

# WORLD DOMINION

The World Dominion Movement advocates Informed Continuous Co-ordinated Evangelism to reach everyone at home and abroad. Its basis is belief in the Deity and Atoning Death of the Lord Jesus Christ, the World's Only Saviour, and in the Final Authority of Holy Scripture.

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Christian missions need to take a long view of the situation, working toward the time when an indigenous Church can exist among the people because they themselves desire it. This may one day be secured if the present medical, evangelistic, school work and social education are steadily developed. A real attempt to abolish illiteracy should be made, concurrently with a wide sowing of the Word of God over the length and breadth of the peninsula.

That such a forward movement is now possible is due to half-a-century of missionary work of a peculiarly difficult character. Those who know Arabia and have knowledge of Islam, will magnify the grace of God in His servants whereby they have signally triumphed over difficulties which could not have been surmounted by unaided human strength. They have laid a good foundation which can be built upon. If the Church will arise in her strength, she can build again the pre-Islamic martyr Church of Arabia.

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### The Sky-Scrapers in Arabia

Shibam, in southern Arabia, with 33,000 inhabitants, is a town of modern sky-scrappers seven stories high. Koranic schools, bustling merchants, turbulent tribes, chief of them the Sei'ar (the 'wolves' of South Arabia) give an entirely Oriental setting to these massive and imposing structures. Tarim, a few miles north-east, is a town of sumptuous residences copied from palaces in Malaya. The interiors of these and of the sky-scrappers of Shibam are furnished in European luxury with running water, baths, electric light and fans.

Somewhere near Shibam lie the buried ruins of Sabota and its territory, wherein, says Pliny, there were sixty temples dedicated to Ishtar (Venus). Here were the storehouses of incense which was sent by caravan to Egypt, the Orient countries and Europe for temple ritual worship and embalming of the dead. Dhufar, on the coast, was a celebrated source of supply, and its groves of frankincense, set among forest-clad hills, are still beautiful and a reminder of the opulence of ancient days.

The country is passing through a transition period: Western ideas modifying the almost theocratic control hitherto exercised by the Moslem Seiyids. India, the Netherlands Indies, Malaya and East Africa, all have contributed a stimulus to progress.