"OUR ILLUSTRIOUS GUEST"

"Dear friends, I am the little servant of an illustrious Master." (Ephesians 3:8)

"All God's giants have been weak men, who did great things because they reckoned on His being with them. (2 Timothy 4:16-18)

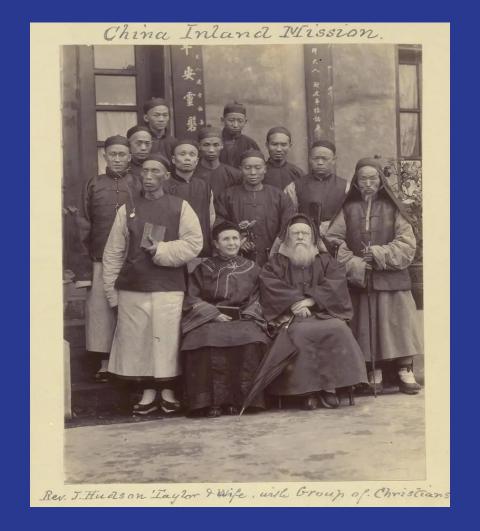
NOTHING BUT WEAKNESS (Hebrews 11:32-35)

Lack of trust is at the root of almost all our sins and all our weakness, and how shall we escape it but by looking to God and observing His faithfulness. The man (and woman) who holds God's faithfulness will not be foolhardy or reckless, but he will be ready for every emergency."

See Galatians 2:20

"When I am a man I mean to be a missionary and go to China" (4 or 5)

Saved at 17. Trials, temptations of youth, and the tuggings of the Holy Spirit on his heart.



CONVERSION: His mother left him home, while she visited a friend a hundred miles away. Impressed by the Spirit to pray for he son, she went to her room, locked the door, and prayed for hours until she sensed in her heart that young Hudson had trusted Christ. Back at home Hudson had found a tract in his father's library. While he was reading, he was struck by the phrase "the finished work of Christ." Immediately the words of Scripture leaped into his mind: "It is finished!" (John 19:30)

He fell to his knees and yielded himself to Christ; and when his mother returned home two weeks lather, she told him she already knew.

My mother, two "prayer warriors" and Romans 10:1-4

Before God works through us, He works in us.

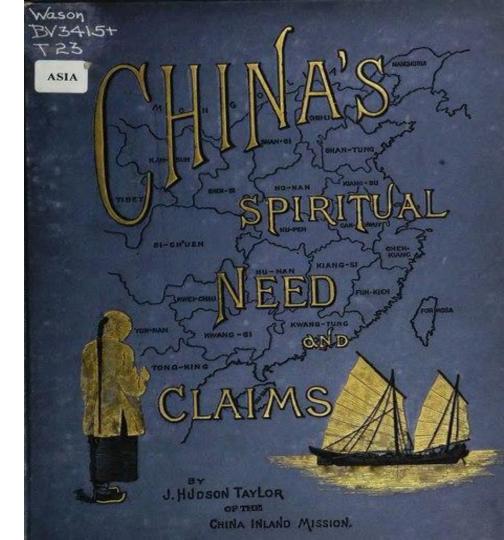
"God prepares us for what He is preparing for us." Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry.

Luke 3:23

See Ephesians 2:10

September 19, 1853

Let people see God working, let God be glorified, let believers be made holier, happier, brought nearer to Him, and they will not need to be asked to help. God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supplies.



January 20, 1858, Hudson Taylor married Maria Dyer. During the darkest hours of the mission, he was so discouraged to end his own life!

Maria stood between Hudson and suicide.

"It is enough! Now Lord, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!"

He went into a cave, and spent the night in that place.

"I alone am left; and they seek to take my life." -1 Kings 19

HUDSON TAYLOR'S SPIRITUAL SECRET

On Saturday, September 4, 1869, Taylor read in a letter from missionary John McCarthy, about the new freedom that had come into McCarthy's Life. The Christian life, he wrote, is "not a striving to have faith, but LOOKING OFF TO THE FAITHFUL ONE SEEMS ALL WE NEED; A RESTING IN THE LOVED ONE ENTIRELY, FOR TIME AND ETERNITY."

"As I read," said Taylor, "I saw it all. I looked to Jesus, and when I saw - oh how the joy flowed!"

EXCEEDINGLY ABUNDANTLY ABOVE ALL -Ephesians 3:20

Hudson Taylor was the most widely used missionary in China's history. During his 51 years of service there, his China Inland Mission established 20 mission stations, brought 849 missionaries to the field (968 by 1911), trained some 700 Chinese workers, raised four million dollars by faith (following Mueller's example), and developed a witnessing Chinese church of 125,000. It has been said at least 35,000 were his own converts and that he baptized some 50,000. His gift for inspiring people to give themselves and their possessions to Christ was amazing.

...by faith Abel (and Hudson Taylor) still speak, even though (they are) dead. -Hebrews 11:3

In February 1905, Taylor sailed for China for the last time. After a tour of some of the mission stations, he died on June 3 at Changsha, Hunan, at the age of seventy-three.

Today, about sixteen hundred missionaries work for what is now known as OMF International. Its international headquarters is in Singapore, and the mission is led by Patrick Fung, who is Chinese. The mission statement is: "We share the good news of Jesus Christ in all its fullness with East Asia's peoples to the glory of God."

"Do not have your concert first, and then tune your instrument afterwards. Begin the day with the Word of God and prayer, and get first of all into harmony with Him."

