

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
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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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<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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<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</u> , Aug. 1895, p. 153 and <u>The Grace of Giving</u> , Aug. 1899, 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</u> , ch. 16, 1921	Isa. 54:2	Nyack Conv.

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Text</u>	<u>Place</u>
1907 July	377	<u>SPECIAL ENCOURAGEMENTS IN FOREIGN MISSIONARY WORK</u> - an article published in <u>Living Truths</u>	no text	
1907 Aug.	98	<u>THE LORD'S COMING AND MISSIONS</u> published in <u>The Coming One</u> , ch. 15, 1912 & <u>The Challenge of Missions</u> , ch. 4, 1926	Matt. 24:14 Rev. 14:6,7	Old Orchard
1907 Oct.	57	<u>THE HOLY SPIRIT AND MISSIONS*</u>	Acts 1:8	N.Y. Oct. Conv.
1908 July	279	<u>MISSIONARY FEET</u> republished in A.W. June 1920, p. 146 by request of Mrs. A.B.S.	Isa. 52:7-10	Nyack Conv.
1908 Aug.	315	<u>MISSIONARY WINGS</u> see Aug. 1891, p. 118	Rev. 14:6	Tully Lake or Rocky Springs
1908 Aug.	363	<u>THE ANOINTING AT BETHANY</u>	John 12:3	Old Orchard
1908 Aug.	381	<u>BREAD FOR A PERISHING WORLD</u>	Matt. 14:10	Beulah Park
1908 Oct.	58	<u>A CLOUD OF WITNESSES</u>	Acts 1:8b Heb. 12:1	NY Oct. Conv.
1908 Nov.	163	<u>THE LAST HANDFUL*</u> also published in <u>The Challenge of Missions</u> , ch. 1, 1926	I Kings 17: 13-16	
1909 July	265	<u>THE MISSIONARY MESSAGE OF THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH</u>	Matt. 28:20	Toronto Conv. +
1909 July	281	<u>PAUL, THE MODEL MISSIONARY</u> see June 1896, p. 604	Rom. 1:14-16	Keuka Lake
1909 Aug.	365	<u>THE HOUSEHOLD OF THE LORD</u> published in <u>The Cross of Christ</u> , ch. 6, 1910 but a different title	Exodus 12:4	

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Text</u>	<u>Place</u>
1909 Aug.	433	<u>THE MASTER'S MESSAGE ABOUT MISSIONS</u>	Matt. 9:37,38 Matt.28:19,20 Acts 20:35	
1909 Oct.	9	<u>TWENTY-ONE REASONS</u> for the neglect of missions and the presenting of missions. published in <u>Missionary Messages</u> ch. 6, 1925	no text	
1909 Oct.	25	<u>THE GOD OF THE HEATHEN</u>	Rom. 3:29	
1909 Oct.	41	<u>WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?</u>	Luke 10:29-37	NY Oct. Conv.
1909 Oct.	57	<u>FISHING FOR SOULS</u>	Matt.17:27	
1910 June	193	<u>SERVICE, ACCOUNTABILITY AND RECOMPENSE</u>	Luke 19:31	Council+
1910 Aug.	337	<u>MISSIONS - THE DIVINE PREPARATION OF THE HOME BASE</u>	Ps. 68:7-12	Nyack Conv.
1910 Aug.	369	<u>MISSIONARY ACHIEVEMENT & FAILURE</u>	Josh.11:23; 18:3	Old Orchard
1910 Aug.	385	<u>OUR TRUST</u> published in <u>The Challenge of Missions</u> , ch. 5, 1927	1 Cor. 9:17	Beulah Park
1910 Sept.	401	<u>PARTNERSHIP WITH GOD</u> compare ch.5, <u>The King's Business</u>	1 Cor. 3:9	
1910 Sept.	417	<u>THE FRUITS OF MISSIONS</u> published in <u>The Challenge of Missions</u> , ch. 3, 1926	Rev. 22:2	Toronto Conv. in July
1910 Oct.	57 & 73	<u>THE KINGDOM AND THE TIMES</u> printed in two installments	no text	NY Oct. Conv.

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Text</u>	<u>Place</u>
1911 Aug.	345	<u>SOWING BESIDE ALL WATERS</u>	Isa. 32:20	
1911 Oct.	36	<u>MISSIONS AND CURRENT EVENTS</u>	1 Cor. 16:9	Old Orchard
1911 Nov.	84	<u>SACRIFICIAL SERVICE</u>	2 Sam. 24:24	NY Oct. Conv.
1912 March	19	<u>THE CONSERVATION OF THE FORCES AND RESOURCES OF OUR WORK</u>	no text	
1912 June	195	<u>WITH THE KING FOR HIS WORK</u>	1 Chron. 4:22,23	
1912 July	291	<u>OUR TRUSTEESHIP*</u> includes the Nyack Schools	1 Tim. 1:2 2 Tim. 1:14	Nyack Conv.
1912 Aug.	323	<u>THE LAW OF LOVE</u>	no text	Old Orchard +
1912 Aug.	339	<u>THE ENTHUSIASM OF MISSIONS</u>	Rev. 14:6	Rocky Springs
1912 Oct.	50	<u>THE SOUND OF GOING and THE WORLD'S NEED</u> (two parts) see Aug. 1900, p. 106	2 Sam. 5:22 1 Jn. 3:17,18	NY Oct. Conv.
1912 Nov.	99	<u>THE PERSPECTIVE OF CHRISTIAN FAITH AND HOPE</u>	Acts 1:6-11	
1913 Aug.	306	<u>ANTIOCH, or THE HOME BASE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS</u>	Acts 11:26 13:1,2	Nyack Conv.
1913 Sept.	371	<u>BACK TO ANTIOCH</u> a survey of missionary outreach with application for today	Acts 1:8	
1913 Oct.	51	<u>THE WHITE FIELDS</u>	Jn. 4:1-42	Old Orchard

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Text</u>	<u>Place</u>
1913 Nov.	67	<u>THE MISSIONARY EMERGENCY</u> published in Missionary Messages, ch. 1, 1925	Eph. 5:17	NY Oct. Conv.
1914 Aug.	354	<u>THE MISSIONARY APPEAL</u>	Prov. 23:11 Matt. 25:40,45	Old Orchard
1914 Oct.	50	<u>THY KINGDOM COME</u>	Luke 11:1,2	NY Oct. Conv.
1915 Sept.	354	<u>THE MESSAGE OF THE TIMES</u>	1 Chron. 12:32	Old Orchard
1915 Oct.	50	<u>SACRIFICIAL GIVING</u>	Mark 14:8	NY Oct. Conv.
1916 Aug.	338	<u>THE LAST EVANGEL</u>	Rev. 14:6	Old Orchard
1916 Oct.	34	<u>MISSIONARY PRECEDENTS</u>	Acts 1:8	NY Oct. Conv.
1917 Aug.	322	<u>THE MISSIONARY MESSAGE OF THE WORLD WAR</u>	Joel 3:9-14	Old Orchard
1917 Nov.	82	<u>APPII FORUM</u> He looks at Alliance work behind, around and before.	Acts 28:14,15	NY Oct. Conv.

THE MISSIOLOGY OF A. B. SIMPSON

It's still a live option as we approach our centennial.

Introduction

We belong to that great company of "sent ones" who are commissioned to be "heralds of the Gospel of Jesus Christ." Our Lord Jesus leads that company, - "as the Father sent Me . . .," and Paul stands as His most prominent, immediate successor. The last 100 years have seen many outstanding successors to Paul. A. B. Simpson was one of them. You, seated here today, are also part of that magnificent company and happen to work with the C&MA. God raised us up through Simpson's leadership. Now, as we approach the celebration of our centennial, 1887-1987, our future missionary ministry can receive some inspiration, challenge and direction by examining anew some of Simpson's views of missionary endeavor. So let me answer two questions that pertain to Dr. Simpson's views of missionary work.

1. In what was his philosophy of missions rooted?
2. Around what did his plan for missions revolve?

The answers will prove just as worthwhile to us today as they did to Simpson and his generation. You can share them in some form with the congregations to whom you minister.

Body

- I. His philosophy of missions was rooted in -
 - A. His Christian experience
 - 1) His conversion to Christ
 - 2) His baptism in the Holy Spirit
 - 3) His healing from heart trouble

Simpson can best tell you about his experiences. For his conversion experience, A. E. Thompson recorded it in his biography of Simpson, p. 16-18. Simpson gave an overall view of his crisis experiences during a sermon delivered at Bethshan, London, England in June, 1885.

He testified:

"Some twenty-seven years ago (1858) I floundered for ten months in the waters of despondency, and I got out of them just by believing Jesus as my Saviour. About twelve years ago, (1874) I got into another deep experience of conviction, and I got out of that by believing in Jesus as my Sanctifier. After years of teaching from and waiting on Him, about four years ago (1881), when broken down physically in every way so that I had no strength for my work, the Lord Jesus Christ showed me that it was His blessed will to be my complete Saviour for body as well as soul; and with a heart that fainted at the slightest effort and having been laid aside a dozen times from my work, I came to Him; and alone with Him I lifted my hand to heaven and made three solemn pledges: The first was, that I solemnly believed that this Gospel of healing was truly God's Word -- I had to stand on the truth or I could not get the life. The second was, I solemnly took it for myself as given to me and believed it was mine and that I was now healed; and not only healed, but that I had the full strength of my risen Lord for the rest of my work for Him. And the third thing I believed was this, - that He, keeping all these pledges in me and for me, I should not refuse to use this truth for the help of others, if he needed it. And with those sacred

pledges I came back to New York where I was then a pastor. Now, for four years I have been separated by Providence from my former ecclesiastical surroundings.

The Chairman interposed: Yes, you resigned your pastorate, resigned your salary and took up evangelistic work for the Lord in spirit, soul and body!

(Mr. Simpson continuing): Well, from that hour I have been permitted by God to work (I say this to His honor and thousands could bear witness to it), and I have worked about four times as hard as I ever did in my life. I have had the entire charge of a large magazine, for which I have done half the writing and all the editing and supervision for these four years. I have been pastor of a church where we have had services every night in the week, and three on Sunday. And I have had charge of a home, - Berachah in New York, which is open for those who come for healing, and where very many hundreds have called in the past year. Now for these four years, I can truly say that, with the exception of two nights, I have never been tired, and those two nights I just felt the Lord wanted me to rest on His bosom a little. But I thank God I have not had one hour away from work and have not had one single summer vacation. I have not done this to glory in it, but because I could not help it. I stand here to say, that the Lord Jesus can be body and nerve and vital energy and brain and mind and thought to those who will simply trust Him and not be afraid to venture out in His strength. And I am glad to testify tonight that He is true and faithful and all-sufficient."

(See also a more complete personal testimony of healing by A.B.Simpson in The Gospel of Healing, chapter 6, p. 155-174.)

When Simpson returned to the scene of his first pastorate in Hamilton, ONT to celebrate the 50th anniversary of his ordination, he testified concerning his sanctification experience briefly mentioned above. He said of himself:

"The next great lesson the patient Master was pleased to begin to teach him was the all-sufficiency of Christ. Never shall he forget the morning that he spent in his church study (in Louisville, Ky., 1874) reading an old musty book he had discovered in his library on the subject, The Higher Christian Life (by W. E. Boardman). He had struggled long and vainly with his own intense nature, his strong self-will, his peculiar temptations and his spiritual life that had been a constant humiliation. He had talked to his people about the deeper things of the Spirit, but there was a hollow ring and his heart was breaking to know the Lord Jesus as a living bright reality. As he pored over that little volume, he saw a new light. The Lord Jesus revealed Himself as a living and all sufficient presence; and he learned for the first time that Christ had not saved us from future peril and left us to fight the battle as best we could, but He who had justified us was waiting to sanctify us, to enter into our spirit and substitute His strength, His holiness,

His joy, His love, His faith, His power, for all our worthlessness, helplessness, and nothingness, and make it an actual and living fact, - 'I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.' It was indeed a new revelation. Throwing himself at the feet of that glorious Master, he claimed the mighty promise, 'I will dwell in you and walk in you.' Across the threshold of his spirit there passed a Being as real as the Christ who came to John on Patmos and from that moment a new secret has been the charm and glory and strength of his life and testimony."

A.W. October 2, 1915 p. 11

Shortly thereafter Simpson persuaded his fellow ministers in Louisville to join together and invite D. W. Whittle and P. P. Bliss to conduct a city-wide evangelistic campaign in their city. Thus evangelism at home and abroad became the major heart-throb of Simpson's life and ministry, - the spontaneous result of being filled with the Spirit.

B. His Views of Scripture

- 1) God speaks the Truth through authentic Scriptures, - John 17:8, 17; Heb. 1:1,2
- 2) God loves the world in His Son, - John 3:16; Matt. 28:19,20
- 3) God awaits the completion of the Great Commission, - Matt. 24:14

Obviously these three statements indicate the Scriptural basis of missions. Much could be quoted from Simpson to amplify them, but you can adequately do so yourself. The Biblical foundation was the motivation of Christian missions for Simpson and is for us as well. But we need to remind ourselves of its truth and allow it to permeate our messages. It should become an inextinguishable fire within us.

Number three became a vital force in Simpson's life and he longed and worked to bring back the King. Other missionaries picked up this concern from Simpson and it sent men like R. A. Jaffray not only to unevangelized South China, but also into Indo-China and Indonesia. Everyone must have the opportunity to accept or reject the Gospel. Jesus' return and world-wide evangelization were thus joined.

II. His Plan For Missions Revolved Around -

A. Improvement of the ordinary Christian's experience.

- 1) By Church and Convention meetings.
- preaching, teaching and missions

- 2) By literature distribution

- 3) By hymn singing

B. Enlightenment of the Christian's Mind

- 1) Description of conditions in New York City

- 2) Description of heathen lands

- 3) Pleas for neglected areas:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| a. Congo Valley | e. Japan |
| b. India | f. Annam |
| c. Tibet | g. Palestine |
| d. South China | h. South America |

You can almost see from the above outline what took place. You have and will be participating in similar activities and concerns. "A" indicates method and "B" indicates missionary information. You, too, will be presenting your particular area of need to the Alliance people at conventions throughout North America.

As you prepare for convention ministries and work toward Alliance Centennial goals, a question posed by A. T. Pierson in the early 1880s comes to mind. He asked in substance:

"Do we want to export to foreign countries the level of piety characteristic of ourselves and our churches?"

This too was Simpson's burden and accordingly his winter and summer conventions were targeted at the level of Christian life and experience of the average Christian. He knew that dedicated, Spirit-filled Christians provided both workers and money to do the work. Preachers and missionaries joined together at the conventions to achieve these ends. The printed page, both the magazines and books, accomplished similar results. Simpson often spoke of his paper parish and their support of Alliance work. Hymn singing also contributed to the spiritual climate that elevated the spiritual life of the people. Conventions today with similar ingredients should result in needed workers and needed funds and enhance the whole spiritual level of Alliance people and churches.

Into this lively, spiritual atmosphere and reality you will pour the vital missionary information that promotes the missionary responsibilities of the Alliance. Simpson thus used information.

Before he left the Presbyterian ministry, he thoroughly researched the religious needs of New York City. What he learned caused him to forfeit a generous salary, launch out alone to evangelize the city and trust God to make effective his ministry and to supply his family needs. And so the missionary information and burden that you convey to Alliance people will incite them to pray, to give and to go.

Missionary vision and concern certainly is more than a mathematical calculation of one's financial circumstances. Simpson flooded people with facts, figures and conditions of people around the world. His burden was thus transferred to others. Working girls often pledged half of the meagre salaries they earned for missions. Furthermore, it was the young ladies who more often than young men offered themselves for overseas service. So the Alliance was born and grew and so it must continue today.

Conclusion

This summary of Simpson's views of missionary concern and endeavor is intended to simply motivate us all anew to continue and to complete the task begun in heaven, consummated on the Cross and embraced by Simpson and all those who continue in the work. We have centennial goals. May God enable us to exceed them. The story of the Good Samaritan Jesus applied by saying, "Go thou and do likewise." There is much in the life and ministry of A.B.Simpson that we could likewise emulate.

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A. B. Simpson
Historical Library,

