Watchman, what of the Night?
Isa 21:11

The first night spent in Changteh, Hunan, China Sept. 15th 1920. is still fresh in my memory. The street vendors making strange noises to attract attention, and calling their wares. The most fascinating and puzzling was the man going through the streets beating a "Sounding Brass". I could not imagine what it was or what it could mean. I found out later, it was the Ta Ken tih, or Night Watchman. I soon learned that each Watch had a different beat. The first one or Curfew usually soon after dark was two long beats. The Second Watch, shortly before

Midnight, was one long and two short beats. The third watch, about half way between Midnight and Morning, was two long and two short beats. The fourth or Morning watch shortly before day light, was three long and two short beats.

The watchman was an important figure in Eastern countries, especially when city walls meant some protection to a city. Apart from the watchman who went through the streets, there was a watch tower built over each city gate, where the watchman could see for considerable distance, and report or warn the garrison

in the City of any disturbance or approaching Army.

Ezekiel uses the Watchman figuratively in a Spiritual Sense, to impress on us our great responsibility to those who are in great danger in the darkness and ignorance of Sin. Ezekiel 33:1-11

Isaiah seems to use the figure more in a general and prophetic sense, which we might apply to the present time, especially the night of darkness. The whole world seems to be in a Commotion Enmity and strife everywhere. Almost every day there is some great Calamity or disaster on land, in the air or on the sea.

nations closing their doors to the gospel. If we look at the things which are seen it is indeed a black outlook. However, there are many bright places in the otherwise dismal picture.

A recent letter from a friend in Ceylon tells of a great spiritual awakening among the people there while some conventions have had daily attendance of thousands and several hundred being added to the Church. The same work is being carried on in Southern India with marked success. A letter received a few days ago tells of 3 devil possessed women who were blind

and dumb being converted healed, baptised and openly confessed their faith in Christ.

There are many places nearer home in Canada and the U.S.A. where the Spirit of God has been working mightily on the hearts of the masses and they have shown a strong desire for full gospel preaching and many have been savingly converted to Christ.—

The following appeared in a church calendar in this city recently. "A Korean taught me". — — —

What of the night? We find

God is still as ready and willing to save all who will truly come to Him, seek Him with all their heart, and turn from all unrighteousness as ever in the past. He still heals the sick and casts out devils as truly as when He trod the shores of Galilee. God has not changed, but many who profess to love Him have grown cold and indifferent. Let us seek for the old paths, wherein is the Good way. There are still many mission fields with doors wide open, calling to us to - "come over and help" them. May we not let the opportunity pass.

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