

Doctor MacKay, the great foreign missionary. Unique indeed in every respect was the opportunity presented to the pioneer ministers of those early days, many of whom, like Dr. Bayne in Galt and Mr. MacKenzie in Zorra, not only built up a strong central congregation, but lived to see a circle of congregations formed as off-shoots from the mother charge. The teaching and preaching of these men, which under God produced such lasting and widespread results was intensely evangelical—evangelical in the sense in which Spurgeon's preaching was evangelical, and in which Livingstone's preaching at the Kirk of Shotts was evangelical. Nor did they ever halt, hesitate or suggest a caution as to the full divine authority of Holy Scripture from Genesis to Revelation. Instead of Myth, the account of creation was to them as divinely true as the solid fabric of creation itself was a real fact. The patriarchs instead of being personifications of tribal names were to them real historic persons of immortal existence, which nations or tribes as such have not; and when the Saviour cites in proof of the immortality of those ancient worthies God's words to Moses at the burning bush, these fathers and founders of the church believed and taught that the Saviour's interpretation, and inference was infallibly true.

These servants of God had exalted views of Christ, and their preaching had in it the ring of certainty, and of a positive and full gospel. They honored Christ as prophet, priest and King, and they were honored by Him. The inspiration they imparted to the communities in which they labored found fitting illustration in the memorable reunion held at Embro, participation in which was to me an exquisite pleasure, holding as I do, and ever shall hold, in high veneration the name and memory of the Reverend