

Canadian Missionary Link

XXXVI

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No. 9

SACRIFICIAL GIVING.

Rev. J. H. Jowett, D.D.

Mere living becomes real life when it becomes sacrificial. We begin to operate with vital forces when we cross the border into the land of sacrifice. So long as we remain among the superfutilities we are in the shadowy realm of existence and we have not yet begun to live.

Christ does not begin his reckoning, nor do we come within the range of the heavenly standards, until all superfutilities have been stripped away. The things that we can spare carry no blood. The things that we can ill spare carry part of ourselves, and are alive. "He that spared not His only Son"—the One He could not spare—gave Himself with the gift, and in the wealth of the sacrifice our redemption was born.

Here is a man who can spare a guinea for the foreign field. He has no hesitation about the offering. It occasions him little or no thought. He is dealing with superfutilities, and the forceful riches of life remain untouched.

But he has one child, the pride of his heart, the hope of his life. And one day a strange fire is kindled in the lad's heart and a strange light comes into his eyes, and the lad knows himself to be called of God to the foreign field. "Father, I want to be a missionary," and the light fades out of the father's sky.

"Take now thy son, thine only son, whom thou lovest, . . . and offer him for an offering upon one of the mountains which I tell you of." That is the experience which shatters. The guinea was given and nothing with it. The lad was given and life went with him. It is the things we can't spare which make our offerings alive.

You can spare a half-a-crown! It is the half crown you can't spare which bears the hall-mark of Calvary and isferings to missionary work.—Sel.

the minister of redemptive life. It is when our giving touches the quick that it becomes vital, and existence passes into life, and we share the travail of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

HOW MUCH SHALL I GIVE THIS YEAR TO MISSIONS?

A Little Argument With Myself.

If I refuse to give anything I practically cast a ballot in favor of the recall of every foreign missionary.

If I give less than heretofore I favor reduction of the missionary forces proportionate to my reduced contribution.

If I give the same as formerly, I favor holding the ground already won, but I do not favor a forward movement. My song is "Hold the Fort," forgetting that the Lord never intended that His army should take refuge in a fort. All of His soldiers are under marching orders always. They are commanded to "Go."

If I advance my offering beyond former years, then I favor an advance movement in the conquest of new territory for Christ. Shall I not join this class?

If I add one hundred per cent. to my former contribution, then I favor doubling the missionary force at once.

If I add fifty per cent., I say, "Send out one-half as many more"; and if I add twenty-five per cent., I say to our Board of Missions, "Send out one-fourth more than there are now in the field."

What shall I do?

I surely do not favor the recall of our whole missionary force, or of any part of it.

Neither am I satisfied simply that we hold our own so long as the great majority of the heathen have not heard of Christ.

I do believe in greatly increasing the present number of our missionaries, therefore I will increase my former offering to missionary work.—Sel.

One of the annual Women's Bazaar, 14-15, was of the combined Foreign Missions.

Out of the non-attendance Greetings were sent and eleven of their words the next to Eric North meeting. It is called "missions."

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