



My Heart in His Hands: Ann Judson of Burma

Sharon James , Ann Hasseltine Judson

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In October 1810 a twenty-year-old girl in the quiet New England town of Bradford wrote the following words in her journal: 'If nothing in providence appears to prevent, I must spend my days in a heathen land. I am a creature of God, and he has an undoubted right to do with me, as seems good in his sight...He has my heart in his hands, and when I am called to face danger, to pass through scenes of terror and distress, he can inspire me with fortitude, and enable me to trust in him. Jesus is faithful; his promises are precious. Were it not for these considerations, I should sink down with despair. Ann Hasseltine had received a proposal of marriage from Adoniram Judson, who was shortly to leave for Asia as one of America's first overseas missionaries. And thus commenced one of the great dramas of church history--a saga of love, courage, suffering and perseverance.

My Heart in His Hands: Ann Judson of Burma Details

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Anna Chviedaruk says

A beautiful example of faith and commitment to God. A truly inspiring story of the inspiring people who started the church in Birma have gone through unimaginable hardships.

Megan says

This is an excellent biography of Ann Judson, Adoniram Judson's wife. It was full of excerpts from letters and firsthand accounts, but it was also cohesively written. Ann's faith and endurance are truly inspiring and this is by far one of the most engaging biographies I have ever read.

Jacalyn says

I really enjoy reading about the Judsons. Very inspiring lives. The Judsons, George Mueller and Keith Green are my favorite biographies to read!

Caroline McDowell says

One of the most impactful books I have ever read. I found a big sister in Ann Judson.

Olivia says

"He has my heart in His hands, and when I am called to face danger, to pass through scenes of terror and distress, He can inspire me with fortitude and enable me to trust in Him." -Ann Judson

I have never been more inspired by anyone than Ann Judson. Her character and personality were beautiful, and it is clearly presented in this biography that her strength came ultimately from the Lord. She went through horrific events, and yet, she continued to find joy again and again. I loved that she wasn't weak, and worked right alongside her husband. But neither did she belittle her husband. As Christian woman, we can be strong and do many great things, but still have a humble and submissive heart to the authority God has placed in our life. Adoniram loved his wife and respected her highly.

This book is sad, but yet triumphant for a Christian reading it. Ann set aside her frivolous youthful and took up her cross and followed Christ. She had confidence in her Saviour.

You must pick up this book and be encouraged in your walk with the Lord. Wherever you are, whatever the Lord has called you to do, He can enable you for the task.

Molly Marie says

I was thankful to learn about Mrs. Ann Judson and how God led her and was faithful to her both in her efforts to serve him and in her many trials. Her confidence in God gave her hope to keep obeying him even when enduring unspeakable hardships. And praise the Lord for his using her to further his kingdom in immeasurable ways!

Natalie Vellacott says

A great read but so sad.....

Ann Hasseltine received a proposal from Adoniram Judson who was shortly to leave for Asia as one of America's first overseas Missionaries. He wrote to her father as follows

"I have now to ask, whether you can consent to part with your daughter early next spring, to see her no more in this world; whether you can consent to her departure for a heathen land, and her subjection to the hardships and sufferings of a missionary life; whether you can consent to her exposure to the dangers of the ocean; to the fatal influence of the southern climate of India; to every kind of want and distress; to degradation, insult, persecution and perhaps a violent death. Can you consent to all this, for the sake of him who left his heavenly home, and died for her and for you, for the sake of perishing, immortal souls; for the sake of Zion, and the glory of God? Can you consent to all this, in hope of soon meeting your daughter in the world of glory, with a crown of righteousness, brightened by the acclamations of praise which shall redound to her Saviour from the heathens saved, through her means, from eternal woe and despair?"

Amazingly, Ann's father left the decision to her and she immediately consented, against the advice of most who felt that women should not travel to the mission field. But Ann was an unusual woman with a strong faith in God

"We found it exceedingly hot the first time that we crossed the equator. When going round the Cape of Good Hope, we had rough, rainy weather for twenty days. I never knew till then "the dangers of the deep." I never felt before, my entire dependence on God for preservation. Some nights I never slept on account of the rocking of the vessel and the roaring of the winds. Yet God preserved us- enabled us to trust in Him and feel safe. Surely we have every reason to confide in God, and leave it with Him to dispose of us as He pleases....."

Completely committed to evangelising the "heathen" they persevered through many trials and sought always to thank God in the midst of them

"As it respects our temporal privations, use has made them familiar and easy to be borne; they are of short duration, and when brought in competition with the worth of immortal souls, sink into nothing.....When we feel a disposition to sigh for the enjoyments of our native country, we turn our eyes on the miserable objects around.....While they vainly imagine to purchase promotion in another state of existence, by strictly worshipping their idols, and building pagodas, our hopes of future happiness are fixed on the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world.....(we have) one wish remaining- that of being instrumental of leading these Burmans to partake of the same source of happiness with ourselves."

This couple faced unbelievable hardship yet continued to serve God and each other. Theirs is one of the most tragic missionary stories I have read but also one of the most inspirational as they continued their work and eventually saw souls saved in Burma.

This book is clean, free of bad language and sexual content. There is limited violence in connection with an imprisonment and some of the descriptions of illnesses and disease may upset some readers. It is well worth reading especially for potential missionaries or those struggling on the field as an encouragement to continue trusting God!

Jesse says

Whenever I am tempted to feel sorry for myself, I think of Ann Judson. After reading her incredibly moving story, I began to realize just how much many women have suffered in order to help their husbands bring the gospel to distant lands. It's not only a beautiful story, but also a reality check that will hopefully spur each of it's readers on to cheerfully "take up your cross".

Rebekah says

This was a very inspiring and challenging book! I really enjoyed reading about the life of Anne Judson... such an excellent and godly heroine for Christian women!

Emma Lambert says

My Heart in His Hands is a biography on Ann Judson, wife of Adoniram Judson one of the first four missionaries sent out by America. Ann and Adoniram left America in 1812 to evangelize to the heathen in Burma, a cruel, arrogant people. The history of this amazingly faithful couple is truly an example of God's mercy and grace as He preserved Ann and Adoniram from succumbing to many a frightful trial and doubt. Ann truly was, and always will be, a faithful follower of God. As she faced many a faith testing trial as Ann was not only attacked by sicknesses of various kinds, but also suffers the loss of loved ones and, ultimately, death for her service to God. My Heart in His Hands truly is a convicting book as it challenges the reader to look at their own life as a Christian in their service to God.

The overall layout is O.K. as I do so very much appreciate the author's not jumping three years ahead or four back as she tells the history of Ann and how the author educates the reader as they go along. But I do not like how she puts some of Ann's writings, while she (Ann) was back in America, at the back of the book. I personally felt as if that was a little random, as I do strongly think that Ann's writings could have been put in the actual story without disturbing the smooth flow of the book.

This is a well done book and I would not hesitate to recommend it to any person.

Emma Lambert-

Adrian says

Inspiring, convicting, and truly, entertaining. Ann Judson led a amazing, laser-focused life full of love and adventure and the gospel. It is no surprise that she was so revered in the nineteenth century American church. You should totally read this book... and then we can talk about it!

Joy says

Very enlightening!

Bekah says

AMAZING book! What a legacy Ann Judson has left! I remember reading a short biography for young kids on Ann Judson and I remember enjoying the story, but after reading this book, Mrs. Judson is now one of my favorites. I admire her gracious poise and grace and her desire to honor and respect her husband. Throughout all of her journal entries, I read of only the highest admiration and respect for her husband. But she also realized that she had her part to play as a missionary, as well. She realized her part as her husband's helpmeet and rose to the occasion wonderfully.

Mrs. Judson's life of faith was so inspiring and has encouraged me in my own relationship with Jesus Christ. I highly recommend this book.

Nate H says

Great accompaniment to To The Golden Shores! Has a deeper appreciation for Ann Judson's contribution to the Burma mission than that book. Thrilling!

Angelanowak says

A challenging read to a modern believer, to say the least. A well- researched book about the journey that God for Ann Judson, a woman of unparalleled spiritual beauty.
