

Some years ago I met a student whose parents had been missionaries --Presbyterian missionaries--for many years in Africa. He had a great missionary vision, but he also had a special burden which I myself also had for a long time. Europe, the area from which most of our Christianity came to the U.S.A. during the last 70 years has largely been infiltrated by those who deny the Word of God, and a tremendous change has taken place throughout that continent. This young man had a great burden for missionary work in Europe when up to that time it had hardly been thought of as a place for missionary work (by Americans). His name was Bob Evans and he founded a mission he called the Greater European Mission. It now has branches through many parts of Europe.

We have with us this morning a representative of that mission Rev. Zimmerman who has served the Lord in Finland and in Sweden. Mr. Zimmerman has a table out in back of material about the mission. After the end of this hour he would be glad to tell any of you who are interested about it, and to give you some literature. I'm going to ask him at this time to lead us in prayer.

(Mr. Zimmerman's remarks and prayer follow)

One of our graduates of a few years ago is known to a number of you, Dr. Robert Rapp is carrying on a very fine work in Korea. Not long ago Dr. Rapp prepared to go back to Korea and was planning to go on a certain plane. But then something happened and his plans changed so he went a day later. That plane on which he had intended to go was the 007 that the Russians destroyed. We realize how close he came to death on that occasion.

Another friend of mine about 5 years ago came East. He had been pastor of a church in California. He came East to attend a religious meeting in Philadelphia. He went back to Chicago and there took a plane for California and within a very few minutes after it left the airport that plane fell and all 70 people aboard were killed.

This morning I would like to speak about the subject of death. I would like to speak about it under three heads. I would begin with Jas. 4:13-15(quoting text). No one of us knows how Long the Lord will leave us on this earth. So death is a subject we ought to think about. In fact the Christian worker has much relationship to the subject. He has to do with it many times. It is good for us occasionally to take special time to think about it. As I said I would like to think about it under three areas.

The first of these is its relationship to each of us ourselves. No one of us knows how long we will have to stay upon this earth. No one of us knows how soon the Lord may suddenly take us. When I was 9 years old someone took me to a fortuneteller. The fortuneteller looked at my hands, and said you will live until you are 92 years of age. I don't know whether that prediction will prove true. But it has not yet been proven false.