

shall be witnesses unto Me, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth."

Pierson, in his "New Acts of the Apostles," says in reference to this, "Thus, for all time, God's voice was heard, and the lesson is left on record that in all this age and evangelism, the policy of His people is to be diffusion and dispersion. No favored, favorite capital is to become our chapel of ease, our earthly rest, even though it could be an earthly heaven, while hell is found raging in the regions beyond. Even the joys of Christian fellowship may become too absorbing. Selfishness, in its most refined forms, must yield to the unselfishness which resigns such companionship for ourselves that it may become possible to introduce the most depraved, degraded and destitute to the fellowship of saints, and of God. Any influence, any combination of causes, implies a curse to the believer, whenever it makes the church a cradle to rock God's children to sleep with the soft lullaby of 'Home, Sweet Home.'"

The dispersion of the Christians had not been confined to Judea and Samaria. Our attention is now directed to Paul, who, "breathing out threatenings," had determined to follow them. In making his memorable journey to Damascus, he was directly and miraculously called to his apostleship. Henceforth his life was consecrated to the service of God. His particular work was "preaching among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ." I need not attempt to describe all that Paul has done towards widening the kingdom, the sufferings, the numerous journeys taken to carry the Gospel everywhere; the persecutions endured for Christ's sake, the epistles written by him which have survived to move and influence the world down to the present day. It has been said that he has bequeathed to the church, in her government, and her discipline, the legacy of his apostolic labors, leaving his prophetic words to be her living oracles, pouring forth his blood to be the seed of a thousand martyrdoms. Among the glorious company of apostles, and the noble army of martyrs, his name stands pre-eminent. Wherever the church

throughout all the world acknowledges God, there Paul of Tarsus is revered as the great teacher of a universal redemption, the herald of glad tidings to all mankind.

Passing down to modern times, we find the names of men like Carey, Morrison, Williams, who have given their lives to mission work in foreign fields. The Gospel truly is spreading to the uttermost parts of the earth. India, Africa, China, Japan, and the islands of the various oceans, have felt its influence. Yet how many millions there are who have never heard it. Oh! that we all, like Paul, were true soldiers of Christ, and would go forth into the spiritual war, wherever He might call us, wearing the Christian's armour, the girdle of sincerity and truth, the breastplate of that righteousness, "the inseparable links of which are faith and love;" our feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace: above all, taking the shield of faith on which the fiery darts of the evil one fall unavailingly, also the helmet of salvation, and finally, the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God, which, when wielded by the great Captain of our salvation, turned the tempter in the wilderness to flight, while in the hands of His chosen apostles, it became the means of establishing Christianity on the earth.

Pierson says, "A thousand times within the last century has the night of vision at Troas been repeated. That man of Macedonia may be seen whichever way we look, and the voice calls to us from every quarter of the horizon. Who that watches modern missions does not feel that what Paul saw and heard at Troas has become the vision for all believers, and the voice from all lands? Let the eye sweep around the whole world, and on the coasts of Corea, of Japan, from the depths of inland China, from the hills of Burmah, and the rivers of Siam, from India's coral strand, and Persia's plains; from the borders of the Red Sea, from the valley of the Nile, the banks of the Congo, and the vast stretch of the Soudan; from Papal countries and Pagan communities there comes one loud voice, 'Come over into Macedonia and help us.' Were our eyes