



**CHINA MISSION
NEWSLETTER**

MISSIONARY

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KAOHSIUNG - 1 July 2018

Dear Brethren:

There are advantages to many diverse approaches to the ministry of the gospel. Much can be said for itinerant preaching in circumstances that warrant it. Likewise, much good has in many instances been accomplished by a preacher who spent his entire life in one located work. Persistence in a work can reap a harvest, especially where it takes time for God to work in the life of a soul to ready them for the gospel. Such was the case with our new sister in Christ.

On the 6th of June 2018, Wang Chyou Bin was immersed for the forgiveness of her sins. We first met her over a decade ago. Her son, now in university, was only in kindergarten at that time. We lost touch with both mother and son during those many intervening years. He is not yet baptized but also has been studying the Bible with us quite regularly.

Our daughter Natasha taught him those many years ago in a children's Bible class. Recently, just before contact was reestablished, he asked his mother if she remembered Tasha. They talked about looking us up and visiting us. Just two days later, sister Wang saw Tasha in an open-air market but was too embarrassed to approach her. After returning home to put up her groceries, she went back out to a variety store and once again spotted Tasha. This time, she spoke to her. One cannot help but see the hand of God in the sequence of events. They rekindled their friendship and Tasha wasted little time in caring for her soul.

Many years ago when we were first acquainted with sister Wang, she was a Buddhist. During the intervening years she became interested in, and attended a denomination. Satan will often use a distorted Christianity as a stumbling block to prevent one from thereafter entering the kingdom. Like the Old Testament denomination of the Pharisees, the denominational distortions of Christianity lead a person to the door of the kingdom, and then give a false sense of salvation as they omit and even deny the necessary biblical instructions for entry. If Satan can lead you to the door, and then with subterfuge deceive you into thinking you have already entered, he still has you.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you travel around on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves" (Matthew 23: 15). The false teachers of today are their spiritual kin. It is ironic that the Pharisees were the most highly regarded teachers of God's word, and at least nominally, they had the correct God, the correct Scriptures, and the correct religion. They also were the greatest enemies of the Christ and plotted

to have him crucified. A parallel exists between the Old and New Testaments. In historical context, Matthew 7: 13-23 records Jesus warning His fellow Jews regarding the false prophets of their day, but then made extended application to those who would call Him Lord. Take notice of several major points in the passage: The majority will be duped; false prophets are wolves in sheep's clothing; calling Jesus, Lord, is not enough; doing the will of the Father is necessary; many who call Jesus, Lord, and think they serve Him mightily are, in fact, practicing lawlessness, and will be turned away in the Last Day. (Matthew 7:13-23). Note the surprise, the chagrin, the disquietude on the part of those who thought they were His. They "practiced lawlessness" inasmuch as they acted as though there was no law in Christianity, no instructions for entering the kingdom, no instructions for worship, and artfully excused themselves from godliness when it cramped their style. In the same fashion as the Pharisees, the denominations add what suits them, delete what does not, or otherwise distort the teachings of Christ as they remake Christianity to their own liking. Sister Wang and all of us who are in Christ choose to rely upon what God has said rather than the pontifications of mere men. In the Word is where true assurance of salvation resides.

Your servant in Christ,

Eugene F. Brzozowski