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BI-MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE NORTH AFRICA MISSION

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## *“ They Did Not Kill Him ”*

TRAN THUYEN

“**WA MA KATALOUHOU.**” (They did not kill Him.) “**Wa ma salbouhou.**” (They did not crucify Him.) So affirms the Koran referring to the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus.

From their earliest infancy muslims are taught that at Calvary God deceived the Jews and the Romans and saved Christ from an ignominious death by catching Him up to heaven, substituting for Him another man to whom He had given a physical resemblance to Jesus. According to them, it was therefore a man resembling Jesus who was put to death by the Romans and the Jews. A “judicial error” of a kind.

It is no accident that the death of the eternal Son of God has shocked many people for twenty centuries. The apostle Paul said, “We preach Christ crucified; to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness.”

But it is through Christ bearing the punishment in our place, that our sins are forgiven; it is through His crucifixion that we are delivered from the tyranny of the Adversary; it is through His death that we have life, eternal life. The cross is the foundation of the Christian Faith. Without the cross, there is no salvation possible. It is because he wished his Master to avoid the cross that the apostle Peter, who had left all to follow Him, and who has just responded so admirably to Christ’s question, “Whom say ye that I am?”, was called sharply to order. Jesus, who had just called him

**na|m**

SEPTEMBER 1968

*You are invited to our*

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

**Tuesday, 1st October, 1968**

### **Whitefield Memorial Church Hall**

*Tottenham Court Road (Nr. Goodge Street Underground)*

- \* 5 p.m. Tea with missionaries  
6.30 p.m. Evening Meeting
- \* Chairman: Rev. Godfrey Robinson, B.A., B.D.  
Speaker: Rev. Ronald J. Waive
- \* News from the Field and testimonies from candidates

“blessed”, said to him, “Get thee behind Me, Satan, thou art an offence unto Me, for thou savourest not the things that be of God but those that be of men.” Without the cross, redemption would be a mere illusion, justification by faith would be a myth, and salvation, a mirage in the desert of time.

All this Satan knows only too well, and this is why his supreme deception consists in making men believe that Jesus Christ did not die at Golgotha. For nearly two thousand years he has not ceased to preach this deception. All those who carry on mission-

ary work among muslims know this almost insurmountable difficulty: to get them to admit that Jesus died, and died for their sins. However, this is the heart of our message. Like Paul, we are determined to know, “nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified”.

**Mr. Tran Thuyen, writer of this article, plans to be in England during March of next year and requests for his ministry can be made to the London Headquarters.**

## *Postal Penetration into Tunisia*

**P**ERSONAL christian witness has been more and more restricted in Tunisia in recent years. The few remaining missionaries must carry on their work with great discretion. Our God, however, is not subject to human limitations; He continues to call out a people for Himself, even in such a restricted situation.

Just recently, He has made Himself known to a young man from the south of Tunisia whom we shall call Tahar. This young man first learned of the love of God in Christ through correspondence courses of the Radio School of the Bible. For the last four years he has been studying the Bible faithfully through these courses and has come to accept Christ as his Saviour.

In December of last year it was finally possible for a missionary to contact Tahar. Through this meeting three things about him became evident: his love for Christ, his interest in the Bible, and his fear of witnessing to his country-men about his faith.

### **Tahar's Testimony**

Tahar recently wrote for us his testimony of what Christ had done for him. He said, "My life was full of vanity. It was a life of sin. Then I came in contact with the Bible. The light of the Bible penetrated the depths of my soul and dissipated the dark-

ness reigning there. That light is the love of Christ. In this marvellous light I saw my past: sinfulness and suffering. I now see in my soul love and peace. God has given me faith and the strength to overcome my weakness. I obtained this great blessing by accepting Jesus Christ as my Saviour and Lord. Now I pray to Him for my friends, that they might join me in this faith and that we might stand together in fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ".

### **Our Responsibility**

That one young man from a land where there is so much opposition to the Gospel could be brought into the Light and become a child of God is a marvellous testimony to the grace of God and the power of His Word. Do we not have a great responsibility to uphold Tahar in prayer? We must ask God to lead him onward in his understanding of the Scriptures and in his obedience to Christ. We must pray that he will have the courage to witness to his friends and that he will have the grace to do this winsomely. Finally, let us pray for other young people like him in Tunisia that, as they study the Word of God in the privacy of their homes, they might come to a vital faith in Christ, finding in Him "the peace that passeth all understanding".

## *Current Situation*

### *In Morocco . . .*

**I**T IS just over a year now since we experienced difficulties and set-backs in the work here in Morocco. At the time we did wonder if this would spell "Finis" to our ministry but instead what have we seen? That some work had to close down and some workers had to leave is true, but on the other hand we have seen new developments. My experience, and I am sure yours too, is that God never closes a door without opening another one.

#### **Personal Contact**

On one station where a public ministry had to stop, the workers have had increasing opportunities for personal contacts in their homes. Here, one worker had to cease her children's classes for a time but found she had wonderful opportunities in visitation and a readiness to listen on the part of the women she contacted.

Throughout the country there has been an increased number who have followed the Lord in the public witness ordained by Him. Contacts with students do-

ing the Correspondence Courses have increased also.

#### **Bookshop Ministry**

What perhaps is more amazing than all, is that we have been able to continue our bookshop ministry almost unhindered. In some cases initial difficulties in regard to getting the literature in have ceased.

Surely as we look back we can raise our "Ebenezer" and say indeed that "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us!" The need is as great as ever, the opportunities are still with us and workers are required just as much as before, but where are they? There is still a shortage on the Field. We need some replacements for those who have had to leave and for others retiring. Our bookshops are understaffed, a permanent helper is still needed in the Mission Guest House or Nurses' Home, a radiologist in the hospital and so on. Will you pray that these gaps may be filled.

**Ruth Barkey.**

### *. . . In Algeria*

**R**IGHT after the Arab-Israeli War in June 1967 it seemed uncertain to us if the Arabic meeting would survive at

all. However, not only did the Lord bring us through the summer, but in recent months He has been adding precious ones

to the group. For the last three months now the weekly attendance has averaged 25, including 10-12 Christians.

### **Christian Assembly**

Because of the regular attendance of so many and because of the leadership gifts of two mature Christians, we are proceeding with the organization of an assembly. At present we have four elders. Weekly activities include a Sunday School and a mid-week Bible Study. Monthly we have two prayer meetings, a fellowship meal and a young people's outing.

### **Algerian Elders**

We would like you to meet the Algerian elders of the "Assemblee Evangelique". If you were to judge by appearance, it would be easy to pass Si Embarek by. His frame is stooped by advancing years. His eyesight is poor: completely blind in one eye, poor vision in the other. Because of this he always wears dark glasses. By nature he is retiring. But once you get to know him you soon forget these superficial things. You begin to see the deep spiritual qualities in Si Embarek who for many years has been a colporter for the Bible Society. The Lord has given him much sound wisdom and a solid grasp of the Scriptures.

### **Pastor's Heart**

The growth of the assembly has been a great joy to him. He is respected by the young fellows who in turn are much on his

heart and in his prayers. The evidence of a pastor's heart can be seen in one of his remarks to Amar who had absented himself from the meetings for several weeks. "Amar, even if a thousand people were coming and you were absent, we would be sad."

Si Mokrane is about forty years old and has a good job in the post office administration. He is the church treasurer. About once a month he leads the Bible study and gives the Sunday message. For several years he did not worship anywhere regularly but now he has found a spiritual home with us. His presence adds depth and strength to the group.

### **Elders' Families**

Both men are married. Si Embarek is the father of three grown children. His daughter, a fine Christian, is in London. His youngest son, though making no profession, has begun to come regularly to the Wednesday evening Bible Studies. For the past few weeks his wife has been worshipping with us. Si Mokrane has four small children. His wife is not a Christian but she receives us very warmly into her home. It is our prayer that she will be won to the Lord by the life and testimony of her husband.

Remember this assembly in your prayers and especially these two mature Christians. May the Lord add to this group such as should be saved.

**Bill and Peggy Call.**

## SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

### PREPARATION AND . . .

**C**HERCHELL—the name immediately conjures up a series of mental pictures. The first is of the blue, blue Mediterranean and the sweeping curve of a sandy beach. At night the protecting beam of the lighthouse illuminates the rocky headlands and, closer at hand, the fishing boats in the little harbour. The next picture is of the pleasant little town with its market, narrow winding streets and little shops crowded with an amazing variety of merchandise. The Roman amphitheatre, pillars and numerous ruins are silent reminders of the grandeur that once belonged to the ancient Caesarea, capital of Roman Mauretania. The large Catholic Church standing in a gay little garden of flowering shrubs occupies a central position in the town and speaks of a different culture. This in turn has given way to Arab independence and a revival of Islam. The Church tower is now crowned with a dome, Arabs can be seen at prayer in the carpeted interior and, five times a day, the prayer call echoes over the town. Then there is the picture of the wooded hills that rise behind the town, and of the fertile, beautiful surrounding countryside.

But all of these pictures are a background and a frame for the foreground of lively children and young people—climbing up the hill for a supper picnic, splashing in the sea, trailing back through town with wet hair and sandy feet, chattering excitedly at night when they should be asleep, growing daily more sun-tanned and putting on weight—eyes shining with happiness.

#### Summer Camps

But above all “Cherchell” means work and prayer and battle—and sometimes victory. Once again a summer camp session is about to begin in the old mission house at the back of the town. After cleaning and scrubbing, hanging curtains and pinning up pictures, mending drains and clearing the garden, the house is almost ready to welcome the eighty or so youngsters who will be spending a two-week stay under its roof. First will come the boys, then the small girls and last of all, the older girls. They will come from varying backgrounds, some will be poor and under-nourished, others well cared-for and well-dressed. But they will all have one thing in common. They have all been brought up as Muslims. Mohammed is their prophet and the Koran their revelation of God. But all have had some contact with Christianity and have some measure of understanding of the revelation of God through Jesus Christ His Son.

Now they will have the unique opportunity of living in a christian home and receiving daily teaching from the Bible. They will memorise Scripture and learn Gospel songs. Some of their number will already be christians who will be able to learn how to read their Bibles and pray together. How will their lives stand up to the close scrutiny of their fellow-campers? What effect will their witness have upon the others? How many will go home persuaded and changed? How many will resist the Lord's voice? What will be the long-term results of summer camps 1968?—Perhaps the answer depends on your prayers.

**Muriel Butcher.**

## **. . . RESULTS**

**W**HEN we were told the only dates for which we could use the school building for the Vacation Bible School we accepted even though I could only be sure of one teacher for part of each morning. Prayer requests were sent out and many prayed. The Lord saw fit to try our faith until nearly the time and it was only five days before we were due to start that the Lord provided the last one needed. As this one came from Tangier the Lord opened the right family to receive him as their guest and where he had the opportunity of being a real blessing.

### **Daily Classes**

The children looked forward to this week with great expectations and seventy one were registered the first day, a few more later making an average attendance of seventy three. In most classes were some Catholics. Two of these who were definitely saved are much on my heart as they are not allowed to come to Sunday School and have no christian help. All in the senior class made a commitment of themselves to the Lord, and one said she was willing to be a missionary if the Lord willed. All the way through we were so conscious of the Lord's leading and blessing.

### **Final Programme**

About forty parents came to the final programme, some Roman Catholics, others agnostic, and many not interested in the Gospel but they all heard the way of salvation plainly, and the testimonies from the seniors showed something of what the Lord had been doing. We finished the weeks very tired but with hearts full of praise for all the Lord had done.

**Irene Dew.**

**D**URING my nurses' training days I remember being taught that a nurse should never run except in cases of fire and haemorrhage. Would you believe it, we had both at the same time one Sunday morning recently!

Whilst some of our staff were treating a patient with severe haemorrhage, one of our doctors and I were fighting a fire on one of our empty wards—empty because of shortage of nurses. Our patient got better and the fire was put out before it became serious, praise the Lord!

We are kept very conscious of the Lord's presence and His undertaking for us. Upon investigation we found that there had been petty thieving in the empty wards and that the fire must have been started by someone who is against us. The Lord protected us by bringing the fire to our attention in its early stages.

*Winifred Lloyd*

**TANGIER, MOROCCO**



The greatest thrill of the year came on 7th June when twenty one women met in our apartment for an evening Bible study. This was the group from our church plus five of our neighbours. The group had tripled since the February meeting in our apartment. The women all participated at least twice as Cathy posed prepared questions on Mark 2. Madame Delente said she had never in her life participated in a Bible study group, and she returned the next day to offer the use of their car in transporting women across town for the July meeting!

*Bill and Cathy Bell*

**MARSEILLES, FRANCE**



As far as the hospital is concerned, our visitors are often students and others who work here during their holiday, and help in various ways, with medical work, cleaning and painting, and countless other jobs, including repairs, alterations and general maintenance of the hospital. Mid-summer is not the best time to choose to do these jobs, in the hot weather, but they usually all enjoy the work. We have tiring, but very happy and profitable times together, both spiritually and materially, even though they always seem to get a lot of paint on the floor and on themselves!

Please pray that these young folk will be greatly blessed and challenged, and that their visit will have lasting spiritual results in their lives. Please pray too, that the Lord will send us a maintenance worker who can always be responsible for this important side of the work, and who can be a help and blessing to Moroccan men as he works with them. This would be a wonderful service for the man of the Lord's choice. And it is a very great need, especially as we nurses often find ourselves getting involved with these jobs as well as our own!

*Lilian Goodacre*

**TANGIER, MOROCCO**

# om the Prayer Letters

As my French improves I am able to witness a little more, although it is not easy when it comes to expressing ideas. I find that language study is full of encouragements and discouragements, and the two alternate rapidly. However, I was pleased to be able to give a couple of little talks in French in our class, and I am now able to contribute sometimes during the Christian Union Bible Studies. Apparently this group in Montpellier almost died a year ago, but up to a dozen now come to the weekly studies. There are tremendous opportunities for spreading the Gospel among the thousands of students here (over 20,000 in Montpellier University), and my prayer is that the Christian Union will become a powerful evangelistic influence among them.

*Michael Paton*  
MONTPELLIER, FRANCE

We visited Maghnia, a western border town, where there are more active correspondence course students than in Tlemcen. We were especially encouraged by the reception we received in the home

of one of the students. He is fifteen and was at school when we called but his mother asked us in and served us coffee. We had to leave without meeting her son. We left our name and address and so he wrote a nice letter to us and we plan to visit there again. Pray for more personal contacts in this town.

*Bernard and Vivian Leat*  
TLEMEN, ALGERIA

The student nurses in general, as most of you know, gained a victory over fear and have not been ashamed of Christ, some having been baptized during the last year. As so often happens, the Enemy, rebuffed on one side, tries to get in at another. After a big victory he trips one up over some foolish little thing. These girls, after all, are only teenagers and to introduce among them things like jealousy, gossip and scandal-mongering, and so cause division among them, is an old trick. We are not ignorant of his devices, but they still have all his tricks to learn—the hard way. So pray for them along those lines.

*Gwen Theakston*  
TANGIER, MOROCCO

## *New Candidates*

**P**PETER DOBSON and his wife, Susan, of Egham, Surrey, trained at Moorlands Bible College. Peter also studied at the Missionary School of Medicine. They came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as children and worked enthusiastically in the youth work of the local church. Peter took up design drawing, while Susan studied for her



S.R.N. and S.C.M. They have both had the privilege of trips to Morocco to acquaint themselves with their future sphere of service. The first time for Susan, was on a scooter! The second time there were adventures with a rather delapidated motor car! These friends will be busy on deputation in the North East of England in the Autumn and will go to language school in January 1969, God willing.

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Karin Murach, fiancée of Michael Paton, is also an accepted candidate. She is studying nursing at Mildmay and we shall have the opportunity of reading her testimony in a later issue.

Coming Soon . . .

“BY FAITH”

by MURIEL BUTCHER

*Character Cameos*

*of North Africa*



# Y O U T H P A G E

**T**HE tourists were looking at the lovely brass trays. "We like that one, but there is a fault here in the pattern", said one.

"This is a beauty," said another, "but what a shame that it is spoiled by this obvious mistake in the outer edging." They watched the old artisan as he sat with hammer and nail, tap, tap, tapping the intricate design on a piece of shaped copper. Was it by accident that a fault appeared, even as they watched him at work? It was hard to say. He seemed to be working surely and steadily; apparently he didn't even notice the mistake.

Their visit to the potteries was fascinating. Outside lay lumps of rough, hard clay earth. Along the road came the camel carts, laden with the clods which would later be reduced to clay for the potter's wheel. Indeed, they could watch the process in a nearby yard. Here were those lumps damped down and trampled determinedly beneath the feet of the boys, sometimes amidst laughter and talking, sometimes silently as the master called to them to hurry. And now they watched the lumps of prepared, softened clay as the master took it into his hands. Seated at his wheel, a basket of water at his side and his foot on a wooden pedal, the potter's foot caused the wheel to turn. The piece of clay was slapped on and the sensitive fingers began to work. Surely and swiftly the fingers moved, forming the clay on the wheel into the shape which he saw in his mind. The watchers were unaware of what happened, but suddenly the potter stopped the wheel and snatched away the clay. What was it? "And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it." The words of the Old Testament prophet came to the minds of the onlookers as they watched the old man

feel the clay and then remove a tiny piece of grit. On to the wheel it went again and this time all was well. Minutes later a beautifully shaped vase was placed beside another on the drying trays. This time there seemed to be nothing to spoil the work.

Once again the visitors were enthralled as they watched the artist. Their vase had been baked in the tremendous heat of the kiln. Now it was cold and the practised artist hand was painting a design in lovely colours. There were lines and circles and the one Arabic word "Allah" (God) forming the finished pattern. Did his hand slip on these last strokes? He seemed not to notice but there was, quite clearly, a fault in the painting. Unheeding of this the artist allowed his work to dry. It was varnished and baked yet again. What a shame to spoil all his careful work by baking into it a mistake.

The friends were visiting a class of girls. They were busy at their embroidery. "What an exquisite cloth", said one. It was indeed. The excellent linen and multicoloured silks had been used by deft fingers and needle-sharp eyes to produce a cloth which would not have disgraced the wealthiest home. Hours and hours of work had gone into it and the design was one of the traditional patterns of the land. "Yes, it would be quite expensive to buy but the materials are of the best quality", said the missionary. "And the girls who do all the work receive very little by the time we have paid the costs." Gladly the visitors bought the cloth, even adding a little more for the proudly shy little girl who had worked so hard. Little did they know at that moment the battles that had raged earlier.

The cloth was about half-finished when the teacher noticed a mistake. And this mistake was very near to the centre, indeed it was part of the central design. "No, I won't unpick it", stormed the girl. "But I cannot sell it with a fault in it", said the missionary. "And I won't unpick it", was the stubborn reply. Several hours passed by and not a stitch had been touched. The afternoon came to an end and the cloth was put away. A sulky girl went home. Next day it was the same. She came to class but just sat sullenly idle. But the day following, shame-facedly, she picked up the work, undid it and, working rapidly completed a perfect centre. The missionary's prayer had been answered.

"But why?" asked the friends. "We have watched the brass worker and the potter, the leather craftsman and the carpet maker. Always the work is lovely, but marred somewhere by an error." "Only God is perfect", was the answer, "and none of His creature; may produce anything which would take away from His perfection alone." Now they understood. Even the little embroideress, although now a Christian, had found it very hard to forget her muslim training. It had been a struggle for her, deliberately to produce, as far as she could tell, a perfect piece of work.

## **NEWS**

### **PRAYER MEETING**

A Prayer Meeting for muslims throughout the world is held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Eeles, at 59 Gorst Road, London S.W.11 every Wednesday evening at 8 p.m. Friends are invited to attend.

### **SMURTHWAITE FAMILY**

There is a great need for the development of more extensive deputation work throughout Canada and Mr. and Mrs. S. Smurthwaite have been invited to do this. They hope to move to Toronto in September.

### **BESSIE GROSSHOLTZ**

We were grieved to learn that our friend Mrs. Bessie Grossholtz, néé Gould, passed away suddenly at Worthing while speaking at a prayer meeting on Monday, 5th August. "Bessie Gould", a State Registered nurse, joined the Mission in 1947 and was posted to the Tulloch Memorial Hospital at a very difficult time in its history. Ten years later she left us on the occasion of her marriage to Mr. J. Grossholtz, an American missionary working in Tangier, who passed away a few years ago. Bessie, however, continued to give much-appreciated help in the hospital and in a host of other ways and will always be remembered for her sunny smile and loving hospitality.

### **STAMP BUREAU**

Mr. R. G. Stuart of 15 Warwick Road, Thornton Heath CR4 has packets of foreign stamps (200 different—2/10 post free) and approvals available. Proceeds go to mission work, including the N.A.M.

### **ALMA STRAUTINS**

The way finally opened for Mrs. Strautins to fly to Latvia on the 15th August. Our sister had not seen her mother for almost exactly thirty years and her feelings at the thought of this reunion can well be imagined. Much prayer has followed every step of the way thus far and we shall surely pray that the Lord in His wisdom and grace will preserve her in her journey to her Soviet-controlled homeland.

### **FIELD HEADQUARTERS MOVE TO FRANCE**

It is in keeping with the re-defining of the Mission that the FHQ is being established in the south of France. The Field Treasury has already arrived and awaits the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. B. Collinson in September, for whom adequate accommodation has already been found.

### **GUIDED GIVING**

We again give thanks to God for making it possible to send full allowances for the months of July and August.

The tourists were leaving for home. The brass tray and the vase and the lovely cloth were in their luggage. Only one piece of work was really perfect. "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect," was the word of the Lord Jesus in their minds. "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after . . . ."

**Ethel Brown.**

# *Personal Evangelism*

ABE AND JOYCE WIEBE

**I**T WAS a sunny Saturday afternoon when he came to us at the former youth centre at Polo. He was quiet, very gentle and almost timid. What we said then I don't recall; just that I was impressed by something winsome in the lad. I remember taking him some distance to a bus stop and urging him to return to us. He did not come back and it passed from my mind.

## **B.C.C. Contact**

Two years went by until through friends in Marseilles, we received a slip concerning a promising Bible correspondence student in Casablanca. He made a clear confession of faith on paper. It was our former acquaintance. The address indicated some army barracks in one of our suburbs. Finally after locating the place, it turned out to be the home of his sister. He was working at a government dispensary as a male nurse. I remember packing his sister and another woman and some children in the car and they directed me to where he worked. We had friendly words, but I realised that the place was far too public to talk. We arranged a meeting place. On the appointed day I waited long but finally went home wondering why he hadn't shown up. Then followed several letters inviting him to meetings or to the Centre. Again these brought no results. Going back to the dispensary was just as baffling. Outwardly he was warm and open, yet there was no follow-up. Months of silence followed.

## **First Protestant Service**

Last Autumn another letter brought no response. Then a note came via Marseilles again that he wanted to see me. Back to the dispensary I went but happened to hit a busy day. He had meanwhile silenced the curiosity of some of his co-workers as to who I was—“just someone from America”. He didn't want them to know that I was from Casablanca. I asked him once more to come where we

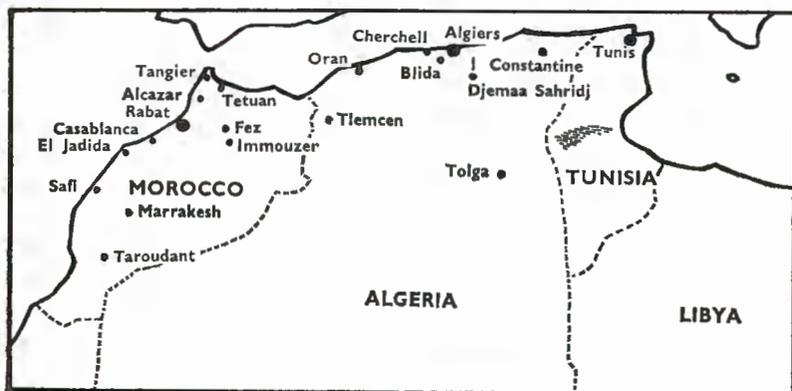
could have a long talk. Today was one meeting he kept. However, he had trouble finding the meeting place, and when one policeman wanted to know why he wanted to go there he said, "I'm from Meknes and they're my friends." That little falsehood seemed a necessity to him when the policeman became too inquisitive. This was his first Protestant service. As a young boy he had learned the catechism from a Catholic nun who had given injections to his father.

### **Costly Discipleship**

Today as we talked he told me about his home, about his father's two wives, about his work, his friends, and how he had begun following the Bible correspondence courses. Never was there any objection to the Gospel or to Jesus Christ as we talked. There was no falling back on the Koran or the Prophet. He said that at work discussion with his friends frequently concerned the teachings of the Bible. As we read and discussed John, chapter 3 he seemed to understand and even appreciate the message. However, as I pressed the implications of the Gospel and of being a disciple on him, I sensed him drawing back. He was not willing to commit himself; he would not promise to come to next Sunday's meeting; he wavered at another rendezvous; he was just afraid to show too openly his interest in these things. He then told me of those he knew or had heard about being punished for following such teaching. One lad had been put in prison and another lost his job for becoming a Catholic and was also imprisoned. He mentioned the taunts that are thrown at those who take this path.

### **One of Many**

Time and again recently we've come up against this very thing. It seems that one cannot afford to be known as a christian in a country which brooks no straying from the religious fold of Islam. In front of missionaries, perhaps, but beyond that we have seen few with faith strong enough to carry them through. The cross of Christ costs too much in Morocco. Other believers have said that they must be very careful that their parents do not realise how attached they are to christianity. Are these really christians, we might be prone to wonder? How would you counsel them? How can the church be built here with such prospective membership? This fear of losing material gain and position, or even just the roof over your head, is repeated over and over again throughout this country, and when they realise that even the missionary is not ready to accept them as an economical liability when they make that break, it makes it doubly hard. This is one reason why the visible church doesn't exist here. And it's a reason why we ask you to pray more than ever for a constraining work of the Spirit of God in the hearts of believers.



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