

The Non-Christian Religions Inadequate to Meet the Needs of Men

It is of course as Christians that we approach this question. On grounds of history and of reason and of personal experience we hold unswervingly to the Evangelical faith. But this fact does not incapacitate us for a just judgment of the non-Christian religions. Men must inevitably approach these religions with some preconceptions, either the preconceptions of agnosticism, or the preconceptions of atheism, or the preconceptions of earnest religious faith; and the fact that we have already entered into deep sympathy with the religious needs of mankind does not constitute a disqualification for judging the great religions of the non-Christian races. No intellectual bias prevents us from believing that we can fairly judge whether or not the non-Christian religions are adequate to the needs of men.

And just as we are not prohibited from this discussion by any intellectual bias, we are not incapacitated for it by any prejudiced sentiment. We love the non-Christian nations more than the atheists and the agnostics love them. We understand them better than those who have never gone forth to live among them and to lay down their lives for them understand them. And in the light of our sacrifices for the non-Christian peoples, the fact that we are engaged in a great aggressive campaign to