

Friday, April 29, 2016

It was said of Sir Bartle Frere that he was always helping someone. His wife, Lady Frere, was going to a railway station one day to meet her husband along with a servant who had never seen him before. "Madam, how shall I know him?" asked the servant. "Look for a tall gentleman helping someone," replied Lady Frere, and sure enough, that description was enough, for Sir Bartle was found helping an old lady out of a railway carriage.

The Bible is full of little known people who God saw fit to mention for one reason or another. One such individual was a lady named, Dorcas. We know very little about this woman, her name is only mentioned in two verses in Acts. But the one thing we do know is that she was a woman who continually found ways of showing kindness.

Acts 9:36 Now in Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which translated *in Greek* is called Dorcas); this woman was abounding with deeds of kindness and charity which she continually did.

You get the idea that if someone was looking for Dorcas, the others in the house would suggest looking for the kindest woman in the place, the one busily looking after the needs of others. That's what set Dorcas apart from the rest, her continual acts of kindness.

If you were to go to the Mosque of St. Sophia in Constantinople, you would probably smell the fragrance of musk. The scent of musk has been present there for centuries, even though nothing is done to keep it perfumed. The explanation is that when it was built, over one thousand years ago, the stones and bricks were laid in mortar mixed with a solution of musk.

If the deeds we do are full of kindness and love, like Dorcas, even long after we have passed away their fragrance will remain in the world.