

Would We Go to The Scythians?

“A 26-year-old American missionary was killed on a remote island off the coast of India, where he attempted to share the gospel with the most isolated tribe in the world...’You guys might think I’m crazy in all this, but I think it’s worth it to declare Jesus to these people...Please do not be angry at them or at God if I get killed’” (Christianity Today, November 21, 2018).

When the apostle Paul announces those accountable to God, and candidates to the blessing of Christ, he said, “where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bondman, freeman; but Christ is all, and in all” (Colossians 3:11). Of these he speaks of the Scythians, who are described as, “a race of savages...they had the most filthy habits and never washed in water...they drank the blood of the first enemy killed in battle, and made napkins of the scalps and drinking bowls of the skulls of the slain...Their deities were many...but the most characteristic rite was the worship of the naked sword (ibid. 62), and they sacrificed every hundredth man taken in war to this deity. War was their chief business, and they were a terrible scourge to the nations of Western Asia.” (ISBE).

As we recall the words of Isaiah, after the Lord said, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Isaiah said, “Here am I; send me” (Isaiah 6:8).

Question: Would we go to the Scythians?