

*SINCERE BUT WRONG.*

"If he is sincere in his belief, he has as good chance of going to heaven as you have," said a church member to us the other day, when speaking of a certain person who held and taught all kinds of strange doctrines contrary to God's Word.

This idea, that provided a man is sincere in his belief, no matter what it may be, God will surely admit him to the eternal city, is one of Satan's delusions eminently prevalent at the present day. Men seem to forget that Saul was sincere in his belief when he shut up the saints in prison; yea, not only sincere, but "exceedingly zealous" also. So were those who killed the Prince of Life, and though through ignorance they did it, God holds them responsible for their lack of knowledge, and that notwithstanding they were perfectly sincere in their convictions.

Had a bitten Israelite sincerely believed that he knew a better way than a simple glance at the brazen serpent, he would have died where he lay, and in like manner will the sinner go down to endless death, if trusting in a self appointed way, rather than in the one so plainly revealed in God's written Word.

Man says: Though I believe not, I shall be saved, provided I am sincere in my belief. God says: "He that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." From all this we learn that it is of the utmost importance what we believe, or rather in Whom we believe. And as the One who offers us eternal life is no other than God's dear Son, how can we escape if we neglect His great salvation?

The after-clap—an encore.

*SAYINGS OF SOME EARLY MISSIONARIES.*

Our Lord's commission is, 'Go ye and teach all nations.'

S. Paul says, 'I am a debtor both to the Greeks and the Barbarians.'

S. Chrysostom (404), 'Although thou didst go into the British Isles thou shouldest hear all men everywhere discoursing the Scriptures.'

S. Patrick (400), 'I was reformed that I might concern myself for the salvation of others, pagan tribes, when I used not to care for my own.'

S. Gregory the Great (540), 'Glory be to God out of love for whom we seek our brethren in Britain, whom we know not, and by whose grace we found those whom we sought without their knowing it.'

Anschar (850), the first medical missionary, 'When I was asked whether I would go for God's name among the heathen to publish the Gospel, I could not decline such an offer; yes, with all my heart, and no man can make me waver in my resolution.'

Raimond Lull (1200), the first first missionary to the Mahomedans, 'To Thee, O Lord God, I now offer myself. Condescend to accept all I give and offer Thee.'

Thorough selfishness destroys or paralyses enjoyment. A heart made selfish by the contest for wealth is like a citadel stormed in war. The banner of victory waves over dilapidated walls, desolate chambers and magazines riddled with artillery. Men covered with sweat and begrimed with toil expect to find joy in a heart reduced by selfishness to a smouldering heap of ruins.