

Basel Mission Archives

"Tschopp to Basel"

Title: "Tschopp to Basel"

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Description: The Kwahus make mattresses of the cotton wool from the silk-cotton tree. In Bepease they saw a Dente shrine - there was another notable shrine in the middle of the town, too, a rifle stock stuck into the ground. He summaries his preaching in Bepease on the base of c4.12: Everyone wants to live and be happy - naturally because God gave life, and wants people to live with him eternally. Men were driven away from God after the first sin, however, and made subjects of sin - especially people who serve the fetishes. Death is the thing that shows this, because death is the wages of sin. And so are illness hetred quarrelling and crimes. Fetish priests make gods which have no life, and worldly riches (he cites slaves inter al) are subjects to sin's results. The Christology is presented normally without a trace of the substitutionary atonement. Judgement is offered fairly vigorously as a reason for making the right decision, especially as his hearers ipso facto had less excuse new than before. Bepease seems to be a place where preaching is not unknown, because he mentions that they preached in the usual place. The gathering was not large because so many people were out on the farms. It was attentive on the whole, although some people including the chief went away before the preaching was over. In the woods between Sadan Kama and Nkwatanag they passed a neat row of three houses where there were 'European flowers' in the garden - it belonged to the fetish priest of Bepease. Sadan Kama was composed of 4-6 groups of houses, and Nkwatanag about 20 houses. The latter partly a hunter settlement - Tschopp also saw a woman spinning cotton, and quantities of cotton packed up in banana leaves. Many people with swollen limbs a result of Guinea worm - the water is very dirty (His sermons here was more on the classic model than above as far as preaching about sin is concerned - no hidden sins before God, and eventual punishment). Preaching was not very often done in that town. At Sadan Kuma they saw a caravan of 8-10 men resting en route to Salaga. They were taking cloth, cola nuts, and spirits.

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