

Doctor To Africa

The Story of

STIRRETT OF THE SUDAN

By

DOUGLAS C. PERCY

MISSIONARY IN NIGERIA, WEST AFRICA

Copyright @ 1948

THE SUDAN INTERIOR MISSION Africa

CHAPTER TEN

In That Day

IT WOULD NOT be easy to sum up the accomplishments of a lifetime, even from the recorded evidence of diaries, papers and letters, of those who have known and worked with this little man of GOD, who labored only for the souls of men. When there is nothing to draw from but the memories, it becomes a well-nigh impossible task.

From the day that he turned over all his goods and chattels to the Lord and the work in the Sudan, he laid not up for himself goods or possessions that would perish. But from Lagos to Lake Chad, north, south, east and west, there is a host of those who are peculiarly the Doctor's own possession and who will some day rise up and bless the name of *Bature Mai Magadi*.

As a pilgrim and warrior, Dr. A. P. Stirrett would have but an inner circle few to stand with him. As being valiant for the truth, instant in season, preaching the Word, he would need hand the banner to none. For a fitting close to this brief tribute to a faithful, fruitful life, one could do no better than to turn to the writing of the immortal dreamer of Bedford, John Bunyan, and to set down a record that was just as true of this modern Mr. Valiant-for-the-truth.

"After this it was noised abroad that Mr. Valiant-for-the-truth was taken with a summons, by the same Post as the others, and had this for a token that the summons was true: that his pitcher was broken at the fountain. When he understood it, he called his friends and told them of it. Then said he: 'I am going to my Father, and though with great difficulty I am got thither, yet do I not repent me of all the trouble I have been at to arrive where I am. My Sword I give to him that will succeed me in my pilgrimage; and my courage and skill to him who can get it. My marks and my scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me that I have fought His battles, who will now be my Rewarder.'

"When the day that he must go hence was come, many accompanied him to the riverside, into which, as he went he said: '**Death, where is thy sting?**' And as he went down deeper, he said:

'Grave, where is thy victory?' So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side."

And so closes the chapter on the life of a man richly used of GOD.

A CLOSING NOTE ABOUT THE MISSION

The SUDAN (literally 'the land of the black') is a great stretch of country, 600 miles wide, extending 3,000 miles across the heart of Africa, from the West Africa coast to Ethiopia. It covers an area more than one third of the United States, and embraces a population in excess of 40 million people.

The Sudan Interior Mission is a union effort of Christians of all evangelical denominations, organized to meet the spiritual needs of the Sudan. It is international in scope and interdenominational in its fellowship. It has the cooperative councils of five different countries, and its missionary staff represents ten different nationalities.

The Sudan Interior Mission is the outgrowth of the first missionary expedition (1893) into the interior of Nigeria, under the leadership of Rowland V. Bingham. The work was extended to French West Africa (1923), to Ethiopia 1927 and again in 1945 (after the Italian invasion), and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan in 1938, and Aden in Arabia in 1946. More than a score of languages have been reduced to writing by its missionaries, with the resulting translation of the Scriptures into these tongues.

The Sudan Interior Mission is evangelical in doctrine, and sends forth consecrated workers who are sound in the fundamental truths of the Bible, regardless of their denominational affiliation. The greatest emphasis of its work is placed upon evangelism, making all other means of reaching or helping the natives subservient to the one great purpose of winning them for CHRIST. Converts are numbered in the thousands. Indigenous (self-governing, self-supporting) churches have been organized, and scores of thousands gather for worship and study each week.

The Sudan Interior Mission has over 700 missionaries. They, with the home staffs, have no guaranteed salary, but are wholly supported by voluntary offerings of GOD's people.

The Sudan Interior Mission is continually advancing, praying all the places in its territory will be occupied for GOD, and the Gospel preached to the thousands who as yet have never heard.

At home here there are many churches and families who are supporting their own missionary in Africa. Perhaps you or your church group would like to have someone in Africa presenting the Gospel of CHRIST in your place.

Just think of what it would mean to receive letters from your missionary, and in turn write to him as he labors for you out in Africa. What a blessing you can be in praying for and writing to your missionary friend.

This makes a real team for victory - your missionary in battle for the Saviour there in Africa, and you at home backing him in prayer and support. The Lord has promised, "**As his part is that**

goeth down to battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff; they shall part alike." I Samuel 30:24.

The Sudan Interior Mission will gladly suggest a missionary for support to any person or group who will purpose to pray for their worker and trust the Lord with the Mission for that one's support.

The full support of a missionary amounts to \$100 a month, or \$1200 a year [1948]. This provides for the living expenses, medical needs and transportation of your missionary.

Often this support is taken by several different churches or groups. Testimonies from these friends tell of the joy they are receiving from their personal share in the Gospel witness in Africa.

Just now there is a need for \$10 or more a month on the support of a number of the missionaries. The amount is small - but the returns will be multiplied by the Lord JESUS CHRIST who offers . . . **"Ask of me and I will give thee the heathen for thine inheritance."** Psalm 2:8.

If you would like to have a share in this work, and would like to have more information regarding it, please write the nearest office of the Sudan Interior Mission. The bi-monthly Sudan Witness Supplement and other information will be sent to you at once.

"Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?"

~ end of book ~