keepers in this place and the surrounding country, who are studying earnestly in preparation for baptism this fall.

The one fact which has impressed me most forcibly wherever I have gone throughout the field, is the ripeness of the harvest. Everywhere there are souls ready to accept the message of our Saviour's soon return to gather His elect. I will relate an instance which came to my notice while at Tseu Tsaung:—

About two miles from our chapel there lives a man by the name of Dzung who, with his wife, had attended a number of our meetings. Not long afterward, their little boy became ill with a fever, and as they were unable to do anything to check the disease, the mother came to our evangelist, and asked him to go to their home and pray for the child. Upon his arrival, he realized that there was little hope for the child's recovery, except as the Lord should grant their desire. He explained to the parents that should the Lord not see fit to grant their request in this matter, they should realize that He knows best, and that He no doubt had some lesson for them in this experience. They were willing to leave all in the hands of the Great Physician. The fever continued to rage, and it was only a short time until the little life passed away. I later visited these people in their home, and learned that only a month before they had been idol-worshippers; but although at the very beginning of their Christian experience they had been called to pass through so severe a test of their faith, yet they clung to their hope of the resurrection to eternal life. Truly, the Lord is doing a quick work in the earth.

At Yang So, a city thirty li from Tseu Tsaung, there is a company of believers, whom I also visited. This company has been raised up through reading our literature and the work which the evangelist from Tseu Tsaung has been able to do among them. Most of these people are farmers in comfortable circumstances. They have provided their own place for meetings, it being too far to attend at Tseu Tsaung. Arrangements have been made for the evangelist or some of the

believers from Tseu Tsaung to meet with them on Sabbaths. Although the meeting was held in the busiest time of the silk-worm season, there were between thirty and forty present while I was there.

Leaving Tseu Tsaung, I next visited Kiang Yin, where the first line of forts guarding the Yangste-kiang is located. Here also there had been a goodly increase in numbers since my last visit. The school which was opened after Chinese New Year's has done very good work, and the association of the school-teacher with the efforts of the evangelist has strengthened the work, and been an encouragement to the workers. During the past year, we have been able to reach a much better class of people than heretofore, this being largely attributable to the fact that we have enlarged our chapel and added the school, thus giving us better facilities for reaching the people.

In company with our evangelist from Kiang Yin, I spent one day with enquirers at Waung San Kiang, a village about ten li to the east, and at the foot of the mountains on which the forts are located. Arrangements were made for the use of a large tea-house in which to hold the meeting, as a sufficient number of seats could not be procured elsewhere. There being no other mission at this place, and the people seldom having opportunity to hear a foreigner, they came in large numbers as soon as the word was sent out. We spoke on the subject of Christ's first coming, and of His promise to return, calling attention to the signs whereby we may know that He is near. Our audience listened attentively, and gave us a cordial invitation to hold meetings there regularly. We distributed several hundred tracts together with gospel pictures for the children, and arranged for meetings to be held each Thursday afternoon.

Thus we find doors everywhere wide open for the preaching of the message. The great problem which confronts us is how, with our present staff of workers, to care for these interests. "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest." K. H. Wood.

Shanghai.

Fruits of Faithful Seed-Sowing

At times the colporteur is inclined to fear that his work is largely without results, as it is not his privilege to remain in a neighborhood long enough for him to witness the fruitage resulting from his seed-sowing. For the encouragement of such I quote a paragraph from the March 10, 1917, issue of the *North China Herald*, a leading Shanghai paper. It reads as follows:—

"Some eight or nine years ago I purchased from a colporteur a book entitled 'Daniel and the Revelation,'

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

The Bombay Presidency Training-School

a verse by verse expository of these two books, and doubtless some of your readers will recollect being mulcted in the sum of three dollars by the persistent gentleman who hawked the publications around. I recently unearthed the book, however, and have truly found it a mine of information. Although in numerous instances the evidence and arguments supporting the interpretations do not appear to be sufficiently convincing to satisfy a critical mind, yet on the whole it is of great assistance to the student of prophecy."

Following this paragraph the writer gives one entire column of the paper to the explanation of the 70 weeks and 2300 days period as presented in the book "Daniel and the Revelation," and he holds so closely to the presentation given that one would think the writer a Seventh-day Adventist minister.

The writer of this article is a business man in one of the large firms in the city of Shanghai. He is taking a great interest in fulfilling prophecy. Recently he came to our Shanghai Conference office and purchased the following books: "Bible Readings," "Heralds of the Morning," "Coming King," "Past, Present, and Future," "His Glorious Appearing," "Capital and Labor," "Bible Footlights," "Paradise Home," and an assortment of tracts. He also subscribed for the *Signs* weekly and the *Watchman* magazine.

Such experiences remind us of the statement given us by the servant of the Lord: "It is true that some who buy the books will lay them on the shelf or place them on the parlor table, and seldom look at them. Still God has a care for His truth, and the time will come when these books will be sought for and read." That time has come. Our books are literally being sought for.

About five years ago, when canvassing for "Heralds of the Morning" in the Punjab, north-west India, a man whom I was canvassing informed me that he had two precious volumes which he prized next to his Bible. I was much interested to know what the books were, so he brought them out. They were "Great Controversy" and "Patriarchs and Prophets." He stated that about ten years before a stranger had visited him and sold him these books.

The colporteurs who sold these books so long ago in Shanghai and in far-away India may never know of these results of their seed-sowing, but they, with the rest of our large army of colporteurs, may leave results with the Lord of the harvest, knowing that He will not suffer His word to return unto Him void. "It shall accomplish that which I please," He declares, "and prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Our part is to obey the command, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand." Many will be in the kingdom of God as the result of such seed-sowing.

C. E. WEAKS.

THE majority of our young people in the Bombay Presidency Training-school have had no experience in real mission work; but we find them willing to be taught, and ready to do their best when they are directed. They greatly need the sympathy, counsel, and direction of older heads and hearts; and the mission worker needs much wisdom that in his efforts for these young people, he shall not expect too much from them, or place them in positions where they will be tempted overmuch.

During the last cold season, a few of these young people, accompanied by a missionary, went out to sell literature. They worked hard, and endured many deprivations and some real insults from Mohammedans and others; but by much prayer and hard work, they disposed of several thousand copies of papers and books and secured a few subscriptions.

Our native people have made a practise of giving away literature on the trains, in the bazaars, and in other public places. This year a colporteur institute was held in connection with the school. At its close, several of our men and boys went to Bombay to sell books and papers. For a few days they all did well. Then the enemy brought his temptations upon them. They met old friends, whose hearts were not in the Lord's work, and who taunted our boys, and tempted them to leave their work by showing them that they could make more money in the world's cause. These temptations were too strong for a few, and they fell.

There were others, however, who remained steadfast. One young man was offered a good position in a very popular firm, where men were badly needed; but he refused. In writing me about his experience he said that he had promised to be true and to keep God's law. He said that if he accepted that position, while he knew he could make more money, yet he would be a law-breaker, and God could not bless him. He knew that he would be wretched, and would go from bad to worse. Therefore he had concluded to be true to the Sabbath and to God's law and God's cause. He asks us to pray for him. He is a fine young man, and gives promise of making a loyal worker. We need more of such young men in our ranks. One student sold 107 papers in one day—a splendid record.

Recently a young man and his wife have joined our school whose experience in connection with their acceptance of the present truth is very interesting. This young man heard, over a year ago, that we kept the Bible Sabbath, and, believing that we were right, began himself to keep the seventh day. His friends tried in vain to turn him from following his convictions; he continued to keep the Sabbath and to follow all the light that he had received. But his heathen relatives made it so hard for him to obey the truth, that he and his wife at last decided to leave all and follow Christ elsewhere. They walked several hundred miles, over mountains and through rivers, until they found our mission school. They are now with us, as helpers in training, and very grateful that they can be associated with God's Sabbath-keeping people. Please pray for these young believers.

Kalyan, Bombay Presidency.

M. D. WOOD.

EVERY great work is endless: the Son of God, when called away, found the world far away from the kingdom of heaven He came to establish. For what He accomplished He glorified God; for what He could not accomplish, He looked up in trust to the Holy Spirit to accomplish when He was gone.

—P. C. Mozoomdar.

The Philippine Academy

FROM a private letter written by Prof. Irving A. Steinel, the principal of the Philippine Seventh-day Adventist Academy, to Pastor J. E. Fulton, we quote the following extracts:--

"We have enrolled fifty-one students so far, and expect a few more. Besides these, Mrs. Sevrens is conducting a church-school with ten children in it. We could have had a large church-school if we had had accommodations. We started this only after many urgent requests. We planned not to have any classes below the fifth grade this year, but aside from those under Mrs. Sevrens, we have had to take pupils in grades one, two, three, and four. They came, and we just *had* to take them in.

"We have thirty-six boarding-students. Of these, about half pay their way; a few pay half of their expenses; and the rest (about fifteen) earn their entire way. Among those paying their way, we have included twelve boys who work at the press. As far as the school is concerned, these are paying students. It is quite a problem to furnish work to so many students; that is, work that is profitable to the school. For the girls (of whom we have nine in the home) we have hat-weaving and embroidery. In time, these will be paying industries. For a few months, they will yield no actual profit.

"For the boys, we have carpentry, painting, gardening, and work on the grounds and janitor work. This work does not bring in actual cash, but some of it saves us some money. For instance, our carpentry class made our dining-tables, and class-room desks for the teachers. They are doing very well. Later on, they will make some chairs. At present, in our chapel and dining-room, we are using benches consisting of heavy boards resting on boxes and other supports. Some of our beds are rather crude, too, but we are trying to get our students to make the best of their surroundings. We are striving hard to keep from spoiling them by giving them unnecessary comforts to which they are not accustomed. We want them to learn to endure hardness as good soldiers.

"On the whole, we have a cheerful, contented, happy atmosphere here. It is surprising to see how willingly the students work. Every one has to work each day at some kind of manual labor. The public schools find this a hard problem. Filipino students are noted for their aversion to soiling their hands. We are trying to impress them with the dignity of labor. Some have confessed that they have had a hard struggle with pride, but they are gaining victories.

"We are making the spiritual part of our work the most prominent. Above all else we want spirituality in our school. Our slogan is, 'A spiritual atmosphere first and foremost.'"

For Thy Sake

All may of Thee partake

Nothing can be so mean,

Which, with this tincture—FOR THY SAKE

Will not grow bright and clean.

A servant, with this clause,

Makes drudgery divine:

Who sweeps a room as by Thy laws,

Makes that and the action fine. —George Herbert.

MINISTERIAL DEPARTMENT

Preparation for the Ministry*

Knowing the Call is of God

OF first and paramount importance to the gospel worker is the knowledge and certainty that his call is not of men, but of God. The Chinese ambassador to a foreign country does not depend upon assumption or rumor that he is appointed to represent his government in a far-away land, and acting upon uncertainty, pack his goods, purchase his transportation, embark on an ocean steamship, and proceed to take up his official duties. No; he waits until the credentials of ambassadorship, stamped with the government seal and signed by the proper authorities, are placed in his hands, after which he makes preparations for departure to his appointed post.

The example of Gideon is set before us. He was not only afraid, but also unwilling, to act as leader for the deliverance of Israel until he had unmistakable proof of the heavenly call. Read Judges 6:17-22, 36-40. So with preachers and gospel workers. Let no one presume upon his appointment to sacred duties without first receiving the divine credentials.

Being assured that it is God who has called, the individual should earnestly set about preparing himself for service. Every important work demands proper preparation. And as preaching is the most exalted duty that God has entrusted to men, it requires the most thorough qualification. While, on the one hand, the young person planning for the ministry should have perfect faith that God through the Holy Spirit will bestow upon him all wisdom and strength, he should to the utmost of his ability apply himself to reach the highest standard. He should trust and pray, as though the work of preparation all depended upon God; then zealously study and prepare as though the work all depended upon himself.

Take Heed Unto Thyself

The counsels of the aged apostle Paul to Timothy are of the highest value to youthful evangelists. Listen reverently to the instruction: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." "Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine." 2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Tim. 4:15.

The gospel worker is in a special sense God's instrument and is entrusted with the responsibility of keeping himself in good order for God's use. The soldier keeps his sword clean and sharp, his rifle polished, and his ammunition dry; so when you join the Lord's army as a soldier of the cross, remember that you are God's instrument, His chosen vessel to bear His name before men. Therefore, "keep thyself pure" (1 Tim. 5:22); "keep thy heart with all diligence" (Prov. 4:23), remembering that in large measure the success of the workman will be in proportion to his purity and perfection of character.

For the preacher of the gospel to become careless, and spiritually out of order, is, both to himself and his

* Note: This is the second of a series of studies on the Gospel Ministry for translation into vernaculars.

work, a serious calamity. It is easy to drift into such a condition, while to recover is most difficult. How necessary, then, to set a watch and diligently guard against this evil!

Carefulness in Little Things

On a large ocean steamship crossing from America to the Far East, a small steel plate that a person could easily carry in one hand worked itself slightly out of adjustment, and caused friction in the revolution of one of the wheels of the engine. Upon reaching the harbor of Yokohama, Japan, skillful machinists were called, and although the little steel plate was only a slight fraction of an inch out of place, it required more than two days to adjust the machinery for perfect, harmonious action as before. During this time the ship with all its cargo, passengers, and crew, was compelled to wait. The illustration is fitting; a man in all other respects having splendid qualifications may, by some little defect, be exceedingly hindered, or rendered entirely useless. A fly in the ointment spoils it for medicinal use: "so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honor." Eccl. 10:1.

When it is written, "Take heed unto thyself," the little things of our characters are included. We should avoid the little debts, the gossiping, the petty quarrels, the unkind words, the little criticisms, and all other little sins that are as flies in the ointment. These evils must all be put out of our lives, for we cannot run the great risk that being careless in the little things incurs. Remember it is "the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vines." To all who are chosen to holy office comes the admonition of the apostle Paul, "giving no offence in anything, that the ministry be not blamed." And if the lesser things demand close watch, how exceedingly careful should we be in the weightier matters of faith, justice, honesty, and morality.

Threefold Education Necessary

All this emphasizes the necessity of careful and thorough preparation. A wise nation makes full and complete preparation before rushing into war with a strong enemy. The officers and crew of a steamship make special preparation and minute investigation of every part and department of their vessel before starting on a voyage. It is recorded that because of one rotten timber in its construction, a great ship sprung a leak and sank with total loss. In the athletic contest, he who runs to win a prize undergoes long and careful training. In like manner the young person who dedicates his life to God for service should place himself where he can obtain the best preparation possible. The education should be broad and well-balanced, including the harmonious development of the spiritual, mental, and physical powers.

There are some kinds of work for which none but the strong and unblemished may be chosen. In the Levitical law, no person who had any imperfection of body could enter the sanctuary or officiate in the priestly service. See Lev. 21:17-20. Nothing is more self-evident than that God calls only the spiritually stalwart to the ministry of His Word. The gospel worker faces greater perils than ordinary Christians and must therefore stand equipped with the whole armour of God, ready for feats of valor, trials, hardships, and self-denials that are not expected of others. "And who is

sufficient for these things?" (2 Cor. 2:16). Who will be enabled to overcome the most trials and gain the most victories? We unhesitatingly reply, He who has a living faith in God, combined with a healthful body and a strong, well-developed intellect. Thus equipped the preacher may go forward, conquering and to conquer.

The Preacher's Conduct and Words Must Agree

Another principle of vital importance is that "the husbandman that laboreth must be first partaker of the fruits" (2 Tim. 2:6). The preacher is calling upon men everywhere to repent, and if his appeal is such that it lays hold upon sinners and convicts of sin, he must first know absolutely that his own repentance is deep and genuine. When he tells the people how they may cast off the burden of guilt and obtain forgiveness, he must himself have positive assurance that Jesus Christ has forgiven all of his sins and cleansed him from every stain. And when the preacher, as the mouthpiece of his blessed Master, bids the penitent, "Go and sin no more" (John 8:11), it is supremely essential that he has himself experienced the grace and power that keeps from sinning, and is thus able to direct others to the source of that strength in Jesus our Saviour.

Says one writer, "No man preaches his sermon well to others if he doth not first preach it to his own heart." Every preacher should be mightily stirred by the message he proclaims. If a truth or sermon does not grip and move the individual who delivers it, we could hardly expect it to influence the hearers for good. On the contrary, as the people listen to an evangelist who is working, not for the love of souls, but because preaching is his vocation, they soon tire of his formal, barren discourses. He is as a dumb maa attempting to teach music, or as a blind man posing as an oculist, with all the risk of inflicting lasting injury or blindness. Such a minister is not only unservicable; he is also a positive disgrace to the ministry, a damage to the church, and a curse to society. Sooner or later his hypocrisy is discovered; and no one may become a more powerfully destructive instrument in the hands of Satan than the ungodly minister. The gospel worker must himself be what he admonishes others to become. His personal character must correspond with his teachings; and whether in the pulpit or out of the pulpit his words and conduct must agree.

Prayer and Bible Study

In order to obtain such an experience, the worker should be constantly in touch with God. No one ever realized the importance of communion with our Heavenly Parent more than did the Saviour of the world. "From hours spent with God He came forth morning by morning, to bring the light of heaven to men. Daily He received a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit. In the early hours of the new day the Lord awakened Him from His slumbers, and His soul and His lips were anointed with grace, that He might impart to others. His words were given Him fresh from the heavenly courts, words that He might speak in season to the weary and oppressed. 'The Lord God hath given Me,' He said, 'the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: He wakeneth morning by morning, He wakeneth Mine ear to hear as the learned.'" (*Christ's*

Object Lessons, page 139.) Since it was essential for Jesus thus to employ long hours pleading with God that He might minister to others, how exceedingly necessary for us, His messengers, to spend much time in earnest, fervent intercession for strength and wisdom. "Personal effort for others should be preceded by much secret prayer; for it requires great wisdom to understand the science of saving souls. Before communicating with men, commune with Christ. At the throne of heavenly grace obtain a preparation for ministering to the people." (*Christ's Object Lessons, page 149.*)

Just as prayer is our spiritual breath, and nothing else can take its place, even so Bible study is our spiritual food for which no substitute will answer. Every gospel worker should daily feast upon the Bible, not only that he may be able to preach the Word to others, but primarily for his own life and strength and nourishment. Every preacher, young and old, should be a giant in scripture study and knowledge. From the very first the young preacher should set out to understand thoroughly every Bible theme, and so to equip himself that he can intelligently present every important subject. The Lord bids us, "Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." 1 Peter 3:15.

Love and Earnestness

As a preparation for this sacred calling, the preacher must have a love for his work and a passion for souls. The same spirit that constrained Jesus to leave His home in glory to labor, suffer, and die upon the earth, should possess the minister for God. His heart will go out in pity for lost mankind. He will exert himself to the utmost to win the members of his own family, his friends, and his neighbors to Christ. He will be tremendously in earnest; he will urge men, beseech men, entreat men, to turn from their evil, careless ways. Although he meet indifference and opposition he will not be deterred from doing his duty, for God has instructed, "Thou shalt speak My words unto them, whether they will hear or whether they will forbear." Eze. 2:7. Christ's messenger will have an intense yearning to save men from destruction and lead them into the kingdom of God. He will be long-suffering, "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9.

If any one regards the ministry as a life of ease, he should at once either change his conception, or abandon all thought of the ministry. In this calling there is no room for the indolent and ease-loving. It is a life of constant, arduous service, yet not for worldly honor, greatness, or power. Said Jesus, "It shall not be so among you; but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; . . . even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many." Matt. 20:27, 28. Consider how Jesus labored, scarcely taking time for food or rest. Read of Paul traveling, writing, persecuted, imprisoned, in all kinds of dangers, suffering a multitude of hardships, preaching and warning the people from house to house, by day and by night. We must recognize that we are debtors to Christ and to all men; that the responsibility is exceeding great, and that in order to pay the debt, it is required that we give our all. Soul, body, and

spirit are to be consecrated to God, and devoted perpetually to Him as a living sacrifice.

The Watchman

The preacher is represented as a watchman. "I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem." Isa. 62:6. Said the Lord to Ezekiel, "Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at My mouth, and give them warning from Me." Eze. 3:17. The watchman's duty is to guard the city; the lives of the people are in his hands. So with the preacher of the Word; his office is one of grave responsibility in guarding against dangers and enemies. Never should a watchman for God be found sleeping at his post. Every ship that crosses the ocean has a watchman or pilot on guard. Not for one moment may he leave his post. His one great duty is to look ahead far over the sea where he may discern any possible cause of danger. Through light and darkness, heat and cold, raging storm and furious tempest, the watchman remains at his post; for the lives of passengers and crew are in his keeping. The church has been called the gospel ship *Zion*, and the ministers are its pilots. The ship may be drifting toward a dangerous rock-bound coast; or there may be submarines waiting to destroy, and it is you, God's watchmen and pilots, who should give the alarm. False doctrines and false teachers are prevalent in the land; God's holy law is disregarded; earthquakes and famines, war and bloodshed indicate that Christ's coming is at hand; this sinful world is fast approaching its doom. Brethren in the ministry, we are heaven's appointed watchmen to lift up the trumpet and sound an alarm before all people, pointing out the dangers ahead, and also indicating the way of deliverance.

The world's greatest need to-day is loyal, fearless, godly watchmen. The perils that beset them are many. Against them Satan will make his first and sharpest attacks. The enemy hates God's watchmen more than all others, and is working in a myriad subtle ways to compass their destruction; for when a leader is smitten and falls, the ordinary soldiers are the more easily put to flight. Let us then be exceedingly vigilant and prayerful.

The closing struggles in the long controversy with sin are now being waged, and for this spiritual warfare God is calling the youthful and strong to prepare. The contest will be intense, yet brief; the victory complete, the reward glorious and eternal. May God abundantly bless His servants in preparation for the holy calling of the ministry. The man of God must be "perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God." Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong." 2 Tim. 3:17; Eph. 6:13; 1 Cor. 16:13.

R. F. COTTELL.

LET those who are in training for the ministry never forget that the preparation of the heart is of all the most important. No amount of mental culture or theological training can take the place of this. The bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness must shine into the heart of the worker and purify his life, before light from the throne of God can shine through him to those in darkness.—*Gospel Workers, page 94.*

THE ASIATIC DIVISION OUTLOOK

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PASTOR AND MRS. J. E. FULTON with their daughter Jessie left Shanghai July 31 for Burma.

WORD has been received from the States of the death of Pastor R. C. Wangerin. Further particulars will appear in a later issue.

PASTOR AND MRS. C. E. WEAKS returned to Division headquarters July 26 from their two-months' tour of the East Asian Union.

PASTOR J. S. JAMES left Shanghai on July 19 for a few weeks in the South China Union. His first stop will be at Amoy, where a provincial meeting has been appointed beginning July 24.

DR. A. C. SELMON is at present in the Philippines, closing up the final chapters of an amplified edition of "Health and Longevity" for translation into the Tagalog. This will give to the Philippines a new subscription volume. A Wenli edition of the same volume will be issued later by the Shanghai publishing house.

PASTOR J. E. SHULTZ was recently advised by physicians to rest for a season in some favorable retreat, in order that he may have strength in future for the heavy responsibilities devolving upon him in editorial work. For some time he has needed a respite, and his physicians encourage us to hope that the few weeks he is now spending in northern Japan will restore him to his wonted strength.

SAD NEWS has come to us from Honan. Brother and Sister O. J. Gibson have lost their younger son, Willard. The following resolution of sympathy has been sent them:—

"Whereas, Brother and Sister O. J. Gibson, while spending the summer season at their post of duty in Yen-cheng-ho, the headquarters of our work in Honan, Central China, have recently been called upon to suffer the loss of their younger son;

"Resolved, That we, the members of the Asiatic Division Conference Executive Committee stationed at the Shanghai headquarters, do hereby extend to Brother and Sister Gibson our brotherly sympathy, and our assurance that we sorrow with them in this sudden bereavement, yet not without the hope of a glorious reunion in the earth made new. We commend our dear Brother and Sister to the God of all comfort and grace."

A Day of Fasting and Prayer

At a meeting of the Asiatic Division Conference Executive Committee held July 29, 1917, it was voted that the first Sabbath in October of this year—Oct. 6, 1917—be set apart as a day of fasting and prayer in behalf of the work pressing so heavily upon the hearts of the laborers in the many populous mission fields now occupied by our forces. A detailed outline of the aims and objects which the Committee hope to see met through the appointment of this special season of supplication and reconsecration, will appear in succeeding numbers of the OUTLOOK. Meanwhile, let our brethren in all portions of the Division pass on the call for special and united prayer at the time appointed.

C. C. CRISLER,

Secretary Asiatic Division Conference.

Obituaries

ROSALIND AGNES HARE, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eric B. Hare, was born in Rangoon, Burma, June 5, 1917, and for nineteen days she lingered between life and death. Her hold on life grew less and less until finally, soon after the close of the Sabbath, June 23, she quietly fell asleep. The nineteen days of her life were days of deep sorrow and intense anxiety to Brother and Sister Hare. However, in this great affliction their faith and confidence is in God, and their hope is in the soon coming of the Saviour and the resurrection day when little Rosalind will be restored to them. Words of comfort were spoken by the writer from 1 Cor. 15:26, and we laid her away in the Protestant cemetery, there to await the coming of Jesus.

C. F. LOWRY.

ON the morning of July 15 just before nine o'clock, baby Willard Gibson was taken ill, developing symptoms of poisoning. Every means known to the parents and Bro. C. H. Davis to alleviate the intense sufferings of the child through extended periods of convulsions were ineffectual, and death ended the struggle at nine in the evening. Bro. W. E. Gillis and wife with their son Ithiel were called from Hankow and arrived the next afternoon, and they did what they could to comfort the grief-stricken parents. The child had been unusually bright and winsome, and was just at the age of greatest attractiveness. A little concrete grave was made in the corner of the chapel compound at Yen-cheng, Honan, and there the little one sleeps till Jesus comes to call him forth to the great family reunion in the kingdom of God.

"He will gather, He will gather the gems for His kingdom,

All the pure ones, all the bright ones, His loved and His own.

Like the stars of the morning, His bright crown adorning,

They shall shine in their beauty, bright gems for His crown."

Born June 24, 1915.

W. E. GILLIS.