

# The Expositor of Holiness.

VOL. XI.

MARCH, 1893.

No. 9.

## IS THIS THE TEACHING OF CHRIST?

### A MISSIONARY CRY.

A HUNDRED thousand souls a day  
Are passing one by one away,  
In Christless guilt and gloom.  
Without one ray of hope or light,  
With future dark as endless night,  
They're passing to their doom.

### CHORUS—

They're passing, passing fast away  
In thousands day by day,  
They're passing to their doom,  
They're passing to their doom.

—A. B. Simpson.

TO SIMPLY ask the innocent question at the head of this article will be looked on by some as a daring act of impiety, and yet we believe that the time has come to seriously ask it of the readers of the EXPOSITOR.

If the sentiment of any hymn can be obtained by reading it, then the teaching of this stanza is, that at least a hundred thousand souls per day are passing into the mediæval hell so familiar in description to those who listen to the preaching from our pulpits, or read the Christian writings of this and previous generations, and that this fearful fact would be changed if enough missionaries were sent to them.

To question the truthfulness of this picture is pronounced upon as daring impiety, not only because it questions orthodox teaching, but because it might lessen missionary collections, and through this fact lessen the number of missionaries sent out, and, as a final awful result, virtually increase this multitude of hell-doomed heathens.

We realize then the serious matter we

have on our hands when we call for close, candid consideration of the whole subject here alluded to.

If our writings on the subject of divine guidance called forth such epithets as "devil guidance," and the writings on the Divinity question filled the air with "Unitarian" cries, what will not follow if we dare open this question?

And yet it must appear, on a very short consideration, that it is a legitimate matter to pour the light of Pentecost upon this subject as well as others, and for the same purpose, which is to clear away all obstructions to perfect obedience to the Holy Ghost.

For, if the arguments of this hymn are to have full right of way in the believer's heart, how can we yield an unquestioning obedience to the Spirit, especially when He as guide seems too slow in his operations to measure up to the high pressure standard here indicated? How be patient and loyal when He undertakes to treat us as He did our great Forerunner, Jesus Christ,—keep us out of the missionary field till thirty years of age, and then sanction a forty days' delay ere permitting us to enter on our life work?

Indeed, how can we abide His time under any circumstances when His command is not clearly and unmistakably, forward! Can we withhold a mite of our money from the great missionary cause at His command and be guiltless? Surely there is

"No room for mirth or trifling here.  
For worldly hope or worldly fear"

whilst this dreadful picture is before us.

Who, we ask, could withstand the ap-