

THE MODERN PARABLE

A sower went out in these modern days to sow. He filled his bag partly full of wheat and with it he mixed a liberal quantity of weed seed. As he scattered his seed, in some places only wheat fell, in some places only weeds fell and in some places both fell in mixture. There were sections of the field in which the wheat grew up and seemed to be getting a fine start and then the weeds grew up and choked out the wheat. The man who had hired the sower to sow the wheat was angry. He asked him why he had not sown the good wheat for which he was hired. The sower replied that he should pursue an exclusive policy so he sowed both wheat and weeds. Now what is the employer of the sower to do? Shall he continue to pay the sower his salary, in the hope that the wheat will be greater in quantity than the weeds? Shall he designate the contributions that he makes to the sower's expenses as intended to be used only for wheat seed, leaving the sower free to use other funds for the dissemination of weeds? Or shall he turn aside from this sower altogether and hire another sower, who will sow only wheat?

This parable describes the position of foreign missions today. There are great agencies which are sending out some men who are preaching the Word of God and at the same time sending others who are attacking the Scriptures. They send fine Godly workers into pioneer districts to preach Salvation through Christ. The leaders among those who are converted are sent into the large cities to be trained for Christian leadership, and there they are taught by men who deny the Word of God and endeavor to destroy their faith in its teaching. These Boards pursue an exclusive policy. They are like the sower who sows both wheat and seeds. Now what is the Christian to do who wishes to send his money to preach the Gospel of Christ in distant lands? Is he to give to agencies which are at the same time preaching the Gospel and also preaching Modernism? Is he to designate his funds for men who he believes will preach the Gospel, in the hope that those who are converted will not have their faith destroyed by the effort of others who are sent out by the same agency?

It is because of this situation that the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions was founded. It is to make it possible for Presbyterians to give money