

The Missionary Call

"Where are the nine?"

- Luke 17:17 -

Ten future missionaries heard God's call divine,
One was married wrongly; so that left only nine.

Nine future missionaries – and they could hardly wait,
But mother was not pleased with this, so that left only eight.

Eight future missionaries bound for God and heaven,
One got into making money, so that left only seven.

Seven future missionaries – if only each one sticks,
But one lost out completely; so that left only six.

Six future missionaries alive and full of drive,
One settled down at home; so that left only five.

Five future missionaries await the opened door (!?)
One grew tired of waiting; so that left only four.

Four future missionaries set for eternity,
One no longer willing; so that left only three.
Three future missionaries – for the need, how few,
One, “the board” rejected; so that left only two.
Two future missionaries, a daughter and a son,
One developed ulcers; so that left only one.
One future missionary – thank the Lord for him!
He refused to give it up and let the vision dim!

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Body, soul, and spirit, all to God they yield.
Now for years they labour on, in that foreign field -
Faithfully proclaiming God's own holy Word.
Folks have been converted, souls have sought the Lord.
God in heaven rejoices: to have a child so fine,
With gospel heart and purposed will – but
“What about the nine ?”