

In the year 1878, 2,222 were baptised in one day, and before the end of the year over 9,000 in connection with this same station, which was then, as now, under the charge of Dr. Clough, of the American Baptist Missionary Union. Since then large numbers of baptisms have occurred every year in the Ongole field, but nothing to equal last Sunday.

Large accessions are reported also from Cumbum, another of the stations of the Telugu Mission, comprising the western portion of what was the Ongole field in 1878; so that the year 1890 will be remembered for its large ingathering in certain portions of the Telugu Mission. - *Rev. W. M. Munley, in the American Baptist Missionary Messenger.*

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World Conquest, as enjoined by the Commission

BY J. B. STILLWELL.

"All authority hath been given unto Me in heaven and on earth. Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." (Matthew xxviii 18-20)

I. ITS IMPORT.

Of late years the Commission has received more than usual attention on the part of the Christian Church, a fact easily explained, inasmuch as the Commission of our Lord may be considered the very incentive of all aggressive Christian work. It is most comprehensive, and yet very explicit, so that no reader of the Commission, as announced by Christ, and recorded in the Gospels and Acts, can fairly miss its import.

The various records run as follows. -

"All authority hath been given unto Me in heaven and on earth. Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." (Matthew xxviii. 18-20.)

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to the whole creation. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved: but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned." (Mark xvi. 15, 16.)

"Then opened He their mind that they might understand the Scripture; and He said unto them, Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer, and rise again from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name unto all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. Ye are witnesses of these things." (Luke xxiv. 45-48.)

"But ye shall receive power, when the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be My witnesses, both in Jerusalem and in all Judaea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts i. 8.)

These records all agree. Matthew gives the Commission in its fulness, while in Mark, Luke, and Acts some phase is emphasized. In Mark the emphasis is upon the universality of the Gospel proclamation - "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation."

It was necessary to emphasize this very particularly, and it becomes us to re-emphasize it even in this present, living, pulsating age, for some are in great danger of forgetting that the Gospel should be preached *beyond* their own immediate neighborhood.

In Luke and Acts the emphasis seems to be upon *witnessing* for Christ; the Apostles being witnesses in the sense of preaching what they had seen and heard. See in this connection Acts iv. 20, where Peter justifies the preaching of the Gospel. "Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you rather than unto God; judge ye: for we cannot but speak the things which we saw and heard." So also I John i. 1, 2, where the Apostle speaks of witnessing what they had seen, heard, and handled. And this was true of the Apostles in a very peculiar sense, for when they came to elect a witness to fill the place of Judas he was to be "Of the men therefore which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and went out among us, beginning from the baptism of John, unto the day that He was received up from us, of these must one become a witness with us of His resurrection." (Acts i. 21, 22.)

Paul, also, realized the importance of this, for he, too, emphasized the fact of his having seen the risen Christ: "Am I not an Apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord?" (I Cor. ix. 1.)

The Gospel is therefore a *witnessing*. "That the Christ should suffer, and rise again from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name unto all the nations."

Having thus shown the relation obtaining between the various records, we may proceed to speak of the Commission which Matthew records in its entirety. As to its import nothing can be added to the bare statement itself to make it more explicit.

"Go ye therefore into all the world," evidently means the whole inhabited world, whether the Americas in the New World, the three Continents in the Old World, or the islands of the seas.