

The term "soul-saving" has been used in a singular way, as though a man could save a soul, and that by a single effort! God in Christ alone can save souls, and it is a long process even with these mighty agencies. For myself, I would rather be the means of ingraining into the character and life of one Oriental, of any race, a love for truth and hatred of all falsehood and insincerity, which shall be vital and controlling, and, in life's emergencies, actually stronger than the love of life itself, rather than lead ten men to the public profession of evangelical faith.

Let the young men and the young women of Christendom joyously gird themselves for a life campaign against sin and falsehood and impurity, and every form of selfishness and baseness—a conflict in which Christ's life on earth is the one inspiring example; and let them expect, nothing doubting, to leave it to their children and their children's children to share in the same high enterprise, the same holy war, joyously content with conflict here, and confidently looking for victory when the long earthly fight is over. This fight, though long, is but the moment before the dawn of immortality's golden day.

Do not let us be in a hurry to get through the conflict and be crowned victors. An honour so great is not so cheaply gained. And do not let us think it a merit to report, in glowing terms, what we have done, still less to make cheering prophecies of what we are going to do. And when we see gigantic wrong sitting crowned and unpunished, let us forbear cursing. We have long passed the era of the imprecatory Psalms. Cursing is a sad waste of spiritual force. It is impotence, while love is power. One of the very finest things in Shakespeare is the resolve of Antonio, in the face of Shylock's infernal hate, "I oppose my patience to his fury." In the shock it was patience that was the winner. So it has ever been; so it will ever be. It is the prerogative of great souls to shun the easy and choose the difficult path; to do this gladly, because that is the upward path and the path of joy.

"Paul carrying to wretched men the Gospel of Christ, and setting up His Kingdom in the world lying in wickedness, and in doing this having suffered the loss of all things, without a home, in journeyings oft, in perils of every kind by land and sea, defamed, scourged, imprisoned, stoned, was yet living a life of conscious achievement, of exultant victory, of triumphant expectation, and was probably the most sublimely blessed man of his generation."

I am not going to say that if we will all take hold of the work of foreign missions in this spirit, it will be quickly done. No; it will not be quickly done. It will, for many a year, and for aught I know for many an age, furnish the most glorious arena offered on this planet for Christian service, for manly and womanly endurance, out of which such characters will be builded as will be fit for worthy entrance into the still higher blessedness and service of the life immortal.—*Missionary Herald*.