

Soulwinning - OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE

T.L. Osborn

CONTENTS

[CROSS IN THE MARKET PLACE](#)
[THE HEART - THROB OF SOULWINNING](#)
[SUPPOSE WE TAKE A JOURNEY](#)
[BORN IN A BLAZE](#)
[THE GREATEST CALLING](#)
[OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE](#)
[HERE AM I](#)
[I HAVE NO CHOICE](#)
[THE FORGOTTEN ONES](#)
[THE BLOOD OF SINNERS](#)
[THIS 20TH CENTURY](#)
[OUTBREAK IN SOULWINNING](#)
[THE CASE IN A NUTSHELL](#)
[WHERE NO VOICE CAN SPEAK](#)
[THE REAL CHRISTIAN](#)

CROSS IN THE MARKET PLACE **(Author's Preface)**

A PROMINENT SOULWINNER once said: "Let the cross be raised again at the center of the market place, as well as on the steeple of the church." Jesus was not crucified in a cathedral between two candles but on a cross between two thieves on the town heap, at the crossroads so cosmopolitan that they had to write His title in Hebrew and Latin and Greek.

"The Son of God was crucified at the kind of place where cynics talk smut, where thieves curse and where soldiers gamble.

"Because that is where Christ died and since that is what He died about, that is where Christians can best share His message of love because that is what real Christianity is all about."

FROM MY CONVERSION as a youth, I wanted to be a soulwinner. I had a toy printing press so with scraps of paper, I printed and handed out tracts. Little did I dream that in a few years we would be publishing tracts in over 100 languages - at the rate of more than a ton per working day to facilitate personal soulwinning worldwide.

In the Book of Acts there were only **Mass** evangelism and **Personal** evangelism. But in a short time after the apostles' death, theological controversy usurped the place of soulwinning and apostasy resulted. By the 4th Century, the Dark Ages had already begun.

It wasn't until the 18th century that **Mass** evangelism began to reappear under John Wesley. **PERSONAL** evangelism, as the Early Church practiced, has only begun to be rediscovered.

This generation evangelizes the **church**, the class rooms, the pews - **but not the world**. We enlist men for the class or the club; we invite them to the church building. There we hope they'll decide for Christ and this is good, for the few who attend. But **90% of the sinners will never enter the church, so they can never be won there**.

This is the gap in Christianity today.

This book challenges and teaches Christians to win souls - at the factory, the park, on the streets, in their homes. The Christian's life-assignment is not witnessing at the church altar or class room, but **OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE**.

The Church was born in a blaze of personal soulwinning, a house-to-house and a face-to-face operation.

This book on SOULWINNING is a stimulant for pastors and laymen to rekindle the individual Christian's passion for souls - a passport to the busy crossroads and market places of humanity - **OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE!**

OVER 50,000 complimentary copies of the first edition of SOULWINNING were mailed to pastors, missionaries, national church leaders and evangelists worldwide. Its seed-concepts have helped produce a new breed of Jesus-followers across the world, promoting contact between church-insiders and world-outsiders in homes and schools, in factories and markets, in parks and streets where humanity hurts most and only Christ's love heals.

These revolutionary ideas met with such worldwide enthusiasm that we published a natural sequel, "JOIN THIS CHARIOT."

Today, these two books are translated into many major languages. They have already become "Classics" in evangelism literature.

A fresh breeze of New-Testament style evangelism is blowing across the world. The Christian's life motto is very simple: **ONE WAY! ONE JOB!**

The One Way is Jesus!

The One Job is Soulwinning!

There is no fulfillment like being part of God's No. 1 Job, giving the Good News to every creature, **WINNING SOULS - Out Where The Sinners Are!**

T. L. Osborn

THE HEART-THROB OF SOULWINNING

A GROUP OF CHRISTIAN women were holding their regular prayer meeting. The evangelist at their church - an ardent soulwinner - was their guest speaker.

He had heard some of them talking about an immoral woman who lived nearby.

The evangelist asked: "And what are you doing to get that sinful woman saved?"

The leader spoke up: "We're faithfully praying for her salvation every time we meet."

"Fine!", the evangelist remarked. "But she'll go to hell while you pray. Haven't you gone to her? Haven't you spoken to her about her soul? Haven't you taken the Gospel to her house?"

The "Errand-Boy" Philosophy

We have made an **errand-boy** out of God. We forget that He is the General Manager! We busy our selves telling God to do all the nice things which we ought to do - to visit the poor and needy, to pass by and comfort the feeble, bless and provide for the poor, to encourage the ones in prison, to sustain the weak, to speak to sinners. We want the Lord to do all of those things **while we pray**.

Haven't we developed a convenient religion?

Let me ask you this question: Can you tell me one thing which Jesus Christ can do in your town or community **without a body to operate through?**

When God visited man to show Himself, He came in a body - in human flesh. Jesus Christ was God in the flesh.

They killed Him. Then He returned in the form of the Holy Spirit to take up His abode in **our** bodies as His Temple. (I Co. 6:19)

Now you and I are His Body.

You are the Church. The Church is the Body of Christ. **You** are Christ's Body today in your community.

Christ ministers through His Body today the same as Christ ministered through a human body over 1900 years ago. Today His Body is the Church - and the Church is ME - my body, and YOU - your body. **We** are His temple.

I am the Church. I am Christ's Body.

You are the Church. You are Christ's Body.

"For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones" (Ep. 5:30).

Christ can do nothing, except through the Church - His Body. That's ME! Not my congregation or my denomination. The Church, Christ's Body is ME! It's YOU - if you are a real Christian.

When **you** stand before God, **you** must give an account of the deeds **you** have done (or failed to do) **personally**; you will not be judged in the light of what your church did as a spiritual body. God will not call your assembly **as a unit** for judgment; He will not judge what your congregation has done (or failed to do) as a part of the "corporate" Body of Christ. You will not be able to say, "Lord, my pastor will speak for me; I am a faithful member of the church body and we all work as a unit, therefore I cannot answer as an individual."

So far as **you** are concerned personally before God, **YOU** are the Church; **YOU** are Christ's Body.

We talk about the Church, or the Body of Christ as being the mystical **union of believers**, the spiritual **community of called-out ones**, and this is all true. But like all truth, it must become PERSONAL, otherwise it is lost.

We have regarded the Body of Christ in its **general** collective sense, but not in its **personal** application. Salvation is **personal**. Christ must live in us **personally**.

The great "mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to His saints" is "CHRIST IN YOU!" (Col. 1:26-27).

Christ must have a body to minister through today. That is ME - and YOU. WE are the Church His Body - His Temple.

This does not imply that we ignore the Body of Christ in its "corporate" sense - made up of all true

believers; it means that YOU and I have awakened to the fact that Jesus Christ is born **IN US** and that **WE** are now His Body.

It **sounds** more proper to say, "We are **members** of His Body" - and we are (1 Co. 12:27). But this popular "membership" concept has somehow been distorted in its application so that Christians ride along at ease in the church, leaving the ministry to the "community of believers." The church, the Sunday school, the Ladies' Missionary group, the Men's organization, the Youth movement - they will do it.

Church members like to know that **their church** is doing things. They are willing to **pay** for this as long as some **other** member does the job.

But Christianity is a **personal** thing. If Christ has come to dwell IN YOU, **YOU** are His Body - that is, so far as **you** are concerned. He dwells **in** you because He wills to minister THROUGH you. He **must** have YOUR body to reach YOUR community. The essence of your Christian experience is "CHRIST IN YOU."

When He was in Nazareth, "He **could** do no mighty works there ... because of their unbelief" (Mk. 6:5-6). Without human faith on the part of the people, His ministry was limited then, and without human instruments to live and speak through, He is limited today.

God Could Have Sent Angels

How often we have said: "God could have sent angels to preach this Gospel, but He did not; He has ordained that **human beings** must preach it. If **men** do not preach it, it shall not be preached - and souls shall be lost." And this is true! The preaching of the Gospel is limited to the willingness of human beings to step forth and open their mouths for Him to speak through.

But this same fact applies to all phases of Christian living and witnessing.

Christ cannot go visit the prisoner unless He can go in your body. He will go IN YOU. YOU are the Church. When YOU visit the prisoner, Christ will visit him. Otherwise He CANNOT.

As I said, we have made an errand-boy out of God through our tradition of prayer.

Do not misunderstand me. **Prayer** is vital to each Christian. Christ taught us to pray. But He told us what to pray **for**. Christ prayed. But He did more than pray; He "went about doing good," witnessing, comforting, visiting, speaking, showing compassion, demonstrating God in action. He didn't just pray. But this is not a book on prayer - this is a book on soulwinning, so I must leave the subject of prayer for another study on its own.

But how sacred we make our traditional prayers sound; how humble and how dedicated we feel while we are in prayer - sending God all of our little orders for the day or the week!

We tell **Him** to do so many things which **we** ought to do. Why don't we just tell Him to preach too? If He is so handy for so many of our tasks, surely He wouldn't mind throwing in some preaching now and then.

With Us - But Now In Us

Isn't it strange: We talk about how the Spirit was **with** men before Pentecost. Now we rejoice that He is **IN** us.

That's exactly where He is. **IN** us. Not floating around all over the world, hovering down over human beings here and there as we direct Him, fixing their problems, visiting them, encouraging them, while we live our little selfish lives in privacy.

Through the redemption of Calvary, and the new creation at Pentecost, Jesus Christ has now returned through the Holy Spirit to "live and move and have His being" IN US. **Now Christ is born in us!**

Now "it is God which worketh IN you both to will and to do of His good pleasure" (Ph. 2:13). This is what God did **in Christ**. Now He does the same **in us** because now, WE are His Body.

Now He speaks through OUR lips. He visits the needy and uplifts the fallen through US. He encourages the discouraged and reaches down to the fallen ones through US. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up the wounds of the suffering ones through US. YOU and I are His Body. We are the Church.

Now you understand why the evangelist told the ladies' prayer group: "That woman will go to hell, while you pray."

If we don't do more than pray, if we never visit the lost and witness to sinners, they will never hear Christ's invitation to be saved. We must pray, but then we must rise and go after souls.

The Gospel In Your Community

Christ's ministry in your community is limited to YOU! He longs to speak to souls about salvation, to convict them of their sins and convince them of the Gospel - this is the work of the Holy Spirit - but HE IS IN YOU; He works through YOUR lips, YOUR body. If YOU don't go and witness or speak the message, YOUR community will be lost. Christ ordained to live IN YOU and He cannot visit the lost independent of YOU, no more than He can stand

in the public place and preach the Gospel without a preacher to preach through.

We like to live selfishly; we love to get alone and pray and send up a barrage of nice little orders and errands which the wonderful Holy Spirit can just "move" around and do for us. It saves us the trouble. Besides we are so busy - with our TV programs, our clubs, our recreational activities, and our own private concerns.

He Has No Other Channel

Let us remember that the Holy Spirit "moves" through US. WE are His Temple. If we are too busy to witness, He has no other channel to minister through. He lives in OUR bodies.

Sinners in your community will never be visited by our Lord, if YOU do not go and speak in His Name.

Those who are sick and in prison shall never be visited by the Holy Spirit if YOU do not go to them in His Name.

Men shall never see God - except as they see Him IN YOU!

Christ's love can only be manifested through YOUR life. His compassion and concern for lost souls can only be exhibited through YOU.

Jesus Christ visits your community every time **you do**. Are you confining Him to YOUR house? Are you selfish? Do you ever let Him speak to your neighbors? Have you ever allowed Him to tell **them** the way of salvation?

Have you ever permitted Him to offer **your neighbors** His Life? Do you accuse them of living in falsehood while you never let Jesus Christ tell them the Truth?

The Church - Christ's Body - IS YOU

You thought these things were the responsibility of the Church.

You were right! But **YOU** are the Church. **YOU** are Christ's Body.

The Church is not the congregation.

The Church is not the denomination.

The Church is YOU. The Church is Christ's Body. That's what YOU are.

Christ doesn't live in a cathedral of stones or in a temple of bricks and mortar.

Christ lives IN YOUR BODY! YOU are His Temple.

And He ministers, He exhibits Himself, He demonstrates His Compassion, He shows His mercy through YOUR BODY - through YOU!

This truth is the heart-throb, the motivation of personal soulwinning. Everything else constitutes the MECHANICS of personal witnessing. This truth constitutes the essence, the **spirit**, the DYNAMICS of personal witnessing.

Mechanics or Dynamics

You can memorize the "mechanics."

But the "dynamics" of soulwinning must be **born** in you; it must be a revelation - a miracle.

That spiritual miracle is taking place inside you right now as you read, so that **personal soulwinning will have a new life-giving dimension all the days of your life.**

YOU have become His Witness, His Body, His Church, His voice, His heart-beat.

YOUR BODY has become His Temple. He begins to minister through you. YOU are lost IN HIM. His life is the energy of YOUR witness. YOU go on His behalf so that He can go through you - and reach lost souls.

THIS IS CHRISTIANITY in depth! Everything else is artificial and shallow. Christ is in YOU. You now have purpose in living and witnessing. Now you'll do it!

Wonderful! -No, Terrible!

A soulwinner visited a Sunday School and was

asked to teach a large class.

He asked: "How many here are real Christians?"

Everyone raised his hand and the regular teacher exulted: "Wonderful!"

The guest teacher countered: "No!" "It's terrible! We should have sinners here and get them converted in this classroom." And he was correct.

But the Church (i.e., what we refer to as the Church) is segregated from sinners. It's the sacred spot where little groups meet to minister TO THEMSELVES in seclusion.

Quietly Learning of Christ In Depth

An evangelist tried to arouse a small congregation in Japan to be more evangelistic-minded. The pastor said: "You don't understand; we don't want a large crowd. We only want to have a small group which can meet together in quietness to study the Word and learn of Christ in depth."

An evangelist spoke to a men's prayer group about going out to witness for Christ from house to house.

The leader said, "We can't do that. We're not deep enough in God."

The evangelist asked: "How long have you been meeting and praying?"

"Only two years!" For two years, they had selfishly kept their Lord confined to a room and had never allowed Him to share His Life with sinners in their community.

What a contrast with Christians in the Early Church who in **just two years** made the Word of the Lord heard by "all they which dwelt in Asia" (Ac. 19:10).

The reason the Gospel has not been preached "to every creature" is because individual Christians have misinterpreted what the Church is. To them it is their denomination, their assembly, their congregation. (And it is correct to speak of the Church as a collective body of Christians.) But from a **personal** standpoint, the Church is YOU! **Your** body is Christ's Body. He can only witness and minister THROUGH YOU!

Christians have misinterpreted the Holy Spirit and His ministry. To them He is the brooding presence which floats around and carries out orders for them so they can stay at home and watch TV. They can have a little prayer and think up enough nice little errands to keep the Holy Spirit busy all week while they live for self and their materialistic way of life.

No wonder the world is going to hell!

No wonder the unconverted throngs mock the Church and the Christians!

No wonder the communists ridicule Christianity!

This is one reason the Jews reject Christianity. Their leaders read the New Testament. They know who Jesus was. They know He was a Jew. They know how He lived. And they know how He told His followers to live - and they know how different and how selfishly Christians live today by comparison.

Jesus was a soulwinner. Jesus mixed with people. He befriended the needy. He healed the sick. He spoke the Good News to sinners. He helped people - unselfishly - all the time.

HE HAS NEVER CHANGED! He wills to do the same today! "He works **IN YOU** both to will and to do His good pleasure." But He can only do the same today as you allow Him to do so through YOUR BODY. YOU are His agent, His ambassador, His representative. He ministers through YOU - and without your body to express Himself, He is cut off from sinners.

Share Him with sinners. There's a knowledge of Jesus Christ - **a depth** - which you can never know **'till you share Him**.

The Sunday School Superintendent

There was a man who had charge of evangelism in a great church. A new pastor came who was a zealous soulwinner. He took the fellow out in door-to-door witnessing. When they returned that night after leading several souls to Christ, he said: "I've been the Sunday School Superintendent of this Church for 33 years. I've presided over our evangelism activities, but tonight I have a personal knowledge of Jesus Christ which I never experienced before. "

She Fell In Sin With A Married Man

A lady who was a faithful member of a certain Church fell into deep sin with a married man. The sin was discovered and she was ashamed. She quit the Church and purposed never to return.

The ladies' Christian group met and prayed for her. But they did more. They delegated one of the group to go and find their fallen sister. This was the Spirit of the Good Shepherd at work IN those Christians. (Mt. 18:11-12).

All day long, the Christian sought for the fallen woman but could not find her. Early the next day she set out again and at noon found the woman, ashamed, alone.

"Come back to church," she said.

"I'll never return," replied the fallen woman.

"But we **want** you to come!", she assured her.

"Do the women **want** me?", she asked.

"Yes, they sent me to find you. Come back. We **want** you."

The fallen woman returned, went to the altar and was wonderfully forgiven by Christ.

It happened because a **Christian woman did what Christ wanted done. She let Christ seek out the lost one who had strayed from the fold - He did it THROUGH HER!**

This is Christianity!

At first you may be afraid, or timid, or hesitant to act in Christ's stead, but go in His Name. HE IS IN YOU. Yield your emotions to Him! He will guide you. And you will discover a new dimension in Christian living which you never knew before.

Some ask: "How can I know when God is speaking to me and leading me to do something?"

No one ever asks: "How do I know when the devil is speaking to me?"

You know the devil's voice!

You know God's voice too! Just listen, **then obey**. The reason so many question God's voice is because they don't want to **obey**.

The Witness At Midnight

After hearing a message like this, a certain Christian couldn't go to sleep. He felt impressed to see a certain man about his soul.

Finally after midnight, he arose, dressed himself and went to the man's house. As he knocked, the man came to the door at once.

The Christian apologized: "It looks foolish for me to be knocking on your door at such an hour as . . ."

"Not at all!" came the quick answer. "I've had no rest. I feel I must get right with God and I need counsel. You are the man I want to speak to, for I have confidence in your life."

The man was converted that night.

YOU will grow deepest in Christ by witnessing. HE will become more real to you than ever as He ministers through YOUR BODY - His Church His Temple.

This truth, therefore, is the very heart-throb of true Christian living and of soulwinning. 0

SUPPOSE WE TAKE A JOURNEY

WOULD YOU like to visit the Early Church? (In this sense I refer to the congregation or the group of believers and their meeting place.)

Would their program of soulwinning interest you?

How do you think they went about it?

Who were the preachers? How many were witnesses? What denomination was the largest - or most popular?

What is your honest concept of the Church in New Testament times?

Should we follow its example? Could we? Or do you think times have changed too much?

Let's suppose we took a journey back to those churches. Stopping at the church of Ephesus, let's imagine the conversation we might have:

"Good evening, Aquila! We understand you're a member of the church here. Could we come in and visit a while?"

"Certainly, come in."

"If you don't mind, we would like for you to tell us about the way the churches here in Asia Minor carry on their soulwinning program. We read that you have been a member of a church in Corinth and Rome, as well as now, the one here in Ephesus. So you should be very well qualified to tell us about evangelism in a New Testament Church. If you don't mind, we'd also like to visit the church while we're here. "

"Sit down. And as far as that goes, you're already in the church. It meets in my home."

"You don't have a church building?"

"What's a church building? No, I guess we don't."

"Tell me, Aquila, what is your church doing to evangelize Ephesus? What are you doing to reach the city with the Gospel?"

"Oh, we've already evangelized Ephesus. Every person in the city clearly understands the Gospel."

"What?!!"

"Yes ... is that unusual?"

"How did the church do it? You certainly don't have any radios or television. Did you have a lot of evangelistic campaigns?"

"No. As you have probably heard, we tried mass meetings in this area, but most of the time we would end up in jail!"

"Then how?"

"Oh, don't you know? We just visited every home in the city. That's the way the church in Jerusalem first evangelized that city. (Acts 5:24) The disciples there evangelized the entire city of Jerusalem in a very short time. All the other churches in Asia Minor have followed that example."

"Is it effective everywhere?" "Yes, it is. There are so many converts that some of the pagan religious leaders fear their own religions will die. When Brother Paul left Ephesus for the last time, he reminded us to keep on following this same procedure." (Acts 20:20)

"Aquila, this is amazing! Why, at this rate, there is no telling how many people are going to hear the Gospel and respond."

"Oh, haven't you heard? We've already taken the Gospel to every person in Asia Minor - both Jews and Greeks." (Acts 19:10)

"Why, that's impossible. You don't mean everyone!"

"Yes, everyone."

"But that would include Damascus, Ephesus, dozens of large cities. And then towns and villages - and what about the nomadic tribes on the desert? How long did it take the churches to reach all these people? "

"Not long - 24 months to be exact.(Acts 19:10) The same thing is happening in North Africa and Southern Europe. The Gospel has reached Spain too. We've heard of a land called England, and several Christians may have reached there. We hope to have fulfilled the Great Commission of Jesus by the close of the century."

"Aquila, what you're telling us is incredible. You have done more in a generation than we have done in a thousand years."

"That's strange. It's been rather simple for us to do. It's hard to realize things have moved so slowly for you. Maybe you're going at it in the wrong way."

BORN IN A BLAZE

I WAS ONLY 12 when I was converted.

From that day I wanted to become a soulwinner.

I was the seventh son of my father, who also is the seventh son of his father. We were raised on the farm. We worked hard.

One of my older brothers, Lonnie, was converted at an old-fashioned open-air brush arbor meeting.

There was such a great change in my brother that, even though only a 12-year-old lad, I became very interested. Lonnie took me to a revival meeting in an old building in the little town of Mannford, Oklahoma.

That night I knelt and confessed my sins and became a follower of Christ.

Within a few months my father moved into town and opened a feed mill, and an agency to buy dairy cream on behalf of a large company. I operated the cream agency.

I had a toy printing press, so with scraps of paper I printed tracts and handed them out among the townspeople. The population was only about 350. Little did I dream that in a few years we would be publishing Gospel tracts in over 100 languages - at the rate of more than a ton per working day.

I had one simple basic desire from the time I was converted - I wanted to become a real soulwinner.

Years have come and gone now. I started preaching at 15, was married at 18, was a missionary in India at 21. We have already preached face to face to millions of people in scores of countries.

The more I study the Scriptures and the further I travel in evangelism, the more I'm convinced that **the greatest calling** for every Christian is to lead souls to Christ.

In this book on SOULWINNING, I'm going to share 7 REASONS WHY I AM A SOULWINNER. We shall present many new ideas for pastors, new concepts for Christians, new challenges for evangelists, new goals for churches. It will be the most vital book for believers with a passion for souls that we have ever published.

Unbelievable as it may sound, the first book on **personal** soulwinning ever written was published **since** 1900.

The average Christian or pastor does not realize that **personal soulwinning** - OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE - as the Early Church practiced, is almost unknown today. And this is why the Christian Church is losing in the race with world population 27 at a ratio of 30 to 1.

Two Kinds of Evangelism

In the Book of Acts there were only 2 types of evangelism: **MASS** evangelism and **PERSONAL** evangelism - and by far the greatest results were achieved through the latter.

The Early Church was born in a blaze of **personal** witnessing about Jesus Christ. Occasionally multitudes assembled to hear one of those Christians speak - especially where some outstanding healing miracle had occurred, but consistently these early believers were busy in market places, on the streets, in the houses, persuading men to believe on Christ **personal soulwinners**.

Acts 1:1 sets the standard for the Early Christians. What "Jesus **BEGAN** to do and teach" when He walked on earth, **HE CONTINUED** doing and teaching **through them** - He was living and ministering **through** them, and they knew it. **They** were His voice, His feet, His Body. He was carrying on what He "began" - He was doing it **THROUGH THEM**.

The Bible makes some fantastic statements about their success. "**Daily** in the temple, **and in every house**, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ" (Ac. 5:42).

A 20-20 Vision

They had a "20-20" vision - Acts 20:20. "I . . . have taught you **publicly**, and **from house to house**, testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ." They spent their time in two types of evangelism, **mass evangelism** ("taught you **publicly**") and **personal evangelism** ("from **house to house**"). From Acts 2 until Acts 20-about 30 years - door to door soulwinning was their unbroken operation.

Did it work? Yes indeed! Tucked away in chapter 19 is one of the most exciting verses: "This continued by the space of **two** years; so that **all** they which dwelt in Asia heard the Word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks"

(19:10).

Think of it! In two years, without automobiles, jet planes, radio, TV, tape or record players, films or the press, **all** Asia Minor heard the Gospel! It was done through MASS evangelism and PERSONAL evangelism.

Why were the 1st Century Christians able to accomplish so much when 20th Century Christians - with so many fantastic advantages - are apparently able to do so little by comparison?

Mainly because PERSONAL soulwinning-the most effective arm of NEW Testament evangelism is practically a lost ministry in the Church yet today.

To explain why I say that, let me give you a brief review of the history of evangelism.

A Brief History of Evangelism

During the 1st Century after Christ, His followers possessed an insatiable zeal and passion to persuade men about Christ. They remembered His promise to return as soon as they preached the Gospel "to every creature"- as soon as "all nations" had the Gospel preached to them "as a witness" (Mt. 24:14).

But then in the 2nd Century, Christianity became entangled in theological controversy. Rather than to keep pressing on to the "uttermost parts" and to more "regions beyond," they began to argue over doctrinal points.

The 3rd Century found the Christians sinking into genuine apostasy.

The 4th Century closed the gap and their backsliding and compromise was complete.

Christianity was then plunged into 1,000 years of awful spiritual darkness - the Dark Ages, and this terrible thousand years is the veil which has separated the Church of today from the New Testament concept.

Martin Luther first broke out of the darkness with the revelation that "the just shall live **by faith.**" But the Luther Reformation was not a return to **mass** and **personal** soulwinning; rather it was simply a revolt against the religious hierarchy, and a daring challenge for the layman to examine the Word of God for himself -something forbidden by the domineering clergy.

But Luther said practically nothing about missions or world evangelism. In fact it was almost 1800 A.D. before William Carey brought the concept of missions back to the front.

The teachings of the Holy Spirit Were not rediscovered until this 20th Century. Think of it!

The Long Road Back

So Christianity has experienced a long "groping back" to New Testament concepts-and we still have not returned to the basic principle of PERSONAL Soulwinning, the very foundation of the Early Church-that of Christ ministering THROUGH the believer.

MASS evangelism re-appeared about 200 years ago through John Wesley. Men like George Whitfield introduced it to America. There have been about four high peaks of **mass** evangelism, under Wesley, Finney, Moody and greatest of all, in the last 20 years.

In the middle 1700's it was the "camp meeting" concept. In the, 1800's came the "protracted meetings," "brush arbors." Then the term "revival" began to be used, until in our generation "revival" and "99 evangelism" got interwoven in our thinking. The contemporary term varies between "revival," and evangelistic crusade or campaign," either church centered or city-wide.

But PERSONAL evangelism on a broad scale has **not yet** been rediscovered by the Church either as a group or as an individual.

Torrey and Spurgeon wrote the first two books on the subject early in this century. Since then, hundreds and hundreds of books have been published but their very content exposes the fact that the New Testament **personal soulwinning** concept has not yet been rediscovered as the church foundation.

All sorts of programs, ideas, schemes, crusades are taught and promoted among churches today on "**enlistment**" evangelism" - getting unchurched people to Sunday School, or to a Bible Class, or to attend Church- and this is good. But little or nothing is taught on how to actually win souls - how to lead men to a decision for Christ OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE - at the factory, restaurant, park, on the street, in the sinner's house. Christians have not been taught that each believer, as an individual, is Christ's Body - the Church; that the Lord can only reach lost souls THROUGH US, His Body.

In other words, most churches have excellent programs and training classes on **how to invite men to Church**, but not on **how to get men to accept Christ out where they are.**

Reversing the Pattern

In the New Testament, they testified "**house to house**" and made disciples out among the people.

Today the concept is to get men **to church** and **then** to Christ. This system is fine for those who will go to church - but about 90% of the sinners will **not** go.

The New Testament concept is to get men to Christ **THEN** to the meeting place - to win them out where they are. This is limitless!

Most training programs are based on recommending the **Church building**. The New Testament concept was based on recommending **Christ**.

Whether we like to admit it or not, the **Church** (as a building or denomination) has the poorest appeal of all to sinners - it's rating is exactly ZERO, because **SINNERS DON'T GO TO CHURCH**. Yet the fantastic fact remains that the **person of Jesus Christ** - when He is presented right - has the greatest single appeal to the human heart in this world.

Christians are trained, taught, drilled on how to invite people to Church, to Sunday School. But you can scarcely find a book or a class which trains Christians on how to actually lead souls to accept Christ right **out where they are**.

The Most Evangelized Acre

In his book on a "Soulwinning Church," Gene Edwards says: "We attempt to evangelize the world ... by evangelizing the Church building, . . . each room and every pew. It is the most evangelized acre on earth. The way we work at it, you'd think the building needed converting. We work as though all the lost people in the world were there!"

The only problem is: the sinners, the masses of the unsaved are **not** there - never have been there never will be there. They are everywhere **except** where we are trying to get them to come - **inside the church**. The crying need therefore is to go out where they are and win them there, **THEN** they will come into the Church.

Personal evangelism has not yet made its re-entry into Christian history. It waits in the wings, perhaps hoping soon to command the center of the stage once more.

Mr. Edwards, one who has strongly advocated **personal** soulwinning, says: "There has not been a time in the last 1800 years, when a great movement of **personal** witnessing has gripped a large portion of Christian people. Open your history books and turn back through nearly two millenniums. You will discover not even a mention . . . the most powerful and necessary concept of Christianity is still dead! ... We have a car without a motor, a plane without wings.

"A revival - a rediscovery - of personal evangelism will, in truth, be the rediscovery of the spirit of New Testament Christianity."

Personal evangelism is the only way to reach **every** creature. Mass evangelism only reaches those who come out to the crusade. **Church enlistment** evangelism only reaches those who attend class, or Sunday School, or the Church.

But **personal** evangelism can reach "every creature." It is not centered at the crusade nor **inside** the church - but **outside** the church building.

Actually church buildings, while no doubt a vital part of Christianity today, were not a New Testament concept at all. Gene Edwards in his book "How to Have a Soulwinning Church" says: "Today the Church building concept of evangelism is the greatest single hindrance to world evangelization. **Not** because we have Church buildings - **but** because we won't get **out** of them!"

Mr. Edwards even went so far as to say: "A church building serves one purpose: to keep you from getting cold in winter and hot in summer, or wet when it rains!"

"This is not an appeal for you to go burn down your church building . . . **But get it in its right perspective!** Realize that evangelism is **not** to be centered **in** the church building. It is to be centered **outside** the church building. The church is not a place to bring the lost **into**, to convert them. It is a battle station - to send Christians **out** from."

Our "Segregated" Samaria

Just before Christ ascended, He plainly told His followers where to go and what to do - in terms too clear to be confused.

"And ye shall receive power, **after** that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me **both**

in Jerusalem, **and in all** Judea, **and** in Samaria, **and** unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Ac. 1:8).

Get your map and see what this means: "Jerusalem" is your home town or city.

"**All** Judea" represents your state or nation.

But why did He specify Samaria? It was part of Judea and He had already said "in **all** Judea." That already included Samaria. This is why He specified "AND in Samaria."

Samaria was segregated! "The Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans" (Jn. 4:9). Remember when the Jews slandered Jesus, "Say we not well that Thou art a **Samaritan**, and hast a devil" (Jn. 35 8:48).

Jesus told us to reach "all Judea"-then repeated "AND Samaria"-even the segregated peoples. For us, "Samaria" is the Indian or Aboriginal Reservations, the large Negro communities, the migrant settlements, the slum residents, the ghettos, the poor areas - "all" of these in our Judea.

"**And** unto the uttermost part of the world." In other words, at home AND abroad. Soulwinning is a worldwide ministry.

That is the ministry we are engaged in to the limit of our means - the two types of evangelism originated in the Early Church-mass evangelism and **personal** evangelism.

This, we are doing to the limit of our means, in cooperation **with** the Church - but not **inside** the church building.

We must win sinners **out where the sinners are** -then they will come **inside** the church building, under the care of a faithful shepherd who teaches them and builds them up in the faith.

The Millions Who Won't Attend

In **MASS** evangelism we have preached to multitudes face-to-face. But regardless of how many thousands there were who attended our crusades, there were always millions of **others** in that same country who did **not** attend.

Mass evangelism can only reach the **thousands** who **do** attend - it can never reach the **millions** who choose NOT to attend. These **millions** can only be reached by **personal** evangelism. A great percentage of these can actually be won to Christ through **personal** witnessing - and 100 % of those who are **not** won can at least be given a personal witness. Think of it! It's the only way to reach "every creature."

This is why we are engaged in every possible concept of **mass** evangelism - to reach the largest possible number of **those who can be attracted to a public Gospel meeting**.

But for those other millions who will **not** attend a Gospel Crusade, we are developing and supplying stockpiles of every conceivable "Soulwinning tool" to both induce Christians to go out after souls, and to help make their witness more effective when they do launch out.

The Early Church had her mass meetings occasionally, but **all** of the time, those believers were witnessing and winning men to Christ -"and the Lord added to the Church **daily** such as should be saved" (Ac. 2:47).

Minimal Church Growth

Did you ever stop to think-The minimum number of converts in your church would be 365 souls per year, if the Lord added to your church "daily." Yet there are only a handful of churches in all of the U.S.A. and Great Britain combined which achieve even that **minimal** level of growth.

How did the Early Church do it? The answer is: "Publicly, and from house to house" (Ac. 20:20). That 20-20 vision will still work today. That is what this book contends for.

Many a pastor and Christian is concerned for his Church. He wonders **why** sinners do not attend. He prays for them to come. Yet he likely never goes out where they are. While he prays for sinners, they will be lost because Christ can only reach them THROUGH the Christian's life and witness.

Are we asking too much for sinners to come out to the Church building to find Christ when we are unwilling to let Christ go out to them through us? Should we expect lost people to come to Church? Or, let's switch our question: Are we asking too much to ask Christians to go to the house of lost men? YOU are His Body now.

Moody Bible Institute estimates that less than 5% of Christians have ever led a soul to Christ. Yet around 10% of the public in so-called Christian nations attends church at some time in their lives.

This means that God gets more cooperation from sinners than from Christians. **Some** lost people will come to God's house, but a much smaller percentage of Christians will go to the sinner's house. The lost have proven to be more cooperative than the saved. Yet of whom does God require the most? He never said: "Go ye sinners to my

house and be saved, lest ye die." But He **did** say: "Go ye (believers) . . . to every creature."

That command is my life's commission. It is **call** enough. And it is **your** commission too - if you have believed on Jesus Christ. **He** witnesses THROUGH YOU.

From the Gallery to the Arena

Personal soulwinning is the call of God which rests upon every Christian on earth. It is the one dedication which removes the Christian from the position of a spectator-it makes the common layman the direct instrument of the Holy Ghost - it lifts him out of the gallery of being a "hearer of the Word only." Suddenly he steps into the arena and becomes a "doer of the Word."

There is nothing as exciting as coming to Church and looking across the aisle at a new believer whom you have recently led to a decision for Christ. Christ did it **IN YOU**; you found the sinner out where he was. You let Christ win a soul through you. No church can be dead when it has members like that scattered throughout its assembly.

This book is written for the purpose of helping to challenge a return to Early Christianity - the soulwinning kind - the house to house kind - the kind that goes out after sinners - out where they are. The Church was born in a blaze of **personal** soulwinning. In a revival of this passion she will reach her final climax **as laymen write the Church's last chapter before Christ's return.**

To that end I have outlined in the following chapters **the seven reasons why I am a soulwinner.**

THE FIRST REASON I AM A SOULWINNER IS BECAUSE JESUS WAS!

THE GREATEST CALLING

THE BIBLE says: "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance" . . . what is this all important saying? . . . **"that Christ Jesus came into the world TO SAVE SINNERS"** (I Ti. 1:15,).

Luke 19:10, "The Son of man is come **to seek and to save that which was lost.**"

Jesus came to SAVE SINNERS! That was His mission.

First and last, Jesus was a Soulwinner - the greatest Soulwinner the world has ever known.

The **first** group whom He chose to follow Him received this challenge: "Follow Me, and I will make you FISHERS OF MEN."

The **last** group who followed Him out to His ascension received this command: "Go make disciples of all nations."

First and foremost, Jesus was a Soulwinner. That's what He came for, "to save sinners." That's what He lived for - and died for - and rose again for - and sent back the Holy Ghost to His followers for - to make them effective soulwinners.

Did you ever stop to think about this: The word "Christian" means "Christ-like."

Since Christ came to save sinners, to seek out the lost, then to be **"like Christ -Christian"** we are to be **soulwinners!** If Christ is born IN US, He wills to do the same things IN and THROUGH us as He did when He walked on earth. Now WE are His Body.

Yet there are hundreds of thousands of professed "Christians" who have never known the joy of letting Christ win even one soul through them. There are preachers who have never won a soul.

I have personally counseled missionaries who have confided in me that they have never won a soul to Christ during their experience on the mission field.

Yet, to be a "Christian" means to be "like Christ." And I repeat, **to be like Christ is to be a soulwinner.**

Can this be the reason the Church is not meeting the spiritual need of this generation? Is the Church no longer a soulwinning body? As a congregation it is not, but since YOU are the Church, YOU are Christ's Body. Let Him win souls through YOU.

Jesus took His message to the sinners; to the market places, to street corners, to the mountain sides, to the sea shores, to the homes of sinners.

They criticized Him by accusing: "This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them."

He Walked With Sinners

He mixed with sinners, witnessed to them, convinced them and won them. He was not a "holier-than-thou" type, aloof, super-spiritual, a righteous snob. **He walked with sinners.** They were His reason for being in this world.

So it is with every true Christian. To be Christlike means to win sinners. His purpose is our purpose. His mission is our mission. His plan is our plan. He came to save sinners. We are to be "like Him." We are here, in this world, for the same purpose.

He said: "I came into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth" (Jn. 18:37). That is what we are in this world for - **to bear witness** of the Gospel **to sinners.**

He commanded: "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled" (Lu. 14:23).

He never said, "Go ring a church bell and pray for sinners to come in."

He said, Go out and compel them; win them, bring them; you **go out** and get them - that my house may be full. Every follower of His did just that.

After His ascension, His early followers acted just like Him. Every one of them was busy witnessing. Each believer was a witness. They were busy in the markets, in the streets, in houses, around the public wells, talking, reasoning, witnessing, convincing, preaching, winning souls, compelling sinners to believe the Gospel-just **like Jesus did.**

In fact, they reminded everyone so much of Christ that critics sarcastically called them **"Christ-I-A-N-S"** - with contempt in their voices. These critics did not know that Christ was actually RE-BORN IN THEM!

They were the so-called "fanatics" who were like the "deceiver"-Christ. **Christians!** They were like Christ in winning souls. **That's why I'm a soulwinner. Jesus was!**

The Bible says: "And **daily** in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ" (Ac. 5:42).

I've circled the word "daily" in my Testament.

Most churches are not even open more than twice or thrice per week.

The cinema operates "daily"; the dance hall, the pub, the night club, the liquor store, the houses of ill-fame and amusement. But too often the church functions only on Sunday - that is, the church building. But the real Church is YOU and ME. **WE** are Christ's Body. Christ can minister and witness THROUGH US **every day** - whether the church building is open or not.

The early "Christians" were DAILY in the temple, **and in every house** - teaching and preaching Jesus Christ.

Witnessing in this Century

Christians must recapture some of the zeal and passion of the early Church. Otherwise, this old world will be lost while a lifeless church sits at ease in Zion. They must recover the spiritual truth that **each believer is the Church**; that Christ can only minister THROUGH CHRISTIANS.

Did you know that the "Jehovah Witness" organization grew faster than any religious body of the century? Why? Because they captured a vital secret of the Early Church; **they required every convert to be a "witness."** Each member was trained, skilled, equipped and sent out on the streets, door to door, "witnessing." Carrying his record player - or tape player - loaded with tracts and literature, he went from house to house - and he succeeded because he stayed at it.

In "Christianity Today," Glenn Abbott says: "However one may disagree with Jehovah's Witnesses or Mormons, he must admire the dedication and sense of mission that takes them from door to door in the face of ridicule and abuse."

This world is hungry. The people are confused. They are seeking. They are lost. **They do not go to church.** They never hear the Gospel. Though searching and eager, too often they never receive a true witness. They are streaming to the psychologists and psychiatrists. They are the human guinea pigs for every new psychic theory being hatched by the current wave of psychoanalysts.

Children are confused. Teenagers are adrift. Parents are fighting. Insecurity and dismay dominate the home. Drinking and perversion are substituted for stability in family life.

Sickness and disease, mental stress and spiritual emptiness go unattended. Wretched existences are the state of affairs behind the door of many a proper looking house front.

Through that door is an open world of ministry for the Christian, but millions of church members have never approached that door.

God have mercy on us, Christians, if we don't rise to this challenge. I realize we **pray** for sinners to be saved. But Jesus said, **Go out and get them!** They will go to hell while we pray. Christ can only speak to them THROUGH US. We are His legs, His voice, His hands, **His Body.**

There has developed a whole empire of church specialists" in every category except **soulwinning.**

Tradition has somehow taught us that only a few "evangelists" are soulwinners; that everyone else ministers to the already saved ones.

First - a Christian

A pastor says: "**Oh**, I'm not a soulwinner; I never could deal with sinners. My calling is that of a **pastor**, to shepherd the flock."

Who was the Greatest Shepherd? Jesus! And He was also the greatest Soulwinner. If I were a pastor, I would want to follow His example.

Someone else says: "Oh, no! I never make altar calls; I'm no good at that. You see, that is not my calling. I am a **teacher-that** is my gift."

Well, who was the greatest Teacher? Jesus Christ! And He was the world's greatest Soulwinner. If I were a teacher, I would want to follow Christ's example of teaching in a way that I could win souls.

I must be a **Soulwinner**, because Jesus was and now HE is IN ME!

Another says: "Oh, that's not my calling at all; my gift is to teach prophecy."

Who was a greater Prophet than Jesus? And yet He was a Soulwinner.

Still another specialist says: "I teach types and shadows from the Old Testament. I'm not a soulwinner. I minister to the Church."

Who did that better than Jesus? Yet He won souls when He taught.

You see, here is the fact that has been overlooked: **Before you were a pastor, you were a Christian (like Christ).**

You have a call, **as a Christian**, to win souls. **Secondarily**, you have a call as a pastor to shepherd the flock. But every pastor should be a soulwinner **as a Christian**.

Before you were a teacher, you were a Christian. You have a call **as a Christian** to witness, to be a soulwinner. After that, you are gifted as a teacher to teach Christians.

Before you were gifted to preach or teach prophecy in the Church, you were a Christian. **As a Christian** your first call is to win souls; second to prophesy.

First a Christian - a soulwinner; second a pastor.

First a Christian-a soulwinner; second a teacher.

First a Christian - a soulwinner; second a musician, a singer, a chart-speaker. But always **FIRST, A CHRISTIAN - A SOULWINNER.**

Three Witnesses

You see, this is a **principle** in the Kingdom of God - soulwinning **FIRST**. Let me give you three proofs, three witnesses of this fact.

Witness No. 1. "Joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."

Heaven rejoices when the lost is found. This **one** sinner who is won is a greater delight than the 99 saved ones.

In the Kingdom of God, the priority is on the **one which was lost**.

Witness No. 2. In the Kingdom of heaven, the Good Shepherd is pictured by Jesus as "leaving the ninety and nine" in the fold, and going "out into the mountains," the dangerous places, out in the world, seeking out the **lost sheep**.

The Good Shepherd is not represented as staying in the fold caring for the flock as much as by going out after the lost one. He wants to do that **THROUGH US TODAY**.

As I said, this is a principle in the Kingdom of God. **SOULWINNING** - seeking out the lost soul **FIRST!**

Witness No. 3. The good woman of the house is not pictured by the Master as sitting in her chair, counting and carefully polishing her treasured coins.

Rather, she is concerned day and night with seeking "diligently till she find" the **lost** coin.

She bears the candlestick and searches relentlessly in the dark corners until she has found the **lost** coin -then she rejoices.

But the contrary is exemplified by most churches and pastors and congregations.

On Sunday morning, the pastor polishes the coins which are not lost - the members.

On Wednesday night, he carefully polishes them again. But the lost ones are not gone after. (I am not criticizing pastors for preaching to their church. They should. This is essential. But my point is: too often this goes on and on, and the **LOST** coin is never sought.)

Next Sunday, more polishing, and next Wednesday still more ministry - still directed to the saved ones.

Then a teacher is called, gifted to expound the Word to Christians, and they get polished nightly for two weeks. Still no direction to sinners.

Then a prophecy preacher takes his turn - still no attention to sinners is given.

Then a fine man puts on a series of special meetings to teach types and shadows. Still no altar calls for sinners.

Then singers entertain. Followed by more polishing. Yet the lost coin is not sought, the lost sheep is not gone after. Every one of the Church "specialists" stay in the safe fold with the "ninety and nine."

So much attention is given to those safe in the fold!

And all the time, the world is going to hell, untouched by Christians, unchallenged by soulwinners. Christ **CANNOT** reach them because Christians do not go to them. They will only see Christ and His love **THROUGH US**. He longs to win them but He can only do it **THROUGH US**.

Jesus was a Soulwinner. That is the first reason why I am.

God never called anyone to a ministry that wasn't a soulwinning ministry - because the very essence of being a "Christian" is to have **Christ living, witnessing and ministering in and through YOU!**

The principle of the Kingdom of Heaven is SOULWINNING FIRST.

The Early Church possessed a passion for souls. They were "Christ-like."

Whatever our talent in the Church, we are SOULWINNERS FIRST - Christians **first** - then writers, teachers, pastors, prophets, etc.-but **first** witnesses, soulwinners.

Be a soulwinner-a **real CHRIST-I-A-N.**

THE SECOND REASON I AM A SOULWINNER IS BECAUSE THE HARVEST IS SO GREAT!

OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE

NO MAN CAN look into the faces of the masses bewildered by superstitious religions, as I have done, and not do his utmost to win souls.

For years I have stood on crude open-air platforms before multitudes of underprivileged people, interspersed with lepers, demoniacs, witch doctors, and hopelessly diseased victims. I have preached Christ to these masses when it was all I could do to hold back tears of human sympathy.

Worldwide, this ripened harvest of souls stands waiting to be reaped. This is the 2nd basic reason I am a soulwinner-the harvest is **so great!**

It is written, "when Jesus saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. "

Pondering these needy multitudes, He said, "**The harvest truly is plenteous.**"

What did He do about it? He called twelve disciples and gave them power to cast out devils and heal the sick, and sent them out to help reap this harvest. Later He called 70 more, then before His Ascension, He conferred upon **all believers** this power to witness with miracles in His Name.

The point is: He did something about this ripened harvest. He did not just sit and ponder it and pray over it. He set about getting laborers out into these harvest fields.

Since Christ was "moved with compassion" when He saw the multitude, if we are "like Christ"**Christian**, we also must be moved with compassion for these lost souls. Are we? Are you?

Some pastor or Christian says: "Oh yes, we have compassion for the lost. We hold special prayer meetings each week, interceding for sinners to be saved. We are praying faithfully that the lost will be drawn into our church and be converted. We are putting on special meetings and we have a special speaker to preach to sinners."

This, my friend, is not what Christ told us to do. He did not tell us to go to church and ring a bell, or engage a special speaker, and pray for sinners to come in.

He commanded: "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that My house may be filled" (Lu. 14:23).

When we think of soulwinning, we must remember this basic fact: **Sinners don't go to church!** So we can't reach these lost multitudes **inside** the church. We must go **outside** the church to win them.

I realize **a few** will come; consequently a few can be reached in church revivals - and thank God for that. But the rank and file of the lost multitudes **will never go to church**. So they are never contacted by the church. They never meet Christ or know His love because they never see Him or hear Him THROUGH US - and WE ARE HIS BODY; **He** can only reach sinners THROUGH US.

Therefore the church **must go to them!** That is what Jesus did -and that is what He commanded His followers to do -and that is what the Early Church believers did.

In busy market places, on street corners, at the village wells, by the sea side, and **in the homes of sinners**, these early Christians busied themselves witnessing and winning souls.

Principle of Evangelism

Understand this principle: Evangelism (soulwinning) was never intended to be carried on **inside** the church building. Evangelism must be done **out where the sinners are**.

The church building is the place where God's people come together to be "nourished up in the words of faith" to be taught in the doctrines of Christ, strengthened as Christians and taught to witness.

But soulwinning is done OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE.

The Early Church stayed busy "DAILY in the Temple **and in every house**" . . . they "ceased not to preach and teach Jesus Christ" (Ac. 5:42).

Look at the Jehovah's Witnesses. They have captured one of the most strategic secrets of the Early **Church-that every convert must be a WITNESS**.

When they meet in their Kingdom Hall, it is not to win converts; it is a meeting of those already won. There they gather to be instructed 'in "witnessing." There they learn more of their doctrines. There they are trained to be

witnesses.

But when they get ready to "evangelize" or to make converts, they go out to the streets, to the residential areas, and systematically work each section of the town, street by street, knocking on **doors**, entering houses, **witnessing and winning OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE.**

They are **winning** while traditional churches are **losing**. Why? Only one simple reason: While the traditional Christians use their church pews, the Jehovah's Witnesses use their shoe leather. While church members beat a path to their church sanctuary, the Jehovah's Witnesses beat paths to the houses of sinners-and there they make converts.

Unless the Church recaptures this basic secret of soulwinning, we are going to lose this world.

A fisherman doesn't go fishing in his bathtub. If he expects to catch fish, he casts in his net **OUT WHERE THE FISH ARE**, away from the house, out in the streams, lakes and waterways of the wilderness.

A farmer doesn't harvest grain in his dining room. If he expects to reap the ripened grain, he must wield his sickle through the heat of the day, **OUT WHERE THE GRAIN IS RIPE**, away from the house, out in the broad fields where the grain stands ripe unto harvest.

A soulwinner doesn't win souls only inside the church building. If he expects to reap the lost, he must carry his witness **OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE**, away from the sanctuary, out in the markets, on the streets, in jails, hospitals, houses of prostitution, in the homes of sinners, out among the people **where the lost souls are**. This is evangelism!

We have dedicated the prime years of our lives to reaching the lost **OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE.**

This is why we build our crude platforms out in parks, or great lawns, or on stadium grounds, or out in fields. Hindus will not go to a church. Moslems will not enter a Christian temple. Shintoists or Buddhists will not go to the Christians' house of worship.

But go out, with the Gospel, to the public places, to the seashores, the parks, stadiums, race courses or open fields and they will come by the tens of thousands-the Moslems, Hindus, Buddhists - all of them. You are **OUT WHERE THEY LIVE**. And after you have won them **OUT WHERE THEY ARE**, then they will come into the House of God, because they have been converted.

The method of the Early Church was to go **OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE**. This is where Peter and John wielded their testimony when the crippled man was healed - out on the streets; this is where Peter's great mass meetings were held in Jerusalem - out in the streets and busy roadways; this is where Philip preached to all of Samaria - out in the public; this is where he found the eunuch and led him to Christ-out on the trader's roadway; this is where Paul convinced the heathen - out on the island among their people.

A Farmer Reaps - Out in the Field

I was raised on a farm. We were seven brothers. When the broad fields of grain became ripe, we toiled relentlessly, from early 'till late, reaping the harvest-out where the harvest grew.

Then we would go to the house where a wonderful meal of solid food was prepared to nourish our tired bodies. After we had eaten, we returned to the fields to reap again until night would fall.

And so we did, day after day, until the last corners of the vast fields were reaped.

But the Church too often does not do this. She is usually not taught to do this. If she attempts a program of soulwinning evangelism at all, it usually consists of special prayer meetings for sinners to be drawn into the church and converted, followed by a special speaker to preach to sinners for a few nights consecutively. She calls this Evangelism.

Now don't misunderstand me: this is good, and thank God for the many souls who have been won this way. But my point is: We will lose the world; the ripened fields of the masses of lost souls will never be reaped inside the church because most sinners **never go to church** - I mean the vast unreached masses of them.

If we really intend to reap the harvest of our generation, we must recapture the passion and zeal of the Early Church which drove Christians out across the cities and villages **in relentless pursuit of lost souls - even at the risk of their lives**. This **alone** is being a real "Christian"- **CHRISTLIKE**. It was **this** that caused them to be called **Christians**.

Suppose, for example, that on the farm we gathered in the dining room and ate to our fill. With our bodies strengthened and nourished, suppose we looked out of our windows and pondered the ripened grain, and the ominous storm clouds gathering to destroy it. Then suppose we all just knelt for a long afternoon prayer session, to pray for God to reap the harvest, to save the grain. Then suppose one of our group raised his voice in earnest prayer and

prayed: "Oh God save this grain; just send it in to our house, so we can reap it right here in our dining room!" Wouldn't that seem strange?

Yet this is what many congregations are doing. And they are **riot** reaping the soul-harvest of this generation.

How earnestly they pray: Oh God, save lost souls; just send them in to our lovely church so we can get them saved right here.

It seems almost as though they are saying: "Lord, don't make us dirty our hands out yonder in the filth and dirt among sinners; Thou knowest our reputation is untainted, our people are truly clean, sanctified and holy; we don't dare to be seen near the houses of ill-fame, in questionable areas, in the saloons or among the ghettos and alleys where such evil is carried on. Thou knowest we could never risk a story getting started about one of **our** clean members. Thou hast given us this holy sanctuary. Here, our reputation is safe. IF YOU'LL JUST SEND THE SINNERS TO US, we'll pray for them at our clean altars, and get those precious people cleansed and saved like we are.

How Convenient We Want Things!

How convenient we want things! We have our nice churches, our beautiful choirs, our comfortable pews. We are all equipped. All we need is for the sinners to come to us. After all, we're not going out after them; they must come to us so we can get them saved in our sanctuaries where we have everything appropriate!

How we cry and pray for this! We call this compassion for the lost. But is it-really?

For hundreds of years this philosophy has been losing, yet we cling to it-because of its comforts and niceties.

Let me say: if we would be **Christian** - "like Christ," and win souls, we must win them OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE. If we would save the harvest, we can't sit around the table and eat and pray. We must roll up our sleeves and go OUT WHERE THE GRAIN IS to sweat and labor and toil in reaping, **out where the harvest is ripe**. This old world is departing from Christianity times faster than she is being evangelized. For every convert to Christianity, 30 more souls are born in homes where the Gospel is unknown.

Every year world population **increases** by 60 million souls. Every year another Great Britain, or France, or Germany is added to the world. And of this staggering 60 million increase, **only about 2 million are even touched by the Gospel**.

Why is all of this? Because the zeal and passion of the Early Church which drove them out to the busy cross roads and market places of humanity has been superseded by a system of more comfortable religion which does not demand aggressive soulwinning.

In the Early Church, every believer was a witness - a soulwinner. Today the majority of church members have never led a soul to Christ in their lives and what is worse never tried to.

Most of them would not know the first step to actually witness to a sinner and get him saved on the spot!

This is why I have written the little soulwinners' guidebook "Secrets Asked Me Most." It is a dynamic manual for soulwinning. Request your FREE copy today.

The Early Church plan-God's plan-is for every believer to become a witness-a soulwinner; that they go out in the highways and hedges and compel them to come in-"THAT MY HOUSE MAY BE FULL."

Win them OUT WHERE SINNERS ARE, **then** they will come to the House of God-but what for? To be nourished up in faith by the pastor, by the teachers, etc. What for? **So they can return to the ripened fields to join the reapers in saving the lost.**

I recommend to pastors, teachers and church workers that new steps be taken **at once** to plant these ideas among those under your influence. Urge your members to write for their free copy of Our Guide for Soulwinners.

Think up every possible plan and scheme to induce Christians to go out after sinners.

Read Dr. Oswald J. Smith's book, "Passion for souls." This book can revolutionize any Pastor of Christian worker.

Then Read Gene Edwards' book, "How to have a Soulwinning Church," which has challenged and inspire thousands of Christians.

To inspire this kind of Christian witnessing around the world, we sent over 100,000 gift copies of our soulwinning books to ministers and missionaries around the world as an investment by this Foundation in the ministry of pastors worldwide. This has ignited fresh fires of evangelism in scores of nations.

What a Church Can Do

Organize your members into groups. Buy two or three small tents and assign a few of your members to each tent in separate locations of the city. Equip them with our tracts and other tools (and a free copy of our Soulwinners Guidebook). They can canvass the area during the day, leading many to Christ right in their own homes. At night they can preach and win souls in their public meetings. On Sundays, let 59 them bring their new people into the "mother" church where the pastor can nourish them in God's Word and teach them how to become soulwinners too.

Let the church buy 10 portable tape or cassette players. Assign 10 qualified Christians to take a machine each, equipped with our recorded sermons and a satchel of good Gospel tracts, and assign a certain street or section of the town to each worker. Stamp the church name on each tract and drill the workers in how to approach new homes, how to witness, how to pray for the sick and how to lead sinners to Christ for salvation. Determine to not only win more souls yourself, but to share with and inspire other Christians around you to do the same.

Then on Sundays, let that Christian bring his newly won families into the "mother" church where the pastor can feed their souls and train them until they too become new soulwinners.

Assign some of them to jails, others to hospitals (with earphones for their machines so they won't disturb other patients), others to convalescent homes.

This is what the Early Church did. This is how the Jehovah's Witnesses and the Mormons are winning millions.

Organize youth groups, with tapes, records, books, tracts, and musical instruments, to witness on street corners, in poor areas, in shopping centers, in market areas-wherever there are people **OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE**. Insist that each one writes for his **FREE** Guide to Soulwinning.

Teach them that Christ can only show His love to sinners **THROUGH THEM**. Teach them that each believer is Christ's Body today; that He can only reach the lost **THROUGH THEM**.

A whole new vision will soon grip your assembly - a fresh passion for souls - a zeal for soulwinning. What a church that congregation becomes!

Paint a large banner and -hang it inside your assembly where everyone will see and ponder it:

OUR MOTTO: EVERY CHRISTIAN A WITNESS!

OUR MISSION: OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE!

Mottos are effective. When I attended Dr. Oswald J. Smith's Missionary Convention, the very atmosphere was alive with mission mottos. Just sitting and reading them fired my soul. This is an old technique; it always works. (This is why demonstrators **carry** banners in their parades).

All week long, let a busy program of soulwinning be engaged in. On Sundays, and some mid-week evenings, let the soulwinners gather at the House of God to eat and be nourished in God's Word, to be strengthened, to give teaching to the new ones, **but then let them return with their new strength to reap again OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE**.

This is the vision of the true believer.

This gives Christian living purpose.

This makes the Christian life objective.

This will eliminate backsliding.

This will cure the church complaints.

This is **EVANGELISM** as it was practiced by the Early Church.

Mushrooming all around us, in every city and country is a generation unreached by the Gospel religious in some ways, but lost. And look at the youth; a society almost ignorant of the Gospel. This is the ripened harvest. Christ can only reap that harvest **THROUGH YOU!** **You** are His Body today!

I have looked on this harvest. It is so **GREAT**. Whether others do anything about it or not, **I must!** **This is what has driven me during most of my life.** This is the 2nd reason why I am a Soulwinner.

THE THIRD REASON I AM A SOULWINNER IS BECAUSE THE LABORERS ARE SO FEW!

HERE AM I

ALSO I HEARD the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me" (Is. 6:8).

World population is increasing at the rate of 60 MILLION per year. Only about 2 million of that increase is being touched by the Gospel.

Right now it is a fair estimate that there are ONE AND A HALF BILLION SOULS who have never once heard the Gospel.

This represents over half of the world's population, and includes tribespeople who speak some 2,000 different languages!

The world is hurtling to a lost eternity at a frightening rate.

In Japan, for example, after over 400 years of Gospel ministry, the overwhelming majority of the 100 MILLION people are still non-Christian. Most of Japan's 95,000 rural communities have no Christian witness. Yet there is almost desperate interest in the Gospel wherever the rare opportunity exists to hear it - especially among Japan's youth. Those engaged in Literature Evangelism receive over half of all responses from the 15-25 age group, showing that young Japan is ripe unto harvest - but there are almost **no** laborers.

A missionary itinerating among large American churches for a period of seven months made special appeals for 25 young volunteers to go as missionaries to southeast Asia. Not one person responded. "The laborers are few. " That is why I am a soulwinner.

Almost one out of three people alive today live in China where the Gospel has been so limited.

Almost 2 MILLION commit suicide annually.

Over 300,000 babies are born daily.

About 150,000 people die every day.

So population increases by over 150,000 daily or nearly 60 MILLION annually, with **only about 2 MILLION of this increase reached in any degree with the Gospel.**

Thirty times more souls are born than converts made.

Moslems are sending 4,000 missionaries south of the Sahara every year converting the Africans at the rate of 14 to every one that is won to Christ.

The time has come for Christians to enter this vast human harvest field with renewed vigor and dedication. If more laborers do not volunteer for greater soulwinning, we shall lose the world - and our liberty to evangelize.

Scientific materialism and atheism are everywhere opposing the Christian message.

Looking on The Fields

Jesus said, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest" (Jn. 4:35). And again He said, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest" (Mt. 9:37, 38).

I have looked and seen the harvest fields. I have prayed for more laborers. But above all, I have gone into the field (the world) to do the work through the prime years of my life. That is why I am a soulwinner-because the laborers are so few!

In India there is one district alone containing 77 villages and 40,690 people. A recent census showed there was not one single Christian in the entire district. No pastor, missionary or evangelist had ever preached the Gospel there. These 40,690 people live in their sins and die in their sins-not because they have rejected the Gospel, BUT because during the last 1,900 years, not one Christian has obeyed Christ and gone to them with the Gospel.

The harvest is ripe, but the laborers are few! While 94% of all ministers of the Gospel in the world are preaching in comparative comfort to the 9% English-speaking people, a lonely 6% have struggled as missionaries and national workers to meet the spiritual needs of the remaining NINETY-ONE PERCENT of the world!

Billy Graham frequently counsels ministers to estimate their remaining years and assess just how many sermons they might expect to preach.

I've faced this issue and I cannot possibly do enough in my own lifetime. That is why I have taken every

possible step to duplicate my life and every other soulwinner's life by producing and providing "tools for evangelism" for the church of this 20th Century.

By recording my voice with the voice of an anointed native interpreter on magnetic tape, we can reach hundreds of tribes simultaneously wherever that dialect is spoken. When a National Christian perhaps one who has not yet been trained to preach well - switches on a good Tape or Cassette Unit, he becomes a proficient soulwinner in that village. And after he does that for a few weeks, he has automatically absorbed the message and manner of evangelism so that he can then hand over his Unit to another untrained worker while he steps out to proclaim the same messages on his own. The same is true on the church homefront too.

Each time a Miracle Film is shown to thousands of villagers in the Philippines, or Thailand, or in Spain, this again is a multiplying soulwinner-operation - and this works at home in exactly the same way.

Every time a Gospel tract is passed from hand to hand, the message of Life is being reproduced.

You, too, can increase your personal witness by giving out tracts and by sending more "tools" to the mission fields of this generation, and by putting more "tools" to work on the homefront.

The laborers are few - that's the third reason why I am a soulwinner!

THE FOURTH REASON I AM A SOULWINNER IS BECAUSE OF THE GREAT COMMISSION

I HAVE NO CHOICE

THE LAST THING Jesus commanded us to do' before He went away, was to "go into all the world and preach the Gospel to **every** creature."

This is His **charge** to everyone of His followers. This is the **one thing** He left us to do. This is every Christian's life work - his calling - his purpose his ministry.

When God's love overflowed to the point that He gave His only begotten Son, it was for "the **world**" - not the church; so that "whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

When Christ left us, He gave us no other work to do but to "preach the Gospel to **every creature**." This was the believer's assignment for life. This was what the early Christians did day and night; they witnessed from house to house, at markets, village wells, on the busy roadways, on the streets, in meeting places, from jail cells and in dungeons everywhere. They understood their calling. **They did as Christ did.** They knew **He** was living IN them-doing THROUGH them the same things He had done before He was crucified. That is why they were called "**Christians**."

Today many churches have almost lost this concept. Christians are church-members, but not witnesses. They go to their plush sanctuary, but not to the byways and hedges to tell sinners of **Christ**. Unless Christians recapture the zeal and passion of the Early Church - passion which drives them **out where the sinners are**, after lost souls - we will lose this generation.

Let us ever remember this principle: **Sinners won't go to church.** That's the one place they will not go. (Yes, a few will go, but **not** the rank and file of the masses who are lost.) Therefore, we will never win them **inside** the church; we must go out after them - **out where the sinners are** - as Jesus commanded us to do. He is IN us. We are His Body. He can only reach sinners THROUGH US.

Perhaps no one in this generation has followed such a basic pattern of evangelism-for so long a time as we have, dedicating the prime years of our lives from the strength of our youth through the very best of our years, allowing Christ to preach the simple Gospel to sinners THROUGH OUR LIPS **out in public places.**

If you would have walked on the grounds of one of our earliest campaigns, then if you attended our most recent Crusades, you would have heard the same Gospel, presented with the same simplicity; you would have observed the same strategy, heard the same prayers, seen the same miracles.

THE GREAT COMMISSION of Christ is the reason behind this ministry and its entire design. Our motto is: "ONE WAY; ONE JOB." The One Way is Jesus; the One Job is Evangelism. Every phase of each operation is aimed at reaching sinners - **the unchurched** - with the Gospel - reaching them OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE. As a **Christian**, I have no alternative. Christ lives IN ME. I am his Body. I must let Him win souls THROUGH ME.

Only One Purpose

We live and breathe for one purpose: to tell the Gospel to the maximum number of people, by every means conceivable to us - not only through my own voice as Christ speaks **through** me, but by every possible channel of mass media, **by reproduction, by duplication, by every form of dissemination.**

The world ministry of the Osborn Foundation as it is known today, was not planned; no such design entered our minds at its beginning. What happened? We simply set ourselves to obey Christ's Great Commission. We believed it was **our** orders. We resolved to spend ourselves every day telling the Gospel to every person whom we could reach.

We have conducted almost a steady stream of public Gospel crusades, preaching face-to-face to literally **millions.**

But this was not enough. These meetings only lasted two or three hours. What about the other hours of those days?

It dawned on us that we could **write** the same message that we preached. Giant presses could turn them out by the millions - by the TONS - in every written language on earth. This way we could preach to hundreds of millions of EXTRA souls who would never hear the sound of my voice.

For years we have averaged publishing over A TON OF GOSPEL TRACTS FOR EVERY WORKING DAY - not counting the additional tons of books and magazines pouring into the nations of the world monthly. This literature is rolling off the world's presses in over a hundred languages.

With the world's masses becoming literate at the rate of three million per week - Over 150 million per year - and with their insatiable hunger for reading material, the printing of faith literature opens the door for us to reach every literate person with the Gospel message.

But once this was set into motion, we could do more. What about the ILLITERATES? Most of the underprivileged masses cannot read nor write.

To reach these, we could seize upon the remarkable 20th Century sound devices, the magnetic tape and the audio-visual motion film. What fantastic possibilities existed here!

So I began to preach on film and on tape the same Gospel sermons I had proclaimed to millions in our audiences.

Soon the wheels of two gigantic new outreaches began to roll as our sound-production team began duplicating those anointed crusade sermons in sight and sound in scores of languages, with more being added at every opportunity.

Today thousands of tapes and hundreds of films, in over 50 languages, are operating in the hands of missionaries, national church leaders, evangelists and pastors, and the ministers on the Christian homefronts around the world, attracting more millions to the Gospel.

One missionary alone showed one of our films 20 times in one province; he reached 50,000 souls and secured over 8,000 decisions for Christ.

Another reported 1,980 decisions in only 8 days of Miracle Film ministry.

But Jesus said, "Preach the Gospel to every creature." We pondered the millions of tribes people living far beyond the fringes of civilization, out of the range of the ordinary missionary or national church. These also must hear the Gospel. There were over 2,000 tribes like this. We prayed for ways to help reach these also.

To this end the National Evangelism outreach of the Osborn Foundation was born. God showed us how we could inspire Christians in the more prosperous nations of the world to share a certain amount of money each month to personally sponsor a national preacher as a missionary to these tribes.

We alerted Soulwinning Missions around the world about this idea. As they began to recruit qualified national Christians who would risk their lives to go to the interior of these neglected areas, we began to recruit Christian sponsors. The delicate balance of demand and supply has been a constant miracle since this program of National Evangelism was inaugurated.

Many thousands of National Missionaries have been sponsored in over a hundred nations, reaching innumerable unreached tribes and areas with the Gospel. An average of over ONE new church PER DAY has been opened and has become self-supporting - **almost 400 per year for the past several years.** Think of this! Never in Church history has such a far-reaching Evangelism effort been effected.

God Increased Our "Best"

When I was a lad with a toy press, I printed little tracts on scraps of paper and gave them out to sinners. I did my best then. **And God increased that "best."** Each year greater ideas, and greater capacities developed. I kept seizing on every method or concept to win souls.

Simply because we have done **our utmost** to tell sinners the Gospel; simply because we have applied every talent possible and grasped each opportunity and method to evangelize, there has developed this enormous ministry of World Evangelism as it is known today in its globe-circling influence.

It has been like planting good seeds. They always grow, and harvests increase.

Our persistent goal has been to reach sinners the unchurched - the **unevangelized**, not the already Christian populace. Many ask: Why don't you conduct your campaigns in churches like others do? **Simply because sinners don't go to churches.** To reach them, we must go OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE.

Jesus said, "Preach to every creature."

If one nation is 95 %, Christian while another is 95% non-Christian, we have no choice about the matter: we must reach the non-Christian nation.

If a small field of ripened grain had 100 reapers at work in it while a large field had only one reaper - and if you were interested in saving the grain there would be no choice in which field you should toil. You must labor where the need is greatest and where there are the fewest to meet that need.

If ten men were lifting a log, nine on the **small** end and one on the **large** end - and if you wanted to help - it wouldn't be difficult to decide which end to lift on.

Staking Claims Worldwide

You don't need a missionary call to be a soulwinner. Our purpose as Christians is to let our lights shine, to witness, to tell the Gospel to **sinners** - to the **unchurched**. This is our SUPREME task.

This is why it is prudent for a businessman or woman in any trade to move to one of these Gospel neglected nations as a settler - a Christian settler and open up business in a land where his business can become a ministry of witnessing.

If you are a mechanic, or druggist, or dentist, or photographer, or plumber, or carpenter, or engineer, move yourself and your family - as Gospel settlers - to one of these new nations where your trade is desperately needed, where it will be welcomed and where you can carry out a constant ministry of witnessing to non-Christians. You don't have to be a clergyman to "preach the Gospel." This is a job every **believer** can do in one way or another. These nations and tribes and areas can only learn of Christ and see His love and compassion, as Christians go and live and witness among them. Christ can never reach them without a body. **WE are His Body**. He can only be seen IN US. His Good News can only be heard THROUGH us. He can only speak THROUGH OUR LIPS.

It grieves me when I see the great business opportunities overseas monopolized by sinful men. Ungodly characters with a zest for adventure rush through these open doors, set up their businesses and agencies abroad, and revel in sinful and immoral living among the native people.

All the time, the Christian businessman of integrity and of high morals stays at home because he somehow has the idea **that he must have a "missionary call"** before he can go. He does not comprehend that **HE** is Christ's Body - that Christ can only reach these neglected ones through human beings **in whom He lives** - Christ-I-A-N-S. He waits for the Church to do the job, forgetting that **HE IS THE CHURCH**.

Christian businessmen are the ones who should be staking these business claims overseas. Their businesses could yield fruitful soulwinning ministries and be instruments to carry out the Great Commission. Christians don't need a missionary call to do this and 10,000 other things they could be doing among the underdeveloped nations. They only need a zeal for souls and a dedication to **obey His orders**.

Praying at plush, carpeted altars and shedding a few tears is not what the Master seeks. He asks: "Whom shall I send, and who will GO for us?"

Answer with Isaiah: "Here am I; send me" (Is. 6:8).

You go and preach the Gospel to as many creatures as you can reach, whether you have a "call" or not. If it turns out to be a sin to go abroad without a "call," **lay that sin to my charge**. I shall gladly bear it - but you, whoever you are, go and tell the Gospel.

People talk about Paul's **missionary call** to Macedonia when he was headed to Asia and was "forbidden of the Holy Ghost," then "assayed to go into Bithynia; but the Spirit suffered them not," then the vision appeared unto Paul in the night" in which a man of Macedonia prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us" (Ac.16:6-9).

This was not a **missionary call**. This was **guidance**. Paul was already a missionary, or apostle, or evangelist going about all the world preaching the Gospel. **As he was** going to yet other "regions beyond," he received this guidance to Macedonia. This has happened to us numerous times. Not long ago, we were determined to go to India and were **en route** when the Spirit suffered us not, and we were led to the southern tip of the Philippines where such glorious meetings resulted.

Very often we are guided this way. But usually it happens **when we are in action**. Our constant understanding with the Lord is this: "Lord, if there is any certain field or area or nation where you want us, show us and we will go. But if you don't, we'll pick out the best opportunity to reap the most fruitful harvest and we'll be there reaping until guided otherwise." He said "Lo, I am with you **always**." He is IN me! I am His Body. I go so **He** can reach the people. He speaks and witnesses and ministers THROUGH ME. He is concerned for the whole world.

Our orders are given. "Go into all the world. Preach to every creature." This is not negotiable. Orders are to be obeyed - not analyzed, talked over, theorized about.

Court-martial

What would you think of soldiers if their captain ordered them into a dangerous area of battle; suppose some of them began to pray: "Oh Lord, show me if it is your will for me to advance!" What would you think? What would happen? If they did this persistently, they might be court-martialed.

I'm afraid many nice people may be court-martialed from the Kingdom of God for not going and witnessing with

the Gospel, when our Captain plainly told us all to do it.

Christ will say: "Depart from Me into everlasting fire (a court-martial from the Kingdom of God) ... I was an hungered and ye gave Me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave Me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took Me not in: naked, and ye clothed Me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited Me not." What a picture of lost souls! Hungry for reality, thirsty for true life, strangers from God, naked in their sins, sick and imprisoned by disease and oppression.

In the Army, orders to "go," to "advance" are given **to be obeyed**. How much more so in the Kingdom of God!

Jesus Christ died for the **whole world**. His blood was shed for the remission of every sinner on earth who will call upon Him. But "how then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?"

"So then faith (for salvation) cometh by hearing . . . the Word of God."

You and I are the witnesses, the confessors, the testifiers, the voices, the preachers, the instruments through which this world must "hear" the Gospel. Christ lives and ministers THROUGH US.

This is the last thing Jesus commanded us to do. This was not a suggestion; this was a commission. This is the fourth basic reason why I am a soulwinner. I must obey orders. I HAVE NO CHOICE!

THE FIFTH REASON I AM A SOULWINNER IS BECAUSE OF THE UNFULFILLED PROPHECIES CONCERNING CHRIST'S RETURN!

THE FORGOTTEN ONES

IT HAS ALMOST become "fundamental" for preachers to emphasize the soon return of Christ by declaring that "every prophecy has been fulfilled which precedes His second coming."

But this is not true. Perhaps the most important sign of all has NOT been fulfilled. That is the sign which concerns **me** - and you as well. It is the sign which involves us as Christians in our commission as witnesses.

Jesus plainly named several "signs of His coming." He mentioned false christs, wars, nations in conflict, famines, pestilences, earthquakes, persecutions, deceit, lack of consecration, etc. (Mt. 24:4-12). Then He added: "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; **and THEN shall the end come.**" (v.14).

This has not yet been done! This was Christ's last charge before He went away. He as much as said, "Go now to all nations and proclaim to every creature the Good News. As soon as you do this, I shall return."

I can imagine impetuous Peter nudging John and saying, "Come on, John. Let's hurry. This won't take long. Then He'll come back to us."

The Early Church understood their commission. Not only the Apostles, but each believer was a witness. Day by day, in houses, on streets, at village wells and markets, on roadways, they preached Christ and won souls. Their Christian witness was objective. They would reach "every creature..... all nations" as rapidly as possible - in spite of deadly opposition because as soon as they finished, Jesus Christ would return. This was why they witnessed. They knew that Christ was not dead; but that He lived **IN THEM**, doing the same things that He did before He was crucified. They understood that Christ could only speak and witness **THROUGH THEM**.

This passion for soulwinning so gripped the early Christians that they spread the Gospel testimony across most of the then-known-world. Down across the Mediterranean, the message went until at one time North Africa was dotted with Christian places of worship. Braving storms, dangers at sea, perils of ancient travel and every other conceivable hardship, they took the message with unequalled gallantry.

But then, instead of charting camel caravans on south of the Sahara into African jungles, or pressing eastward beyond the continental mountain barriers, or northward to the pagan tribes, they became more interested in conserving what they had, than pressing on to the "uttermost part." Conventions began to replace evangelism. Doctrinal contentions superseded personal witnessing. Soon the Church began to lose her power and sank into the Dark Ages. They lost the basic concept of "**CHRIST IN YOU.**" The Dark Ages came when Christians no longer considered themselves **individually** as Christ's Body and as His voice; they created organizations and denominations and -began to call those things **THE CHURCH**. Darkness prevailed and Christ was cut off from sinners.

It was not until hundreds of years later when Martin Luther perceived that "the just shall live by faith" and the Reformation took place, that the Church began her slow return to Early Church evangelism. The Wesleys with sanctification and the 20th Century revival of the baptism of the Holy Ghost were further steps in the slow renewal of the Church.

From God's viewpoint, these truths were unveiled afresh so that true Christians might be empowered to witness in "all the world," among "all nations," to "every creature" - and thus bring back the King.

They Left The Forgotten Ones

But the Church did not hold God's viewpoint. Tradition concerning Christ's return blinded them to the *"Purpose of Pentecost." Rather than witnessing with power to the unsaved in houses, on streets, in markets, etc., out where the sinners are, they segregated themselves with a thousand sectarian barriers and denominational labels. They left **the forgotten ones** to their own pitiful fate while they segregated themselves into religious clubs and conventions - not to reach out to the unreached, but to defend their doctrines, to proselyte members from other groups or to placate themselves with their own religious creeds.

They have not skilled themselves in "going out where the sinners are."

We can never witness to the world - to the masses of unchurched multitudes - from **within** our sanctuaries.

Sinners don't go to church. The Church was commissioned to **go to the sinners.** "**Go OUT** quickly into the streets and lanes of the city"; "**Go OUT** into the highways and hedges"; "**GO** into all the world . . . to every creature."

Christ never said to **go IN** to the church, to ring a bell and to pray for sinners to come IN. He said to "go **OUT** **where they are** and win them - exactly as He did-not in religious sanctuaries, but **OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE.**

This has not been done. This Gospel has not yet been preached "as a witness unto all nations" as Christ said "shall" be done prior to His return.

Over two-thirds of our generation is ignorant of the Gospel today. They have never heard it once. They are **the forgotten ones** of our generation. I ask: Why should anyone hear the Gospel twice before everyone has heard it once?

Over a thousand tribes have never had a Gospel witness yet.

Reaching these tribes is, therefore, **THE** sign which Christ foretold, but which **is not yet fulfilled.**

This is the sign which concerns you and me. We are charged with the responsibility of reaching the unreached with the Gospel of Christ.

THIS IS THE 5TH REASON I AM A SOULWINNER.

This is why I am doing everything I can to win souls, and am also challenging every other Christian to be a soulwinner.

This is why the Osborn Foundation has developed a whole arsenal of "tools for evangelism" with which we can equip soulwinners around the world to increase their soul-harvest - to go out in search of **the forgotten ones.**

This was Christ's last command.

This was the only thing He left us to do.

Yet this is the one thing the Church has not yet done.

A Slap in the Face

What a slap in the face political guerillas present! Did you ever think of it? They invade nations through infiltration among the underdeveloped people. Their leaders retreat to the hills, to the jungles, to the swamps, and there impose controls on the local tribes. Once entrenched among these ignorant ones where disease and poverty are rampant, they organize guerilla bands and begin their hit-and-run harassment of villages, then towns, then cities, then to national takeovers.

Thus, these political and mercenary leaders go to **the very people the Church has neglected.** They pay any price, make any sacrifice to live among these poorest people.

The modern missionary has not been equipped or prepared to invade these ranks; he could scarcely survive in many of these areas, so these tribes were left without Christ. Whereas, the insurgents send in their teachers who live completely "native" and make the utmost sacrifice - to death itself - to organize these tribes into units for their purpose.

What the Church has not done, the enemy **has** done. The ranks neglected by the Church have become the hotbed for enemy seed-sowing. I say, what a slap in the face to the Christian Church! The rebel elements go where the Church has still not gone. They capture the unreached forces. And look what they have done with them.

Yet pious church leaders smugly claim that "all signs are fulfilled; even so come quickly Lord Jesus." What a convenient concept! "We are saved. We are clean. Come Jesus, and get us out of all of this sin. Never mind all of those repulsive people. They are the leftovers - **the forgotten ones.** **We** are the **ELECT.** Take us to be with Thee!"

Our duty as Christians has not changed since Christ gave His Commission. We must give the Gospel to every nation **FIRST.** **Then** shall the end come. This is why I am a soulwinner. This prophecy is still unfulfilled. It concerns **ME** - and it concerns you. Christ died for "every creature." He wants to reach "every creature." But He can only reach them **THROUGH US,** because **WE** are His Body today.

This is why most of my public ministry has been among the unchurched masses of nations abroad. These are the unreached. **They will not come to the church. We must go out after them** - **OUT WHERE THEY ARE** so that Christ can speak to them **THROUGH US.** We must reach them to the limit of our strength, of our life, of our means. This is not the "travelers itch"; I would so much prefer living my life surrounded with the comforts of home, but my duty **as a Christian** is to witness to the maximum number of souls by every means available to me. This is what we **are** doing - **why** we are doing it - and why we must **continue** doing it.

Our Unfinished Task

Jesus said in Mark 13:10 "This Gospel MUST FIRST be published among **all** nations."

Did you know that out of over 3,000 languages spoken, nearly one half of them do not yet have a single Gospel portion published in them?

Then has the Church done what Christ plainly said "**must first**" be done? No, she has not. This is the 5th reason I am a soulwinner. This prophecy is yet unfulfilled.

This is why the Osborn Foundation is publishing faith books and salvation tracts by the ton in over 100 languages. We **must** do our utmost. We must reach these **forgotten ones**. As long as Soulwinning Partners share with us of their finances, we shall continue publishing the Gospel in more and more dialects - to the limit of our means. WE MUST do this FIRST. **Then** Christ shall return.

But some convincing churchman, seeking to placate the consciences of his laity, comforts them by saying that he believes every "nation" **has** had the Gospel - at some time or another. Therefore all his members need do is be faithful to their church, stay clean, and be ready to go when Christ shall come.

Evidently our Lord knew such voices would be raised. So He showed John all things to come in the Revelation. Chapter 7: 9-10 is vital for the soulwinner.

John said, "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

"And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. "

This is the multitude of the redeemed, gathered to worship before God's throne.

What John saw there WILL BE AS HE SAW IT!

Among this multitude were those from "all nations." Did you notice? "Nations" are mentioned first. Some say, "I'm sure that all **nations** have heard the Gospel." Yes, perhaps: But the vision was more specific than just "nations." The Holy Spirit went on and detailed all "**kindreds, and people, and tongues.**" (Another Scripture specifies "and tribes.")

If Christ returned today, this scene could not be as John saw it. To be in that multitude, they must hear the Gospel, believe it, and be redeemed through the blood of the Lamb. But "how shall they **believe** in Him of Whom they have not **heard?**" (Ro. 10:14). And how can they hear Christ's Gospel if He cannot speak THROUGH US? We are His Body today, His lips, His voice. **We** must go then and let Christ speak through us to them. This is the only way they can **hear** and **believe**.

Over a THOUSAND "peoples" have not **heard** the Gospel-not even once. Christ has not been able to reach them because Christians have not gone to them - and he **will not send angels to do what He WILLS to do THROUGH US**. Those "peoples" are **the forgotten ones**. If Christ came today, none of those "peoples" would be standing before the Throne. You and I have **not** let Him reach them.

Nearly one half of the "tongues" of the world have not yet had the Gospel published for them. If Christ came today, those hundreds of "kindreds" would not be there to cry "salvation to our God and unto the Lamb." This prophecy is still unfulfilled. This is the 5th reason I am a soulwinner.

God's No. 1 Job

This is why the Osborn Foundation has sponsored so many thousands of national sons-of-the-soil, National Missionaries who are enabled by our assistance to go and live among these unreached areas and tribes to preach the Gospel to them. This is soulwinning. This is the only answer to insurgence - God's counterpart for the enemy's guerilla concept. This is Evangelism! This is what Christ told us to do. This is ministering Life among **the forgotten ones**.

This is why we are doing everything we can to reach the unreached. This is why we publish TONS of tracts every month, produce thousands of Gospel films and tapes, sponsor thousands of nationals, provide hundreds of tape and cassette players, projectors, generators -'tools for evangelism'- even large Mobile Evangelism Units (scores of them already on the mission fields) - all of this **in addition** to our own Crusades.

These things are being done because: "Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel" by every conceivable means. That is why our motto is: ONE WAY; ONE JOB. The One Way is Jesus; our One Job is Evangelism!

This is why we challenge faithful Christians to be partners with us. By sharing in these outreaches, you become a Soulwinner among the forgotten ones and will share the reward just as much as those who go to the front lines.

We talk of Christ's second coming; millions have never heard of His first coming. We insist on second blessings; these **forgotten ones** have never tasted of a first blessing. We argue about a re-filling; multitudes have never experienced a first filling. **THIS IS NOT FAIR.** Why should those on the front row receive a second serving before the hungry ones on the back rows have received a first serving.

We and this ministry are dedicated to the "back rows," to the "unchurched," to the "unreached," to **THE FORGOTTEN ONES.** This is our supreme task.

THE SIXTH REASON I AM A SOULWINNER IS BECAUSE I DON'T WANT THE BLOOD OF SINNERS ON MY HANDS!

THE BLOOD OF SINNERS

A **YOUNG** Christian, one of the Bible portions which sobered me most was Ezek. 3:17-20.

God specifically charges His servants to speak out against unrighteousness-to warn the wicked to turn from sin.

"Son of man, I have made thee a watchman ... give warning from Me.

"When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning ... to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity.

BUT HIS BLOOD WILL I REQUIRE AT THINE HAND." (Also see chapter 33:8 where this charge is re-emphasized almost identically.)

Then again in Ezek. 33:6, God repeats the mandate:

"If the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; **BUT HIS BLOOD WILL I REQUIRE AT THE WATCHMAN'S HAND.**"

Here are **three witnesses** - that's enough - to let us know that we must do something about lost souls ourselves, or be held responsible.

I'm a great believer in applying Scriptures in a personal, practical way. Let us read one of these verses made applicable to the soulwinner **today**.

"Christian, I have made thee a watchman: therefore hear the word at My mouth, and give warning from Me. When I say to the sinner, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the sinner from his sinful way, to save his life; the same sinner shall die in his iniquity: **BUT HIS BLOOD WILL I REQUIRE AT THINE HAND.** Yet if thou warn the sinner, and he turn not from his sinfulness, nor from his sinful way, he shall die in his iniquity; **BUT THOU HAST DELIVERED THY SOUL.**"

This Motivated My Life

"His blood will I require at thine hand." When I read those words, I tremble. This Scripture has motivated my life since I was a very young Christian. I do not want **the blood of sinners** on my hands.

This is the sixth reason I'm a Soulwinner!

This is why I am an Evangelist!

This is why my wife and I have given our finest years to worldwide Gospel crusades.

This is why we have led this ministry in sponsoring many thousands of National preachers as missionaries among the unreached.

This is why we publish TONS of Gospel literature every week in more than 100 languages and dialects This is why we produce Miracle Films and sermon tapes in over 50 major languages as tools for soul winners.

This is why we carry the enormous burden of this world ministry - we simply cannot lay it down.

This is why we stay "on the go."

This is the reason for every outreach of this ministry.

We are Watchmen! We have received Word from the Lord. We must warn the lost "to flee from the wrath to come." "Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel." I **do not want sinners' blood on my hands - either at home or abroad**. Therefore I am a soulwinner.

I am sure that this ministry alone cannot win the world to Christ. But we shall work at it as though it depended on us alone.

If we cannot win everyone, at least we can win some-and we shall toil as though the whole task was up to us.

A sophisticated businesswoman of prominence toured the OS/FO World Headquarters. She requested to see me and was, therefore, welcomed into our office.

She was inquisitive and intelligent. I responded to her probings, after which she gave me a final sizing up with these words: "Rev. Osborn, you seem to be very wrapped up in what you call World Evangelism.

Do you think your activities alone will win the whole world to Christ?"

"No, ma'am," I shot back, eyeing her dead-center. "But I intend to work at it as though the whole job depended

on me!"

She was obviously pleased - and became a real partner in soulwinning.

Egotism is not what drives us. Personal ambition is juvenile and entirely beside the point. I am a soulwinner because I have taken Go 'd's mandate seriously. I don't want sinners' blood required at my hand. It's as simple as that!

I consider that the most important work in the life of any Christian - I'm not talking about ministers, but just **Christians** - is to witness to sinners. Christ can only reach the lost **THROUGH** men **in whom He lives**.

Soulwinning is not a thing we do at leisure, or on holidays. **Soulwinning is everyday-Christianity in action**. We are saved to tell others. We are Christ's voice - His mouthpiece. If **we** are silent, **Christ** is silenced, because we are His Body; He can only speak through us.

I am not free to do this only when it is convenient. Soulwinning is my major mission in life ... my life's passion!

Would to God that "Soulwinning" could become the major theme of every Bible School, of every youth group, of every Sunday School, Bible Conference or Convention. (I am amazed at the lack of training along this line. Bible Schools offer every type of course except down-to-earth practical soul-winning.)

Christians are "majoring" in every conceivable art or trade or craft. They should be majoring in soulwinning because this is the supreme task of every believer. More of them would do this if they were taught that they, as **individuals**, are Christ's Body the Church, and that Christ can only minister and speak through the Body in which He dwells - **the believer**.

Spanning a 35-foot circle on the lobby floor of the OS/FO World Headquarters at Tulsa is a beautiful inlaid vinyl carpet map of the world. Around the circular vinyl map in large block letters is engraved the motto: "**Our supreme task is World Evangelism**." The attention of each visitor is focused on this motto to impress upon him the fact that this is a "Transworld" ministry. When God loved, he loved a **world**. When He gave His Son, He did it for a **world**. When Christ died, He died for a **world**. God's vision is a **world** vision. Our vision must be like His.

How Broad Is Your Vision

Too many are localized in their vision, They see only their community. They think only of their church or denomination, and have no interest beyond that.

Others have a broader vision, spreading out to their state or province or tribe, and they are concerned with evangelizing that area but do not feel responsible beyond those limits.

Still others see their whole country and will give and pray for the evangelization of their own nation. But even they are local in their vision; they are what we call "nationalistic" in their soulwinning interests.

Then we find others who have a broader vision that reaches out to their continent. They are interested in "continental" evangelism and will make any sacrifice to reach their continent. Even they are localized.

But at last there are the few who have God's vision-a world vision-a John 3:16 vision. They see Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America, Australia, the Island nations-"all the world," every creature." They have a **transworld** vision.

With jet air travel, radio and telstar television, we live on a crowded small planet. As Christians, our vision must be a **world** vision. Racial and political barriers are as foreign to God's plan as denominational and sectarian cordons.

Oh, for more Christians who do not ask what church you belong to, or what race you are, or what creed you ascribe to; but who ask only, Do you know Jesus Christ, the Son of God, as your personal Savior and Lord?

Many times I have boarded a plane, soared off the runway of some great airport, then climbed to 35 or 40,000 feet altitude and looked down upon the vast countryside as I flew across nations, then continents, then oceans, islands, and more nations. As I have looked down from such heights, I have pondered those soulwinners I had left behind who were "localized" in their vision. They were cramped within the walls of their own little denomination or creed; they could not see beyond the borders of their city or area or nation. They had not traveled and they would not listen to those who have. They were local men with localized minds.

The Light which God has imparted to us when He gave us Eternal Life would shine in dark places all across the world, if we but shared God's vision and understood the basic truth of Christianity - that we are Christ's Body today through which alone He can reach the world.

Another vital word in our motto there in the lobby floor of the OS/FO World Headquarters is "Supreme." We say, "**Our supreme** task is world evangelism."

Our Supreme Task

We show by our actions what ' we feel is most important. If transworld soulwinning is our **supreme** task, then we must give it first place.

This is why most of our crusades are conducted overseas. This is why most of our literature is published in languages for the peoples afar. This is why most of our funds are used abroad. This is why most of our evangelism projects are geared for the unreached. This is why most of our films and tapes and other "Tools" are designed for soulwinning in other lands. We practice what we preach! **World** Evangelism is our supreme task. It is God's NO. I JOB, the work nearest His heart, the one thing Christ commissioned every believer to DO.

If it is your **supreme** task, you will give more for it than anything else.

If it is your **supreme** task, you will allot more of your time to it than anything else; more of your energies, your plans, your efforts, your thoughts, your money, your very life!

It is our **supreme** task because it is the only way we can prevent the blood of sinners from being required at our hands.

Another vital word in the motto is "our." We say "**our** supreme task is world evangelism." We say "our " because we take it in a **personal** sense; also because "our" includes every Christian - every born again child of God.

It does no good to outline a fine doctrine or theory or platform unless it is **personally** adopted in one's life.

I preached a message on "giving to missions" in a certain church. Afterwards the pastor took me aside and said: "Mr. Osborn, you've changed me today. I never took missions as a **personal** responsibility in my life. I left that for the missionaries. I never realized that I could personally be a missionary-soulwinner even though I never went abroad myself. I never saw that I could give my money to sponsor a substitute, or to send printed or recorded or filmed preachers."

Then he added: "I always had a great deal of pride in my denomination's missionary program. I felt it was the best. I bragged about it. It was not what I was doing that concerned me; it was what **my denomination** was doing. I talked about my organization, our big program, our many missionaries and mission projects. I defended it as the best.

But, Mr. Osborn, I've got to confess to you that I never personally made any sacrifice for missions. Oh, I dropped a dollar in the offering, but that was about all. Now I see that if every member of my organization did as I, we would have no missionaries to brag about. It was a denominational thing to me - but **never personal.**"

OUR supreme task is soulwinning.

This is not for the missionaries, or preachers, or evangelists, or the workers. This is for YOU and for ME - **our** task - **our** life - **OUR** mission - **OUR** passion!

We've made gods out of the clergymen. They are the "called" ones. And the missionaries are almost saints. We can practically see halos around their heads.

The common laity has been inadvertently impressed that only those who stand behind the pulpit are the "ministers." But let me tell you, **Christ dwells in every believer. Every Christian is His witness. Every convert is His Messenger. Christ wants to speak through every believer who can talk, or walk.** "We are His witnesses." Millions who will not listen to the clergy will hear a genuine personal witness from the consecrated layman.

With the tools we have available today, there is no excuse for any Christian not to be a witness.

An old man wept as he grasped my hand. Showing me his old battered tape recorder, he said, Reverend Osborn, you're my preacher. I'm carrying you with me on your tapes, from house to house, into hospitals, jails, convalescent homes, and I put you on that old machine and you preach for me. Then I pray for them and they get saved and healed.

Oh, Brother Osborn, I'm a soulwinner. Thank God, in my old years, I've learned to win souls."

Think what could be done if every believer would become a practical soulwinner.

I consider that I'm responsible to do everything I can manage in order to win souls. I must work at soulwinning, I must think soulwinning until I dream about it. It must be my passion, my zeal; it must consume me. If I yield my all to Christ Who is IN me, I cannot be otherwise because it is HE Who is at work within me.

I must keep remembering the extent to which God's love for me drove Him. If "His love is shed abroad in my heart by the Holy Ghost," then I must be driven by the same passion that drove Him.

Since I was a youth, I have dreamed of ways to witness for Christ. **Those dreams became visions. Visions drove me to prayer. Faith put action to those prayers. Soon those dreams became living, pulsating realities.**

If Men Could Have Read My Mind

Years ago I sat in Dr. Oswald J. Smith's missionary convention in Toronto, Canada, and dreamed of sending national foot-soldiers to the far-flung fronts of evangelism to extend the Gospel on to "the regions beyond."

If men could have read my mind that day as I sat in The People's Tabernacle, they might have mocked me as a youthful, emotional visionary.

Other ministers listened to that tall, white-haired, aristocratic, missionary spokesman, Oswald J. Smith, as he pled the cause of world evangelism; they were impressed, they made notes on statistics, they admired his vision - but they did nothing about it. But that stately gentleman was building an unquenchable fire in the soul of this young Oklahoma preacher. A new vision was being conceived. Soon the program of "National Evangelism" was born and a new day dawned for Gospel missionaries.

Since that day no dedicated missionary has had to say, "we would reach the unreached on our fields, but we haven't the funds."

We have offered Gospel missionaries throughout the world funds to assist national preachers whom they will send as full time "missionaries" to the unreached.

We've sponsored the Gospel witness to many thousands of previously unreached tribes or areas or villages already. Think of it!

Each day over ONE new national church that has been opened and established this way, becomes fully self-supporting so that our assistance is fully withdrawn. That's nearly 400 new churches per year! This is not theory; this principle works!

Every arm of this world ministry is like that; first it was a dream, then a vision, then prayer, faith and action brought it forth as an outreach to millions of lost souls.

But the starting point is to believe the Scripture and the charge of our Lord enough to dedicate yourself in obedience to it. This, alone, will cause you to start thinking, to start dreaming about ways YOU can win souls.

There are a thousand ideas which common ordinary laymen can implement to win souls.

I am responsible -and YOU ARE TOO, if you are a genuine Christian - to do everything that can be dreamed up to win lost souls. All creators are thinkers. All men who accomplish things in life are dreamers, thinkers, planners -, **then doers.**

What Price-Criticism

And men who get ideas, and who get things done are always criticized. This goes with success. Critics always dog the trail of achievers. While some **criticize** -we **evangelize!**

But the man who succeeds learns to live with criticism. He must adopt the right attitude about criticism. If he reacts to it, he will fight back to justify himself. When he does that, he is predestined to lose. He will fail.

The man who succeeds learns that criticism is really admiration in another form. People usually only criticize the man out front. The failing man, the non-successful man, the orthodox run-of-the-mill man commands no attention. He is ordinary. He's going no place. He doesn't force men to think new. He is in a rut. So he's OK!

But as for me, I want to get a job done. I have learned that if you set high goals, ordinary men will mock you. And when you achieve those goals, the critics will likely raise an uproar. Their purpose in life is to criticize. And their attention is always focused on the daring man - the revolutionary.

But I have learned some things about criticism. I have learned that it usually doesn't cost a man a single copper to criticize. His commodity is cheap and therefore plentiful, and so to be ignored.

I've learned that there are two classes of people: Those with problems and those with solutions. I want to be the man with solutions. The man with solutions is the man in demand. Anybody can create problems, discuss them, analyze them, categorize them. Only the thinker - the creator - the man of action has the solutions.

One of the best bits of advice I ever read was in Reader's Digest. "**Don't fight the problem; get on with the solution.**" What a masterpiece of principle!

We have not spent our time holding conferences on how to fight the enemy; we have been getting on with the solution - **spreading the Gospel.**

We have not been running around to different denominational leaders to discuss the problems of sectarian barriers which divide Christian workers; we have been getting on with the solution - **cooperative soulwinning.**

We haven't just talked about the need of Christian literature; **we have been supplying it.** That's the only solution!

We haven't spent our time analyzing the problems of reaching the unreached; **we have been applying the**

solution - sponsoring an ever-increasing army of messengers.

One of my slogans has been: "The enemies of the Gospel have their eyes on the masses, but **we do too** - and we're doing something about it, **something that works!**" That's our policy Action! Not conventions; Action! Not theory; Action! Not propositions - Solutions! Not problems; **Answers!**

You can fight the problems involved in soulwinning 'till doomsday. What this old world needs is **solutions!**

It won't cost you anything to sit in on group discussions, elaborating the problems we face. That's why there are always so many available to do that. You can always find plenty of people to analyze the woes and complexities of a problem.

But it's the man who has solutions who must pay dearly for his service to mankind. Solutions cost money! They cost lives! They demand dedication!

Anyone can deliberate. I want to be a man with a solution.

Some have misunderstood the program of assisting national preachers as missionaries, mainly because of preconceived traditional concepts. I would rather be giving leadership to a world ministry which is raising up over seven new self-supporting churches EVERY WEEK, than to be sitting behind an official desk, secure in my salary, refusing to cooperate with a program of such proven stature using the flimsy argument that "giving financial support to a national will spoil him."

It **will** spoil the bad ones - but not the good ones - just like a salary has spoiled the undedicated missionary or pastor or evangelist - but not the good ones.

The millions of unreached tribes people are a "problem." I'm not interested in theories or debates; "National Evangelism" is a SOLUTION -and it's working. That's why we go on applying it.

Our Miracle Films are a **solution!** Millions are being reached through them. So are the Sermon Tapes, the Mobile Evangelism Units, the tons of literature. We are getting on with solutions-not discussing problems.

I was in Africa. A missionary showed me a secular company which had a fleet of 15 nice sound trucks equipped to show films. They constantly canvassed the villages, gathered large crowds, showed films and advertised their products, then made big sales. Out among poor native villages, their company was making big money.

Some of the missionaries were bemoaning this problem. "Just think," they would say, "the villages are being reached with all sorts of these evils, beer, cigarettes, liquor, etc., but we aren't reaching them with the Gospel!"

I said to myself: "**It will do no good to sit here and talk. I see a solution!**"

I inaugurated our new trans-world crusade to provide completely equipped Mobile Evangelism Units for any soulwinning mission who would, request them -provided they were really geared for evangelizing the unreached.

Since then, we've shipped overseas scores of large Mobile Units equipped with every "tool" we produce **in the language of the area**, plus at least a million tracts for each one of them. **THIS IS A SOLUTION!**

The commercial world is doing it. We can too! But we have to DO IT - not just talk about it.

I would rather be placing my reputation on the block, **doing** something about soulwinning, sending dozens of beautiful van units to foreign mission fields, than sitting at home criticizing such a program for the unreached.

I don't want the blood of sinners on my hands! That's why I am a soulwinner!

It doesn't cost to criticize. It costs to provide a **solution.**

A famous statesman has said:

"It's not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena - in action, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who errs and comes short again and again, but who spends himself in a worthy cause, who knows the triumph of high achievement -but who, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly."

Yes, criticism, and the inept men who replenish it, are cheap and plentiful! But solutions, and the rare men who beget and apply them, are valuable and scarce!

Critics come and go, rise and fall. But men with solutions are **the pillars of society**. It is not enough to bemoan the sinfulness of this generation; you and I have the solution. We are Christian witnesses. We are soulwinners. Let us apply our solution then.

You can order a supply of our free tracts. Carry them along and pass them out. Get our sermon tapes or sermon records; invest a small sum and get yourself a portable player. **Go out where the sinners are. Be a witness for Christ.**

Don't reject these values because I do not wear your denominational label. Our label must be Christ and His Gospel. We must be "laborers together," not segregated by sectarian walls. Rise above those prejudices and become a

soulwinner with God. That is what I am doing in every way I can manage. I am doing it because I do not want sinners' blood required at my hands. This is the sixth reason why I am a soulwinner.

Then after you discover the joy of soulwinning at home, share some of the money God has given to you and sponsor these same 'tools' overseas. You can sponsor a dozen sermon tapes in any of 50 major languages for a national Christian worker to do in his village exactly what you learned to do at home among your people. That way you will be a missionary and share the reward for every soul won by that national preacher.

Or sponsor 10,000 tracts for distribution in neglected villages. These tapes or tracts will always be fresh; they will never tire, or change their message, or argue, or become immoral, or compromise. They are among the best Gospel messengers in the world. They will go as your substitute.

Think of it! You can make soulwinning the supreme passion of your life and you can actually share God's **world** vision through these soulwinning tools for evangelism.

But you must DO IT! It's not enough to just think about it or talk or pray about it. Put **action** to your convictions, and you can do that **today**, if you will. May God help you to do something while the fire is burning. Don't let it go out. Stoke it, act on it, and it will blaze brighter.

When you have dedicated yourself to this supreme task, and have trained yourself systematically to **do your utmost**, then "if the sinner turn not from his sinfulness, not from his sinful way, he shall die in his iniquity; BUT THOU HAST DELIVERED THY SOUL."

THE SEVENTH REASON I AM A SOULWINNER IS BECAUSE OF WHAT I'VE EXPERIENCED

THIS 20TH CENTURY

WE'VE BEEN conducting MASS EVANGELISM Crusades for decades. In over 50 nations the response has been the same.

The most recent Crusades were just like those conducted in our early ministry. The same strategy, the same messages, the same hunger, the same kind of crowds, the same results.

Thank God that even though **we** human beings come and go, the Gospel is the same in any generation, if proclaimed in the power of the Holy Ghost.

Around the world I have proven that people of all races, religions and creeds WANT to really know God. They have their forms of worship but their souls are left empty. They are ever searching for reality but never able to find what they seek. They pray ten thousand different ways but they get no answers. They seek God but they can't find Him. Once they almost stampede to receive Jesus Christ as Savior.

In Nigeria, though we never preached **against** their ju-ju charms and fetishes which were hung around their legs, waists, arms and necks, as they learned of Christ and how to actually receive Him into their lives, they began plucking these things off their bodies and leaving them on the platform.

Burlap Bags of Charms

We carried large burlap bags of those charms and fetishes away from the campaign grounds. It was simple logic to them: If the Son of the great Creator God would come into their very own lives and dwell **with** them and **in** them, they did not need charms and fetishes to keep the devils away. Christ was enough!

I said I am a soulwinner because of what I've experienced. Let me tell you what I mean.

My wife and I went to India as young missionaries. There were few miracles in our ministry. We did not understand real faith. We won a few souls, but, for the most part, we failed.

When I preached Jesus Christ, Hindus kindly accepted Him in theory as another nice god to add to their millions of others - but no change resulted.

Moslems reasoned: How do you know Jesus Christ is God's Son or that God raised Him from the dead? They declared: It is not true! He is dead! He was a good man, but not God's Son - and NOT risen!

They contended: The Holy Koran is God's Word. Mohammed is His prophet.

I declared that the Bible is God's Word; that Jesus Christ is His Son.

"Prove it, then!", they said.

"I will! Look here at these verses! Listen to what they say!" I began to read from my Bible.

"Oh no," they replied. "That's not God's Word! That is no proof! This (holding the Koran) is God's Word!"

Which was? The Bible or the Koran? How could I prove it? I **couldn't** - without miracles.

We went home to America, sick, discouraged, broken in spirit - but we never gave up. We fasted and prayed. We had seen the underprivileged masses. They needed Christ. We desired to win them. What was the answer?

Then Jesus Appeared To Me

Then one morning at 6 a.m. I was awakened as Jesus Christ stood by my bedside. Looking upon Him, I lay as one dead. I could not move a finger or a toe - water ran from my eyes - though I did not seem to be weeping.

I do not know how long I gazed upon Him, into His piercing eyes before He disappeared, nor how long it was before I could move out of bed, from where I pulled myself onto the floor, face down, for a long time. I do know that when I came out of that room that day, I was a new man. I had met Jesus. He was not just a religion. He was alive, and real! I saw Him! **He** became **Lord** of my life!

The glitter of my denomination was gone forever. Organizational leaders, before whom I had trembled, were no longer to be feared. Aspirations to climb in my denomination were gone. Nothing mattered but to please my LORD! No man can ever tell what this means. One sounds fanatical, or narrow, or critical, when he expresses himself, but I have never cared from that day to this what man or denomination thought of me. I found my LORD. **He** is all that

has mattered.

Following that experience, a man of God came to my city, preaching and ministering to the sick. Instant miracles and healings resulted as I looked on. Ten thousand voices whirled over my head saying: "You can do that! That's what Jesus did! That's what Peter and Paul did! That proves that Bible days are for today! That's the Bible way! You can do that!"

I knew I could - that is, I knew Christ could IN me, **THROUGH** me. I knew HE had never changed. We set out. First, to Jamaica: In 13 weeks over 9,000 souls accepted Christ. 90 blind people were healed. Over a hundred deaf mutes were healed. Hundreds of other miracles took place as the Lord worked with us confirming His Word with signs following (Mk. 16:20).

Next we went to Puerto Rico. The crusades there were even greater - they were massive. Our message was simple. The people **wanted** reality. They believed when "they saw His miracles which He did on them that were diseased" (Jn. 6:2).

Then we went to the French-speaking island of Haiti. It was the same again. Throngs too large for any building filled the yard, and even the roadway.

Next it was Cuba. By now, it began to look like more than just a spontaneous revival in a couple of countries. It began to appear **as a pattern**.

The Sound of Tradition

But tradition is strong in the Church. These meetings had been heralded across the world. First Jamaica, then Puerto Rico, then Haiti. Reports kept coming.

Well-meaning ministers began to console us and prepare us for the inevitable failure. For sure we must not expect such things to happen everywhere, we were told. Some counseled us on how "that from time to time God foreordains these great events, but it could not be a pattern. We must be prepared for our "defeats" as well as "successes." They would come, because God just works that way, lest we become proud.

All of this sounded traditional to me. I didn't like it. I felt that the Great Commission which Jesus gave was for "every nation," "to every creature," and He promised "these signs **SHALL** follow" and never mentioned an exception "unto the end of the world."

I felt that any people in any nation in the whole world would believe **when they saw the miracles**. I knew if we preached the true Gospel **Christ would confirm it with miracles**. That settled it for me. I was not prepared for "failures." I **still am not!** I believe in success! Christ never fails! His Word never fails! The Gospel never fails!

So when we came to Cuba, earnest missionaries counseled us - the young evangelists, on the wisdom of balance and patience; that we should not necessarily expect a great meeting in Cuba just because of the successes in Jamaica and Puerto Rico and Haiti. "After all," they counseled, "Jamaica was already traditionally Christian, and, of course, Puerto Rico is so influenced by the United States that religious opposition was not too serious."

"But here in Cuba," they said, "the people are really religious. It may not be the same here."

People Are The Same

But it turned out to be exactly the same. Though a hundred religious leaders marched in the streets trying to prevent **the** multitudes from attending, tens of thousands turned to the Lord and every Crusade was massive.

Next it was Venezuela, South America. I still remember the counsel we received there. "Oh, Rev. and Mrs. Osborn, it's different here. Up in Cuba and Puerto Rico, opposition doesn't amount to much because the people are influenced more by the U.S.A., but **here** you are on the South American continent. You could be stoned to death here. Be careful!"

But Venezuela was exactly like Cuba. Multitudes believed. Thousands were saved. It was no different.

Then we went to Japan. When word got out that we were coming, many letters were rushed to us. "Don't come here. Japan is hard. Miracles aren't for this land. Japan is educated. She must be reached by education, through universities. Too many of her religions have healing cults. We Christians don't want our religion to be identified with these healers. Besides miracles won't move the Japanese."

Others said, "Mr. Osborn, Japan is Buddhist and Shintoist. You aren't accustomed to preaching to them. People in the western hemisphere are easy to reach, compared to Japan's Shintoists and Buddhists. Those in the West already believe the Bible, they believe Jesus is God's Son, that His blood was shed for sinners - but not the Japanese. You

won't find it the same here. These people are unemotional. They won't respond.

It seemed that the **pattern of success** in these crusades was threatening to invalidate some of the old deep-rooted traditions in the Church. Who ever heard of just going to a nation and reaping thousands of souls - and then doing it again and again. Why something **had** to be wrong. It must be emotionalism; the converts of this new mass-evangelism could not be genuine; the results couldn't last; the old missionary saints didn't do it that way; why they labored for years to get a few converts-but ah, **their** converts were solid, hand-picked, genuine. No, this Osborn-style mass evangelism was only superficial; it would blow over.

A missionary in India told me, "I've been here five years and haven't won a soul, but that's missions. We must be patient."

It wasn't that missionaries were not glad for the results we were seeing. It was that a revolutionary new **pattern** seemed to be taking shape, and instinctively, traditional minds rebel against any such design which might bring about the collapse of precious old "ideals." Man is just made this way - particularly religious" men.

Buddhists or Shintoists

It seemed that God wanted to show to His people everywhere that there are no exceptions with Him in Gospel evangelism; that His Great Commission and the Gospel would succeed "every place the soles of the feet of Gospel workers would tread."

I can say that not all missionaries in Japan were pessimistic and negative. Some wrote: "Come on, Reverend Osborn. Modernism can never move Japan. She must see miracles." I can still recall the pleading of a Baptist missionary who wrote: "Japan is full of cheap healing cults. She must see the real thing. Our modern churches haven't the goods. Come and help us. You have what we need to win Japan."

We went. Japan proved to be just like Jamaica, or Cuba, or Venezuela. When they saw the miracles, the Japanese screamed, they wept, they repented in as emotional a way as I have ever seen anywhere on earth.

We went to the heart of the very historic, religious seat of Japan, **Kyoto**. There on a large open space, downtown, thousands heard the Gospel. When 44 deaf mutes claimed healing in that one crusade, those Shintoists and Buddhists acted just like Jamaicans or Cubans. Thousands believed on Christ. Japan is no different.

We went to Thailand, the strong Buddhist monarchy of Southeast Asia. Some said: "Mr. Osborn, this won't be like Japan. The Japanese Buddhists are influenced by the American occupation since the war; they are responsive to American preachers, but here in Thailand, it is different. **These are the real Buddhists!** This nation has never been ruled by a foreign power. They will not listen to a foreigner."

When we first ministered in Thailand, there were less than a dozen people in the entire country who were enthusiastic about proclaiming the Gospel out in public places where the Buddhists could feel free to attend and to witness the Gospel confirmed by miracles.

And when the Thai people saw the blind healed, the crippled walk, the lepers cleansed, and the deaf made to hear, they responded exactly like the Japanese or the Venezuelans or the Puerto Ricans. They forsook their dead Buddha and received the living Christ.

When we first ministered in Java, it was 95% Moslem. Around the world we had heard how difficult the Moslems were to reach. They do not believe that Jesus is God's Son or that God raised Him from the dead. We remembered how helpless we were to convince them in India. But now things were different. We knew **HOW** to believe for miracles.

The first night I preached to that multitude, when I finished my message, I told them that I would not expect them to forsake their religion and accept the Jesus of the Bible unless it would be proven to their satisfaction that Christ is alive. I expressed that I did not feel a dead Christ could do them any good.

They knew that Jesus Christ had once lived on earth. They understood that He was a good man, a sort of prophet - even a healer with strange powers to do miracles. But they understood that He was dead.

There is only one argument to win a Moslem. If Jesus Christ is alive, let Him do the miracles which He did before He was killed. If He is dead, He can't. If He is risen, He will!

I called for deaf people. I told them I would pray in JESUS' NAME. If Christ is dead, His Name would have no power. If He is alive, He would do the same as He did before men killed Him.

A Moslem Priest First

The first man up the steps was a Moslem priest about 55 years old, wearing his black fez. He had never heard in one of his ears.

I witnessed to him of Jesus Christ, then I told him how I would pray. I explained how God was looking down on us, how He had raised His Son from the dead, how He wanted men to know Christ was raised for our justification, and how He would give proof of this by doing this miracle.

Then I told the audience: "If this man does **not** hear when I have finished praying, you can say I am a false preacher and Jesus is dead; but if he **does** hear, you will know that Christ is risen, because a dead Christ cannot do such a miracle."

I placed my finger in his ear and prayed: "Oh, Lord God, let it be known that Jesus Christ is Thy Son, that Thou didst raise Him from the dead and that only through Him and His shed blood can men come to Thee and receive Eternal Life - let this be known according to the Scriptures by causing this deaf ear to hear - IN JESUS CHRIST'S NAME I pray. Amen!"

Missions Without Miracles

The entire audience gasped when the old priest could hear the faintest whisper - even the tick of a watch - perfectly. Thousands raised their hands that night to accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. How different this was from the embarrassment we had suffered in trying to convince Moslems in India many years before.

The Moslems were no different - when they saw the proof! Moslems believe Jesus lived once. But they say He is dead now. **Modernistic missionaries and Christian churches which do not believe in miracles today cannot prove that Christ is risen.** Take miracles out of Christianity and all you have left is another dead religion which cannot save. How in the world the modern church ever hopes to convince the world that Jesus Christ is real - **without miracles** - is beyond me.

Moslems know their prophet Mohammed is DEAD. We know our prophet Jesus is ALIVE. Once that is proven by miracles, people will forsake a **dead** prophet and follow one who is alive. But without miracles, it is not proven. This is why Jesus commissioned every believer to preach to all the world, and promised that supernatural signs would follow among all nations, unto the end of the world. He knew it would always require miracles to really convince men of Christ.

When we were in India as young missionaries, Moslems challenged me, "Prove that your Christ lives!" We were helpless. We were ashamed. We had to leave - or settle clown to the status quo of no results. Thank God, I wouldn't do that!

But now in Java, it was different.

One evening in that great campaign, a young fanatic Moslem priest started up the platform steps, while I was preaching, to interrupt me. My wife spotted him coming in anger, and stopped him on the steps.

He said, "That man is false. Jesus is dead. He's not God's Son. Let me speak to the people about Mohammed, God's true prophet."

Mrs. Osborn tried to reason with him but he was angry. He really felt he had a right to speak.

Finally she told him: "Listen, I'm not a preacher -I'm just a **Christian**. But here's what I'll do: I'll interrupt my husband on one condition. You and I will go together to the microphone. We will not argue. We will **show** which prophet is true and alive. We'll call for someone totally blind to come forward. You pray for him in the presence of the people, in the name of Mohammed, and if he sees, we'll believe on your prophet. Then I'll pray for him in the Name of Jesus, and if he sees, then all of your people will know that what the Bible says about Christ is true, He is God's Son and that God has raised Him from the dead."

The young Moslem priest refused, turned in a rage and went away.

This was what we could **not** do in India as young traditional missionaries. How different it was now in Java!

14 years after we had been dismayed in India by Hindus and Moslems whom we could not convince, we returned to the very same city, Lucknow, U.P., India. This time it was different. 20,000 to 40,000 souls or more massed in front of the big stadium. We preached that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. Then we prayed. The deaf heard. Cripples walked. Blind people received sight. Lepers were cleansed and thousands accepted Christ.

"Christ showed Himself alive by many infallible proofs" (Acts 1:3). A young Hindu university student stood out among the multitude, ridiculing everything. But when we prayed, suddenly Jesus Christ appeared to him, extended His nail-pierced hands and said to him: "**Behold My hands; I am Jesus.**" The youth fell to the ground, weeping,

repenting, sobbing. Then he rushed to the microphone and witnessed in tears to what he had seen, urging his people to believe on Jesus. How different than it had been in our meetings 14 years before!

How Did It Happen?

The Moslem beggar in Africa who, because of polio, had crawled on the ground for 30 years, begging, came and was healed in our crusade. As he stood on the platform in tears, he cried out: "Jesus Christ **must** be alive, otherwise how could He have healed me? Mohammed is dead, **but Jesus lives**. Look at me. You know me. I have begged in your streets. Now I can walk. Look. This **Jesus lives!**"

What greater sermon could be preached than that? It sounded like Acts, chapters 3, 4 and 5 being reenacted in the 20th Century.

I said I am a Soulwinner because of what I have seen and experienced.

This is what I mean: Around the world I have seen that men **want** Christ, they **seek** reality, they **will** believe, they only need proof.

God made human beings - all of them alike. Man is made to walk with God. He instinctively seeks God. This is why every unevangelized tribe practices some kind of religious ritual in search of God.

The Gospel, straightforward, in simple terms -not **explained** but **preached** - "is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." (Ro.1:16).

Men **want** the Gospel. They **want** God. Usually they will not admit it, but their entire being cries out for God.

Our job then is to preach it, witness of it, tell it, confess it everywhere - to crowds or to individuals, in auditoriums or in private homes. Men **want** what we have. I have proven this world-wide. This is why I'm a Soulwinner.

Some cynic says: "Ah, that's true among the ignorant people in poor nations, but not among cultured societies!"

But what about the facts? One of the greatest crusades we ever conducted, numbering over 100,000 in a single service, was in orthodox, traditional, Christian Holland. Culture has reached no greater peak anywhere than in sophisticated Europe, yet when they saw the miracles, multiplied thousands of them were really converted for the first time in their lives. We've proven it the same all over Europe and North America.

You see, there are just two kinds of preachers or Christian workers: negative and positive; doubters and believers.

Some think if they preach on the streets, no one will listen, passersby will mock them. If they give out tracts they will be thrown on the ground and tramped. If they knock on doors, they will be slammed in their faces. They are **negative**.

I believe if we preach on the streets, crowds will pack around, straining to hear our message; passersby will be delighted to see a Christian out witnessing. I believe if we give out tracts, they will be eagerly received, treasured and read. If we knock on doors, we'll find inside those houses families who welcome our help, sick people who need healing, problems which need solutions; welcome hearts and ears to have the counsel and prayers of a real dedicated Christian who has living faith. This is being **positive**.

I am a Soulwinner because I have proven around the world, in every conceivable circumstance that men **want** Christ, they **seek** reality, they **long** for God, for His salvation, for Eternal Life. They are made in God's image to be like God, to walk and talk with God, and they are never content until they find Jesus Christ Who is "the Way, the Truth and the Life."

With 60 million more unreached souls being added to my generation every year, souls seeking for light and life, I must witness, I must preach, I must produce soulwinning tools for every other Christian possible - this I must do 'till Christ returns. This is the 7th reason I am a Soulwinner.

OUTBREAK IN SOULWINNING

WE FIRST PUBLISHED these seven reasons why I am a soulwinner in our monthly magazine FAITH DIGEST. This magazine goes, FREE of charge, to hundreds of thousands of Christians and preachers in over 130 nations. (It will be sent to you **free**, if you simply request it.)

From around the world letters have poured into our offices acclaiming this series as the most challenging on soulwinning yet presented. Hundreds of believers, preachers and missionaries have rededicated themselves to reach out after sinners with a fresh passion for soulwinning.

Tens of thousands of Christians are taking faith tracts, sermon tapes and other soulwinning tools, going to markets, on streets, in homes, jails, hospitals, in face-to-face evangelism, praying for the sick and leading countless sinners to Christ right **out where the sinners are**. This is what the Early Church did and this is what is now happening again in this century - among those who really believe the Gospels and the Book of Acts.

This is what we are challenging men and women to do around the world - to become soulwinners. And thousands are doing it.

This is why I've written this Soulwinning book for this 20th Century. It is producing a revolution in the lives of thousands of Christians world-wide.

And this is why we are producing stockpiles of up-to-date soulwinning tools and providing them around the world wherever we can find those with a genuine passion to reach the unreached.

The Church was born in a blaze of **personal** soulwinning. In a revival of this passion she will reach her final climax as LAYMEN WRITE THE CHURCH'S LAST CHAPTER BEFORE CHRIST'S RETURN.

Because I **know** sinners **want** Christ; because I have proven it world-wide, I AM A SOULWINNER. May a fresh passion for souls possess you until you too go out and let Christ witness THROUGH YOU - OUT WHERE THE SINNERS ARE. You have influence. If you are a **layman**, many will hear **you** who will not listen to a preacher. Remember, YOU are Christ's Body. He can only reach men THROUGH YOU. Go then and tell men of Christ. **It's the greatest calling on earth. You have no choice.** The tools are available to you too. Write for them. Let them open the door to a fresh new ministry of soulwinning in **your** area.

THE CASE IN A NUTSHELL

JESUS PREACHED perhaps his greatest sermons to individuals - to Nicodemus, to the Woman at the Well.

Philip made a missionary journey into the desert and preached his greatest sermon (Acts 8:26-39) to an individual soul. Hundreds of years later when missionaries crossed the desert into Ethiopia they found the entire country had been opened to the Gospel-the result of witnessing to one individual.

Paul delivered one of his greatest and most persuasive sermons to an individual, Felix the Governor - and almost persuaded him to be a Christian.

No preacher - NO CHRISTIAN - is fully successful until he masters the secrets of leading a soul to Christ.

Yet all too often I find that honest-to-goodness church members who really want to serve the Lord, and desire to win souls, are doing nothing because they just don't know how or where to begin. And they have not realized that the **individual Christian** is the Church - **Christ's Body** through which He continues ministering and witnessing today.

To help you begin, take advantage of our "tools for soulwinners." Once you gain confidence, nothing will ever stop you from leading souls to Christ.

One couple brought 129 new people to their own church within two years because they went out witnessing as a regular part of their Christian living.

What would happen in your church if 25 members became systematic soulwinners? This will revolutionize any church. DO IT THEN. START NOW. When you start and testify of your thrilling experiences, others will follow. Soon you can be the cause of a fresh new revival in your church.

While you stand and chat with, a friend, or read a paper; while you sleep in your bed at night-every minute of every day - 77 souls slip beyond the barriers of time into eternity.

This is why we challenge Christians to be soulwinners. This is why we provide "tools for evangelism." THINK-before you go to church alone, before you pray at your church altar, before you give your tithes and offerings at your church, before you send your World Evangelism investment - 77 a minute - 77 a minute - 77 a minute - and most of them have never heard the Gospel ONCE. You can't reach all of them, but you can reach some - so begin. YOU can do it. YOU are Christ's Body - His feet and legs and lips and voice. He can only reach lost souls THROUGH YOU.

Jesus chose businessmen, laboring men, common fishermen, tax collectors, to be his witnesses.

On the day of Pentecost, 120 "run-of-the-mill" individuals were filled with the Holy Ghost to be witnesses" (Ac. 1:8, 2:4). They were no "professionals," no "clergymen with degrees."

Persecution forced the early Christians to spread out from Jerusalem. Only the Apostles remained. "They that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the Word." Who was scattered? The laymen ... not the Apostles. The laymen "went everywhere preaching the Word." (Ac. 8:4).

The first martyr, Stephen, was a layman.

The first evangelist, Philip, was a layman.

The true Church is a lay movement - not an organization top-heavy with clergymen, dominated by professionals, but individual men and women **IN WHOM Christ is born**.

God has placed YOU where you are in life to be His contact there! The preacher cannot reach YOUR contacts. YOU ARE THERE, among your team, in your factory, in your neighborhood. YOU are God's connection with those around you. YOU are His voice -His Body.

Be His Witness then. Let Him speak THROUGH YOU. The man who truly knows Christ has something to say - the man who has nothing to say probably does not really know Christ himself.

Your pastor needs YOUR WITNESS if YOUR Church is to be a soulwinning church. But most of all the Great Shepherd depends on **your body** as His soulwinning instrument - as the soulwinning church IN ACTION.

You have a personal testimony. Give it to those whom you contact.

Here is the case for Christian soulwinning in a nutshell:

1ST -YOUR CALLING

"Every Believer - A Witness"

"Christian" means CHRIST-like.

Christ was the greatest soulwinner.

He came "to seek and to save that which was lost."

He told His **first** followers to be "fishers of men"; His **last** followers to witness "to every creature."
To be CHRIST-like (a real Christian) is to be a soulwinner to be CHRIST-INDWELT.
Most Christians **want** to witness but are timid or don't know how. They do not know that **they** are Christ's Body.

2ND -YOUR FIELD

"Out Where the Sinners Are"

Reach the UNCHURCHED, the down-and-outers, the non-Christians. They will listen. They **need** you.

Sinners do not go to church. You must go to them. Christ can never reach them **except THROUGH YOU.**

Street corners, houses, stores, slums, bedsides, jails, hospitals, resorts, fairs, markets, door-to-door, out among the sinners and the unchurched: **There** is the darkness where Christ's light in your life will shine brightest. Lead them to Christ. Let Him speak to them **through your lips.** They will follow you to your church to receive more light.

3RD -YOUR GOAL

"Adding to Your Church"

It is not enough to witness to, or win souls. They should be influenced into your church where your pastor can establish them in Bible faith.

Affix your church stamp on every tract or book you distribute. Welcome new contacts to your assembly. Meet them there. Introduce them to fellow Christians - and to your pastor. Follow them up. Visit them. Give them good tracts. Remind them of church services. Don't stop until they have been added to your church.

4TH -YOUR TOOLS

Salvation/ Healing Tracts

We offer 18 different Christ-centered tracts. Soul-winners may obtain them in quantities. They are provided by the millions for church leaders and national Christians all over the world.

Carry them wherever you go. These paper preachers will witness for you. Written in common language for the man-in-the-street.

Imprinted with your church stamp, each tract speaks for your assembly.

Request a supply now for your personal witnessing, to help you lead new souls to Christ, then into your church.

Gospel Tapes

Almost anywhere, you can buy a portable, transistorized, battery-powered Tape or Cassette player with a microphone attachment - a marvelous tool for witnessing to groups as well as to individuals. They are easy to operate.

Then, with a set of our Crusade tapes or cassettes, you can extend the influence and power of these great crusades to individuals and groups in your own church area, or wherever you have influence. Such a unit makes YOU an anointed witness to reach more souls and to draw them into your church or Bible group for more instructions on how to follow Christ.

Faith Books

We've written several books. They contain the cream of our teachings on evangelism, salvation, healing, faith and soulwinning. They are easy to read, direct and to the point.

A 20th Century Faith Library; a compact Bible School for soulwinners.

Each book bears a clear salvation message and is a faith builder.

The ideal "tools" to give or loan to the sick, the sinner, the shut-in, or to your neighbor, to follow-up your witness, to anchor their faith, and to draw them into your home church. Write for a complete list.

"Reaching the Unchurched"

"Without a vision, the people perish" Pr. 29:18.

Keep **your** vision fresh by reading FAITH DIGEST, the World Evangelism **News** Magazine. Voted "The Family Favorite" among Christians in 130 nations. Large, full-color tabloid pages. FREE to dedicated Christians who simply request it.

New ideas, fresh concepts **to build your faith and to inspire you to win more souls and to lead them into your congregation.**

WHERE NO VOICE CAN SPEAK

EVERY CHRISTIAN who wants to win souls to Christ should learn the power and the effectiveness of witnessing with the printed page.

For nearly 3 decades, I have prayerfully worked at the solution to this question: "How can the world be evangelized within one generation?" There **is** a way.

After travel and extensive ministry in over 50 countries, I have proven beyond doubt that **one of the most effective ways to carry out the Great Commission of Christ is by means of the printed page.**

The oldest preacher in the world has been preaching now for almost 6,000 years! His name? Abel. "He, being dead, yet speaketh" He. 11:4. How does he speak? Through the written Word!

We have heard the saying, "The pen is mightier than the sword," and this is true. It is equally true that the pen is mightier than the human voice.

The written Word will go where the human voice cannot go.

It has no passport or visa problem.

× It travels economically.

It leaps language barriers, and is never influenced by racial prejudice.

It can sail the oceans, trek the deserts, and trudge the jungle footpaths of every continent on earth.

It can penetrate the crowded cities and reach the sparsely settled countryside, entering sophisticated mansions and village cottages alike.

It can tell its story in home or shop, in factory or in field.

It can even penetrate beyond the reach of radio. (In Laos, radio reception is practically nil north of the central mountain range, due to the rugged peaks and foul weather. Yet, "printed preachers" find their way there).

The written Word is often more powerful than the human voice. They even said of the Apostle Paul, "His letters are weighty and powerful, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible" II Co. 10:10.

The written Word knows no fear; it flinches in the face of no man.

It preaches the same message to the rich and the poor, to the king and the commoner.

It never loses its temper; it never, in anger, retaliates.

It takes no note of scoffs, jeers or insults.

It never tires, but works 24 hours a day, even while we sleep.

It is never discouraged, but will tell its story over and over again.

It will speak to one as willingly as to a multitude; and to a multitude as readily as to one.

× It always catches a person in just the right mood to be receptive, for it only speaks as he **chooses** to listen.

It can be received, read and studied in secret. It gets undivided attention in the quiet hours. It speaks without a foreign accent.

The written Word is more permanent than the human voice.

It never compromises; it never changes its message.

It continues to speak and make its message plain long after audible words have been forgotten and their sound has faded.

It continues to witness and influence long after its author has died. The works of Luther, Calvin and Knox are still being printed and sold after more than 400 years. And think of the Bible itself. What a graphic illustration of the power and permanence of the printed page!

Would you like to win souls?

If you are a normal, healthy Christian, your answer is, "Yes." Well, there are souls to be won, and you can win them. Only a small percentage of Christians can be full-time workers, evangelists, pastors, missionaries, teachers or writers, but **every believer can win souls through the printed page!**

Peter Cartwright, the famous circuit rider and pioneer evangelist, said, "For more than 50 years I have firmly believed it is part and parcel of a Christian's sacred duty to circulate religious literature. The religious press is destined, under the order of Providence, to minister salvation's grace to the perishing millions of the earth."

I've shared that conviction for many years. Today 13 a veritable river of literature is pouring from our offices to all corners of the earth in over 100 dialects and languages. MILLIONS of copies are being published each month.

There are two ways you can share in this great soulwinning ministry. First, you can pray. Pray that God's blessings will rest upon the dedicated workers who carefully and prayerfully distribute these powerful "printed preachers." (You can distribute them too). Pray that every tract or book will be like seed sown upon "good ground,"

and that it will bring forth a bountiful harvest.

Second, you can share by sponsoring the publication of these millions of Gospel tracts in over 100 languages.

"It is urgent that we deluge all mission fields with Christian literature," says a noted authority on the methods used in atheistic propaganda to dominate public opinion. "I know of no other product so desperately necessary or one that will pay such rich dividends in winning souls."

In over 50 countries, I have never seen a person toss aside one of our Gospel tracts. To the contrary **I have** seen them fight over them many times when there were not enough for everyone to have one.

Millions of hands are reaching to us for **these printed morsels of the Bread of Life**. We are filling those hands, around the world, **to the limit of our means**.

May God grant that you too will become a preacher to millions through the power of the printed page.

THE REAL CHRISTIAN

HERE IS A simple outline of the basic steps necessary to help any person receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

I want to tell you how you can be saved from hell, saved from your sins, saved from death, saved from disease, saved from evil.

You can be saved right now!

The Bible says: "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" I Ti. 1:15.

The Bible says: "God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved" Jn. 3:17.

Peter said: "Whosoever shall call on the Name of the Lord shall be saved" Ac. 2:21.

You can be saved today. This is what you need to be **SAVED** -to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. But what does it mean to be saved?

FIRST: It means **to be born again - to become a child of God.**

Jesus said, "Ye must be born again" Jn. 3:7. This is a miracle. Christ actually enters your life, and you are made new because He begins to live in you. This is not accepting a religion; this is accepting **CHRIST**. He is a **PERSON**, not a philosophy. This is reality, not a theory. When I was married, and accepted my wife into my life, I did not get the "marriage **RELIGION** I received a person -my wife. And when I was saved by receiving Christ into my life, I did not get the "Christian **RELIGION**;" I received a person the Lord Jesus. My conversion was as definite an experience as was my marriage. On both occasions, I received another **PERSON** into my life.

The Bible says: "As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God" Jn. 1:12.

What a marvel that man can receive a new birth and be born into God's royal family. You have been born once - born in sin - a child of sin - a servant of the devil. Now Christ says: "Ye must be born again" Jn. 3:7. You must be converted - be saved be changed - be made new.

SECOND: To be saved means **to have your sins forgiven.**

The Bible says: "He forgiveth all thine iniquities" Ps. 103:3.

The angel said: "Thou shalt call His Name **JESUS**: for He shall save his people from their sins" Mt. 1:21.

God says: "I am He that blotteth out thy transgressions . . ." Is. 43:25, "And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more" Heb 10:17.

"As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us" Ps. 103:12.

THIRD: To be saved means to receive a new spiritual life.

Paul says: "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new" II Co. 5:17.

That's exactly what happens when Christ saves you. A conversion takes place. Old desires, habits and diseases pass away. All things become new. You receive a new life, a new nature, new health, new desires, new ambitions. You receive Christ's life.

He said: "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" Jn. 10:10.

FOURTH: To be saved means **to receive peace.**

Jesus said: "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give unto you" Jn. 14:27. He said, "I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace" Jn. 16:33.

Real peace only comes with Christ's pardon and salvation, Man in sin can never have peace in his soul. The Bible says: "There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked" Is. 57:21. But "being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" Ro. 5:1.

FIFTH: To be saved means **to have fellowship with God.**

You were created in God's likeness, so you could walk and talk with God. But your sin has separated you from God. Now, instead of fellowship with the Father, you fear God - the thought of facing Him frightens you. Your sin

condemns you and marks you guilty before God.

Only Christ can save you from your sins. He will blot out every stain and bring you back to God with a clean record - as if you had never sinned. Then you can say with John: "Truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ" I Jn. 1:3.

He will be "a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother" Pr. 18:24.

Man was not made for a life of sin and disease. Man was made to walk with God. But sin has separated him from God.

"Your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear" Is. 59:2. But, his blood was shed for many, for the remission of sins" Mt. 26:28. "If we confess our sins (to Him), He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" I Jn. 1:9.

John said, "WE KNOW that we have passed from death unto life" I Jn. 3:14. There are many things in this world which you may never know, but you **can** KNOW you have Christ's life in you. You **can** KNOW that you have been saved - that you are born again.

To say, "I do not know for sure if I am saved," is like a husband or a wife saying, "I do not know for sure if I am married."

To say, "I think I'm saved; I try to be, but I am not sure about it," is like saying, "I think I'm married; I try to be, but I am not sure about it."

Jesus said, "He that believeth (the Gospel) and is baptized SHALL BE SAVED" Mk. 16:16.

Paul said, "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, THOU SHALT BE SAVED" Ro. 10:9.

These Scriptures promise: "YOU SHALL BE SAVED." Follow them, do what they say, and you can KNOW that you have received Christ - that you have passed from death unto life -that you are saved! This is not accepting a religion; this is Christianity - the CHRIST-LIFE!

"What is a real Christian?" According to the Bible, **a real Christian is a person who (1) has come to God as a lost sinner, (2) accepted by faith the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Savior, by surrendering to Him as Lord and Master, (3) confesses Christ as Lord before the world, and then (4) strives to please Him in everything, every day of his life.**

If you are not sure that you have personally accepted Jesus Christ into your heart as your Lord and Master, then follow these seven steps prayerfully.

FIRST: Realize that you are a sinner. "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" Ro. 3:23. "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves" I Jn. 1: 8.

SECOND: Truly be sorry for and repent for your sins, "And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto Heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner" Lu. 18:13. "For Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation" II Co. 7:10.

THIRD: Confess your sins to God. "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy" Pr. 28:13. "If we confess our sins (to Him), He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" I Jn. 1:9.

FOURTH: Forsake your sins, or put them away. "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him . . . for He will abundantly pardon" Is. 55-7. "Whoso confesseth and forsakes (his sins) shall have mercy" Pr. 28:13.

FIFTH: Ask forgiveness for your sins. "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities" Ps. 103:3. "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be like crimson, they shall be as wool.

SIXTH: Consecrate your entire life to Christ.

"Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in Heaven" Mt. 10:32. "But ye are a chosen generation ... that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" I Pt. 2:9.

SEVENTH: Believe that God saves you by His grace. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast" Ep. 2:8-9.

Right now, find a place alone with God, get on your knees and pray to the Lord this prayer right out loud.

Say: "I believe on Jesus Christ, God's Son; I believe that in Your great mercy and love, You died for me, in my place. I believe that You bore my sins in Your own body on the cross. I believe You rose from the dead.

"I do here and now welcome You into my heart as my Savior from sin, from hell, and from all the power of the devil. I accept Christ as Lord of my life, and here and now devote my life to pleasing You.

"Jesus Christ, You have said that if I will come to You, that You will in no wise cast me out. I have come to You with all my heart, as a poor, helpless, guilty sinner, seeking salvation, and trusting only in Your blood. I am sure that You do not reject me.

"I believe that You do at this very moment take me in. I believe that You forgive me now. Your precious blood washes all my sins away. You were wounded for my transgressions; You were bruised for my iniquities; the punishment I ought to have endured was laid upon You.

"I know I am forgiven. Praise the Lord! Jesus saves me now;