

me do?" And he was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but when brought before kings and rulers, he told them plainly how God had appeared unto him, and how Christ was formed within him, the hope of glory. In all his imprisonments the first thing we hear of; is his preaching Christ to all that came near him; and certainly "all things worked together for good," if not in his personal comfort, in advancing the Kingdom of Christ, which was Paul's highest joy. Behold the wisdom and power of God!

When the Lord wanted the Baptists of America stirred up and interested in the cause of Foreign Missions, who did it? And who was their first missionary to the Burmese and Karens? It was a young man whom the Lord was having educated for that purpose in the Congregational Church, one of the finest minds that the world ever saw; one whose peculiar aptitude was the study of languages, one who would have adorned the highest position in any profession; this was none other than the great Adoniram Judson. He had imbibed sceptical views, but as soon as converted, like St. Paul, he cried, "Lord, what wilt thou have me do?" And he also, like St. Paul, was not disobedient to his Lord's commands. He and a number of his fellow-students decided they would give themselves to foreign missionary work.

Some time before this, the English Baptists had established a mission at Serampore; the English Congregationalists had followed in the same work, and their American brethren had helped them by liberal donations. Now these young men were planning a mission separate and independent, and after many disappointments, their denomination decided that they would send them as their missionaries, and would support them in establishing a mission in Asia. And the 18th of June, 1812, saw them landed at Calcutta, after a long sea voyage of some months.

The quiet and leisure of the lengthy voyage was employed by Mr. Judson, in thinking and planning for his future work. In doing this, the directions given by the American Board received especial attention. By the directions of that Board he was instructed to baptize believers and their households. He, as a matter of course, felt he could baptize those who seemed to be true believers, but as to baptizing their still idolatrous households, he was dismayed.

He was still very young, it had only been a few years since he had felt any personal interest in religion, and had never had any personal responsibility in administering the ordinances of the church in a Christian land, and how could he determine the constitution of a church for a people who had never heard of Christ. So he reasoned. Besides, he was about to meet the Serampore missionaries, Carey and Marshman, men who were looked up to by the entire Christian world for their eminence, alike in learning and piety. Mr. Judson was the bearer of a letter from the American Board, asking for the kindly aid and notice of these excellent men. In expectation of soon being their guest, he began asking himself how he should meet their objections, and defend his denominational views. The more he examined the subject, the more distrustful he became of his own belief, and he would tell his wife that he feared the Baptists were right. Mrs. Judson, a most winsome and lovely woman, believing it a point of no vital importance, endeavoured to dissuade him from further investigation, seeing at a glance the distressing consequences which must result from a difference in their denominational views. His answer

always was that his duty compelled his examining the subject, and he hoped that he should have a disposition to embrace the truth, though he paid dearly for it. A critical study of the Greek New Testament, in connection with this inquiry decided him; he saw that the command which Christ gave every believer was still unfulfilled in his case. But how could he do it? He forsook the disappointment, grief, and mortification that it would occasion his parents and Christian friends, his dismissal from the Congregational board, and his separation from his missionary brethren. It was with sorrow of heart, that this great man contemplated his position. He asked himself whether, under circumstances as peculiar, some departure from the strictness of the command might not be admissible. But the question would come again, how shall I treat the children and domestics of converted heathen. This was the Gordian knot, which, as he expressed it, he heartily wished his brethren could feel the tightening of, as he did, when passing judgment on him.

After some weeks in India of continued search for the truth, he, and his no less heroic wife were baptized in the Baptist Chapel at Calcutta; love, for their Lord and loyalty to Truth, were stronger than poverty and the loss of friends. And here we find the first foreign missionary for the American Baptists, whom they accepted as God given.

You, who are acquainted with his life know what a power it was. The translation of the Bible into Burmese, the compiling of a dictionary for the use of other missionaries, the care and love he had for those converted Burmese and Karens, all show him as the perfect missionary. His life was a wave of truth in this century, the ripples of which are still felt and shall be forever more. These and such as these are the men whom the Lord has called as for missionaries.

Some years ago, a young man from this country, the Rev. Mr. Timpany, became a very successful missionary among the Telegus. The Rev. Mr. Randall, of blessed memory, in speaking of him said, "There is a proof of God's accepting what we would do, if we could; that man's mother, speaking in a conference meeting, gave the greatest missionary address I had ever heard; her very soul yearned over the perishing heathen; she would have given herself so cheerfully if it had been possible; but her duty was with her family, all she could do was pray for them. In due time 'God provided the lamb for the sacrifice'; her own son became the successful missionary to the Telegus," and last summer I met her grandson, the Rev. Dr. Timpany, he and his young wife are devoting their lives to missionary labors.

And now when the Lord provides the missionaries, and they give themselves so cheerfully and unreservedly, what is our duty? We should give of our means for the support of missions, just as cheerfully, and according as God prospers us, glad that we can be of the smallest use in so great a work.

I have been acquainted with a number of prosperous men, who gave the first dollar they possessed for the furtherance of the Gospel, and it was their firm conviction that all their after success was due to the blessing of God.

"The blessing of God maketh rich, and He addeth no sorrow with it."

The first person baptized by Dr. Judson, in Maulmain, died in the Mission hospital there last July. She was a very aged Burmese woman.