

**THE BIBLE A MISSIONARY  
MESSAGE; A STUDY OF  
ACTIVITIES AND METHODS**

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The Bible a missionary message; a study of activities and methods by William Owen Carver

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# The Bible a Missionary Message

A Study of Activities and Methods

By

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## Foreword

THE author accepted the invitation of his friend, Professor Chas. T. Ball, General Secretary of the Baptist Student Missionary Movement [later designated American Baptist Student Union], to prepare this book on the missionary message of the Bible for use in schools, colleges, universities, theological seminaries, and for general reading. Two other studies of the teaching of the Bible concerning Missions have been prepared by the same author. *Missions in the Plan of the Ages* is an extended study for use in classes of seminaries and training schools and by others who wish to make a full study of the subject. It has been in growing use for twelve years. Four years ago *All the World in All the Word* was prepared at the special request of the Women's Missionary Union Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention for use in their numerous study classes. Although extensively used by those for whom they were prepared, neither of these seemed wholly adapted to the uses of the Missionary Movement.

There has been no effort to avoid use of the same material in the different volumes. There has been diligent effort to adapt the use in each case to the constituency for whom it was prepared. It is hoped that the outcome may justify the effort, and that the multitudes of young men and women in our schools of learning, and in our churches, who are taking

ever-growing interest in God's plans and work for the world, will find in these studies a sure foundation and a permanent inspiration for missionary interest and effort.

While seeking always to keep in mind the needs of the students, the author has not made these studies too simple and easy. (They deal with God's redeeming idea in the history of revelation,) a subject inevitably calling for careful and sustained thought. But the effort should be amply repaid if one comes to feel that the lines of divine thought and action have been grasped in some measure. The supreme need of the Missionary Enterprise at this time is consecrated personality in which to invest the ever-increasing sums of money which the churches are ready to give. The saving gospel can be proclaimed only through men and women. They must be enlisted by the thousands. It is with the prayer that such a result may come to many a faithful servant of our Lord that the work is sent forth.

It is with pleasure also that I make mention of the valuable pecuniary aid extended by Mrs. H. Z. Duke, of Dallas, Texas, in the publication of this volume. Mrs. Duke did this upon suggestion of Prof. Chas. T. Ball. She cherishes the hope that the reading and study of this book may lead to a larger appreciation of the Bible as a missionary message.

W. O. C.

*Louisville, Ky.*



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## I

### THE FACT OF THE BIBLE MARKS IT AS A MISSIONARY MESSAGE

#### I. DEFINITIONS.

Let us first of all ask what we mean by Missions. Is it not the sending of messages to those who need to hear them? There is then the sender, the message, the messenger, the receivers of the message. In Christian Missions, who sends the message? When did He begin sending the message? To whom does He send the message? Who are the messengers? Are there several classes and groups of messengers, as well as numerous individual messengers? Are all these messengers intended to share, and together to complete, one enterprise, or are there many distinct, unrelated enterprises? Do not all the messengers come from the one, the same, God?

What is the message? Where shall we find it? Does the Bible contain not only the message but the plan of its sending? Are angels and missionaries all messengers? What is the difference between an angel and a missionary? What other messengers has God besides angels and missionaries?

II. FOR WHAT REASONS MUST WE CALL THE BIBLE A MISSIONARY MESSAGE? HOW SHALL WE DESCRIBE OUR BIBLE?

1. *If it is from God, through messengers, to men,*