

and he must have the Spirit of Christ in him, or he can be only the shadow of a minister! We have great reason to fear, that there are many ministers by profession, who have little more to praise themselves with, than their education. Such can be no more than "shadows". My dear Ben, it is not a small thing to be called to the work of the gospel ministry, by the great Head of the Church. No. It is the highest calling, and the most glorious ever made to man. I often fear that I, even before I was sent, I think, however that I love Zion's Cause, & cannot rest, unless I try to publish salvation to dying sinners, when my health will admit of it. As to Nonresistance, Abolition, Temperance & they are at a very low ebb in this place. You know, my Ben, I can do nothing here alone, and seem disposed to send a helping hand in these things. I was very highly gratified, & receive a letter from our young Brother Abner, and think it a kind Providence that God has, not only converted him and given him a desire to preach the gospel to his countrymen, but has thrown him into your path.

I think he must be quite a help to you in acquiring the Chinese language, as you have the privilege (I presume) of conversing with him daily. The proficiency which he has made in the English studies since he came to this country is certainly very great, judging from his note addressed to me. May the Lord, make him eminently pious, and a very successful missionary to his Chinese Brethren.

God is working according to the "counsels of his own will" and the earth will soon be full of his glory. I have thought that the difficulties between China & England might be avoided, so as to assist in opening an effectual door, for the full and free introduction of the gospel to those perishing millions. Who knows? "God makes in a mysterious way, his wonders to perform". The Catholics can only go the length of saying, "God has purposed they may: He orders all things: The wrath of man shall praise him and the remainder of that wrath will be restraining. I can join you my Ben in saying the Church is not half awake yet, on the subject of missions. May the Lord wake her up, or she will still sleep on. There is a glorious Reformation in Beger. The Lord has done, and is doing wonders there.