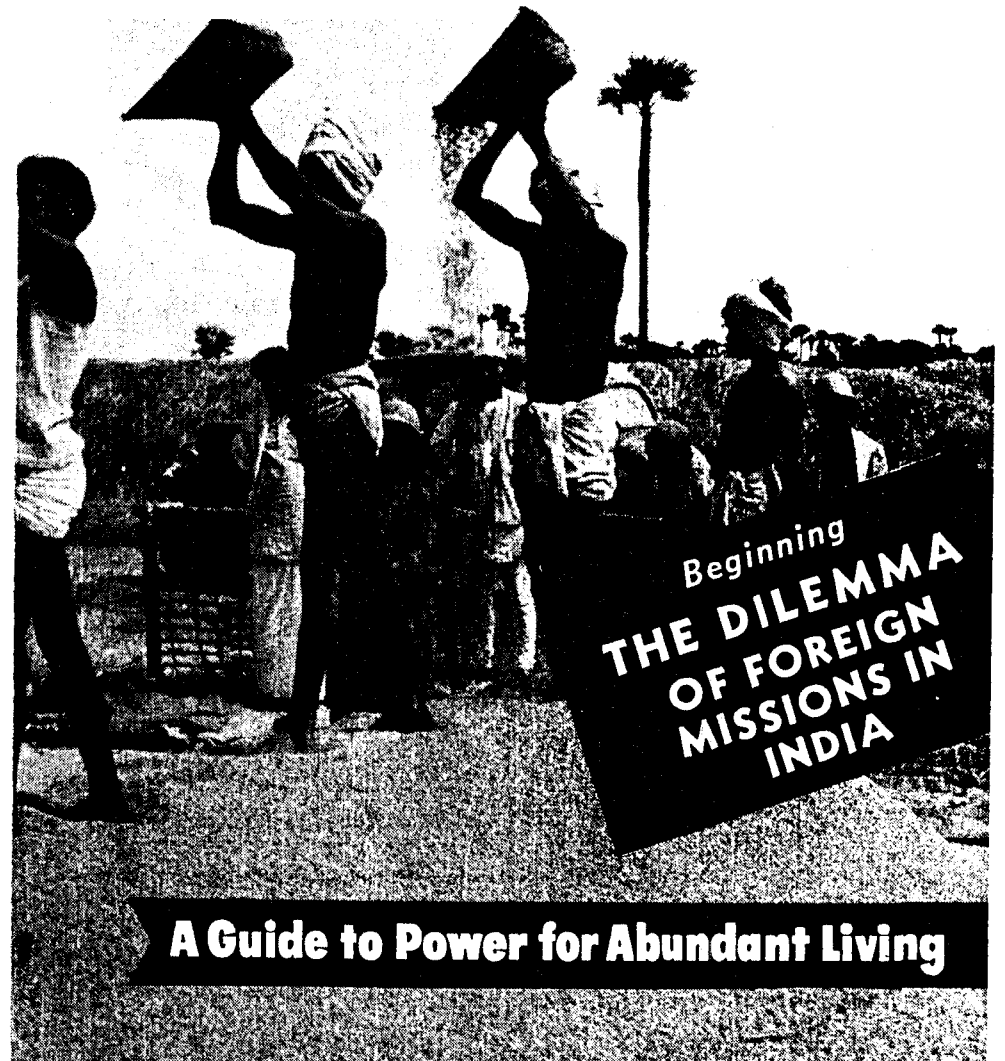


*the* **Way**

October, 1956

**magazine**



Beginning  
**THE DILEMMA  
OF FOREIGN  
MISSIONS IN  
INDIA**

**A Guide to Power for Abundant Living**

THE WAY is more than a magazine—it is the heart-beat of the ministry of men and women of God, filled with the holy spirit the power from on high and operating the “gifts” of the Spirit. YOUR SUBSCRIPTION for extra copies of THE WAY gets this vital ministry of deliverance into action across the world.

#### THE COVER PICTURE:

North of the City of Madras, India on our way to visit the Van Wert Memorial Church at Kakawakam, one of the many outlying villages, we suddenly came upon a group of threshers. They were winnowing grain in a fashion which is as old as the Bible days. The men were standing on the wheat, picking it up in a woven basket and then pouring it out slowly, allowing the wind to carry the chaff away.

Matthew 3:12 came to mind while we watched the operation. “Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

The Holy Spirit is given for this purpose. You can separate the “wheat and chaff” in your life, and thus have real Power for Abundant Living. Have you received the Power from on High?

#### The Way, Inc.

DR. VICTOR PAUL WIERWILLE  
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## Bulletin Board

#### Joan Williams Arrived



Saturday morning, September 15, Joan arrived at the Baer Field Airport, Fort Wayne, from Bombay, India. A number of us were there to greet her. We brought her to Van Wert for the week end. On Monday morning she was enrolled in Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio where she will study industrial banking. She will also be studying with us in our Way Bible Center. Your prayers for her will be appreciated. She will soon be available to address Youth Meetings. Praise God that she has come to be trained under The Way Deliverance Ministry and to return to her own land.

#### Power for Abundant Living Class

Columbus, Ohio

September 30 - October 14

Full particulars available if you address The Way, Van Wert, Ohio.

• • •

If you are interested in having a Class on Power for Abundant Living in your community, write The Way. Dates available.

• • •

Do you SHARE your copy of THE WAY with others?

• • •

Benjamin MacWan has arrived in the United States from India and will also be trained at The Way Bible Center, after he completes his post-graduate work in political science. His address in the United States for the present is: Graduate Faculty of Political and Social Sciences, 66 West 12th St., New York 11, N. Y.

• • •

Send your prayer requests to Dr. Wierwille. He will pray and minister to your need or in any way he may be able to help you. Do not fail to write or phone. He is always ready and anxious to help. Write The Way, Van Wert, O. Phone—2827 or 22591.

# The Dilemma of Foreign Missions in India

by

Victor Paul Wierwille, Th.D.

## INTRODUCTION

### LONGING TO SEE THE MISSION FIELDS FIRST HAND

Foreign missions have, for the most of my life, been of great concern to me. This was true, even before I was called to the ministry, because I was born and raised in one of the "great" mission-supporting churches in America.

Throughout the years, as I studied and read historical and biographical material of foreign mission enterprises, the inner desire and longing to see mission fields "first hand" became a daily longing and prayer.

### "MISSION COMPOUNDS" AND "SONS OF THE SOIL":

In 1951 came my first opportunity to visit a foreign mission work in the western hemisphere, in Central America. I went on my own, which means no denominational sponsorship, using

my own finances for the trip. On this occasion I spent all of my time with those in "mission compounds." I saw and learned many things, but perhaps the **greatest lesson** I learned was that if one really wanted to make an unbiased research of the effectiveness of foreign missions one must not only be in the "mission compound," but outside the compound with the "Sons of the Soil."

In 1955 when the opportunity came for us as a family of five to go abroad for 8 months we chose to visit in India for three months. We accepted the invitation and opportunity to visit India with the stipulation that we were to be allowed and accorded the assistance to see as many phases of the people's response to foreign missions as possible. We wanted to see foreign missions through the eyes of the Sons of the Soil of India.

This meant and included mission compounds of all the major American denominations working in India today as well as segregated Christian and non-Christian groups.

### A SON OF THE SOIL OPENS THE DOORS OF INDIA

We found in Dr. J. S. Williams of Bombay, Acting President of the All-India Federation of National Churches, an Indian National Christian of the highest calibre. He, as our host, became our esteemed friend, for by the grace of God, he opened the doors of India for us to do the research of which the following paper is the result. We found in him not only a Christian gentleman and scholar of the highest order but a historian with a love for India like I have for the land of "the stars and stripes." To be National certainly does not mean to be anti-foreign. It means simply to be what you are, if an Indian—Indian, if an American—American. Dr. Williams through the Indian National Church has received eleven foreign "Missionaries" as guests within the past months. To Dr. Williams, his family, his church associates, to government officials, to Christians and non-Christians, yes, to the entire Indian Committee who assisted us so nobly in our tour for our re-

search we owe a debt which I shall spend a life time repaying with my love and prayers.

The rare opportunity and privilege which was ours as a family of five (my wife Dorothea, my son Donald, 15, my daughters, Karen, 13, and Mary, 11) can never be forgotten, nor can it ever be fully told. We had a three-fold purpose in mind: 1. Sharing THE WAY ministry. 2. Research along the line of foreign missions. 3. Cementing international goodwill between the peoples of India and America.

Landing in the greatest metropolitan city of the East, Bombay, is an experience which could bear many pages of telling. Bombay with its more than 63 languages, its peoples of all cultures of India, all religions and all viewpoints. Where shall one begin to tell the story?

It is quite impossible in a paper of this length to fill in all the gaps. However, I will make no concession to the "I have lived in India 30 years," school of thought, "and I don't understand India." I far too well realize that the country of India is so imponderable and so complex in nature that one could live there a life time and still now know India.

All one can do is to give a sketch of those significant facts

which strike one as most important. That is what I have set forth to do, realizing my own limitations and the responsibility this paper carries with it.

Before I do this I must share with you just two significant statements made by clergymen. One was an Indian and the other was an American. The Indian made this statement before he read my paper and the American made it after. Said the Indian, "If one man tells a lie that is one thing only, but if many people start telling the same lie it can't be long and the majority of people may believe the lie as a fact, and the man speaking the truth will be considered a liar."

Said the American, "Thank you for sending me the copy of your report on missions in India. It looks to me like a fair analysis of the mission situation and a sound conclusion as to what needs to be done. It is a strong, solid, and courageous report which points out the way to constructive modification of our missionary enterprise in all the denominations."

Foreign Mission systems are tolerated in the East only because of the technical, scientific and financial assistance they bring, the schools they built, the hospitals they man, etc., not because Jesus Christ is **THE WAY OF LIFE**.

# The Dilemma of Foreign Missions in India

By

Victor Paul Wierwille, Th.D.

## CHAPTER I

### **HISTORICAL FACTS ABOUT FOREIGN CHRISTIAN AND MUSLIM RULERS OF INDIA**

To understand the modern dilemma of foreign missions in India we must endeavour to briefly go over portions of India's past history. We must gain a firm and clear understanding as to **HOW** foreign Christian missions came to be in India. We must also clearly note the difference between the rule of the Muslims, including the Moughals, who ruled in India for about a thousand years until the British gained control. We must also familiarize ourselves with the foreign ecclesiastical mission systems, **WHY** and **HOW** they got so thoroughly entrenched in India as well as the governmental affairs of the nation.

### **THE GREAT MOUGHALS:**

The Muslims, of which one of the ruling dynasties is the Moughals, ruled sections of India more or less from 1400 A.D. to 1857. They came from Uzbekistan (Central Asia) and were foreigners, **BUT** they came to India, settled down and made India their permanent home. The Portuguese, French, and British never came to India to settle down and to be a part of the land. These did not come to stay. But, they came to conquer India and to make the Indians subservient; to take out of India all they could for the advancement, welfare and glory of their own nations at home. India was never home to them.

**THE PORTUGUESE:**

The Portuguese came as traders to India about 1350 A.D. which was some 300 years before the British came. The Portuguese were Roman Catholics by religion, carrying the crucifix in one hand and the sword of steel

in the other. In India they are known for their alleged piracy, political intrigue, corruption and inquisition. The first Portuguese traders were received and shown the "Eastern" hospitality by the famous Samrins of Calicut whom the Portuguese befriended and used as a tool against the people of their own land until such a time when their seemingly unethical desires had been fulfilled. The Portuguese never conquered or controlled much land in India but their religious and ecclesiastical intrigue continues to this day.

#### **AKBAR: The great Moughal:**

The Roman Catholics became firmly entrenched in India under the greatest of the Moughal rulers, Akbar, the Great, who was a contemporary of Queen Elizabeth of England. It was during his reign that Roman Catholicism had an opportunity to spread extensively in India.

Akbar was a ruler of religious bent and interest. In his capital, Fatehpur-Sikri, near Agra, he erected a special building known as "Ibadat Khana" for inter-religious conferences and discussions. The Jesuits, too, were invited. Here for the first time Roman Catholicism came up North in India. Jesuits from Goa wanted added influence in the Moghul court so they proposed an alleged matrimonial alliance.

They sent King Akbar the Great as a special gift, a beautiful "Christian" woman called "Mary" whose loveliness so impressed and infatuated the King that he built her a palace as well as a place of worship. In this house of worship for "Mary" he erected a huge statue of "Mother Mary" with precious emeralds for eyes. He ordered other important Roman Catholic statues to be built, and from that time on the Roman Catholics received and enjoyed many concessions and favors in the land and government of India, even to this day.

#### **THE ENGLISH: The Aliens:**

From England came the traders known as the East India Company in the early seventeenth century. They at first simply traded, then got possession of some land, built settlements and later fortified them and the Governor General representing the East India Company, ruled portions of India until 1857, at the time of the **first Indian struggle for freedom**, when Queen Victoria was officially proclaimed the Empress of India and governed by a Viceroy. The subsequent conquest of India by the British is one of similar methods they have used to conquer possessions all over the world.

#### **AN INSTRUMENT FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF BRITISH RULE OVER A RELIGIOUS LAND:**

In India the Anglican Church came to occupy a very important place in its conquest, for India was a "religious" land and the British knew that they could not conquer India by force alone, but, they must employ religion. Religion thus played an important part in the denationalization of the Indians, making them effective instruments in the interest of the British empire. The British idea seemingly was that they could not rule over a "religious" country by being irreligious, so gradually religion became a tool and was used as a political weapon. Religiously, there was never a two nation idea in India until it was fathered and propagated by the British between the Muslims and Hindus. "Divide and rule" was the British policy. A cow's head in a Hindu temple or a pig's ear in a Muslim Mosque. The "Christian" church was used for the direct support of the British government in India, and the major Indian "religions" used against each other to keep them fighting and the British ruling.

#### **ONE OF THE MEANS OF DENATIONALIZING INDIANS:**

Even though the British did

many things in India, such as building bridges, roads, buildings, telephone and telegraph, railways, and monuments, it must be remembered that they did it with the intention of furthering the British rule with the Indian exchequer, and DID NOT bring up or develop the Indian people. The British apparently had only one main purpose in mind in India and that was to **make all Indians slaves of the British Imperialistic colonialism**. Whatever means were necessary to do this were to be employed. Higher education through the English medium was only available to a limited few. Never were over 4% of the Indians made literate. The "privileged" few were given just enough English to have an understanding of English to the extent of being able to receive and carry out the orders of the British rulers. However, a few Indians received a liberal education in the British Universities like Oxford and Cambridge.

The British government in India, using the Indian Exchequer, built many churches in the best locations and gave some of the best land to the L.M.S., London Missionary Society, and the S.P.G., Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the C.M.S., Church Missionary Society, or other of the cooperating

foreign missionary societies. For this grant by the British, for this favor and courtesy and the protection of the government, it was the churches' foreign missions task to make the Indian; as pro-British as possible and to divide and set them against anything and everything of their own land.

#### **THE DOMINEERING ANGLICAN SYSTEM OF CHURCH ADMINISTRATION — Pattern for Foreign Missions:**

The British political system, using their own state church, the Anglican Church system, simply set the pattern for all other groups of foreign missions in India. That is why even during the days of the struggle for freedom, preceding 1947, the majority of mission Christians dared not speak in behalf of their own land or people without terrible effects. It was evident that they had been denationalized and were the paid servants and slaves of the system in control.

Foreign missions from the American point of view began with the best of intentions, but as institutions tend to succumb to man's errors, the Americans for the most part simply fell into the system established by the British.

When the American missionary came into India, he came with great sacrifice. He left a

land of many modern conveniences to go to a land with few such advantages. He came to India with all his high and lofty ideals, his good intentions, etc., but he came under a system and gradually, sometimes even almost unknowingly, he fell a prey to the system which had already been adopted before his coming and was in vogue.

#### **THE BLACKEST SPOT AGAINST AMERICAN CHRISTIANS:**

America as a nation has never had any desire to colonize India. As a nation she has NEVER owned any land in India. AMERICA owns no land in India, but AMERICAN MISSIONS do. One of the blackest spots against the American Christians and all the people of America are the AMERICAN FOREIGN MISSIONS LAND HOLDINGS in India.

The present foreign missionary system is so clumsy and immobile, and cannot nor does it will to adapt itself to the present situation: the reason being, their large capital investments and holdings which are manifested in massive buildings and compounds with "Zamindar" mis-

\*A "Zamindar" was in Indian affairs what we would call a "middle man" However, he was most frequently a severe task master, standing as the collector between the landlord and the people. The system has officially been abolished by the Indian Government.

sion leaders. Foreign ecclesiastical colonization in India MUST go.

#### **THE FOREIGN MISSIONS VS. THE SONS OF THE SOIL:**

A question of great importance is, did the Christians of foreign lands give money all these years for the building of the Church in India FOR the Indian people, or for the missionaries who were sent? Did we build the work FOR the denominations or FOR the Indian people? In other words, did we establish the work in BEHALF of the foreign ecclesiastical mission systems, or in BEHALF of the Sons of the Soil? If we did it for the people, then it belongs to the people for whom we did it. If we built it for the denominations and not for the people, then it belongs to the denominations and in turn the missionaries who are sent to "man" them and their native agents, plus the ecclesiastical mission systems that instituted and propagated it.

The Christian people in foreign lands who faithfully supported international missions in India certainly did so under the

impression that the work was totally for the Indians, but the leaders of our denominations seemingly planned otherwise. They planned it for the denominations under the foreign ecclesiastical mission system. Were this not true, foreign missions in India would not object so violently, even to the extent of many court cases, to register the mission holdings under the Indian Public Charitable Trust Act, which simply means that the property will primarily be used in the interest of the ACTUAL LOCAL BENEFICIARIES, the NATIONALIST CHRISTIANS, and that they must give an annual report to the government of India of their income and expenditures.

The church of all denominations in India is for the most part nothing more than a foreign ecclesiastical mission system which is finally controlled from outside of India.

American people like others in the West have supported the MISSION SYSTEM, which is a foreign ecclesiastical system of administration, legislation and control.

## 3 BIG NIGHTS

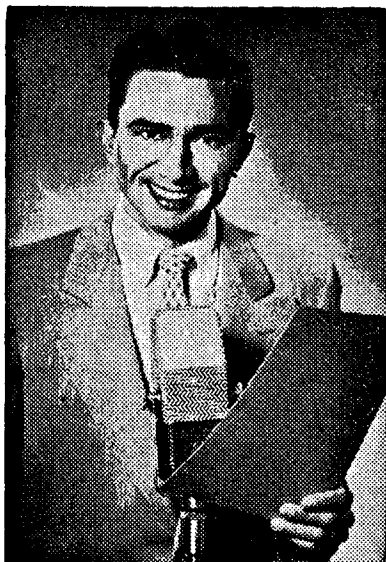
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COLUMBUS, OHIO

## Central High School Auditorium Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 2, 7:30 P. M.

Sponsored by

The Columbus Branch of The Way International. Bill Miller, chairman, 737 Franklin Avenue. Phone: Columbus Capitol 19831.

**Come One — Come All — Bring a Carload.**



**Dick Konkle**

Dick is a long time friend and worker in The Way Ministry. Partner in the Lima Upholstery Co. and the K. & S. Dairy Bar,

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Spencerville. He will M.C. at the Columbus Campaign. Ernie Atkinson will direct the Campaign singing. At the organ will be Kathryn Perry with Rhoda Becker at the piano. Frank Wyandt, baritone, and Arla Oechsle, soprano, will furnish the solos. Gordon Perry, personal helper to Dr. Wierwille, will also be assisting.

### SHEET MUSIC

By Kathryn Perry

Realization ..... .60

More Abundant Life ..... .25

By Dorothy Owens

Sons of God ..... .25

Jesus Our Saviour ..... .25

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