

THE PURPOSE OF THE LORD JESUS FOR THE EARTH

By Dr. S. D. Gordon

Has our Lord Jesus some purpose that he is working out through these ages? You think into the condition of things in all the world to-day, you think of the dominance of evil, and all the large portions of the world where Christ is quite unknown,—and then ask the question, has He some purpose which He is working out for His world through these years?

Let me take a little bit of sea room in giving a brief answer to the question. God and man used to live together in a garden. It was a beautiful garden, full of fruits and flowers, trees and singing birds, and a beautiful river of Water of Life.

God and man used to live together in the simplest, sweetest fellowship. They used to have a little trysting time every evening in the twilight under the Tree of Life. One evening God came as usual for the bit of trysting time, but the man was not there. God was there. God has never gone away from His world, but the man was not there, and God was lonely, left standing lonely under the Tree of Life.

Man went away, then he went farther away, then he lost the way back. Then he did not want to come back. And, being away from God, man got badly tangled up. His eyes grew blind to the face of God, and his ears were deafened by sin to the sound of God's voice, and his heart became heavy to the wooing presence of God.

God has never gone away from His world. He remained in His world, and has remained all through these ages, but He remains unrecognized. There standeth one in our midst whom we recognize not, and all his efforts to win man's attention and heart have seemed unavailing to the great majority.

At last God said, I will go down there as a man myself, and get close to man where he must recognize Me. But He planned to come as a real man; not as one of the mythical beings of the Greek mythology with which we are familiar. So He must prepare a door through which to come. He chose a man; he wooed him away from his surroundings; he builded him into a nation, and he planned to come through this nation as its King, and so to get into closer touch with all men again.