

## *Borden of Yale*

### *No Cost Too Great-Not Even Life*



When William Borden graduated from a Chicago high school in 1904, he was already a millionaire.

Heir to the Borden Estate, he could have anything he wanted. His graduation gift was a trip around the world that resulted in a growing burden for the world's hurting people. So he wrote home, "I'm going to give my life to prepare for the mission field." And he wrote in his Bible, "No Reserves."

During his first semester at Yale, he started a movement that transformed the campus. At first, two prayed together before breakfast, then, three, then four. Bill would read from the Bible, pointing out something God had promised, then claim the promise with assurance. But most of the time was spent in prayer.

By the end of his first year, 150 freshmen were meeting for weekly Bible studies. By the time he was a senior, 1,000 of Yale's 1,300 students were meeting in such groups. Turning down high paying positions, he wrote in his Bible, "No Retreats."

While doing graduate work at Princeton Seminary, he signed the Princeton Pledge: "We declare ourselves willing and desirous, God permitting, to go to the unevangelized portions of the world." Borden's focus was on Muslims in China, and from this most difficult of mission fields he never wavered.

After Princeton, he sailed for China, stopping in Egypt to study Arabic. There he contracted spinal meningitis. From there, at age 25, he went to be with the Lord he loved so well and served so faithfully.

When Borden's homegoing was cabled from Egypt, it seemed a wave of sorrow circled the globe. But he simply died as he lived, putting the service of the Master ahead of all else, feeling anything He asked of him to be no loss and no sacrifice, but the greatest of privileges.

Yes, some called it a waste. But not so.

Thousands were moved by the story of his brief life to serve God and win the lost at home and abroad. Before his homegoing, he wrote in his Bible beneath the words, "No Reserves," and "No Retreat," these . . . "No Regrets."

In the midst of a self-centered, self-seeking, materialistic world, and church, what will you give to serve God and win the lost and dying to Christ?

He asks, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"(Isaiah 6:8).

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