

MISSIONARY SERMONS
BY
A. B. SIMPSON

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MISSIONARY SERMONS BY A. B. SIMPSON

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J. S. Sawin, April, 1983

MISSIONARY SERMONS BY A. B. SIMPSON

INTRODUCTION

by J. S. Sawin, April 1983

Camp meetings and Conventions were the scene of most of Simpson's great missionary sermons. These great gatherings were also a major reason for the rapid growth and influence of the Alliance. At these meetings Simpson imbued the vast audiences with his own missionary vision and burden.

Many of Simpson's missionary sermons were printed in his periodicals. Below you will find a listing of them and the bibliographical data. His periodicals began with The Word, Work and World, 1882-1887 and continued with The Christian Alliance through The Alliance Weekly, 1888-1919. A couple of missionary articles were also found in another Simpson periodical Living Truths, 1902-1907. They are noted among the missionary sermons.

Simpson did not publish a specific book of missionary sermons. The closest publication is a travelogue of his trip around the world in 1893 (January-July) to visit the mission fields. Two books were published posthumously, Missionary Messages, 1925 - (eight sermons) and The Challenge of Missions, 1926 (five sermons).

Before the list of missionary sermons, you probably would like to know something of the time and place of the conventions. All of the places listed were summer meetings with the exception of the October convention at the Gospel Tabernacle, New York City. You will note too that the majority of them occurred in northeastern U.S.A. and in the Toronto area of Canada. The

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conventions began:

1. In New York State

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|
| 1884-1919 | The Gospel Tabernacle, NYC |
| 1890-1892 | Round Lake, north of Albany |
| 1893-1896 | Keuka Lake |
| 1909-1911 | Keuka Lake |
| 1897 | Tully Lake |
| 1902-1908 | Tully Lake |
| 1897-1919 | Nyack Heights |
| 1898-1900 | Binghamton, O'Neil Park |
| 1908-1919 | Binghamton, Bennett or O'Neil Park |
| 1901 | Syracuse, Empire Hall |

2. In New England

| | |
|-----------|--------------------|
| 1886-1919 | Old Orchard, Maine |
|-----------|--------------------|

3. In Ohio

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 1887-1890 | Linwood Grove, Vermilion |
| 1891-1919 | Beulah Park east of Cleveland |

4. The Mid-West

| | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| 1889-1891 | Western Springs, west of Chicago |
| 1899 | Pine Lake, LaPorte, Ind. |
| 1900-1909 | Indianapolis, Ind. |
| 1904 | St. Louis, Mo. |
| 1905-1908 | Chicago |
| 1911 | Wheaton, Ill. |

5. In Pennsylvania

| | |
|------------|--------------------------|
| 1896 | Harrisburg |
| 1897, 1898 | Williamsport |
| 1899 | Scranton and Bradford |
| 1900-1918 | Rocky Springs, Lancaster |
| 1914-1919 | Mahaffey |

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6. In Canada

| | |
|------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1901-1903 | Monroe Park, Toronto |
| 1904, 1905 | Zion Congregational Church, Toronto |
| 1906 | Grimsby Park, near Hamilton |
| 1907-1909 | Zion Congregational Church, Toronto |
| 1912-1918 | Toronto Bible College |
| 1919 | Y.M.C.A. Hall |

Canadians also attended the Old Orchard camp in Maine.

The above list indicates the more regular and continuous area conventions in the northeast, but there were other less regular camps that were also influential.

7. Mountain Lake, Md.

1889-1896
1914, 1915

8. Asbury Park, N.J.

1892-1894
1914, 1915

9. Boone, Iowa

1905-1910

10. Springtown, Pa

1912-1919

11. Camp Hebron, Attleboro, Mass.

1914-1919

A few conventions were also held in the southeast and the far west. In the southeast:

12. Atlanta, Ga.

1899-1909
1916, 1917

13. Eliada, Ashville, N.C.

1915, 1918

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14. Toccoa Falls, Ga.

1918, 1919

In the far west:

15. Beulah Park, E. Oakland, Ca.

1908, 1911, 1913

16. Winnipeg, Manitoba

1905, 1906

Many of the conventions or camp meetings attracted several thousand people summer after summer. The participants were challenged and inspired and contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars for foreign missions. Both young people and some of middle age dedicated their lives for missionary work.

Remember that in those days Alliance churches, as we know them, were virtually non-existent. People who thus responded were usually members of denominational churches and went home to organize Alliance Branches. What they had received at camp meetings they spread in their own communities. Thus a non-denominational Alliance grew and its influence widened.

Now for a listing of Simpson's missionary sermons preached at the conventions. You can count 121 sermons in the following list plus 3 articles.

The biographical data, dates and pages, all refer to the Alliance periodicals.

Chronological listing of
A.B.S. missionary sermons
(2)

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Text</u> | <u>Place</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1886 Sept | 172 | <u>CONSECRATED SERVICE</u> | Isaiah 6 Romans 12 | |
| 1886 Oct. | 220 | <u>HAVING UNDERSTANDING OF THE TIMES</u> | no text | |
| 1887 Aug. (supplement) | 86 | <u>PRACTICAL CONSECRATION</u> preached Sun. A.M., Aug. 7 | John 17:19 Rom. 12:1,2 | Old Orchard |
| 1887 Aug. | 103 | <u>MISSION WORK*</u> preached Mon. A.M., Aug. 8 The Evangelical Missionary Alliance organized that day. | no text | Old Orchard |
| 1888 | | (Missionary sermons at Old Orchard, Linwood Park and the October Convention, if any, were not published in the periodicals.) | | |
| 1889 | | An Old Orchard convention conducted; no missionary sermon printed in periodical. | | |
| 1889 | | N.Y. October convention postponed because new building not finished. | | |
| 1890 | | Two conventions were conducted in N.Y.C., March 10-17; Oct. 4-13 | | |
| 1890 May | 306 | <u>THE GREAT COMMISSION</u> published in <u>The Christ of the Forty Days,</u> ch. 6, 1890. | Matt. 28:19,20 | NY Gospel Tab. |
| 1890 May | 322 | <u>THE LAST MEETING</u> published in <u>The Christ of the Forty Days,</u> ch. 7, 1890 | Acts 1:8 | NY Gospel Tab. |

(both of the above sermons occurred
in a regular sequence of Sun. a.m. sermons)

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Chronological listing of
A.B.S. missionary sermons
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| <u>Date</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Text</u> | <u>Place</u> |
|-------------|-------------|--|----------------|---------------|
| 1890 Aug. | 35 | <u>THE POSSIBILITIES OF FAITH</u> published in <u>A Larger Christian Life</u> , ch. 1 This sermon led to the formation of the Prayer Alliance which in turn prepared the way for the events at Round Lake in July 1891. | Mark 9:23 | Old Orchard |
| 1890 Oct | 258 | <u>ENLARGED WORK*</u> published in <u>A Larger Christian Life</u> , ch. 11 | Isa. 54:2 | NY Oct. Conv. |
| 1891 July | | Note: An upsurge of concern to send out missionaries began at Round Lake, NY in July 1891. Louise Sheppard gave her jewels, others followed. One hundred missionaries were appointed during the following twelve months. | | |
| 1891 Aug. | 118 | <u>MISSIONARY WINGS</u> | Rev. 14:6 | Old Orchard |
| 1891 Aug. | 93 | <u>ONE HUNDRED FOREIGN MISSIONARIES</u> an article re. the upsurge of missionary concern begun at Round Lake and continuing, - most important historically and re. Simpson's views. | | |
| 1891 Oct | 9 | <u>WHO WILL GO?</u> | Isa. 6:1-8 | NY Oct. Conv. |
| 1891 Dec | 386 | <u>OCCUPY TILL I COME</u> emphasis: Christian service and ministry | Luke 19:12 | Gospel Tab. |
| 1892 Apr. | 291 | <u>JESUS ONLY</u> a sermon preached at farewell service for Congo missionaries; it was published in <u>In Heavenly Places</u> , ch. 12. | Matt. 17:1-8 | Gospel Tab. |
| 1892 July | 43 | <u>ELOQUENT FIGURES FOR THE CAUSE OF MISSIONS</u> | no text | Round Lake + |
| 1892 July | 83 | <u>CHRISTIANITY'S CRIME</u> also published as a tract and in <u>Missionary Messages</u> , ch. 5, 1925 | Prov. 24:11,12 | Asbury Park |
| 1892 Aug. | 100 | <u>HOW LONG?</u> also published as a tract | Joshua 31:1 | Old Orchard |
| 1892 Oct. | 266 | <u>POSSESSING THE LAND*</u> | Numbers 13:30 | NY Oct. Conv. |

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A.B.S. missionary sermons
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| <u>Date</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Text</u> | <u>Place</u> |
|-------------|-------------|---|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1892 Dec. | 387 | <u>THE N.T. STANDPOINT OF MISSIONS</u> also published in <u>Missionary Messages, ch. 2</u> | Ezek. 43: 10,11 | NY Gospel Tab. |
| 1893 July | 23 | <u>PENTECOST AND MISSIONS</u> (no summer missionary sermons published in the periodicals; A.B.S. returned in July from a trip around the world) | Acts 1:8 | in India/China |
| 1893 Oct. | 259 | <u>TARRYING BY THE STUFF</u> also published as a tract and later in a booklet, <u>Called To Serve at Home</u> | I Sam. 30: 24,25 | NY Oct. Conv. |
| 1894 July | 27 | <u>PRACTICAL LESSONS IN RELATION TO THE EVANGELIZATION OF THE WORLD</u> also published in <u>Romans, ch. 15</u> | Romans 15: 16-21 | NY Gospel Tab. |
| 1894 July | 75 | <u>THE COMMISSION AND THE ANOINTING</u> iron for gold inaugurated in 1894 | John 20: 21,22 | |
| 1894 July | 148 | <u>MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY</u> | Gen. 4:9 | Asbury Park |
| 1894 Aug. | 172 | <u>THE SCRIPTURAL PRINCIPLES OF MISSIONARY WORK</u> | no text | Old Orchard |
| 1894 Aug. | 195 | <u>THE MACEDONIAN CRY*</u> | Acts 16:9 | Beulah Park # |
| 1894 Oct | 371 | <u>THE SIGNIFICANCE OF OUR TIMES</u> A.T.Pierson at Convention; gold for iron continued | no text | Oct. Conv. the middle Sunday |

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All the sermons listed at Beulah Park were in Ohio, not California.

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| <u>Date</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Text</u> | <u>Place</u> |
|-------------|-------------|--|--|---------------------------|
| 1895 Aug. | 137 | <u>BREAD FOR A STARVING WORLD</u> | John 6:14 | Old Orchard |
| 1895 Aug. | 153 | <u>THE PRINCIPLES OF CHRISTIAN GIVING</u> | Acts 20:35 | Beulah Park |
| 1895 Oct. | 265 | <u>GOD SO LOVED</u> | John 3:16 | N.Y. Oct. Conv |
| 1895 Nov. | 345 | <u>AGGRESSIVE CHRISTIANITY</u> | Mark 1: 37- 39 | Harrisburg, Pa |
| 1896 June | 604 | <u>PAUL, THE MODEL MISSIONARY</u> published in booklet by same title | Rom. 1: 14-16 | |
| 1896 Aug. | 166 | <u>EARNESTS AND FIRST FRUITS</u> preached first Sunday | Rom. 1:14 8:23 | Old Orchard |
| 1896 Aug. | 179 | <u>DEBT, DUTY AND SACRIFICE</u> preached second Sunday | Rom. 1:14 | Old Orchard |
| 1897 Jan. | 30 | <u>IN TRUST WITH THE GOSPEL: IN DEBT TO THE WORLD</u> preached at 1896 Christmas Conv. | Luke 16:5 I Cor. 9:17 I Tim. 1:11 Rom. 1:14 | N.Y. Gospel Tabernacle |
| 1897 July | 101 | <u>ANTIOCH, A MISSIONARY MODEL</u> | Acts 13:1-4 | Tully Lake+ |
| 1897 Aug. | 153 | <u>LOVEST THOU ME?</u> | John 21: 15,17 | Old Orchard |
| 1897 Aug. | 222 | <u>PRAYER AND MISSIONS</u> also published in <u>The Challenge of Missions, 1926 ch.2</u> | Luke 10:2 | Beulah Park |
| 1897 Oct | 416 | <u>THE GROUNDS OF MISSIONARY OBLIGATION</u> | I Sam. 21:8 | N.Y.Oct.Conv. |

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| <u>Date</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Text</u> | <u>Place</u> |
|-------------|-------------|--|--|-------------------|
| 1898 July | 53 | <u>PROVIDENCE AND MISSIONS</u> also published as a booklet. | Matt. 28: 18,19 Eph. 1:22, 23 | several places |
| 1898 Aug. | 196 | <u>HOW LONG?</u> see Aug. 1892, p. 100 | Rev. 6:9,10 | Old Orchard |
| 1898 Sept. | 221 | <u>REDEEMING THE TIME*</u> (the second convention at Nyack) | Eph. 5:16 | Nyack Conv. |
| 1898 Sept. | 269 | <u>THE SCRIPTURAL PRINCIPLES OF MISSIONS*</u> see Aug. 1894, p. 172 | no text | Nyack Conv. |
| 1898 Oct. | 341 | <u>THE KINGDOM AND THE TIMES</u> | Esther 4:14 | NY Oct.Conv+ |
| 1898 Nov. | 413 | <u>WORDS IN SEASON*</u> an explanation of large missionary offerings | Eph. 5:15-18 | NY Gospel Tab. |
| 1899 June | 20 | <u>AN ANCIENT PATTERN FOR MODERN CHRISTIAN WORKERS</u> | Neh. 11:18 | Council |
| 1899 Aug. | 196 | <u>THE GRACE OF GIVING</u> published in <u>II Corinthians, Christ in the Bible</u> Part II, ch. 10 It is not the same as ch. 8 in <u>Missionary Messages.</u> | II Cor. 8:7,9 | Old Orchard |
| 1899 Aug. | 212 | <u>ENCOURAGEMENTS IN THE WORK OF THE WORLD'S EVANGELIZATION</u> | Acts 28:15 | Old Orchard |
| 1899 Sept. | 260 | <u>AGGRESSIVE CHRISTIANITY</u> | II Cor. 10:15,16 | Nyack Conv |
| 1899 Oct. | 312 | <u>LIFT UP YOUR EYES</u> spiritual pre-requisites to serve God | Gen. 13:14,15 | NY Oct.Conv |
| 1899 Oct. | 344 | <u>LOOK ON THE FIELDS *</u> conditions in heathen lands | John 4:35,36 | N.Y.Oct.Conv |

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| <u>Date</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Text</u> | <u>Place</u> |
|-------------|-------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| 1900 July | 36 | <u>WORDS FOR TIRED WORKERS</u> | Gal. 6:9 | Bennett Park, Binghamton, NY |
| 1900 July | 92 | <u>THE GRACE OF GIVING</u> published in <u>Missionary Messages</u> , 1926, ch. 8 It is not the same as Aug. 1899, p. 196, i.e. 2 Cor. ch. 10 | 2 Cor. 8:9 | Beulah Park |
| 1900 Aug. | 106 | <u>THE SOUND OF GOING</u> | 2 Sam. 5:24 | Old Orchard |
| 1900 Aug. | 120 | <u>WHO WILL GO?</u> see Oct. 1891, p. 9 | Isa. 6:8 | Atlanta, Ga |
| 1900 Oct. | 232 | <u>THE OTHER SHEEP</u> | John 10:16 | NY Oct. Conv. |
| 1901 Aug. | | (A.B.S. preached a sermon at Old Orchard entitled <u>The Other Sheep</u> , but it is not published in the periodical) | | |
| 1901 Aug. | 130 | <u>EMERGENCY, OPPORTUNITY, RESPONSIBILITY</u> | Prov. 24:11,12 Jud. 4:14 Rom. 1:14 | Beulah Park+ |
| 1901 Sept. | 144 | <u>GIVING ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES</u> | Mark 12:41 | Nyack Conv. |
| 1901 Oct. | 214 | <u>A MISSIONARY DISPENSATION</u> | 1 Cor. 9:16-18, 26-27 | N.Y. Oct. Conv. |
| 1902 Aug. | 102 | <u>THE PRACTICAL SIDE OF MISSIONS*</u> | Jn. 13:17 | Old Orchard and Rocky Springs |
| 1902 Oct. | 225 | <u>THE HARVEST FIELDS</u> | Matt. 9:36,38 | NY Oct. Conv. |

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| <u>Date</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Text</u> | <u>Place</u> |
|-------------|-------------|--|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1903 | | (summer convention missionary sermons were not published in the periodicals.) | | |
| 1903 Oct. | 283 | <u>A SIN OF OMISSION*</u> | Gen. 42:21 Num. 32:23 | N.Y.Oct. Conv. |
| 1904 Aug. | 146 | <u>WHO IS WILLING?</u> | I Chron. 29:5 | |
| 1904 Aug. | 194 | <u>ENTHUSIASM</u> also published in <u>Living Truths</u> , July 1904, p. 369 and <u>Alliance Weekly</u> , 1911 p. 377 reprinted in <u>Earnests of the Coming Age</u> , ch. 12, 1921 | Rev. 3:15 | |
| 1904 Aug. | 242 | <u>THE CURSE OF SELFISHNESS</u> also published in <u>Earnests of the Coming Age</u> , ch. 18, 1921 | Job 31:17 | Old Orchard |
| 1904 Oct. | 322 | <u>THE LOGIC OF MISSIONS*</u> published in <u>Missionary Messages</u> , ch. 4, 1925 | Rom. 10: 14,15 | N.Y.Oct.Conv. |
| 1905 June | 389 | <u>THE SCRIPTURAL PRINCIPLES OF MISSIONS</u> same topic published in <u>Living Truths</u> , Oct. 1904, p. 561 see also Aug. 1894, p. 172 and Sept. 1898, p. 269 | Acts 15:14 | Indianapolis, IN+ |

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| <u>Date</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Text</u> | <u>Place</u> |
|-------------|-------------|---|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1905 Aug. | 501 | <u>SPIRITUAL INVESTMENTS</u> | Eccles. 11:1 | Nyack Conv. |
| 1905 Aug. | 565 | <u>A MISSIONARY CRISIS</u> | Acts 16:9 | Old Orchard or Rocky Springs |
| 1905 Oct. | 551 | <u>CHRIST AND CHRISTIAN GIVING*</u> similar to <u>The Principles of Christian Giving, Aug. 1895,</u> p. 153 and <u>The Grace of Giving, Aug. 1899,</u> p. 196 | Mark 12:41 | NY Oct. Conv. |
| 1905 Nov. | 631 | <u>WHY OUR PEOPLE GIVE SO MUCH TO MISSIONS</u> - an article published in <u>Living Truths</u> | | |
| 1906 July | 54 | <u>JONAH, OR GOD'S FIRST LESSON ON MISSIONS</u> | Jonah 3:1,2 | |
| 1906 Aug. | 132 | <u>UNUSED MISSIONARY FORCES</u> | Matt. 21:3 | Rocky Springs |
| 1906 Aug. | 149 | <u>N.T. TYPES OF MISSIONARY CHARACTERS</u> published in <u>Missionary Messages,</u> ch. 3, 1925 | no text | Nyack Conv. |
| 1906 Aug. | 178 | <u>THE WORLD'S NEED</u> published in <u>Missionary Messages,</u> 1925 ch. 7 | John 3:16 | Old Orchard |
| 1906 Oct. | 293 | <u>OPPORTUNITY, ACHIEVEMENT AND CONFLICT</u> | I Cor. 16:9 | NY Oct. Conv. |
| 1907 June | 281 | <u>A SURVEY OF THE FIELD</u> preached after the close of Council | John 4:35 | N.Y. Tab. |
| 1907 July | 62 | <u>LENGTHENING THE CHORDS; STRENGTHENING THE STAKES*</u> published in <u>Earnests of the Coming Age, ch. 16, 1921</u> | Isa. 54:2 | Nyack Conv. |

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