

Another year of service, of witness for thy has not been just what it should have

love; been, and no well-defined sense of what

Another year of training for holier work the defects are. The only way to make above.

Another year is dawning! dear Master, let a reformation effective is to make it defi-

it be nite. We need to deal faithfully with our-

. Anywhere and everyw.here, another year for selves. Has life been a struggle for self-

Thee! isbends? Have our energies been con-

- Francis Ridley HaverlJal. sumed in the narrow purpose of getting what we could and trying to keep what we got? Then let us remember that .. A

We indulge the bope that the appear- man's life consisteth not in the abun-

ance and contents of the first number of dance of the things he possessetb." Let

the new volume will commend the paper us defillitely determine in the strengtb of

to our readers with sufficient force to in- God that our hearts shall open to the

duce them to help in raising our subscrip- wants of others, and our bands sball

tion list to a good round number. Tbis minister to the suffering around us. Let

is a good number and well wortb the us resolve that not another year or day

price, but it is hardly a fair sample of sball pass witbout someone being made

what we hope to do in succeeding num- bappier and better for our influence, and

bers. the belp we are waiting to bestow. Do

We are sending tbis paper to quite not let us permit either the cares or pleas-

a number of friends of the cause whose ures of life, or the deceitfulness of ricbes

names are not yet on our lists. It is a to crowd out the better part of life, and

gentle invitation to have the names of so defeat it. Now it is bigb time to

such, and the names of their friends, awake out of sleep; for the

day is at
placed there. hand.

Bentley Historical
Library

-. •• !.-Ll _ _

Digitized by Google

BABISM - WHAT IS IT?

OWING to the riots which have taken
the idea that the
place during the past few months in
returned with angels,
Persia and the hundreds who have laid
trumpets. His angels are
down their lives for what they believe
the clouds are the
to be the truth, we propose to give, as
prevent Christians, Mo-
far as is possible in a short article, some
others from recogniz-
idea of this new religIO n which is ob-
sound of the trumpets,
taining such a hold on the people, more
proclamation which we
especially the upper-class people in this
land.

Thus, then, we have
Bab is Christ
clouds, and
his messengers;
doubts which
hammedans, and
ing him; and the
the sound of the
now hear.

In August last, the mob, incited by
the MullaQ,s, or priests, rose in Tabriz,
Teheran, rspahan, and Yezd, and killed
some hundreds of those who had joined
this new sect, at the same time pillag-
ing their houses and carrying off every-
thing of value they could lay hands
upon. Numbers were, however, able
to flee to other towns where the bulk of
the population are Babis, and it was in
passing through one of these towns
that I met some of their chief priests
who bad fled there for "refuge from
Teheran.

A 8ROTHKR 01" THIE "R~HtNDRD CHRIST

The Jews were told to expect a
Messiah, but when he came, they did
not accept him; the Christians to look
for Christ's second coming, but when
he came (in the person of the Bab), they
rejected him ; and the Mohammedans to

look for the fulfilment of the promise of Al Mahdi, yet now when that promise has come (the Bab), they persecute him.

They deny the crucifixion, saying that God made a man the image of Christ, whom the Jews crucified by mistake, thinking it was Christ. They
!'HB PUS&MT 8048, WHOM CHRIST I AN
Ba CHRIST III.TURNBD TO kARTH
BA815 BaLI.vB TO

deny the atonement, for they say the smaller must be a sacrifice for the greater and not the greater for the less (i. e., if a horse dies, his (i. e., the same divine) spirit is sick. they kill a fowl as a sacrifice for passes on to his successor, and is the it, but would not kill a horse if a fowl same divine spirit which worked in all was sick). They deny the resurrection the prophets from Adam to Moses, and the ascension of Christ, Mohammed, and the Imams, all Christ's body. while they accept the resurrection and of whom they accept as prophets sent ascension of his Spirit, from God. for they hold that

flesh and blood can-
Digitized by Coogle

~

222

BABISM- WHAT IS IT!

not enter heaven, it being a place of to death. People who are in doubt or spirits only as God is a spirit, being dissatisfied with the Mohammedan faith everywhere at once and yet unseen. (and there are many), when looking on at one of these scenes, They read and prize the whole of the immediately conclude that, if so many Scriptures, but twist the meaning of are will- ing to die for the Babi faith, every part to suit themselves. They then it must be true, and so become enquirers are exceedingly friendly with Chris- and

tians, and say, "There is no difference between us, for we both accept increase is Christ as the Son of God." They are the taught to practice love and gentleness toward everybody, no matter of what circum- religion; to be kind to strangers and thousands travelers, and to call no one unclean. America. There is also a sort of free-masonry think among Babis and they will always help one another with money, food, or clothes. a step Of late years the faith is making great strides in Persia, and they have make' Chris- very earnest missionaries working zeal- Babism. ously in every part of the country. It are is said that some of the highest govern- for what ment. officials are Babis, and I know of encour- several villages where the whole popu- it does lation are followers of the Bab. Christian- The persecutions which take place Christians," from time to time are the cause of perse- numerous converts joining them, for a Babi who is going to be killed, by burn- customs ing or otherwise, is generally taken into Persian the public square of the town and there coun- given a chance of cursing the Bab and

then converts. Another reason for their owing to the reputed growth of movement in America. Tales of the most exaggerated description are lated about the hundreds of of followers the Bab has in and these poor, uneducated people think that if the Americans accept this then it must be true. Babism, in my opinion, is not toward Christianity, but, on the contrary, they do their best to tianity a stepping-stone toward The fact that so many hundreds willing to lay down their lives they consider the truth ought to age the missionaries, showing as that once the Persians accept ity, they will not be "rice but will stand firm through any cution. The fact that under the new regulations no Scriptures in the language are allowed to enter the try makes it doubly hard for the

mis-repeating the formula, "There is no God but God, and Mohammed is the Prophet of God." If they do this, they are allowed to go free, but if they refuse, as they generally do, they are put

sion~' all over Persia. No army fight without ammunition, and the munition of Christ's army is the of God.- Ckas. E. G. Tisdall, in 01 Ckristian Work.

A CRYING NEED
A. W. SBMMBN S

IF ever there was a time in the history of the world when people needed educating in the principles of healthful living, it is now. The world's greatest need to-day is a gospel to reach both body and soul. A gospel that is not broad enough to include the body, fails of its mission.

matters pertaining to preventive medicine - the simple agencies of which are within the reach of and poor alike. Why this One thing seems evident,- the perish for lack of knowledge." there is a wisdom and knowledge found, but it is the wisdom of the world, and lacks the most essential element, viz., God. II The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, in him are hid all the treasures

Digitized by Google