



WATCHMAN'S TRUMPET



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FROM THE MISSION DIRECTOR

*Hello,
I welcome you to this new month and present to you June 2024 edition of Watchman's Trumpet. The theme of this month's edition is "Queen Esther - Part II".*

The story of Esther unveils God's wisdom, power and providence including His commitment to deliver his people from wicked plots. This is the second of a two part story of God's great deliverance of his people from Genocidal plot in Persia and its lessons.

This second and last edition in the series described how Esther undertook the dangerous mission of securing her people from mass murder at great risk to her own life after three days fasting. She in the process exposed the wicked plot of Haman and in response, the king had Haman executed on the gallows that he originally constructed to hang Mordecai on. His wicked plan backfired. There is a God in heaven who orders all things in the world in favour of His people. He has and will deploy all it takes to overturn the wicked plans of His enemies and the enemies of His people.

Humanity is headed for destruction and damnation until Jesus came to the world to die for our sins. Much more than the petition of Esther, Jesus' petition before the throne of God secures our pardon and release from the consequences of our wicked and wayward lives. He is in heaven right now at the right hand of God continuing His intercessory ministry

on our behalf. His prayers daily secures for us grace and power to be and to do all that God ordained for our life here on earth and at the end of our life. On the other hand, the devil like Haman is relentless in trying every means to deprive us of our place and joy in heaven, we need to be consistently vigilant and prayerful.

Finally, akin to Esther's loyalty commitment and sacrifice, the evangelistic call is for all believers in the kingdom. We are to be involved and participate in all efforts that will secure sinners around us in the place where we live and work from everlasting destruction. Rescuing the perishing in some lands sometimes comes with challenges, at great cost and involves great risks. But God who delivered Esther and the Jews from the wicked plans of their enemies will deliver us and help us to succeed in our assignment. May the blessings of this second series and more be yours as you read this Edition of Watchman's Trumpet in Jesus' name. Welcome!

ESTHER'S DANGEROUS RESCUE MISSION

"Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house:



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"and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the gate of the house." Esther 5:1

After three days total abstinence by all Jews as Esther requested, she put on her royal outfit and presented herself in the king's court where the king can see her at risk to her life. The sight of her awoke and attracted the king's sympathy and she obtained favour in his sight. The king understood the fact that there was a desperate need Esther had that made her risk her life in such manner.

We shall consider three subtopics:

1. Divine favour for a desperate queen
2. Danger of seeking counsel from godless persons
3. Leadership understanding of individual differences in multilingual, multiracial societies

1. Divine favour for a desperate queen

Then said the king unto her,

“What wilt thou, queen Esther? and what is thy request? It shall be even given thee to the half of the kingdom. And Esther answered, if it seem good unto the king, let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him. Then the king said, Cause Haman to make haste, that he may do as Esther hath said. So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared...” Esther 5:3-5

The king demanded to know and promised to do whatever Esther asked. Esther invited him and Haman to a banquet. King Ahasuerus granted her this petition and again at the banquet requested to know what her problem was. She again invited them for a second night's banquet and promised to tell him what the problem was at the second banquet. We see here God's power at work and His ability to answer prayers and respond to the desperate needs of His people. We also see Esther's wisdom and consideration for others. She could have told the king what her problem was but she choose not to until the king over a dinner or banquet is relaxed and comfortable. This is a lesson that should be learnt by spouses. They must be wise in communication. There is an appropriate time for everything.

King Ahasuerus' understanding of the need of the time was also commendable. On sighting Esther in the courtyard, he stretched out his scepter towards her to offer her life otherwise, Esther would have been executed. He must have considered what pain he went through as he waited to have a replacement for Vashti and was not willing to lose another queen. Of course, God was at work. We find here confirmed the scriptures that states that the king's heart is in God's hand as rivers of water and He turns it to wherever He

pleases. We must act in mercy towards those who do desperate things in want of life or the means to sustain it even when such actions demand an alteration of our busy schedules. We must respond urgently to the needs of those who hurt or are in any form of trouble or danger. Leadership position and authority is granted by God to help and not to hurt others.

2. Danger of seeking counsel from godless persons

“So Haman came in. And the king said unto him, What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour? Now Haman thought in his heart, To whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself? And Haman answered the king, For the man whom the king delighteth to honour, Let the royal apparel be brought which the king useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth upon, and the crown royal which is set upon his head:” Esther 6:6-8

Haman left the first night's banquet in a joyous mood but as soon as he came to the gate and again observed Mordecai's insubordination, his joy evaporated. When he got home, he conveyed a meeting with his wife and friends in attendance to seek their advice on what to do. His wife advised that he should construct a 75feet high tower gallows and request the following day to have Mordecai hanged on it.



There seems to be problem in the quality of advisers and the advice that are available to whoever sought counsel in Persia. It happen that at that time, those who surround leaders and rulers to give them advice are lacking in wisdom, wicked and self-serving. They cause ruins of precious lives and relationship.



3. Leadership understanding of individual differences in multilingual, multiracial societies

“For who maketh thee to differ from another? ...” 1 Corinthians 4:7

For men to give good advice, they must be converted and be well tutored in the will, way and word of God like Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon. They must have understanding of times. On our part we must consider the spirituality, soundness of mind and conviction of those we go to for advice so that they will not mislead, misguide and derail us as these advisers around Haman did to him. In multi-ethnic states, communities or relationship, we must learn how to accommodate individual differences and sometimes conviction on account of race, life, faith and religion. If Haman had done this, it would have been possible for him to get over the hurt he had regarding Mordecai's refusal to bow to him on the account of being a Jew. We must beware of the danger of plotting to hurt others especially, God's favourites and anointed. Rather, we should be willing to sort out our differences with people in an amicable way and be willing to forgive others. In any circumstance or situation, whether good or bad, there is bound to be differences in people's response towards us. Face wherever we choose, half of the world lies behind us. We cannot win them all. We need the courage to change what we can, the humility to accept what we cannot and to know the difference.



ABOUT WATCHMAN OUTREACH MISSION

Watchman Outreach Mission as envisioned fundamentally comprises of men and women of faith who watch over one another and together watch for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Next to this primary assignment is an equally important responsibility of bringing others into the same state of watchfulness and readiness as the coming of the Lord draws near. Ours is a trans-ministerial, trans-denominational mission. Our core values include expository teaching, prayer and counselling. We train in principles and practice of Christian discipleship and equip for effective Kingdom Service.

The Lord Jesus Christ in one of His parable said "*While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept*" **Mathew 25:5**. Watchman Outreach Mission is a response of faith to this and similar warnings about events in the last days. Our response is based on the premise that prophecies, visions and revelations about the future such as the one documented in the Lord's parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins are sign-posts by which men are warned to keep vigil to avoid disastrous end. We serve to wake up the church and men everywhere to remain alert and watch for the Lord's return.

The Mission, based in Ibadan, Nigeria, was launched in 2009 and its maiden outing took place on the 20th November of the same year. On that day, we partnered with All Nations Evangelical Ministry (ANEM), Akobo, Ibadan for Evangelistic and Medical Mission Outreach to Idi - Ose Village on Arulogun - Olorunda Road in Lagelu Local Government, Ibadan.

In the years that followed we networked with churches and other Christian groups too to implement our mandate which include conducting gospel outreaches, discipleship training for new converts, organizing and facilitating workers and ministerial training, conducting administrative reviews in churches and ministries, writing of proposals for reforms and church growth strategies that can enhance social cohesion, improve church finances and foster overall development, unity and growth of such ministries; monitoring and/or supervision of the implementation of such reforms and strategies.

Some of these Christian groups and ministries include with Christ Apostolic Church, Oke - Ife in Ajangboju, Ibadan, Nigerian Military Christian Fellowship, Adekunle Fajuyi Cantonment Chapter in Oyo - State Nigeria, Christ Gospel Mission International, Light of Jesus Evangelistic Ministry with branches in different cities in South Western Nigeria, and Ark of Salvation Church of Christ (ASCC) with headquarters at Molade, Monatan Ibadan.

Till date, although partnered ministries change from time to time depending on the leading we receive from the Lord, we remain committed to our main purpose and vision; that of service to the church and in the world to wake up men everywhere and encourage them to remain alert and watch for the Lord's return. Through our activities, souls had been saved, believers edified and church workers' spiritual growth and development enhanced, all to the glory of God.

WATCHMAN PRAYER HOUR



Prayer Points - For June 2024

1. Thank God for His promise to frustrate the wicked plans of our enemies
2. Pray for divine favour from men in positions of authority
3. Pray for divine upliftment and promotion this month
4. Pray against vainglory, the pride of life and spirit of worldliness
5. Pray for leaders in our nations to have ability to discern good counsel from wicked ones
6. Pray that God should help counsellors of kings in our land to undertake their responsibilities with the fear of God and sensitive conscience
7. Pray that God will not allow the any counsellor to mislead, misguide and derail you
8. Pray for grace to abstain from all appearances of evil

"..... men ought always to pray, and not to faint;" **Luke 18:1**

May the Lord hear and answer all our prayers - AMEN!

Watchman Prayer Hour holds every Saturday from 10.30am - 12.00MD. We invite you to join us at our office at Amazing Grace House, Joy Estate, Olorunda - Abaa, Ibadan . Oyo - State. Follow us on any of our social media platforms and send your inquiries or prayer requests to any of our digital addresses.

THE BEGINNING OF HAMAN'S FALL

“And Haman answered the king, For the man whom the king delighteth to honour, Let the royal apparel be brought which the king useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth upon, and the crown royal which is set upon his head: Then the king said to Haman, Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the king's gate: let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken.” **Esther 6:7-8, 10**

Two contradictory plans of men about Mordecai - Haman wanted him dead; the king by divine counsel wanted him honoured. The will and counsel of the Lord prevailed. His enemy who wanted him dead was compelled to become the instrument of his honour. The counsel of the Lord; that shall stand. We shall consider three subtopics:

1. Humiliation of a wicked plotter
2. Selfishness and covetousness of an exalted cabinet member
3. Mordecai's humble disposition and management of national honour

1. Humiliation of a wicked plotter

Then took Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and brought him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaimed before him, Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour. And Mordecai came again to the king's gate. But Haman hastened to his house mourning, and having his head covered.” **Exodus 6:11-12**

On the night that Haman wanted to seek the king's permission to hand Mordecai on the 75ft gallows which he had made, the king could not sleep. He then spend the time going



through the book of chronicles and came to where the record of how Mordecai saved the king's life by acting as informant when he discovered that Bigthana and Teresh, two fellow workers at the king's gate wanted to murder the king. He inquired who at that moment was in the king's court. He was told that Haman stood there. He came to ask for permission to have Mordecai hanged. King Ahasuerus invited him in but before he could carry out his mission, the king asked him what honour should be done to someone whom the king was delighted in and wanted to honour. Haman thought that he was the person that the king could delight in honouring and recommended all that he desired for himself. He wanted to ride on the king's horse wearing the king's royal apparel and crown. Haman was compelled to do this for Mordecai. We learn here the lessons of divine overruling providence in favour of His children and people.

2. Selfishness and covetousness of an exalted cabinet member

“...Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.” **Luke 12:15**

The character flaw of Haman became apparent from his counsel to the king on this night. It was clear from the account that Haman was selfish and covetous. He had an eye and heart on the king's post hence the recommendation he gave to the king. This attitude is common with some unconverted cabinet members in government. It is common for some to pursue selfish goals instead of giving

counsel that will facilitate good governance and collective wellbeing of citizens in the community. What more honour does a prime minister wants? It was obvious he wanted for himself King Ahasuerus' throne but things worked against him. Sometimes men's state of mind and thoughts are exposed by what they say and the kind of counsel they give

3.. Mordecai's humble disposition and management of national honour

“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not:” **Galatians 6:9**

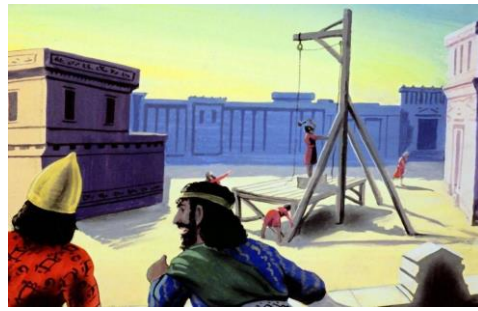
On the other hand, Mordecai's humility is evident by his return to duty post after the honour done to him. It is also the evidence that nothing is permanent except that which God and grace imparts. Promotion, honour and recognition come from God. It is whatever God does that lasts forever. Nothing can be added to it or removed from it.

Since God did not desire the death of the wicked but that the wicked should repent of his wicked ways and be saved, Haman's wife and his wise men's voice carried divine warning or prophecy which if he had paid close attention to would have prevented his ultimate ruin and perdition. He ought to have repented and made effort to reverse his evil plans but he did not. Day by day through voices around us, God sometimes offers men opportunity to turn away from sin and embrace Christ. Death and damnation lurks around the corners if men continue to reject God's offer of mercy. The prophecy of Haman's wife and his wise men was in line with God's word that promised the obedient Jew that no man will be able to stand before them, that no weapon fashioned against them shall prosper. The same promise is for us today.

EXPOSURE OF HAMAN'S TREACHERY AND ABUSE OF OFFICE

"Then Esther the queen answered and said, If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request: For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my tongue, although the enemy could not countervail the king's damage. Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so? And Esther said, The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman. Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen.." **Esther 7:3-6**

At the second banquet, while the king was drinking wine, he again requested that Esther should make her request. Esther then informed the king how she and her people had been placed on death row. She stated that had it been that they were ordered to be sold as slaves, she would have held her peace because she knew that eventually freedom will come even though the price which would come to the king for the loss of such an industrious, responsible and illustrious population would have been a bad bargain. She also revealed how the king was deceived to go along with the plan. When the king inquired who it was that presume to do such a thing, she pointed to Haman. This revelation was a great shock to the king and made him really angry. He walked out of the banquet hall into the palace garden



ease off the steam of his anger and regain control over his mind.

We shall consider three subtopics:

1. Hanging Haman on his gallows
2. Abstaining from all appearances of evil
3. The damnable end of the wicked

1. Hanging of Haman on his gallows

"Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: And he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him." **Proverbs 26:27**

By the king's reaction Haman knew that the game was up and his life was in danger. He fell upon the bed that Esther was on to plead for his life. To make matters worse, the king returned to find him in this posture and insinuated that he was trying to rape the queen. They immediately arrested and covered Haman's face as a condemned criminal. When they intimated the king about the fact that Haman had a 75ft gallows made in his house on which he intends hanging Mordecai the one who had defended and protected his king from death, the king ordered that he should be hanged on the gallows and it was done. Only then was King Ahasuerus' anger pacified. We must be careful what we sow because it will surely grow. Whatever a man sows he shall reap. Haman sowed wickedness and threat to innocent people's lives now his own turn came that he must plead for his life.

2. Abstaining from all appearances of evil

"Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb." **Psalm 37:1-2**

Haman's sense of situation awareness was undermined by his fear for his life. He never considered the implication of being found by the king on Esther's royal bed. We must abstain from all appearances of evil. Our good must not be evil spoken of. King Ahasuerus' indignation towards his prime minister's wickedness, evil plans and deceit is understandable. We must have the right attitude towards sins and acts of wickedness.

3. The damnable end of the wicked

"Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go: Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul." **Proverbs 22:24, 25**

Haman prepared his own execution ground. He was hanged on the same gallows he prepared for someone else. The things we wish should happen to others may eventually happen to us. Love thinks and plans no evil against anyone. We are to occupy our minds with thoughts that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtuous and praiseworthy so that the God of peace can abide with us **Philippians 4:8-9**.

Esther and the Jews secured God's intervention through prayers and fasting and Haman's evil plans turned upon his own head. God is still in the business of intervening in the affairs of men when we call upon his name. The king's wrath was only pacified after Haman had been hanged. So must we be zealous to get rid of sins, evil and wickedness from our souls and mind. The sinner who rejected the privileges of forgiveness and salvation will one day like Haman stand before the throne of Christ to be condemned and banished to hell. We must seek the Lord while He may be found and call upon Him while He is near. The wicked must forsake his ways and the unrighteous man his thoughts. We must seek the Lord and ask Him to come and rain righteousness upon us. The sinner who rejected the privileges of forgiveness and salvation will one day like Haman stand before the throne of Christ to be condemned and banished to hell.

CELEBRATION OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

"To stablish this among them, that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar, and the fifteenth day of the same, yearly, As the days wherein the Jews rested from their enemies, and the month which was turned unto them from sorrow to joy, and from mourning into a good day: that they should make them days of feasting and joy, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor..." Esther 9:21, 22

Haman's treason made him forfeit his estate to the crown. The king gave the estate to Esther the queen, who handed it over to Mordecai to administer on her behalf. Besides, when the king heard that Mordecai was Esther's next of kin and about all the good he had done in raising Esther who was an orphan up as a responsible child, the king gave him Haman's position as prime minister and handed over the ring which he collected from Haman to him as a symbol of authority of the post to which he was promoted.



We shall consider three subtopics:

1. Fulfillment of Abraham's promise
2. Deliverance of God's people
3. Responsible use of divine promotion and state authority

1. Fulfillment of Abraham's promise

"That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;" Genesis 22:7



We have here fulfilled God's promise to make the Jews possess the gates of their enemies and those who hated them. The same promise is given to the believers today who are seeds of Abraham through the Lord Jesus Christ. God promised to be an enemy to our enemies and an adversary to our adversaries. We also find here a sure reward for all who as God's ministers and servants raise orphans as their own children and help to give them recognizable and reputable identity and bearing in life. In Mordecai, king Ahasuerus search for a responsible deputy ended. He had been faithful in a little, more was now committed into his hands which brought him to prominence and honour. We should be faithful to God in all that we do and in all God-honouring relationship.

Interestingly, in spite of Haman's death, and Mordecai and Queen Esther's individual profits by it, his mischief against God's people to have them exterminated still remains because the decree of Persia on anything remains irreversible once issued. For the overruling of the first edict, Esther petitions the king. The queen obviously went in again before the king uninvited. The king responded the way he did the first time by assuring her of life rather than death. God had given Esther an open-door that no man can shut. Faith in God, the exercises of prayer and fasting, commitment to the expansion of God's kingdom and the welfare of His church will do the same for us. Esther's love for her people and for the people of God was expressed in her statement that she cannot endure the sight of seeing her

people destroyed. When we seek by prayer the peace of Jerusalem and labour for it, invariable good shall come to us.. In response to Esther's petition, king Ahasuerus delegated to Esther and Mordecai the right to issue counter decree in his name since the first one cannot be withdrawn according to the iron clad laws of Persia. Esther and Mordecai then called in the scribes and on the 23rd day of the 3rd month, within three months of issuing the first decree published a counter decree in the king's name which granted the Jews the right to self-defence. They are authorized to gather themselves together and take up arms against all who would do them harm. The decree stated that the Jews should be ready for self-defence on the 13th day of the twelfth month. Two things brought joy to Shushan at that time. First was the promotion of Mordecai and secondly the issuing of the decree which granted liberty, deliverance and right to self-defence to the Jews. Many citizens of other nations became Jews. Proselytes when they witness the power of Israel's God on behalf of His people, they forsook their idols.

2. Deliverance of God's people

"The Jews gathered themselves together in their cities throughout all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, to lay hand on such as sought their hurt; and no man could withstand them; for the fear of them fell upon all people. And all the rulers of the provinces, and the

"The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and he hath set the world upon them"

1 Samuel 2:7-8

lieutenants, and the deputies, and officers of the king, helped the Jews; because the fear of Mordecai fell upon them Thus the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, and slaughter, and destruction, and did what they would unto those that hated them.” **Esther 9:2-3, 5**

Eventually the 13th day of the twelfth month arrived when the wicked decree published to effect the extermination of the Jews finally ought to be implemented. Great changes had taken place between the first month when the decree was enacted and the 12th month that turned the tide against their enemies. First and most important was Mordecai’s promotion and influence. The second was the establishment of Esther in her position as queen in the kingdom including the breaking down of the barriers which limited her access and frequent interrelation with the king.



3. Responsible use of divine promotion and state authority

“And the king Ahasuerus laid a tribute upon the land, and upon the isles of the sea. And all the acts of his power and of his might, and the declaration of the greatness of Mordecai, whereunto the king advanced him, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia? For Mordecai the Jew was next unto king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews,

*and accepted of the multitude of his brethren, seeking the wealth of his people, and speaking peace to all his seed.” **Esther 10:1-3***

*“He has brought down rulers from their thrones, and has exalted those who were humble.” **Luke 1:52***

We learn from this account that if the church will succeed in her battle against the hordes of hell, she must be united and fight lawfully. We would also benefit immensely from the support of the powers that be, hence, the need to pray for peace and stability in any state, nation or society.

The last chapter in the book of Esther described king Ahasuerus’ greatness and wealth and associated with Mordecai’s greatness whom he promoted to the post of Prime Minister. Ahasuerus’s wealth, power and might partly came from imposition of tax regimes on all the provinces. Mordecai on the other hand received popular support from all in the kingdom especially from among his own people. He used his authority to promote their interests and welfare. We must by fidelity and hard work earn and sustain public support and interest. Those privileged among believers to occupy public office must conduct themselves reputably and try as much as possible to promote kingdom interests.

The favour of God received from kings and others in our domain can give us open doors and grant us opportunities well beyond our entitlements or expectation. God can put His fears upon our enemies and by so doing weaken or restrain them.

It was clear from the account in the chapter how dangerous it is to oppose God’s will or His people. The Lord expects us to faithfully preserve great memories of His assistance, love, care, protection and deliverance. We must continuously remember and celebrate God’s great acts of deliverance and



manifestation of His power to deliver us from our enemies and death wish or sentence. The ways believers should conduct themselves on such days are also revealed. We are to rejoice and worship God as well as spend such times or days and period on distribution of gifts and showing love and kindness to others especially the poor, the needy and the underprivileged Finally we should understand that whatever achievement we have and received from God, it was to empower us to be a source of blessing to others especially those of the household of faith.



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Ida Sophia Scudder was born on December 9, 1870 in Ranipet, India, to John Scudder and Sophia (née Weld) as part of a line of medical missionaries that started with her grandfather, John Scudder Sr. They were members of the Reformed Church in America. While growing up in India, she witnessed famine, poverty and disease. In 1878, following a cholera epidemic and a severe famine, the couple decided with their children decided to go to the United States for a short time. When they returned to India a few years later, they left 13-year old Ida behind to complete her education. At Northfield Seminary, in Massachusetts, she spent a few years in school, but was forced to withdraw in 1890 without graduating in order to return to India and care for her sick mother. Firmly set against a missionary life, Scudder planned to leave India as soon as possible. After watching three women die in childbirth she changed her mind, realizing that she wanted to carry on the work of a medical missionary.

She returned to the United States, resolved to follow in her father's footsteps. In 1895, she enrolled in the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania and completed her final year in 1899 at Cornell University and Weill Medical College. Immediately after graduation, she set out to raise money to establish a hospital in Vellore, India. She left the United States for India the following year with Annie Hancock, a classmate from Northfield Seminary. Within just a few months of her arrival, however, her father died. Scudder found herself operating in a tiny mission bungalow with her mother as assistant. With the money she had collected in America, she began the construction of a small hospital which opened in 1902. For the next 22 years, she remained the hospital's only surgeon.

Travelling by train, carriage, or pony cart, she also established a roadside dispensary service to treat patients who could not make the trip to Vellore, as well as a tuberculosis sanitarium. Eventually, her weekly trips to the countryside developed into

MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

IDA SOPHIA SCUDDER
1870 - 1960



Convinced of the need to train Indian women to provide medical treatment to other women, Dr. Scudder began a program at her hospital to instruct women nurses, which expanded into a nursing school by 1909. Her next ambition was to open a medical school to train physicians. With the help of her close friend Gertrude Dodd, who provided funds from her inheritance, Dr. Scudder managed to achieve her goal, and the Union Mission Medical School for Women opened in 1918. Making regular trips abroad to raise funds and support for the school, she continued as its surgeon, instructor and administrator. In 1938, when the Chennai (Madras) government passed a law that medical degrees could only be granted by universities, instead of closing the school, Dr. Scudder lobbied her supporters. By 1950, the school had become affiliated with the University of Madras. She retired shortly thereafter, having seen her school grow from a small institution to one that supported a large staff and trained hundreds of women nurses and physicians. She won numerous awards for her work.

Ida Scudder died on May 24, 1960 at her bungalow home in India, where she had spent her life helping to improve medical education.

SCRIPTURE FOR MEDITATION

The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God. 2 Samuel 23:3

SONG OF THE MONTH

ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS NAME

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!
2. O seed of Israel's chosen race
now ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!
3. Let every tongue and every tribe
responsive to his call,
to him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all.
To him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all!
4. Oh, that with all the sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

Author: Edward Perronet

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Amazing Grace House
Joy Estate,
Olorunda – Abaa, Ibadan,
Oyo – State, Nigeria

BANK DETAILS FOR DONATION

Bank: FBN PLC
Acct Name: Watchman Outreach Mission
Account No. C/A 2016363366
GSM No. +234-9026840215,
8033846714
8056671595