

# **Church History Literacy**

## **Chinese Missions - The Christian Faith Goes East**

### **Lesson 91**

*Biblical-Literacy.com*

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**CHINA**



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1.3 Billion People

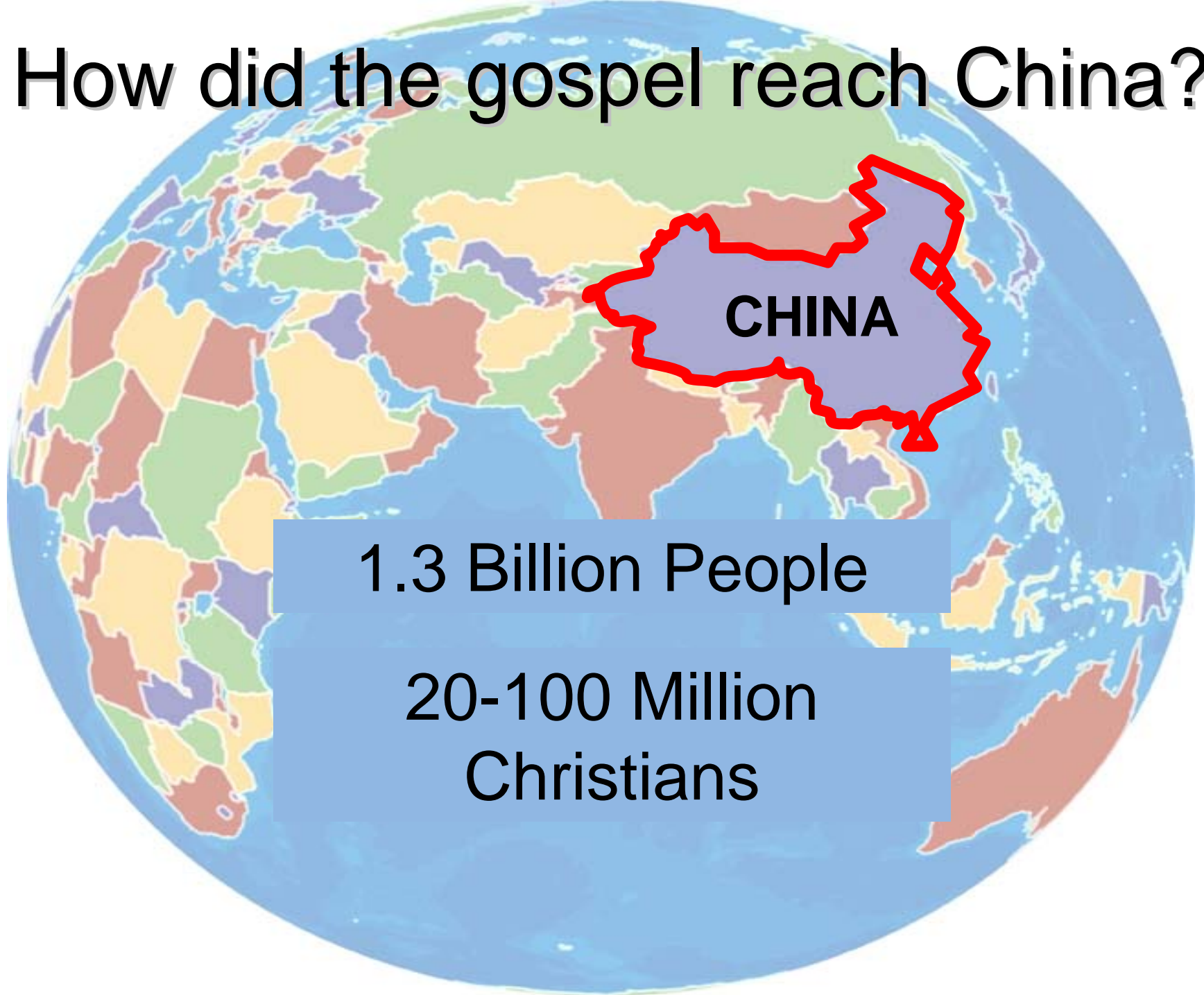


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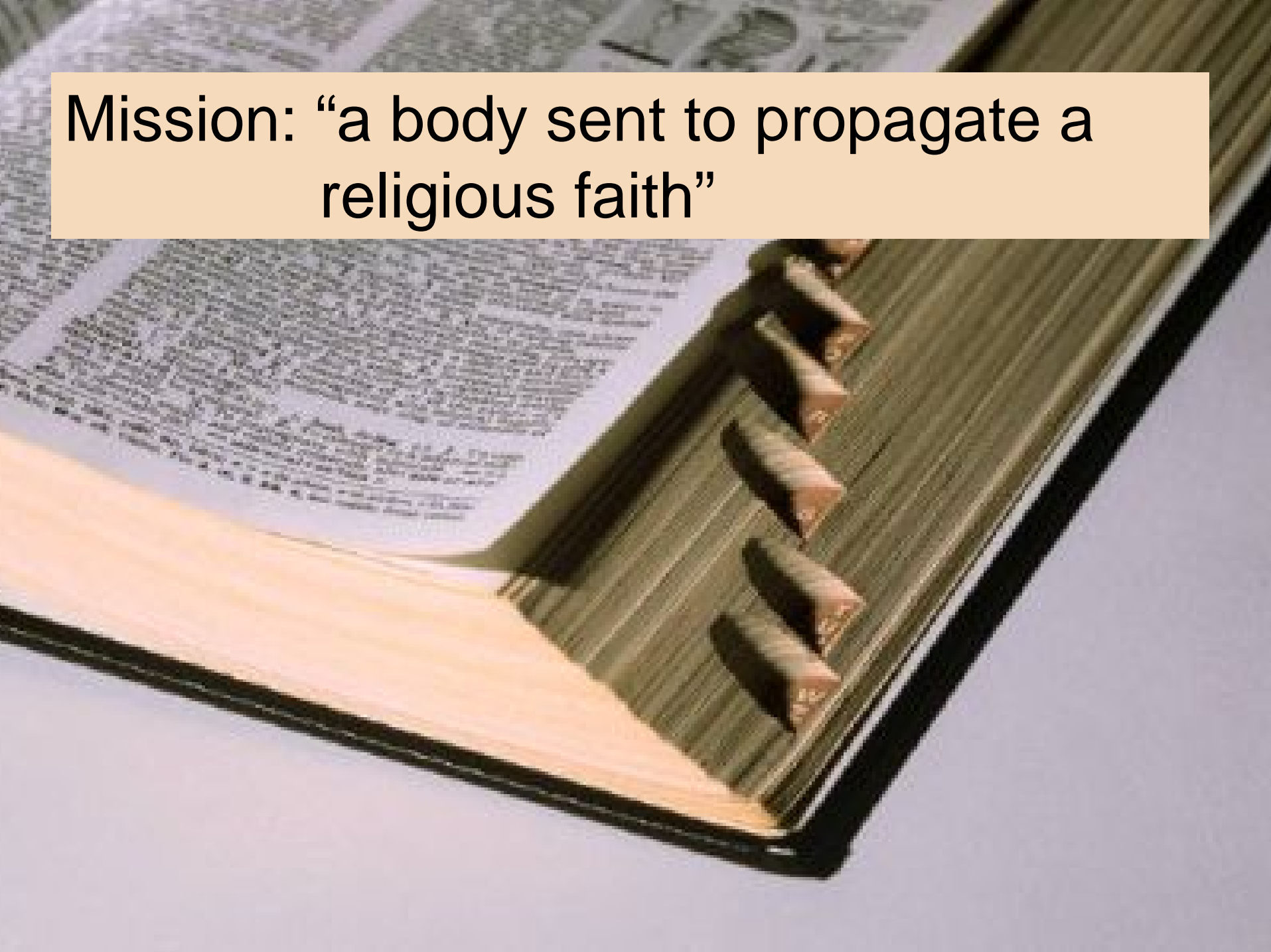
20-100 Million  
Christians

# How did the gospel reach China?





Mission: “a body sent to propagate a religious faith”



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Latin: *MISSIO* “a sending off”



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Latin: *MISSIO* “a sending off”



“missile” or “missive”

Who “sent” the gospel?





**Jesus: “Go into all the world and preach the gospel” (Mark 16:15)**



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Through Abraham: “all the nations of the earth shall be blessed” (Gen. 18:18)

China has never been too  
receptive to outsiders

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sovereignty





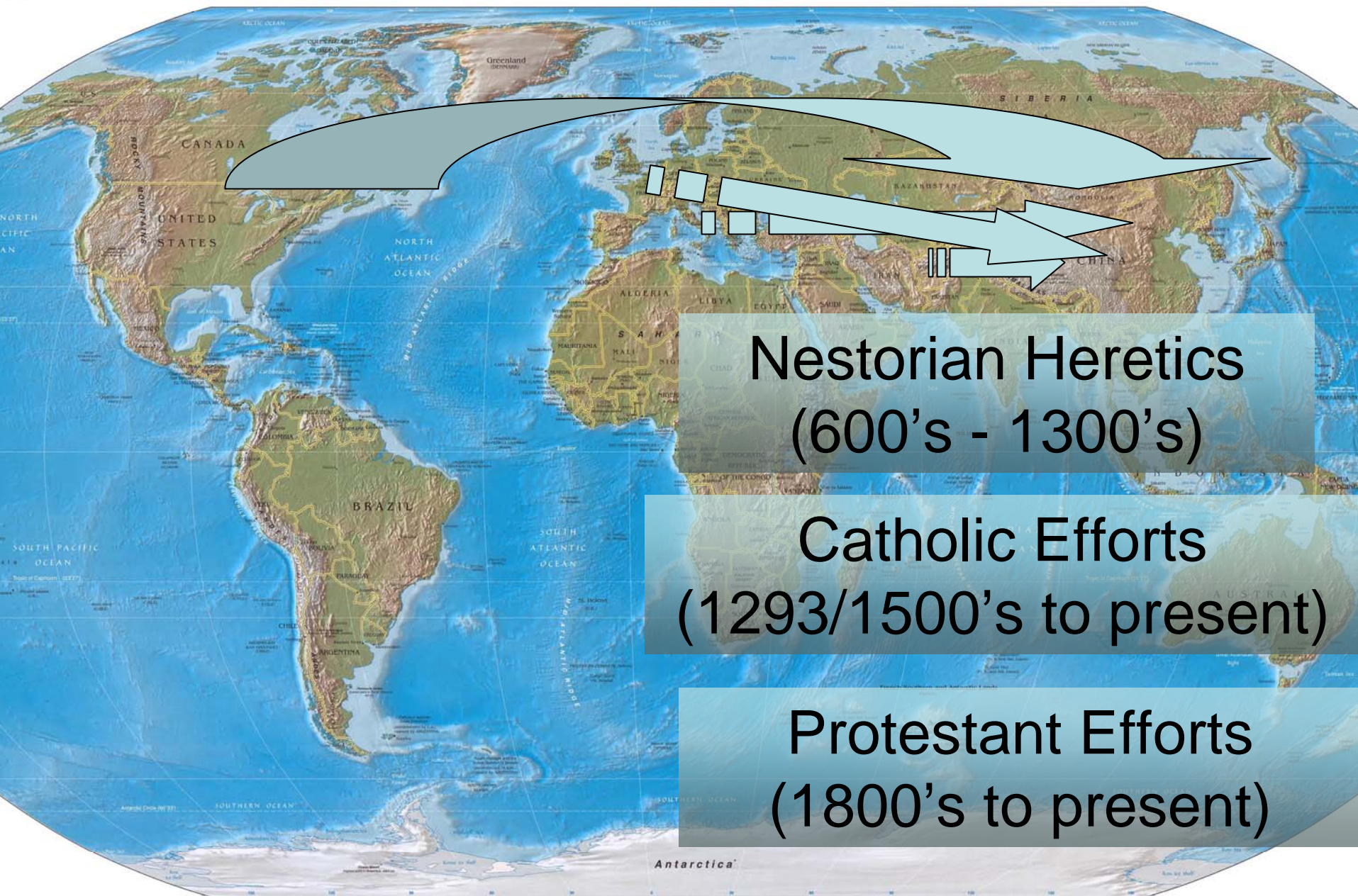


# Nestorian Heretics (600's - 1300's)



**Nestorian Heretics  
(600's - 1300's)**

**Catholic Efforts  
(1293/1500's to present)**



**Nestorian Heretics  
(600's - 1300's)**

**Catholic Efforts  
(1293/1500's to present)**

**Protestant Efforts  
(1800's to present)**

# Robert Morrison



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Born: 1782 England



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Prayer: “Lord, place me in the most difficult area with the largest obstacles”

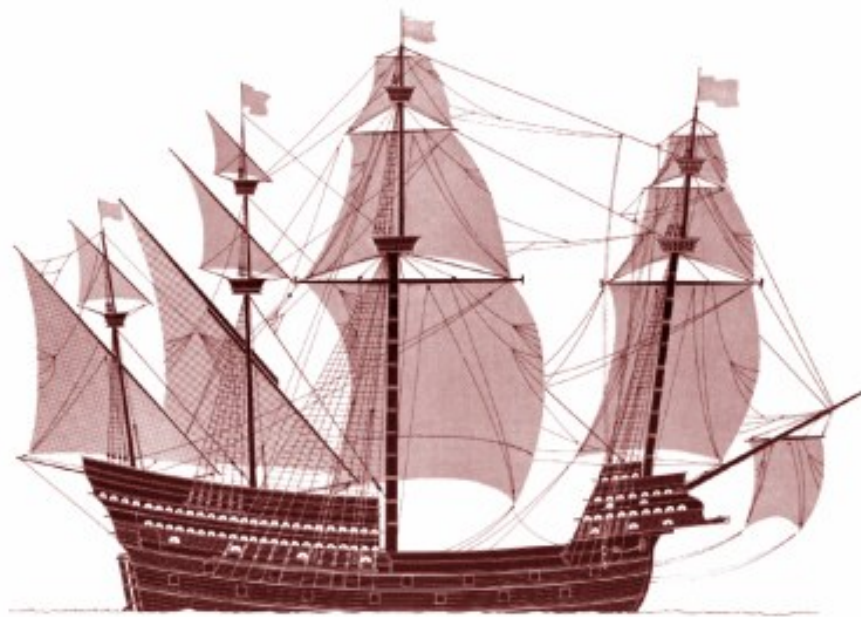
# Robert Morrison



Born: 1782 England

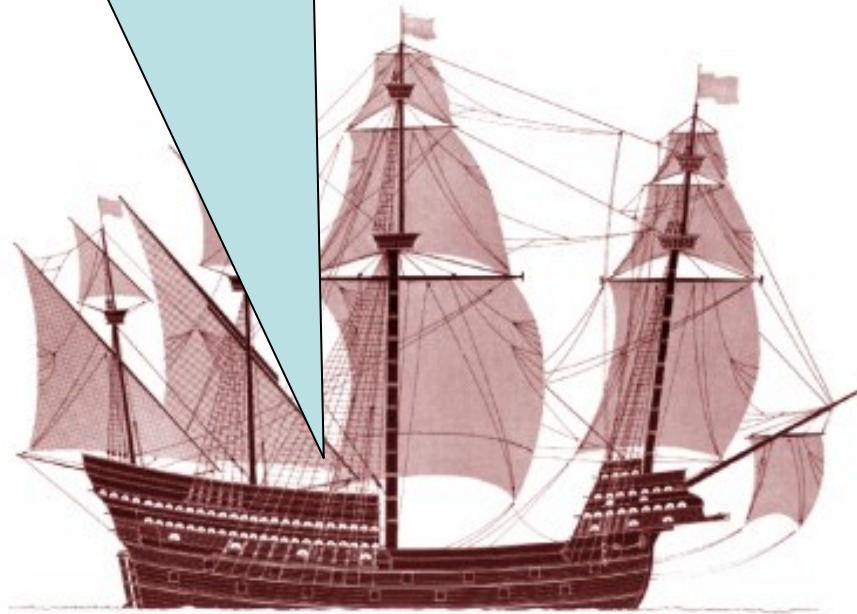
Prayer: “Lord, place me in the most difficult area with the largest obstacles”

China: 1807 for 27 years



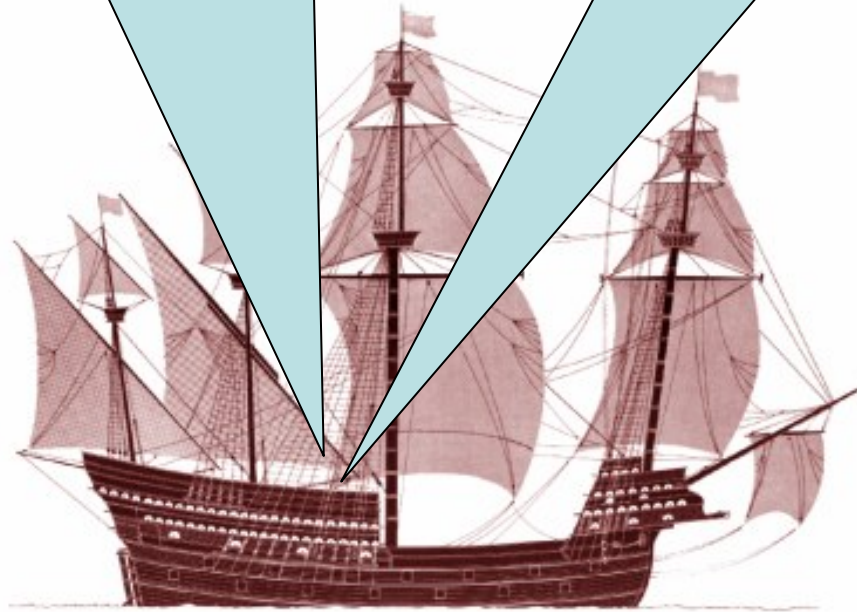


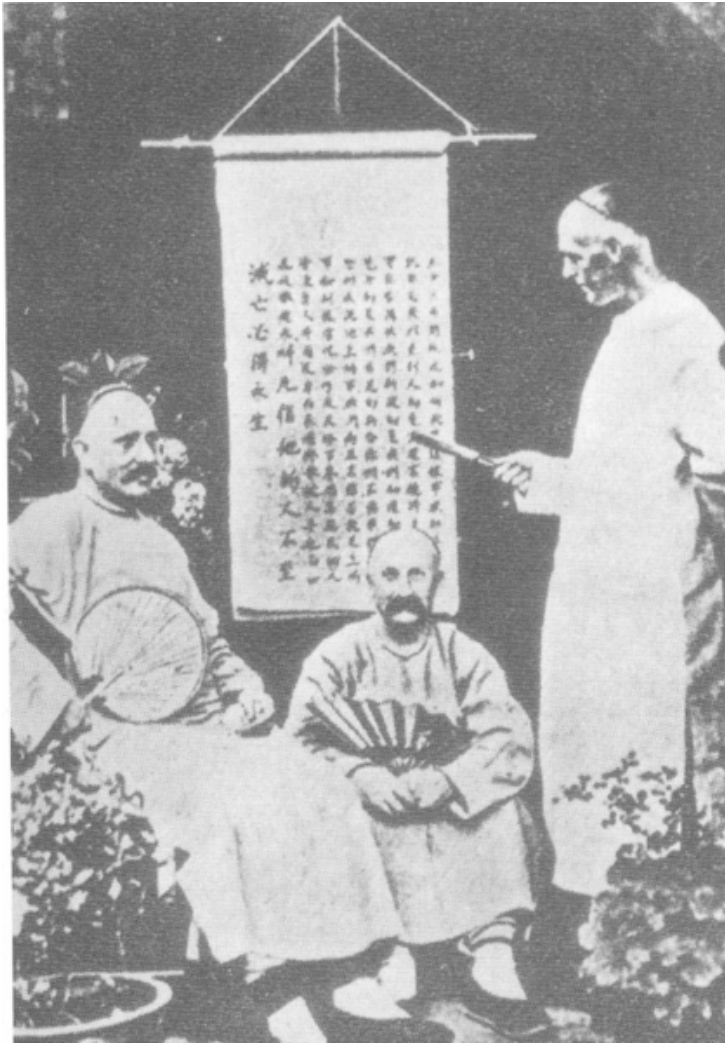
“Morrison, do you really expect to make an impression on the idolatrous Chinese?”



“Morrison, do you really expect to make an impression on the idolatrous Chinese?”

“No, but I expect God will!”

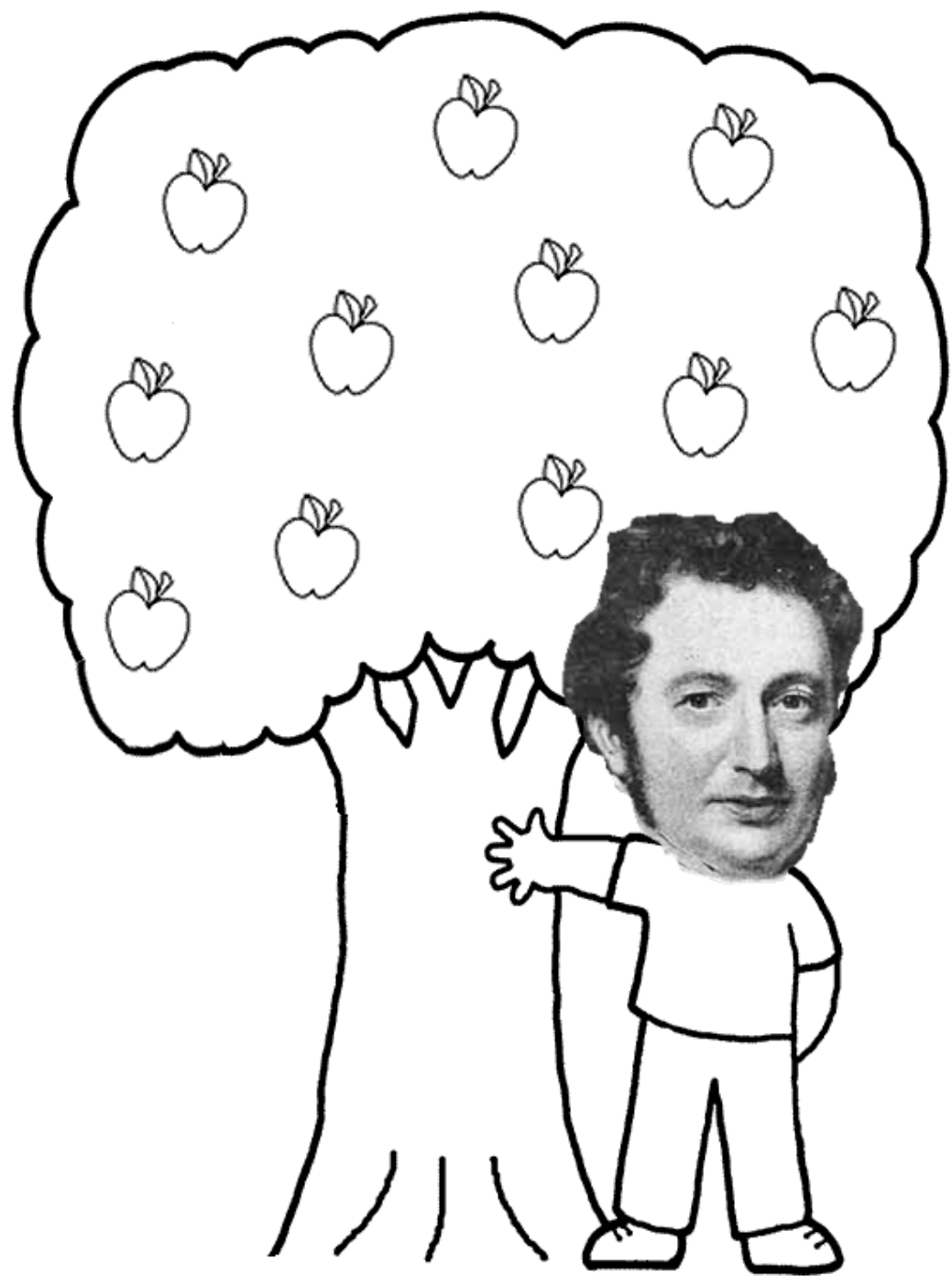




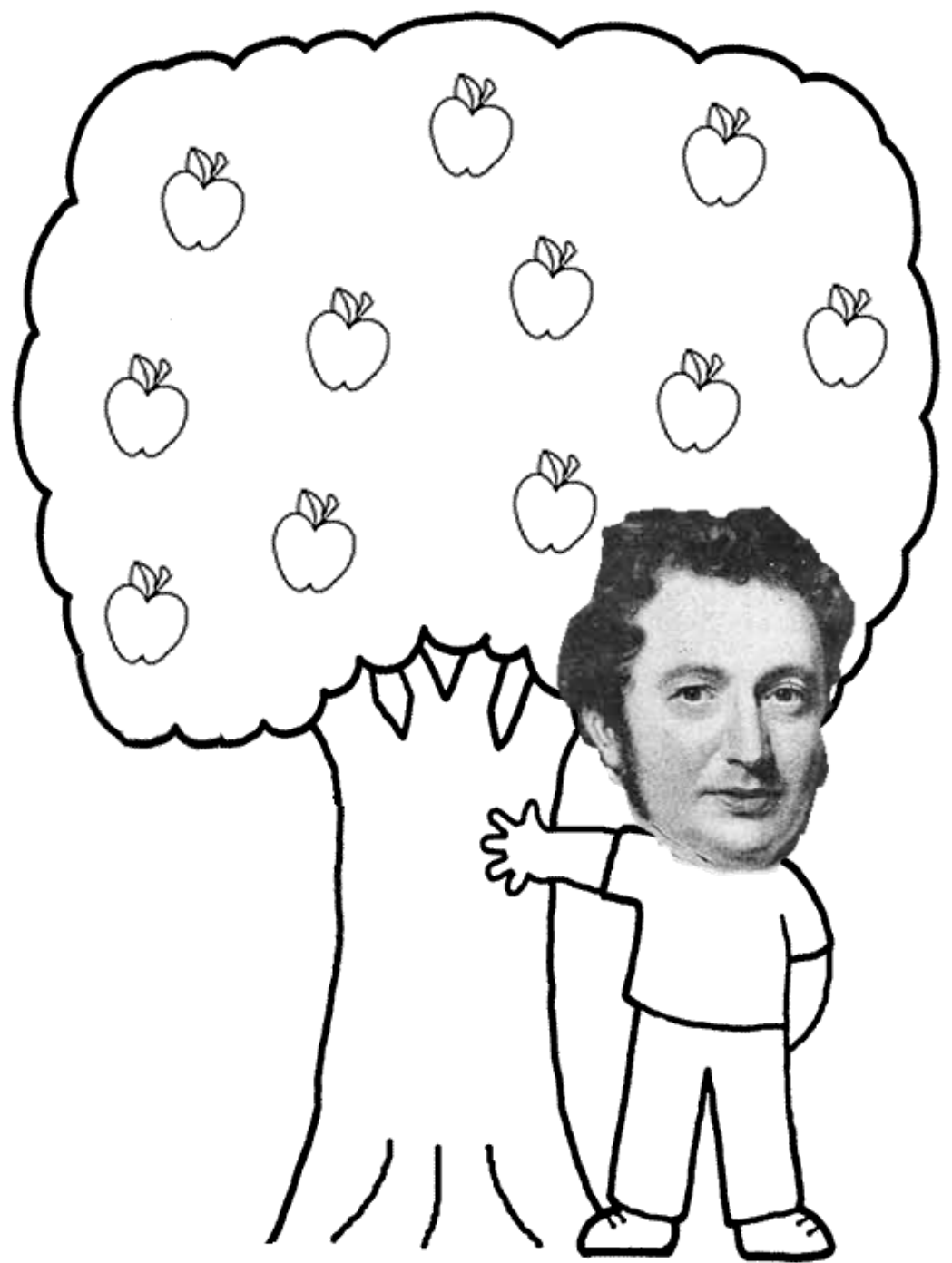
Morrison  
arrives to a  
near  
impossible  
mission

The Opium Wars made it  
tougher!

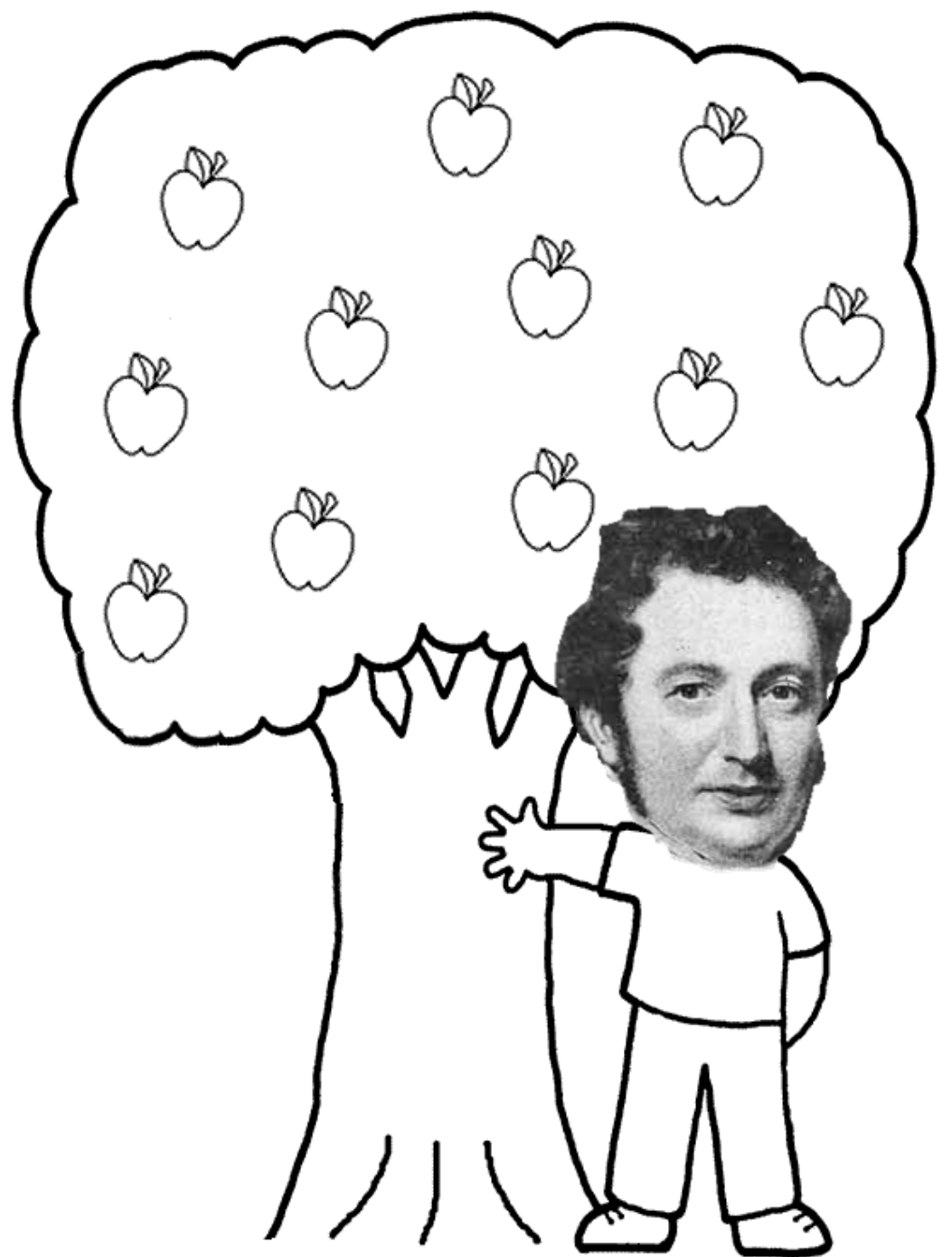




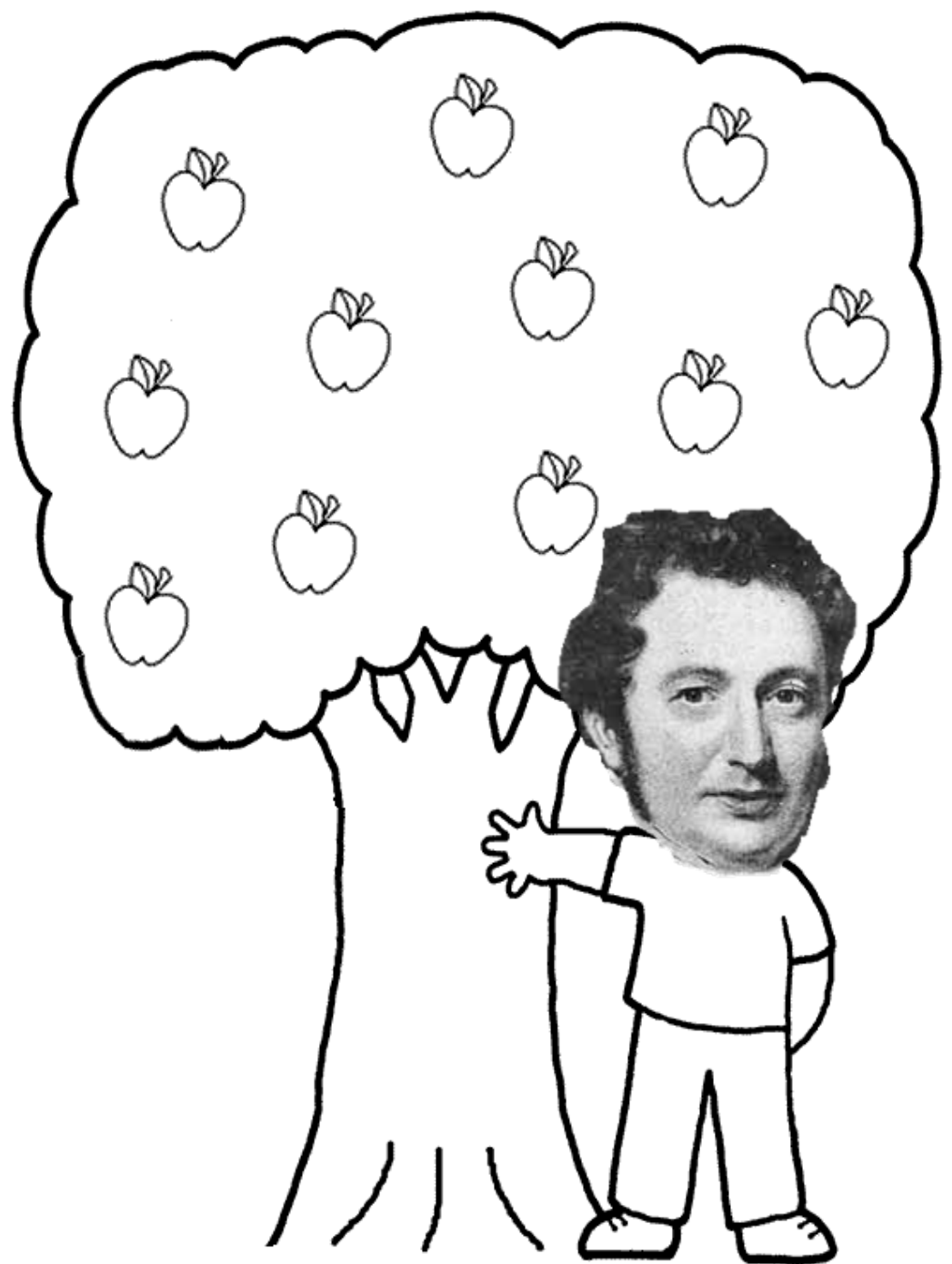
- 10 conversions



- 10 conversions
- A good Chinese Bible!

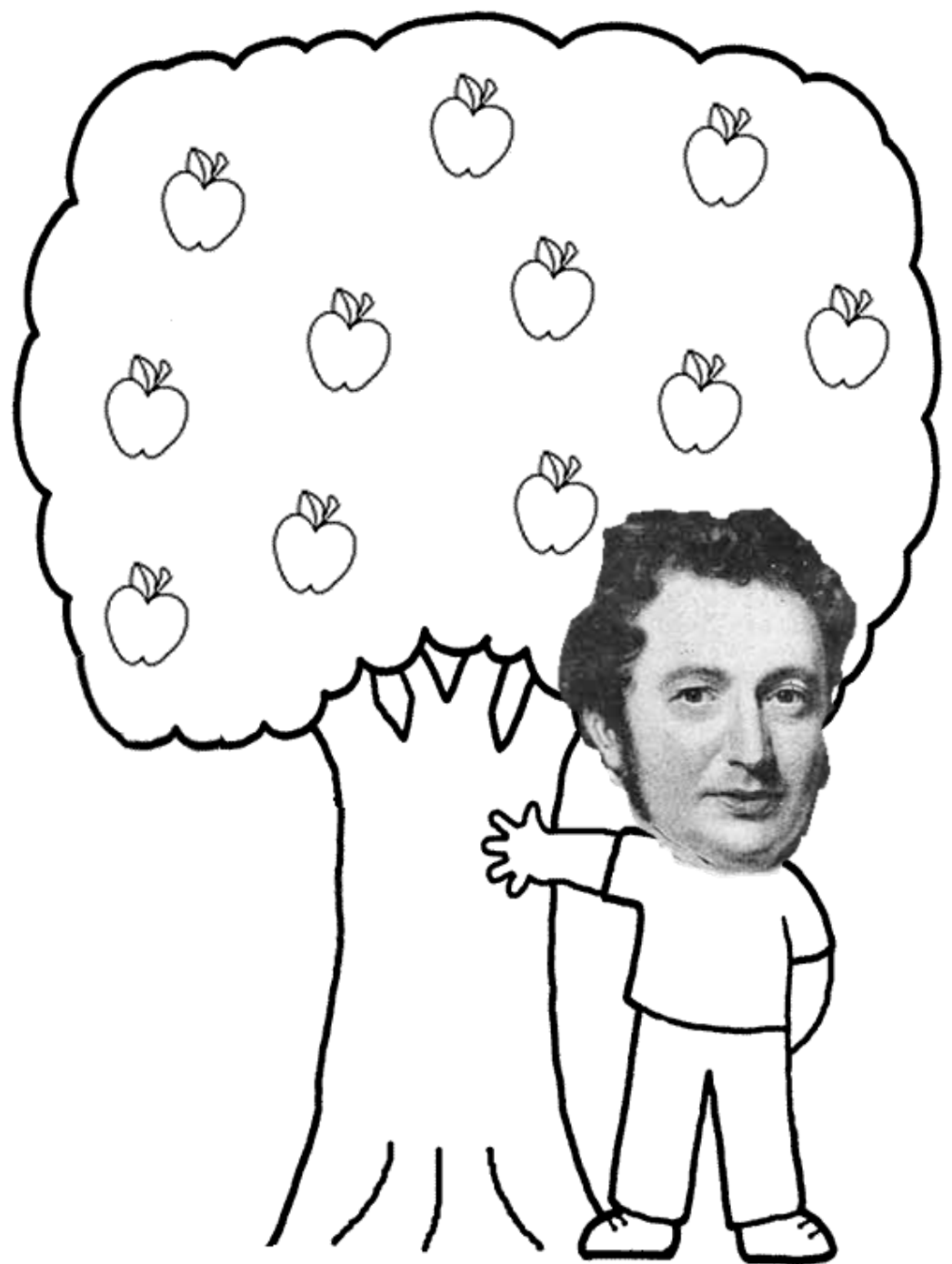


- 10 conversions
- A good Chinese Bible!
- Awakening of England





- 10 conversions
- A good Chinese Bible!
- Awakening of England
- Liang Afa



# J. Hudson Taylor



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- Dedicated by mother before birth in 1832



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- Studied medicine then left for China at 21

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- A furlough in England changed his approach

Taylor organized the  
“China Inland Mission”



# Taylor organized the “China Inland Mission”



Today the “Overseas Missionary Fellowship” has over 30,000 missionaries all over the world

# Taylor was marked by humility

“Here to speak,  
is our illustrious  
guest, Hudson  
Taylor”



# Taylor was marked by humility

“Here to speak,  
is our illustrious  
guest, Hudson  
Taylor”

“Dear friends, I am  
the little servant of  
an illustrious  
Master”



# Hudson Taylor and Maria Dyer



# Hudson Taylor and Maria Dyer



I would wait if he went home in order to increase his usefulness. But is he to leave his [mission] work in order to gain a *name* for the sake of marrying me? If he loves me more than Jesus, he is not worthy of me – if he were to leave the Lord's work for world's honour, I would have nothing to do with him.

# Taylor after the marriage:



Charles  
Spurgeon

# Taylor after the marriage:



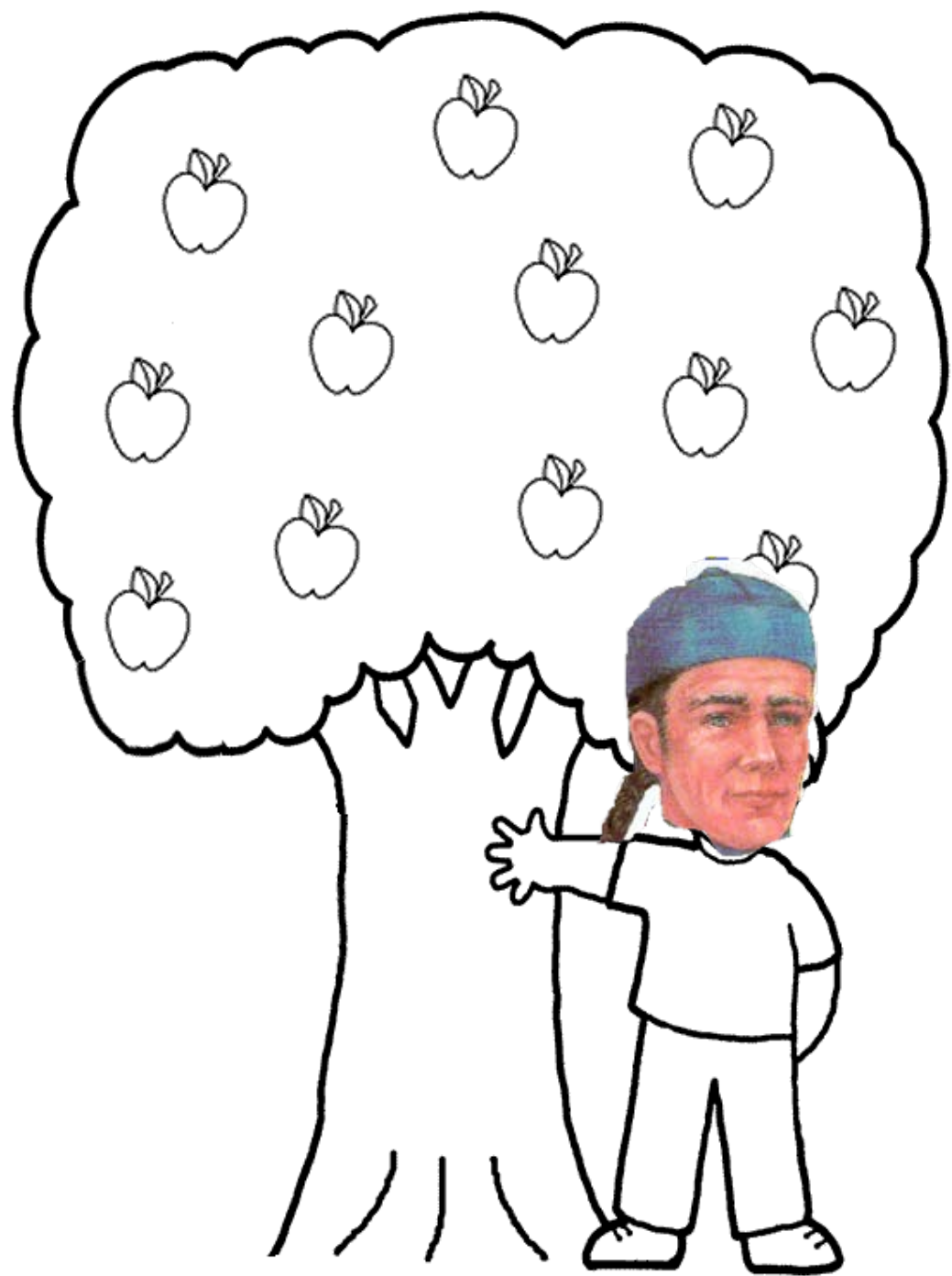
“China, China, China is now ringing in our ears in that special, peculiar, musical, forcible, unique way in which Mr. Taylor utters it.”

Charles  
Spurgeon

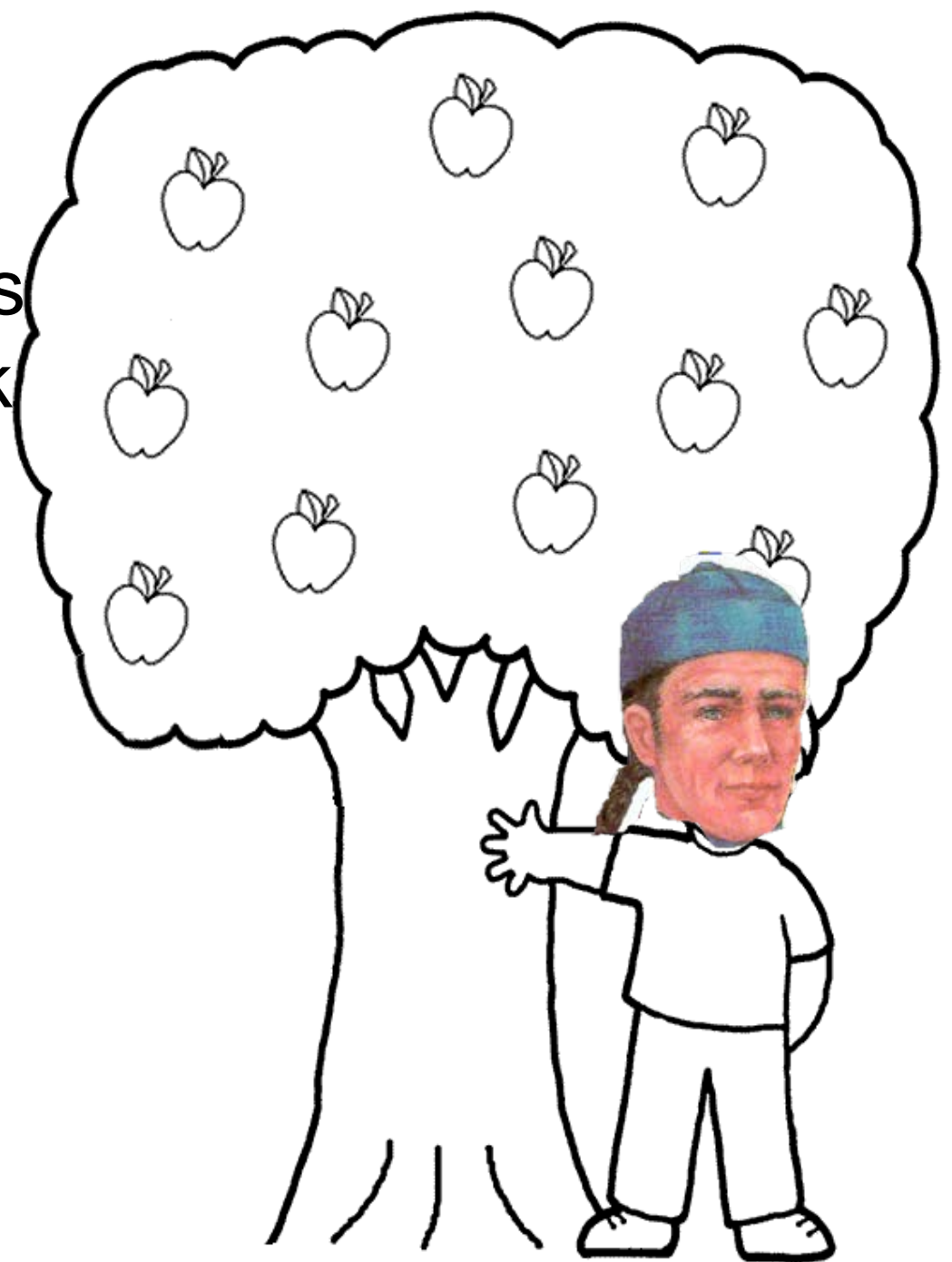
# Taylor and the Boxer Rebellion of 1900



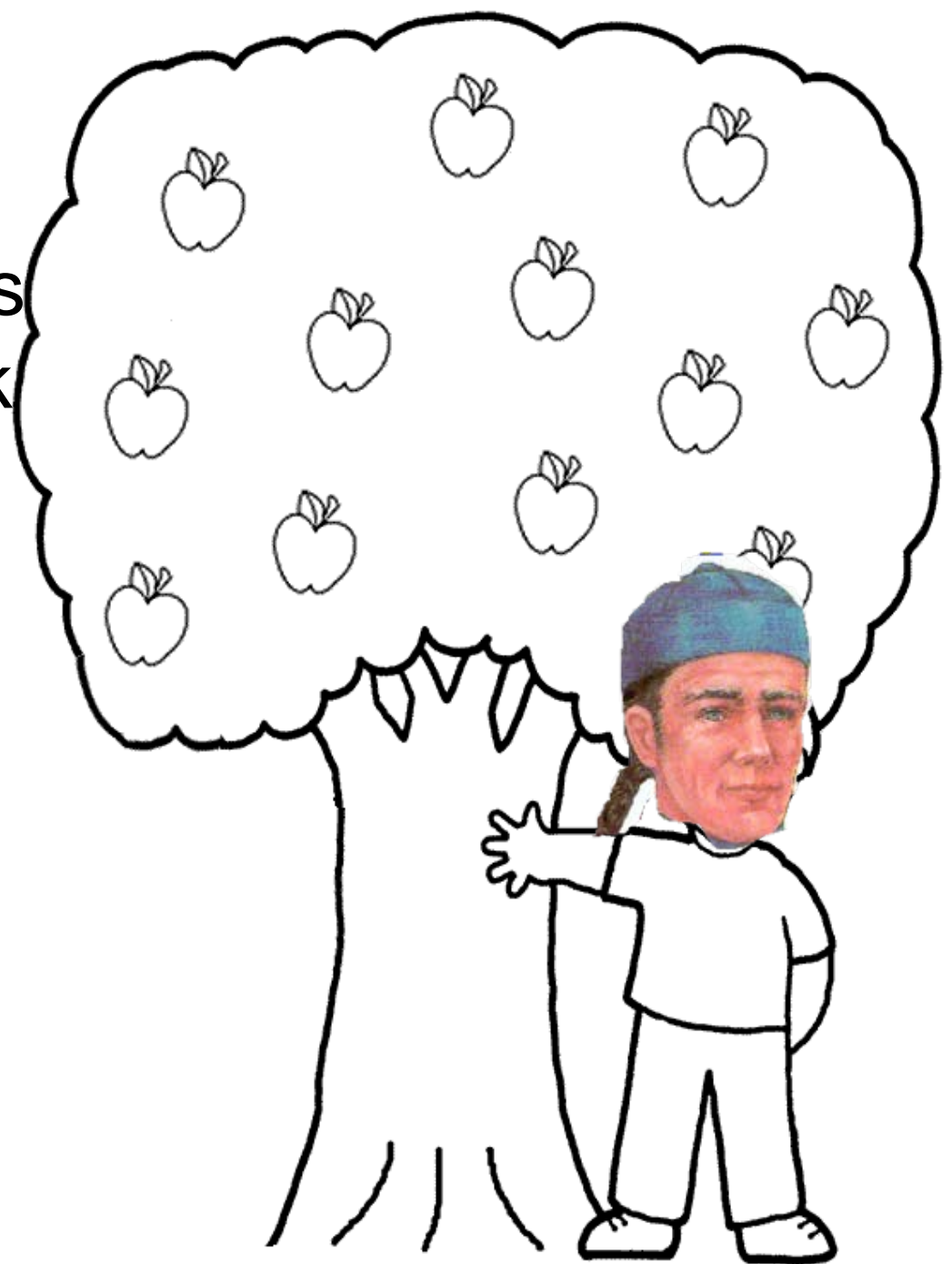




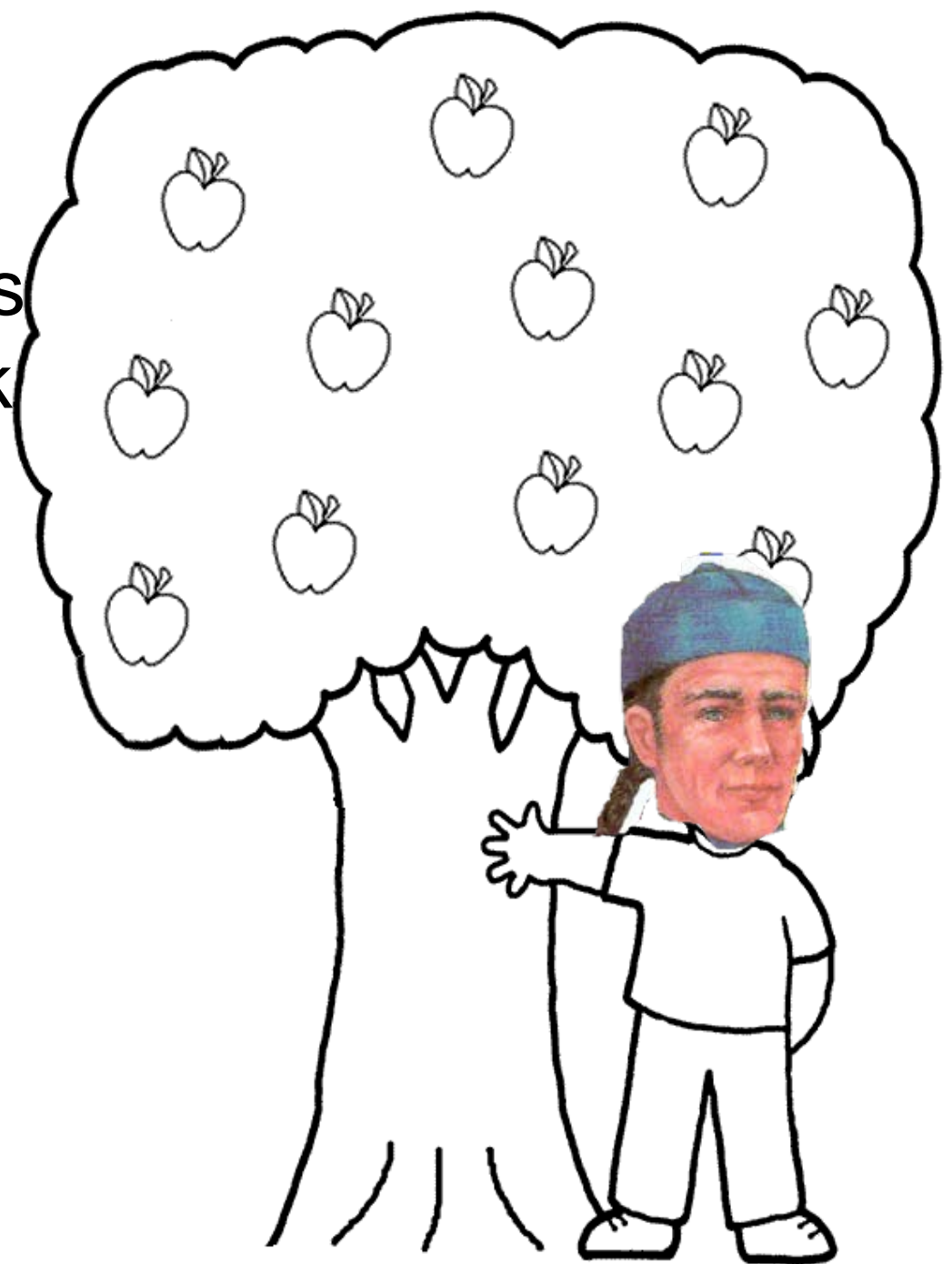
- >800 missionaries brought to the work



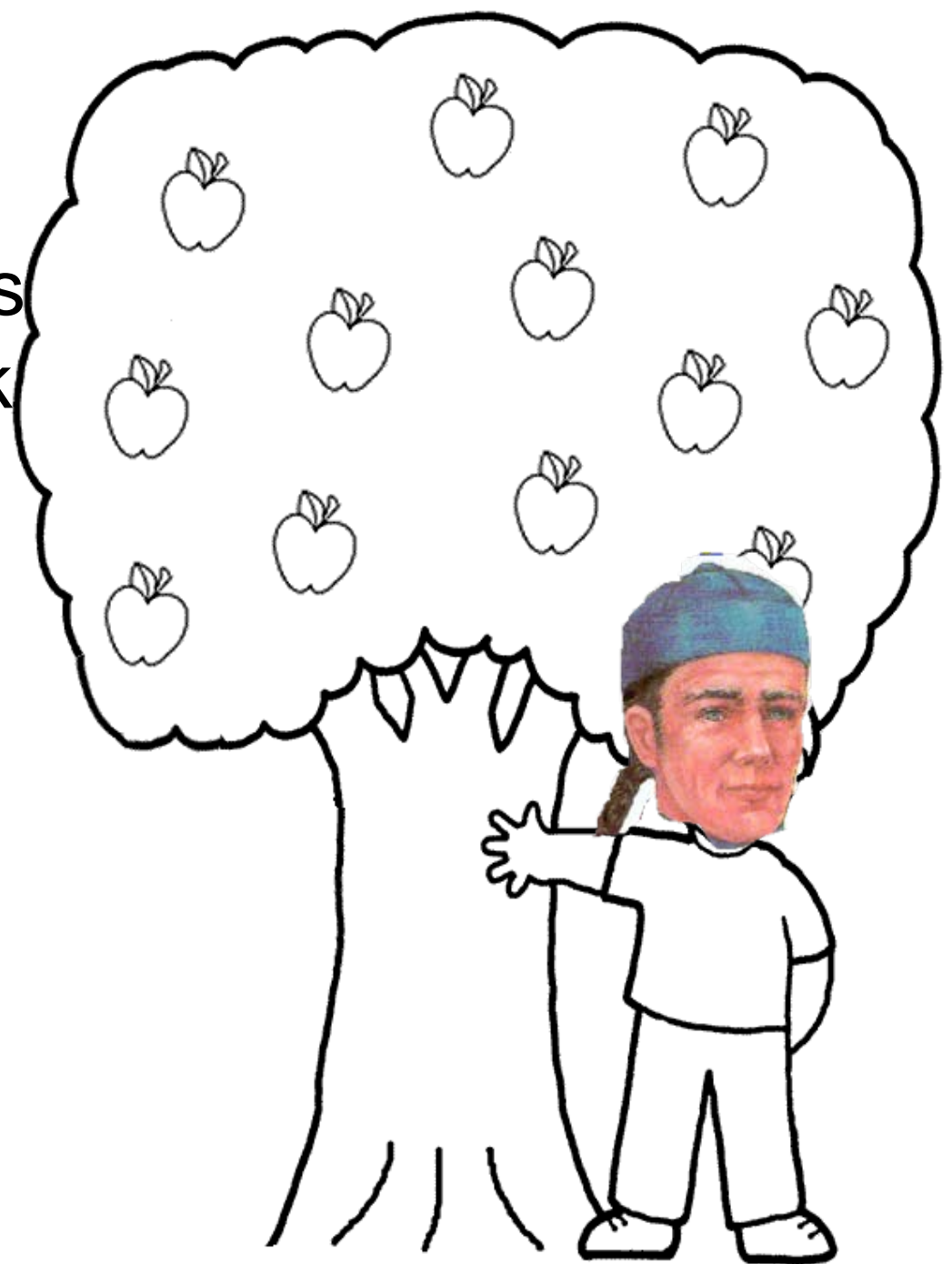
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- 18,000 conversions



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- Opium awareness



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- 18,000 conversions
- Opium awareness
- 125 schools



# Lottie Moon



# Lottie Moon

- Little Charlotte born to a wealthy Virginia family in 1840



# Lottie Moon



- Little Charlotte born to a wealthy Virginia family in 1840
- A brainiac!



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# Lottie Moon



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- A brainiac!
- Post Civil War, a teacher
- 1873 - 1912 a Chinese Missionary, following Taylor Hudson's example

# Lottie Moon and marriage



# Lottie Moon and marriage



“God had first claim on my life, and since the two conflicted, there could be no question about the result”

# Lottie Moon's approach to missions



# Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions

# Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions



1888:  
\$3,315

# Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions



1888:  
\$3,315



2006: >\$150 million  
Total: \$2.8 billion



# Lottie Moon



- Lottie died on ship in 1912

# Watchman Nee



# Watchman Nee



- Born 1903

# Watchman Nee



- Born 1903
- Brilliant man becomes a Christian at 17

# Watchman Nee



- Born 1903
- Brilliant man becomes a Christian at 17
- Self taught through reading

# Nee-isms

**Mat. 22:28**"Now then, at the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?"

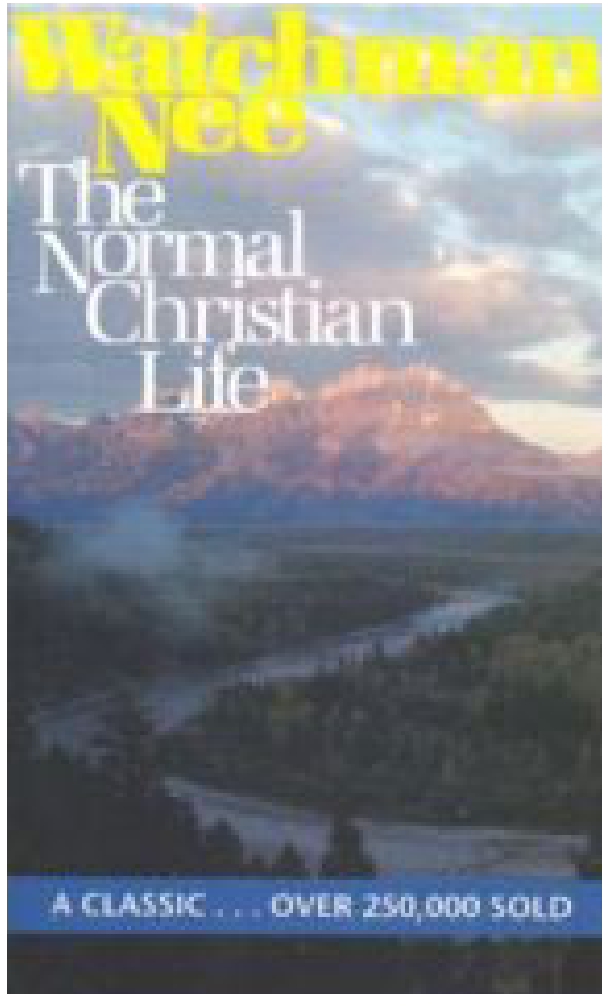
**29**Jesus replied, "You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God.

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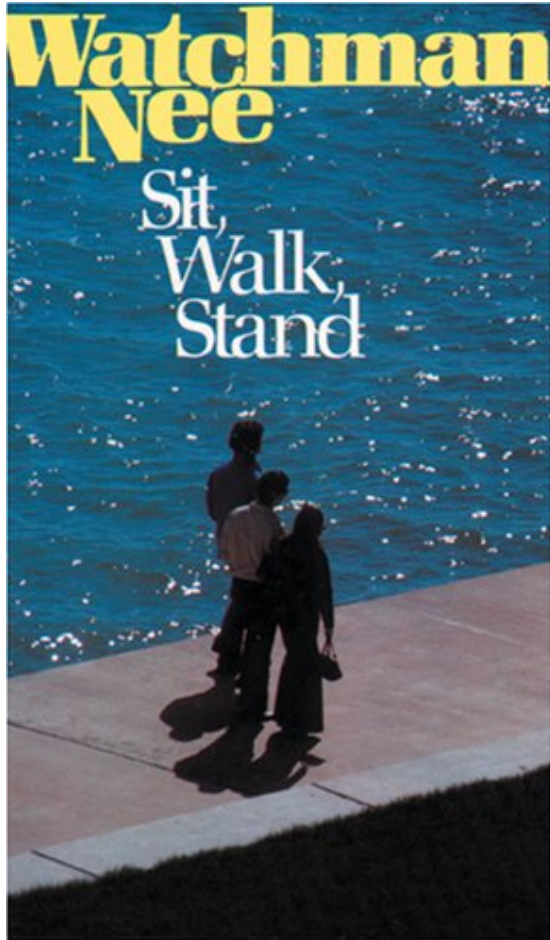
# Nee-isms



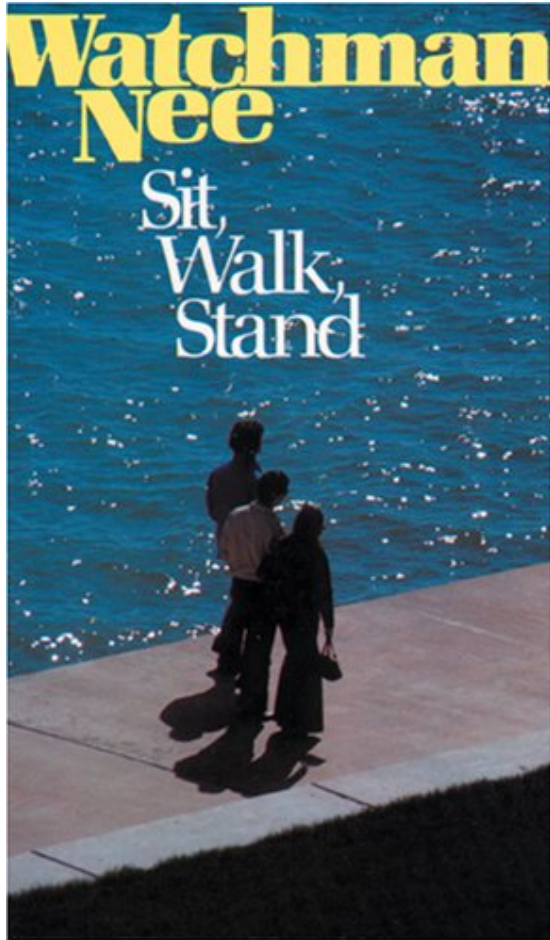
**Read Romans as  
the normal  
Christian Life,  
not the  
exceptional!**



# Nee-isms



# Nee-isms



**Ephesians:**

**Sit with Christ**

**Walk in  
righteousness**

**Stand firm  
against Satan**

# Watchman Nee



# Watchman Nee

- Health Problems



# Watchman Nee



- Health Problems
- Political Problems

# Watchman Nee



- Health Problems
- Political Problems

Christ is the Son of God who died for the redemption of sinners and resurrected after three days. This is the greatest truth in the universe. I die because of my belief in Christ. Watchman Nee.

# Points for Home

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- Find God's role for you!



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- Pray, for you and your children

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  - “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field” Mt 9:37-38

# Points for Home

- Find God's role for you!
- Pray, for you and your children
  - “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field” Mt 9:37-38
- Not “God of the Americas” But Lord over all! “God wants **everyone** to come to repentance” (2 Pet. 3:9)