

"trodden down of the Gentiles," makes me prayerfully urgent that every effort should be made, and no time be lost, to bring the promises and hopes of the Gospel before the Mohammedans of Syria. Many persons consider that their doom is fixed; that as the Mohammedans, like their great progenitor, Ishmael, have lived and conquered by the sword, they will also perish by the sword; but I have far more trust that the Sword of the Spirit, wielded by the hand of Faith and Love, will subdue them to the Saviour.

I have been so long intimately connected with Syria, and only recently returned for a very brief stay in England, that I feel that I can speak with some degree of confidence as to the hope that such efforts are likely to be availing, by the blessing of God; and I do believe it will be accomplished by the weak things of the world, and the things that are despised, even by the agency of women, and among the Moslem women by our Harem visitors and Bible-women, by our girls and infants' schools, and our Mothers' Meetings.

Our Mohammedan girls' school at Beyrout, numbering above 200—some of the very highest aristocracy of the land—is doing much to elevate the women and create among them a desire to hear and understand the Word of God. It is as yet a sealed book to them; but in many instances their thirst to receive the good tidings makes me intensely anxious to give them freely of the Water of Life. Let us at once resolve, by the Grace of God, to strengthen the hands of those faithful women who are labouring among them. In our British Syrian Schools we have an agency already to carry out and enlarge such a Mission. Let us not say *to-morrow* we will come over and help them, for ours may be but a brief working day before the Bridegroom comes, and the door is shut. We certainly need more schools for the Mohammedans, chiefly in Damascus, that great city of the False Prophet.

If it is given in love for the Master and with the prayer of faith, we know that even the widow's mite will accomplish more than the splendid donation without its blessing; but we need more than the *mite*, we need the offerings of the rich out of their abundance, whose basket and store are filled to overflowing.

But I will add no more and let the story of the Moslem Ladies "haply feeling after God," though as yet to them "the *unknown God*," speak for itself. They will surely find Him, for He is nigh unto all that call upon Him.

Gladly will I take charge of any fresh offerings, and, if the Lord will personally carry out the blessed designs which Christian hearts may be moved to make for these deeply interesting women. "Ask the English ladies to give us a school for our daughters."

MOSLEM LADIES THIRSTING FOR THE WORD OF GOD.

Report from a Harem Visitor.

We have had several visits from Moslem ladies bringing their daughters to see our school. On their arrival we were as usual reading the Scriptures before prayers, they very reverently repeated almost every word, and then said, "Indeed you are happy. God is much pleased with you in that you know how to read and pray. How much we should like to learn to pray, and to send our daughters to your schools, but it is too far from us, and they cannot come alone. Do ask the English ladies to give us a school in our own quarters, and many girls will come."

I will now tell you about our visits to the Mohammedan houses, and you will see how they are beginning to thirst for the Water of Life. I called on some ladies and found them gone to visit a bride, so their servant took me there. I found many with the bride. They received me with pleasure. After a little I asked them if they would like to hear me read to them. They all answered, "Please do; we will be very thankful, and why do you ask us; is there anybody who does not like to hear the Word of God?" So I took my small Testament from my pocket, and showed it to the bride, who handled it very reverently, kissed it, and put it on her head in token of honour to the