

great step in her elevation to her true rank and place. Even Judaism treated woman with comparative contempt. The Talmud abounds in insulting references to the female sex, classing women with slaves and idiots. Whoever will read such works as "Women in Persia," by Laurie, or "Woman in India," by Rudolph, or "The Women of the Arabs," by Jessup, can see what woman is and always has been, independent of the uplifting power of the religion of Christ. Well might woman, when apostles fled, the danger brave, last at the cross and earliest at the grave of Christ, for all that she is in *social* position as well as spiritual hopes she owes to Jesus.

We are sometimes told that it is civilization, not Christianity, that has rescued woman from degradation and elevated man in morals. It is a great mistake. When Rome was in her highest state of civilization she was in her lowest stage of morals. China has been a civilized nation for centuries, but the Chinese women have no educational facilities and no social status above that of a slave; the girl babies are heartlessly murdered and the wife and mother is a mere chattel. No; *civilization* without Christianity is incapable of purifying man or elevating woman. Christianity is the great purifier and elevator. Let us thank God for it, seek more of it, and rejoice more in it.

Woman's work for the conversion of the world is a natural result of her conscious indebtedness to her Saviour and his salvation. Woman feels her indebtedness to Christianity for what she is. Man owes to the religion of Christ all that he is spiritually as an heir of heavenly hope. But woman owes even her *social* and *domestic* dignity and liberty to the gospel. Independent of the influence of Christianity, what has she been everywhere and in every age? The slave, the tool, the victim of man. Education even in the Garden City of the Orient was the badge of the courtesan. Degradation and thralldom were the universal law of her condition. When Christ condescended to be born of a woman and call a Jewish maiden mother, he elevated her sex to a new dignity; henceforth her social progress began. Paganism had treated her with contempt, as it does still. You insult a Turk by inquiring after the welfare of his wife and daughters, and to bury a female child alive carried no twinge of suffering to a parent's heart.

Tryphena and Tryphosa and Persis still labor much in the Lord. They love his service and the service of souls. God bless the women of this day of missions for their widespread effort to inform the mind, inspire the heart, move the conscience, in the direction of missions! It is now held that the new version of the Old Testament gives a clear authority for women's foreign missionary societies by its rendering of the eleventh verse of the fifty-eighth Psalm: "The Lord giveth the word; the women that publish the tidings are a great host." Their separate organizations are not twenty years old, yet they have overspread the earth. The great uprising of young men and women,