

# J. Hudson Taylor

Historical Theology

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II Peter 2:24 He Himself bore Our sins in his Body on The Tree, so That we Might die to sins and Live for Righteousness; by his Wounds You Have Been Healed.

John 19:30 "When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, 'It is finished,' and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit"

John 14:13-14 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

## I. Early Life

### A. His great-grandfather (James Taylor)

1. converted on his wedding day (no dancing) (fiddle found a new use)
2. bride was unhappy but then...
3. injury, no longer could do stone mason work
4. moved to Barnsley for employment.... Wicked town
5. no sound church, would preach in the open air.... was often roughed up
6. one day two men grabbed him and rubbed mud mixed with broken glass in his eyes
7. caused blindness but James Taylor refused to press charges

### B. His grandfather (Edward Taylor) planted a Methodist church in Barnsley

### C. His father was a pharmacist and a lay preacher

### D. Hudson was a non-believer in his youth and totally bored at family devotions

### E. He went to work at a bank at age 13 and was ridiculed for his family's belief in God

### F. While at the bank he developed an eye infection

### G. Had to quit the bank and work with his dad

### H. Conversion

1. His sister (two years his younger) decided to pray every day for her brother's salvation
2. Mom gone to visit her sister, prayed one afternoon for her son
3. Hudson was given the afternoon off – decided to go to his dad's library for some reading
4. He found a tract—Poor Richard—was planning to read the first half and skip the last half
5. Was confronted by "the Finished Work of Christ"
6. He told his sister of his new faith, but told her not to tell anyone
7. When his mom came home, he greeted her

### I. Now as a new believer, he loved family devotions and going to their Methodist church, and praying with his sister

### J. He became convinced soon after his conversion that he was being called as a missionary to China (After he served in China for several years, his parents revealed to him that as a little boy, they had prayed that God would use him in China to share the Gospel.)

## II. Training for missions

### A. On Sunday evenings, Hudson and his sister (Amelia) would visit the poorest areas of Barnsley to hand out tracts and invite people to church and tell of God's love.

### B. He began to study Latin, Greek and Hebrew

### C. He decided to toughen up his body (China would be no place for someone pampered)

- D. Obtained a copy of the gospel of Luke in a dialect of Chinese. Together with a friend, they were able to decipher over 500 Chinese pictographs
- E. He worked at learning as much about China as he could. From tracts obtained from the Chinese Evangelisation Society and from a book on China from a local minister. (Information on China was difficult to obtain because of China's long national opinion and the Opium War)
- F. The book he borrowed was written by a missionary, who urged all future missionaries to get medical training
- G. Then he met Marianne Vaughan. Hudson was convinced that she would be a great wife and they would be a great team in China
- H. Through family, he became an assistant to Dr. Hardey (a strong Christian) in the town of Hull. He would work with Hardey, who practiced medicine and taught medicine, and he would receive room and board and a small wage.
- I. Well prepared to be the assistant. Bookkeeping (time at the bank) write prescriptions (time working for his father)



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- J. Missionary coming to London to speak of inland China. Amelia was excited, but Marianne (woman Hudson thought would be his wife) said, "Can't you just serve God as a doctor in England?"
  - K. The missionary to inland China was part of the Great Exposition that was sponsored by Queen Victoria—so train fare was cheap (The missionary's response to Hudson)
  - L. During his training, he had several opportunities to trust God for finances and safety. (Tithing, Drainside, Dying woman, late wages, money to his former landlady)
  - M. He left Hardey to quicken his medical training by going to London and go to medical school
  - N. Contracted malignant fever from a cadaver. Two other students died, but Hudson lived after weeks of battling the sickness.
  - O. Revived he felt God telling him to go to the shipping office. Money enough to pay the doctor and a trip home to his parents to fully recover.
  - P. Then back to London for more medical training and a better living situation.
- III. The Taiping Rebellion (1850-1864)
- A. Hong Xiuquan was determined to work for the government but failed the civil service exams

- B. Then he became very ill and ran a fever for nearly two weeks. He hallucinated that he was in heaven fighting demons. His family took care of him and told him about his rantings shortly after Hong's fever broke.
  - C. Hong was certain, though, that the hallucinations were real
  - D. Later he read a gospel tract and announced that he was the younger brother of Jesus and had been sent to earth to gather an army to fight demons.
  - E. Many Chinese were nearly destitute at the time, so someone promising them that they would be cared for and get land to farm sounded super good. So many, many people joined his "cause".
  - F. When he gained over a thousand to his side, he proclaimed that all of the Qing Dynasty were the demons that they must attack.
  - G. When news reached Britain about the Taiping Rebellion, most thought it was good news. They believed the reports about it being Christian led. Government leaders thought it was good. Christians thought it was an opportunity for the Gospel to go inland and not just be in the port cities.
  - H. The Chinese Evangelisation Society decided the time was right to send missionaries and Hudson volunteered to be the first to go.
  - I. The Society set up for Hudson to be transported to China on a ship named the *Dumfries* and they set out from Liverpool.
  - J. They experienced a windstorm and the beginning and becalmed seas near the end of the journey. The voyage took over 5 months.
  - K. When they arrived, they discovered that Shanghai was a war-torn city and that the only safe place to be was behind the walls of the British controlled area.
  - L. By then Britain had decided that Hong was leading a cult and that they needed to help the Qing Dynasty.
- IV. First Years in China
- A. No support and existing missionaries were not encouraging
  - B. For a year he worked in Shanghai and helped at a medical clinic
  - C. It also became clear that Marianne would never come to China to be his wife.
  - D. After a year, he and another missionary traveled to the village of Tung-chow. (roughed up, but then were allowed to pass out Bibles and tracts and speak)
  - E. He made several trips inland then he moved to Ning-po to help Dr. Parker set up a hospital.
  - F. Hudson began to think about how people, inland, were afraid of him – he looked odd with his strange clothes and curly blonde hair
  - G. Dr. Medhurst, who had been in China for some time, encouraged Hudson to take the look of the Chinese.
  - H. Many of the other missionaries ridiculed him for his Chinese appearance. Was he wrong?
  - I. He learned of the city of Swatow and the need for the Gospel in that city, he and another missionary friend decided to go to that city to preach and set up a clinic.
  - J. Because of the need of supplies, he ended up back in Ning-po. There he helped Dr. Parker organize a new hospital and he met more missionaries including three single female missionaries. He was particularly enchanted by Maria Dyer.
  - K. Then as he prepared to return to Swatow, the door closed. He decided it would be best to serve the Lord back in Ning-po.
  - L. Eventually, Hudson and fellow missionary John Jones, started a church in Ning-po. Not only did Hudson want the Chinese to turn to Christ under his preaching, he wanted to train the Chinese to become evangelists to their own people.
  - M. Hudson proposed marriage to Maria Dyer, which did not go well with her guardian, Mary Ann Aldersey.

- N. Hudson and Maria took over management of the hospital after Dr. Parker's wife died of cholera and Parker decided to return to England with his four children.
- O. Hudson and Maria were forced to return to England. Hudson had been in China for six years and was only 28, but he was very ill with tuberculosis.

V. Still working for China

- A. Several months passed before Hudson was strong enough to work again.
- B. He was determined to return to China, but to be more effective than before
- C. One way was to improve his medical training
- D. He translated the New Testament into with a new Chinese alphabet instead of pictographs
- E. He prayed for and recruited more missionaries for China
- F. He started a new mission group: China Inland Mission
- G. After a few years, Hudson, his family and sixteen new missionaries boarded a ship to go to China.
- H. The captain of the ship was a Christian, but most of the crew were rough and grumbled about the Bible-carrying, hymn-singing passengers. By the time they reached China many of the crew trusted Christ as Savior. Hymn: Yes, We Part, But Not Forever
- I. On Hudson's first trip to China the ship endured a windstorm and becalmed seas, this time they had to survive two typhoons.

VI. The Mission grew

- A. China Inland Mission was headquartered in China rather than Britain
- B. CIM emphasized training and equipping Chinese Christians to evangelize other Chinese
- C. CIM planned to go to all of the Chinese provinces, not just the coastal cities
- D. In 1866 CIM had 22 missionaries, by 1905 (Hudson's death) the organization had 825
- E. Also, they had 300 missionary stations spread out through all of the 22 provinces
- F. By 1905, CIM had 500 Chinese nationals working for the mission and 25,000 converts.



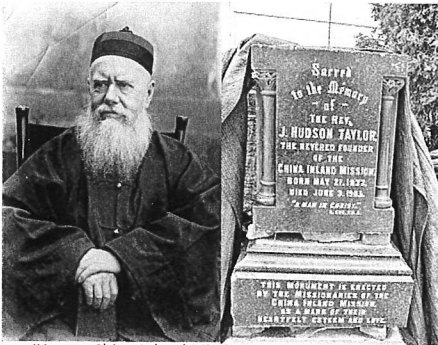
VII. Hudson's new mission at Hangchow and Yangchow

1. Took four weeks on the river to reach the city
2. Most Chinese there had never seen a foreigner
3. The mission found a large building they could obtain and repair to work as a headquarters, living space, and a hospital.
4. Hudson and his family served there two years, then moved farther inland to Yangchow
5. They found buildings to buy for the mission but leadership in the city wanted them gone
6. Rumors were spread how the foreigners were cannibals, eventually an angry mob of several thousand attacked the CIM house.

7. Hudson and one other missionary slipped out a back way to get to the local magistrate
8. He was slow to help, thinking the rumors might be true.
9. Those back at the house had to escape jumping 15 feet from a window to the ground. Two missionaries were injured, including Maria
10. The magistrate was able to calm the people and in a few weeks the mission reopened with a medical clinic and a place of worship

VIII. Final years

- A. Hudson and Maria decided to send their four oldest back to Britain for school
- B. On the trip to the coast, one of the boys died.
- C. On the trip back Maria gave birth, but Maria and the new baby both passed away.
- D. Hudson remarried a few years later to another female missionary.
- E. The mission endured the Boxer Rebellion (130 missionaries were killed and 50 of their children)
- F. Hudson spoke to crowds in Australia, New Zealand and the United States
- G. Hudson moved to Switzerland for health reasons
- H. At age 72, he returned to China for his 11<sup>th</sup> trip. He was accompanied by his son, Howard, who was a medical doctor.
- I. Hudson visited several of the CIM missions and spoke at gatherings
- J. He died while in China and was buried alongside his wife, Maria, and four of their children.



Heart for Asia. Hope for Billions.

IX. China Inland Mission

- A. 1900 China's government called for the end of Missions and missionaries—extermination of Christianity 188 missionaries murdered (79 were CIM)
- B. 1934 CIM 1368 missionaries
- C. 1950- All missions kicked out when the communists took over
- D. 1964 CIM changed name to Overseas Missionary Fellowship
- E. Now it is OMF International



#### Takeaways

God answered the prayers of Hudson Taylor's parents and sister for him to be saved  
God answered the prayers of Hudson Taylor's parents that he would be a missionary to China  
God supplied all of Hudson Taylor's needs  
Sometimes Taylor's foes included some who should have been friends  
Life was often very difficult as Hudson Taylor followed Christ  
CIM meet the needs of the people through medical help as they spread the Gospel  
CIM trained Chinese to be able to do the work of an evangelist  
God worked greatly through China Inland Mission

*"China is not to be won for Christ by quiet, ease-loving men and women ... The stamp of men and women we need is such as will put Jesus, China, [and] souls first and foremost in everything and at every time—even life itself must be secondary."*

*"God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply."*

*"The Great Commission is not an option to be considered, it is a commandment to be obeyed."*

*"Move men through God by prayer alone"*

