

Board found and sent others. The work of Judson was very exciting, a little less spectacular than that of Carey, but a substantial work again built on Bible translation and preaching.

At this point we may note a contrast in general in Catholic and Protestant missions. The great difference was the zeal of the Protestants to communicate in the vernacular and the willingness of many of the Romanist organizations to syncretize items of the pagan culture to make their organization more palatable. In territories where the politics and governmental interference were no great asset or detriment, the protestant forces usually won converts more slowly but built more settled and established works.

But alas, the work of missions is never done.

IV.4 Spiritual Life

Concepts of Spiritual Life

Pietism

Pietism, like many things, is not easily defined. Essentially it was a movement in the Lutheran state churches of Germany that emphasized a return to practical holiness and good works as the demonstration of Christian life...more than the proper writing of creeds and formulating of doctrinal statements. Pietism, in the Teutonic territories, was somewhat akin to the emphasis of Wesley in England. Its nature suggests the somewhat unfortunate disagreement between head and heart that has so long plagued the church. It often moved to an anti-scholastic plane (although not necessarily so) and generally urged that one "live right" and then one would discover that one's doctrine could follow one's life and his heart would be right. Pietism has a severely subjective side and, although it produced some very happy settings, it also produced a mystical sort of Christianity that cannot be normative and so has very little communicative powers to those who need it most.

Among the chief pietists were Spener (1635-1705) and Francke (1663-1727). The former was a truly devout man and a pietistic dean. He was famous for the ideology that if "the heart is right, doctrine is of no consequence." There is a sense in which this is true, but it is so limited as to lose its practicality in short order. With Spener there was a real emphasis on a "known" new birth and a hearty thrust