

# CHARITIES, MISSIONARIES, AND MINISTRY

## A NEED FOR LESS MONEY AND MORE WORKMEN

*"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is,  
that they might be saved."*

~ Romans 10:1

### 1. The Greatest Need

- a. Charities/missionaries must show a need. What is the greatest need in the world?
- b. Is it education, technology? Food, water, shoes? Freedom, money, better politics?
- c. The greatest need is for tears – Hudson Taylor
- d. Paul's tears showed his heart for others - 2 Cor 2:4, Acts 20:19, 30; Rom 9:2, 10:1

### 2. The Mercenary Mind

- a. Be careful that missionaries don't turn into mercenaries to do your service.
  - i. Paying people to do your service weakens your character and theirs.
- b. Hard work creates godly character – Eph 4:28; 1 Tim 5:8; 1 Thess 4:11
- c. Under law religious service was required by all to be done by a few paid priests
- d. Under grace service is requested of all, to be done out of the purpose of your heart
- e. Rich Christians have the bad habit of replacing purpose with payment
- f. "Better to have ten men doing the job of one, than one man doing the job of ten"
- g. An assembly is not for raising funds, worship, doing service; but creating servants
- h. Some problems are not solved with more money – hear the N. Korean Christians

### 3. The Work of Ministry

- a. Ministry work is the duty of every member of the church – 2 Cor 5:15, 1 Cor 3:13
- b. If I support others it is to help them do their duty, not to relieve me of mine
- c. You are bought with a price to do God's service – 1 Cor 6:20, 2 Cor 5:18
- d. Our mission is to teach the faith, preach the hope, and show charity– 1 Cor 13:13
- e. If you give all you have to Red Cross, and have not charity, it is unprofitable
- f. There are many rich philanthropists, but very few mid-Acts dispensationalists
  - i. To make the boat sail straight put your oar in on the side with fewer oars
- g. Ministry work starts with right doctrine, and flows from a right heart – Eph 4:14-15

### 4. Missionary Work

- a. A missionary is not equivalent to traveling the world for Jesus
- b. The Bible word for missionary is ambassador; the Biblical pattern is Paul.
  - i. Paul pulled "missionaries" and support from his mission field – Phil 4:17
  - ii. Every young saint is called to be a missionary, but not all are ready yet.
- c. A missionary must be able to fight two battles:
  - i. 1) One doctrinal battle from outside – 1 Tim 1:3, Titus 1:5, 1:9, 2Cor 10:5
  - ii. 2) The other spiritual from the inside – 2 Tim 2:1-4, Gal 5:17
- d. Every Pauline assembly is a mission agency; equipping ambassadors for Christ
  - i. When members grow, they should do the work – 2 Tim 3:17, 4:5

### **The Need for Tears**

“Perhaps if there were more of that intense distress for souls that leads to tears, we should more frequently see the results we desire. Sometimes it may be that while we are complaining of the hardness of the hearts of those we are seeking to benefit, the hardness of our own hearts and our feeble apprehension of the solemn reality of eternal things may be the true cause of our want of success.”

### **Paying Ill-Equipped Young People**

“To pay young converts, however sincere, for making known the Gospel -- and to pay them with money from foreign sources -- must inevitably weaken their influence if not their Christian character.”

### **The Need to do Work**

“It will not do to say that you have no special call to go to China. With these facts before you and with the command of the Lord Jesus to go and preach the gospel to every creature, you need rather to ascertain whether you have a special call to stay at home.”

### **On Donated Money**

“Money wrongly placed and money given from wrong motives are both greatly to be dreaded.”

*~ All quotes from Hudson Taylor, great missionary to China*