



The Missionary Fellowship of

William Carey

MICHAEL A. G. HAYKIN



A Long Line of Godly Men Profile

ENDORSEMENTS

“There has been a terrible misreading of modern missions, and it’s this: our heroes on the mission field were lone rangers who pulled themselves up by their spiritual bootstraps to take the gospel to the lost. Finally, that caricature has exploded thanks to Michael A.G. Haykin, who demonstrates that the founder of modern missions himself, William Carey, depended not only on God but on close friendships to bring the good news to unreached peoples. Through the art of biography, Haykin reminds Christians today that fellowship is not only key to the Christian life but is essential to the Christian mission. The devil can take down a solo Christian, but he cannot penetrate a band of Christian brothers who link arms to advance the gospel.”

—DR. MATTHEW BARRETT

Associate professor of Christian theology
Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

“Michael Haykin’s *The Missionary Fellowship of William Carey* is among the best I have read on William Carey. Haykin calls our attention to a dimension that ought to be seriously considered, remembered, and fostered in the context of any Christian ministry. And William Carey’s successful but stressful life is an outstanding illustration of it. What would have happened to Carey, the work in India, and his influence worldwide without his friends? This book ought to be read and discussed not only among missionaries, mission agencies, and mission organizations worldwide; it should be studied in any ecclesiastical and ministerial context.”

—DR. ELIAS DOS SANTOS MEDEIROS

Harriet Barbour Professor of Missions
Reformed Theological Seminary, Jackson, Miss.

“Pioneers such as William Carey gave birth to the modern missionary movement. It was Carey’s sense of evangelistic passion, set upon a clear foundation of biblical truth and confidence in the gospel, that compelled him to leave the safe confines of England and go to India. The full harvest of William Carey’s ministry will be known only in eternity. This new biography of Carey is a compelling presentation of the man, his theology, and his deep love for the nations. Haykin’s treatment is compelling, is warm-hearted, and will point beyond Carey to the Savior he loved so deeply.”

—DR. R. ALBERT MOHLER JR.

President and Joseph Emerson Brown

Professor of Christian Theology

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

“Christian fellowship, friendship, and mission are inexorably linked. One cannot claim to be on God’s mission and live in isolation; in fact, any missional effort devoid of a community of friends and coworkers is vanity. I am thankful for Michael Haykin’s work reminding us—as Westerners—of the beauty of friendship with like-minded people and how this principle was visible in the life of William Carey, the father of modern mission. This book will be a blessing to those who are students of history, and there are many lessons to be learned in its pages that will help Christians be multipliers of God’s mission and ministry.”

—DR. ED STETZER

Billy Graham Distinguished Chair of Church,

Mission, and Evangelism

Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill.

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The Long Line of Godly Men Profiles

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To three dear friends:

Peter and Anna Pikkert—
“plodders” by grace like Carey—
and Haitham John Issak,
a lover of Christ like Carey

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Followers Worthy to Be Followed

Down through the centuries, God has raised up a long line of godly men whom He has mightily used at strategic moments in church history. These valiant individuals have come from all walks of life, from the ivy-covered halls of elite schools to the dusty back rooms of tradesmen's shops. They have arisen from all points of this world, from highly visible venues in densely populated cities to obscure hamlets in remote locations. Yet despite these diverse differences, these pivotal figures have held in common those virtues that remain nonnegotiable.

Each man possessed an unwavering faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. But more than that, each of these stalwarts of the faith held deep convictions in the God-exalting truths known as the doctrines of grace. Though they differed in secondary matters of theology, they stood shoulder to shoulder in

embracing these biblical teachings that magnify the sovereign grace of God in salvation. These spiritual leaders stood upon and upheld the foundational truth that “salvation is of the Lord” (Ps. 3:8; Jonah 2:9).

Any survey of church history reveals that those who have embraced these biblical Reformed truths have been granted extraordinary confidence in their God. Far from paralyzing these spiritual giants, the doctrines of grace kindled within their hearts a reverential awe for God that humbled their souls before His throne. The truths of divine sovereignty emboldened these men to rise up and advance the cause of Christ on the earth. With an enlarged vision for the expansion of His kingdom upon the earth, they stepped forward boldly to accomplish the work of ten, even twenty men. They arose with wings like eagles and soared over their times. The doctrines of grace ignited them to serve God in their divinely appointed hour of history, leaving a godly inheritance for future generations.

This Long Line of Godly Men Profiles series highlights key figures in the agelong procession of these sovereign-grace men. The purpose of this series is to introduce you to these significant figures and explore how they used their God-given gifts and abilities to impact their times for the work of Christ. Because they were courageous followers of the Lord, their examples are worthy of our emulation today.

This volume focuses on the pioneering missionary William Carey. Celebrated during his own lifetime for his evangelistic efforts on the Indian subcontinent, Carey risked everything to

take the gospel to people who lived in darkness. He also put the lie to the notion that Calvinism and missions don't mix. Far from holding to a view of God's sovereignty that sees no place for missions and evangelism, Carey was consumed with passion for God's power to convert sinners as revealed in the gospel. In his efforts, he was joined by a stalwart group of similarly committed friends, whose cooperation in the mission of God should inspire us all to join hands with our Christian brothers and sisters as we pass through this earthly life.

I want to thank the publishing team at Reformation Trust for their commitment to this Long Line of Godly Men Profiles series. I remain thankful for the ongoing influence of my former professor and revered friend, Dr. R.C. Sproul. I must also express my gratitude to Chris Larson, who is so instrumental in overseeing this series. Finally, I am grateful to Dr. Michael Haykin for authoring this volume and helping to introduce William Carey to a new generation.

May the Lord use this book to energize and embolden a new generation of believers to bring its witness for Jesus Christ upon this world for God. Through this profile of William Carey, may you be strengthened to walk in a manner worthy of your calling. May you be zealous in your study of the written Word of God for the exaltation of Christ and the advance of His kingdom.

Soli Deo gloria!

—Steven J. Lawson
Series editor

We want to see men and women around the world connect the deep truths of the Christian faith to everyday life.



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