

and that but seldom they have the advantage of warning or encouragement from fellow-believers, are we found often in prayer for them, that, fighting as they do in the front of the battle, they may be preserved both from the might and the wiles of the enemy?—Few things can be more cheering to the lonely witness for Christ than the assurance of having the fellowship in prayer of the saints at home.

It is said a soldier dies a glorious death when he falls in front of battle fighting for his king and country; but what shall we say of these intrepid men who, for the cause they held dearer than life, and for the King of kings, whose message of peace they carried, have fallen victims to famine, pestilence and sword—who, uncheered by loving aid and Christian sympathy, have laid down their lives for the truth?

Though little known, and soon forgotten by man, the names and services of these humble heroes have a lasting fragrance for God, and each lonely grave—unmarked by man and untended by human care—is seen by Him whose “eyes run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong in behalf of those whose hearts are perfect toward Him,” and who notes as the last resting-place of a devoted witness, “faithful unto death.”

Reasons against are about as easy to find as reasons for in most things, and Christian missions are no exception.—Perhaps we know of some earnest Christian whose missionary endeavours have been a failure, and who has returned, broken in health and spirit, only to confess he ought never to have left his native land. We may be instructed but not guided by the experience of others; and we should never forget

that, whether we go to preach in China or the next town, we need to be sent of the Lord if we would count on His blessing.

Some say it is no use going where the Lord is not working. Can those who raise this objection point to any spot in the habitable earth where there is no work to be done for Christ?

The people won't have the gospel, I am told. Then do as Moffat did, preach and pray until they will, and may be you will gain as rich a reward as he.—Surely the first missionaries to the South Seas might complain that there was no open door when, after sixteen years' preaching they knew of no result; yet a wave of extraordinary blessing has since crowned their efforts, and at the present time there are about one hundred thousand converts in the Pacific islands.

If you find the door shut, wait on in faith until God opens it. Many who once said, “I wait for the Lord,” have proved the truth of His words, “They shall not be ashamed that wait for Me.”

In Matt. ix. 38, we read what the Lord would have us doing, “Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest.” May we be found with this petition constantly on our lips, and in our hearts, if He should lead, to respond to the question, “Whom shall I send?” “Here am I, send me.”—Simple Testimony.

There is no Scriptural ground for supposing that the punishment of the wicked is less than eternal. Men prophesy smoother things, but the Word of God abides, and it teaches that the punishment of the wicked, as the blessedness of the saved, is forever and ever.