

I first talked with Chief Coté, who happened to be there. I tried to show him, as plainly as I could, wherein the Christian religion was superior to the religion of their fathers; that it was because it made known a way of salvation for man. They all profess to believe in one God, but they don't know anything about a Saviour. The offerings they give to the Great Spirit are for the purpose of gaining His favour. They think that by such offerings they will be successful when they go out to hunt; but they do not seem to have much idea of making provision for the soul. They are either altogether in the dark about the future, or at best have some dim hope that the Great Spirit will take them to Himself when they die, and make them happy. But they know nothing about salvation as it is in Christ. I tried to impress the Chief more fully with this idea of salvation. He seemed to agree fully with all that was said. He is anxious to do all he can to help us in our work; but I am sorry that he too is living a long distance off this winter, and is not able to be present at our services. However, he will be back in the spring, and then he wishes to become a member in full communion. I trust the Spirit of God has commenced a real work of grace in his heart.

We then had a talk with the oldest man at the lake. He said he was very glad we had come out to put them right. This man is not a Christian. He is the leader in their heathen worship. I talked with him as earnestly as I could last summer, and ever since he has been thinking some about baptism. He told me then he was altogether in the dark about his soul, and I fear he has not got much light yet. However, he was glad to be talked to, and thanked me very heartily. I pointed him to a Saviour who gave His life for those who are lost.

We preached twice to them, in the morning and afternoon, and one or two further conversations with individuals ended our day's labours.

The impression which our visit has left on our minds is very favourable. These people are ready to hear the Gospel, and to give up their heathen practices, so soon as they are convinced of its truth. But the point is how to reach them. The journey is a serious one, especially in winter, but we have resolved to make at least one or two trips before spring. On Monday we had a very cold, stormy day to come back; had to break a road all the way through a foot and a half of snow; but our ponies trudged bravely on, and we reached home about ten o'clock in the evening, glad at heart that we had been enabled to make the trip, and thankful to God for His loving care.