

of enthusiasm. He defended them, quoted the Scriptures to vindicate them and Himself in feeling grateful to them. So that children have a prominent place in the Scriptures as partners in this great work.

The Spirit's Work.—But more specifically, when He was about to do a great work, to inaugurate a great movement, did He in any way recognize children? We find that He did—often began with childhood—prepared His own instruments from childhood. It was so with Joseph and Moses. It was so with Samuel and Daniel and Jeremiah and John the Baptist. They were men full of the Holy Ghost from childhood. They were providentially trained for an object of which they did not themselves know, nor did their parents, but God knew, and He began their training in childhood. These men became great reformers, the messengers of God to their people, and so has it frequently been in later times.

In Germany, in the eighteenth century, there was a spiritual awakening, the subjects of which were known by the name Pietists, corresponding somewhat to the Methodist awakening in England, and as much hated as the Methodists were. It was, however, a revival of living religion. During that time in a little town in Saxony, a Christian mother, a Pietist, was dying. She gathered her children about her to say farewell. Being very poor, they were astonished to hear her say, "I have laid up great treasure for you—very great treasure." Impatient to possess, one of the children said, "Where is it, mother?" "Seek it in the Bible, my child," said she, "and you will find it—there is not a page I have not wet with my tears." That child was the distinguished Ziegenbalg, who afterwards went through wonderful spiritual experiences and eventually went to India in 1706, nearly a century before Carey, and after thirteen years of Apostolic work, passed away singing, "Jesus, my Confidence." About the same time—a little later—another mother was dying, and before passing away she whispered to her husband, "I have dedicated our youngest to the Lord, for whatever service He may call him. Assure me that when he hears the Lord's call you will not discourage him." He promised. By and by the child went to college, came under the influence of the godly Pietists, Franke and Spener, and came home and told his father he had heard the Lord's call. The father was unwilling, but retired for three days into the consecrated chamber in which his wife passed away, and was reconciled. That young man was Schwartz, who went to India in 1750, at the age of twenty-three years, and for forty-three years made for himself a record second to none in the annals of missions.*

It is not needful to take the time to speak of the childhood of Zinzendorf, the moving spirit of the Moravian Church which has surpassed all others in mission enterprise. Enough has been said to

*These two instances are quoted from Dr. Gordon's valuable work, entitled "The Holy Spirit in Missions."