<u>Theological Equipping Class – Modern Missionary Movement</u>



Background to the Movement

State of the Church in 18th and 19th Century

- Church was lethargic in the area of missions
- Thought the Apostles fulfilled Great Commission. It no longer applied today.
- Hyper Calvinism
- "The cool and rational eighteenth century [which ended with William Carey's departure for India] was hardly a promising seed-bed for Christian growth; but out of it came a greater outburst of Christian missionary enterprise than had been seen in all the centuries before." Stephen Neill, History of Christian Missions

Rumblings of the Movement:

- Great Awakening shifted the focus from converting the State to individuals' relationship to God.
- Life and Diary of David Brainerd

William Carey (1761-1834) – India



Preparing for the Mission

- Carey often called "The Morning Star of Modern Missions" or "Father of Modern Missions"
- Carey wrote An Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians to use Means of the Conversation of the Heathens: in which the religious state of the different nations of the world, the success of former undertakings, and the practicability of further undertakings, are considered.
- At pastors meeting, Carey raised the notion of global evangelism and older minister said, "Young man, sit down! You are a miserable enthusiast for asking such a question. When God pleases to convert the heathen, he'll do it without consulting you or me."
 - o It is specifically because Carey is a Calvinist that he is so passionate about missions

- o "9 And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, ¹⁰ for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, <u>for I have many in this city who are my people</u>." Acts 18:9-10
- o "¹³ For 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'¹⁴ How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵ And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" Romans 10:13-15
- "Multitudes sit at ease and give themselves no concern about the far greater part of their fellow sinners, who to this day, are lost in ignorance and idolatry." William Carey
- "Expect great things from God and attempt great things for God." William Carey

William Carey, Andrew Fuller and others formed "The Particular Baptist Society for the Propagation of the Gospel amongst the Heathen." (Later renamed Baptist Missionary Society)

• Andrew Fuller said, "Our undertaking to India really appeared to me...to be somewhat like a few men, who were deliberating about the importance of penetrating a deep mine...We had no one to guide us; and, while we were thus deliberating, Carey, said, 'Well, I will go down if you will hold the rope.'"

Early years in India

On June 13, 1793, Carey, sailed five-months to India with wife and 4 children. He would never return home. He began learning the language of the people so he could evangelize and translate the Bible.

• "The translated Bible would lead to the extinction of immorality and oppression, and the establishment of liberty, righteousness and peace." - William Carey

He engaged in educational work, medical care, improved farming methods, and social reform.

- Caste system 'perhaps...one of the strongest chains with which the devil ever bound the children of men.' William Carey
- "I seek to endeavor by all possible methods to bring over a lost world to God." William Carey

Incredible Difficulty and Suffering

- A missionary colleague, John Thomas, deserted the mission.
- His 5-year-old son Peter died of dysentery.
- His wife Dorothy had a mental break and was considered mentally ill the rest of her life
 - A fellow missionary wrote: Carey worked on Bible translations "while an insane wife...was in the next room."
- Had very little Money. Almost constant sickness and loneliness.
- Seemingly no fruit. Carey wrote to sister: "No one expects me to write about experience…nor to say anything about the Doctrines of the Gospel, but News, and continual accounts of marvelous things are expected from me. I have however no news to send, and as everything here is the same, no marvels…at best we scarcely expect to be anything more than pioneers to prepare the way for those who, coming after us, may be more useful than we have been."

Perseverance

- "When I first left England my hope of the conversion of the heathen was very strong; but among so many obstacles it would utterly die away, unless upheld by God... Yet this is our encouragement, the power of God is sufficient to accomplish everything which he has promised." William Carey
- After seven years, hour Hindus came to faith in Christ and were baptized
 - "Brother Carey has waited till hope of his own success has almost expired, and after all, God has done it with perfect ease! Thus the door of faith is opened to the gentiles; Who shall shut it?" – William Ward, a missionary partner
 - o By 1821 they had baptized 1,407 converts

- Seven years after arriving Carey published first edition of New Testament ever printed in the Bengali language. Over next 28 years, Carey and his partners translated Bible into India's 6 major languages.
- He planted 11 Indian churches and trained 20 Indian pastors who took the gospel to own people.
- Social Reform: "On the 4th of this month a regulation was passed by The Governor General in Council to forbid the burning or burying alive of Hindu Widows with their husbands. This is a matter of utmost importance and calls for our loudest thanks." William Carey
- Started Serampore College to train Indians to be missionaries to their own people.
 - o "India will never be turned from her idolatry to serve the true and living God unless the grace of God rests abundantly on converted Indians to qualify them for mission work, and unless, by those who care for India, these be trained for and sent into the work. In my judgement it is on native evangelists that the weight of the great work must ultimately rest." William Carey
- Carey died at age 73 after 40 years in India. He was a pastor, teacher, linguist, agriculturalist, journalist, botanist, and social activist.
- He opened the door for the Modern Missionary Movement
 - o "William Carey was the man whom God used almost single-handedly to bring the Great Commission back to the forefront of the thinking of the church." Brad Klassen
 - o By the time of his death, fourteen missionary societies had been established in England.

Adoniram Judson (1788-1850 – Burma)



Conversion and Call to Missions

Though he was raised in a Christian home, a college friend named Jacob Eames convinced him of atheism.

- One night, traveling through small village, Judson spent the night at an inn. In the room next to him there was a man who was dying. Judson was tormented all night and couldn't sleep. He thought to himself, "Is this man prepared for death? That's really all that matters now. Am I prepared for death?"
- Next morning, Judson asked front desk clerk about the man in the adjoining room. "He is dead...He was a "young man from the college in Providence. Name was Eames, Jacob Eames."
- "Lost. In death, Jacob Eames was lost—utterly, irrevocably lost. Lost to his friends, to the world, to the future. Lost as a puff of smoke is lost in the infinity of air. If Eames' own views were true, neither his life nor his death had any meaning...But suppose Eames had been mistaken? Suppose the Scriptures were literally true and a personal God real?...For that hell should open in that country inn and snatch Jacob Eames, my dearest friend and guide, from the next bed this could not, simply could not, be coincidence." Judson converted to Christianity shortly after.
- "The command of Christ, 'Go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature,' was presented to my mind with such clearness and power, that I came to a full decision, and though great difficulties appeared in my way, resolved to obey the command." Adoniram Judson

Proposal to Ann Hasseltine: Judson wrote her father, who's permission he needed, "I have now to ask, whether you can consent to part with your daughter early next spring, to see her no more in this world; whether you can consent to her departure, and her subjection to the hardships and sufferings of a missionary life; whether you can consent to her exposure to the dangers of the ocean; to the fatal influence of the southern climate of India;

to every kind of want and distress; to degradation, insult, persecution, and perhaps a violent death. Can you consent to all this, for the sake of him who left his heavenly home, and died for her and for you; for the sake of perishing, immortal souls; for the sake of Zion, and the glory of God? Can you consent to all this, in hope of soon meeting your daughter in the world of glory, with the crown of righteousness, brightened with the acclamations of praise which shall redound to her Savior from heathens saved, through her means, from eternal woe and despair."

After being convinced of believer's baptism on the way to India, Judson formed the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society.

Burma:

After being forced out of India Judson decided to go to Burma (today Myanmar). Judson immediately begins translating Bible into Burmese language and evangelizing on the streets. Saw first convert after 6 years.

Incredible Suffering:

- Judson was imprisoned almost 2 years. He suffered from fever, malnutrition, and extreme torture.
 - o Forced marches in excruciating heat.
 - At night a bamboo pole was passed through his bound legs and he was hoisted up until only his shoulder and head rested on the ground.
- His wife Ann (pregnant at the time) walked 2 miles to beg that she could take food to Adoniram.
- He was released after 2 years and Ann died of smallpox soon after. Their daughter died 6 months later.
- "God is to me the Great Unknown. I believe in him, but I find him not." Adoniram Judson
 - o "¹⁴ O LORD, why do you cast my soul away? Why do you hide your face from me? ¹⁵ Afflicted and close to death from my youth up, I suffer your terrors; I am helpless. ¹⁶ Your wrath has swept over me; your dreadful assaults destroy me. ¹⁷ They surround me like a flood all day long; they close in on me together. ¹⁸ You have caused my beloved and my friend to shun me; my companions have become darkness." Psalm 88:14-18

Perseverance: Judson emerged from his spiritual darkness with new resolve to reach Burma for Christ. He saw incredible evangelism success: He wrote: "The spirit of inquiry... is spreading everywhere, through the whole length and breadth of the land. We have distributed nearly 10,000 tracts, giving to none but those who ask... Some come two or three months' journey, from the borders of Siam and China - 'Sir, we hear that there is an eternal hell. We are afraid of it. Do give us a writing that will tell us how to escape it.' Others, from the frontiers of Kathay, 100 miles north of Ava - 'Sir, we have seen a writing that tells about an eternal God. Are you the man that gives away such writings? If so, pray give us one, for we want to know the truth before we die.' Others, from the interior of the country, where the name of Jesus Christ is a little known - 'Are you Jesus Christ's man? Give us a writing that tells us about Jesus Christ." - Adoniram Judson Bible Translation: Completed translation of Bible into Burmese in 1834

Traveled to America and Encouraged Missions: Led hundreds to enter the mission field

Judson died in 1850, at 61. He spent 40 years in Burma. Through extreme suffering advanced the Gospel.

- "24 Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life." John 12:24-25
- There were no Christians in Burma when Judson arrived. Today estimated there are around 3,000,000. Almost 4,000 Baptist Congregations (Judson's Denomination).

David Livingston (1813-1873) – Africa



Scottish born. Studied medicine in London. Read Life and Diary of David Brainerd

• "In Christ's service I wish to live; in it I wish to die." – David Livingstone

Not your "normal" missionary: He was a missionary, doctor, explorer, and abolitionist

• "I am not a dumpy sort of person with a Bible under his arms, but someone serving Christ when shooting a buffalo for my men or taking an observation, even if some will consider it not sufficiently or even at all missionary." – David Livingstone

Goes to South Africa as medical missionary but soon desires to explore.

Exploring Inland:

Livingstone wanted to open "God's Highway" into interior of Africa to bring Christ to the unreached.

• "I shall open up a path into the interior of Africa or perish." – Livingston

Went on some of the most dangerous and impressive explorations of 19th century.

• Was the first European to cross the width of Africa. Was mauled by lion. Discovered Victoria Falls.



Abolitionist:

While exploring Zambezi River he saw how it was used by Portuguese settlements as main suppliers of slaves for Brazil, Cuba, and United States.

• "It has been my objective...to bring before my countrymen, and all others interested in the cause of humanity, the misery entailed by the slave-trade in its inland phases." – David Livingstone

Nile exploration to expose slavery:

• "If the good Lord permits me to put a stop to the enormous evils of the inland slave-trade, I shall not grudge my hunger and toils. I shall bless His name with all my heart. The Nile sources are valuable to me only as a means of enabling me to open my mouth with power among men." – David Livingstone

- "It would be better to lessen this great human woe than to discover the sources of the Nile...May Heaven's rich blessing come down on everyone, American, English, or Turk, who will help to heal this open sore of the world." David Livingstone
- Writes vivid descriptions of the horrors of slave trading.

Britain intervened in Zanzibar to stop slave trade:

• "You will have learned with heartfelt satisfaction that there is now a definite prospect of the infamous East African slave-trade being suppressed. For this great end, if it be achieved, we shall be mainly indebted to your recent letters, which have had a powerful effect on the public mind in England and have thus stimulated the action of the government." - Royal Geographic Society, H.C. Rawlinson

Traveled around promoted mission work:

- "People talk of the sacrifice I have made in spending so much of my life in Africa...Away with the word in such a view, and with such a thought! It is emphatically no sacrifice. Say rather it is a privilege. Anxiety, sickness, suffering, or danger, now and then, with a foregoing of the common conveniences and charities of this life, may make us pause, and cause the spirit to waver, and the soul to sink; but let this only be for a moment. All these are nothing when compared with the glory which shall be revealed in and for us. I never made a sacrifice." David Livingstone
 - o "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." Romans 8:18

He died in a mud hut, kneeling beside his cot in prayer.

- His tombstone reads, "David Livingstone: missionary, traveler, philanthropist. For 30 years his life was spent in an unwearied effort to evangelize the native races, to explore the undiscovered secrets, and to abolish the slave trade...this open sore of the world."
 - "And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice." John 10:16

When Livingstone had arrived in Africa it was called the "Dark Continent." He explored what are now a dozen countries, including South Africa, Rwanda, Angola, and the Republic of the Congo.

- Little over a month after Livingstone's death, the Zanzibar slave market closed forever.
- Countless missionaries flooded into Africa as a result of Livingstone's ministry
- As of 2012, around 63% of Sub-Saharan Africa identify as Christian

Hudson Taylor (1832-1905) - Missions to China



Born in England into a devout Methodist home. Felt called to take Gospel to unreached in China.

Beginnings in China:

- After 18 months of fruitless preaching, Taylor decided dress in Chinese clothes and grow a pigtail.
- Taylor had a growing desire to take the Christian faith into the interior of China.
- He became ill and had to return to England, where he began promoting missions to China.

o "Can all the Christians in England sit still with folded arms while these multitudes in China are perishing—perishing for lack of knowledge—for lack of that knowledge which England possesses so richly?" – Hudson Taylor

Founded China Inland Mission: to reach the interior of China

- "China is not to be won for Christ by quiet, ease-loving men and women. The stamp of men and women we need is such as will put Jesus, China, and souls first and foremost in everything and at every time—even life itself must be secondary." Hudson Taylor
- "God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supplies." Hudson Taylor
- Would sail back and forth from England to China 10 times in his life (4-5 years at sea)

Suffering:

- In one year (1870), Hudson was 38:
 - o Son Samuel died in January
 - o In July, Maria (wife) gave birth to a son, Noel, who died two weeks later
 - o July 23, Maria died (drinking contaminated water)
 - o Four of eight of their children died before the age of 10
- He lived through Boxer rebellion sought and killed Christians and foreigners in China in 1900
 - o CIM lost more members than any other agency: 58 adults and 21 children were killed.
- Depression

Perseverance:

- "It is in the path of obedience and self-denying service that God reveals Himself most intimately to His children. When it costs most we find the greatest joy. We find the darkest hours the brightest, and the greatest loss the highest gain. While the sorrow is short lived, and will soon pass away, the joy is far more exceeding, and it is eternal." Hudson Taylor
- He died June 3, 1905 at the age of 73
- At the time of Taylor's death, the China Inland Mission had 825 missionaries living in all 18 provinces of China, more than 300 mission stations, more than 500 local Chinese partners, and 25,000 Christian converts.
- At time of Taylor's death, there were 100,000 Christians in China. Today little over 150 years later, there are around 150,000,000
- "All God's giants have been weak men who did great things for God because they reckoned on God being with them." Hudson Taylor

Other Influential Figures from Modern Missionary Movement:

Henry Martin – "Apostle to the Muslims" – India and Persia John Ryland – Key founder of Baptist Missionary Society Anthony Norris Groves – "Father of Faith Missions" – India and Iraq Robert Morrison – First Protestant Missionary to China Charles Simeon – Founded Church Missionary Society John Gibson Paton – Missionary to cannibals in South Pacific Islands