

# CHURCH and HOME

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In the present phase of Christian teaching one prevailing characteristic seems to lie in the emphasis which is laid upon the important fact that the message of Christianity is an individual personal message. Society is impersonal. It has no conscience. So long as the individual feels himself free from immediate responsibility for the evils of our social state he passes them by on the other side. To this cause we ascribe the constant cloud that darkens the fair face of the nature surrounding us. Each one asks — "Am I my brother's keeper?" feeling that the question is itself an answer, and that the sins of others cannot be laid at his door. Such an one should remember that there are sins of omission as well as commission. That a silent participation in the state of things which makes these evils possible, may be as criminal as an active support. If the doctrines of the Sermon on the Mount were universally applied, if every man realised the responsibility resting upon him to live Christ's life, the desert would bloom and blossom like the rose. To some this idea may seem utopian and impossible, but why should it be so? Our most strenuous efforts after a higher ideal are doubtless very imperfect, yet if we *are* making an honest endeavour to carry out the message of Christ in the individual life we will soon be

able to change this earth into a paradise. If men would only moderate their wants, and in place of selfish hoarding, or equally selfish spending, remember that it is more blessed to give than to receive--if men would bear in their hearts the simple golden rule of doing to others as they would that others should do to them, the social problems which perplex us would soon receive solution.

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## A Synopsis of Christian Missions, their Rise and Progress, with an Appeal for increased effort for Missionary Work.

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(Continued.)

The *origin* of modern missions was a prayer-covenant, and when the divine call came to Wm. Carey, the greatest missionary since Paul, and he obeyed, the result was, that there has been more successful work done for the Master during a little more than 100 years than for nearly 1800 years prior to that date. Carey, born Aug. 17th, 1761, was the first Englishman who was a foreign missionary. He was converted to Christ and became a dissenter at 18 years of age, and was ordained a minister at 26.

When meditating his village sermons, when teaching geography to the school by which he attempted to eke out a living, and when cobbling the old or making the new shoes, to which dire necessity drove him, like the tent-maker Paul, he was consumed with the one thought. *That*