

tem to persuade Moslems of the truth of Christianity; he established missionary colleges for the study of Oriental languages; and he himself went and preached to the Moslems, sealing his witness with his blood.

In his fifty-sixth year, after vain efforts to arouse others to a missionary enterprise on behalf of the Mohammedans, he determined to set out alone and preach Christ in north Africa. On arriving at Tunis he invited the Moslems to a conference. He announced that he had studied the arguments on both sides of the question, and was willing to submit the evidences for Christianity and for Islam to a fair comparison. The challenge was accepted, but the Moslems being worsted in argument, and fanaticism being aroused, Lull was cast into a dungeon by order of the Sultan, and narrowly escaped death. After bitter persecutions he returned to Europe, where he made other missionary journeys. In 1307 he was again on the shores of Africa, and at Bugia, in the market-place, stood up boldly and preached Christ to the Moslem populace. Once again his pleadings were met with violence, and he was flung into a dungeon, where he remained for six months, preaching to those few who came, and befriended only by some merchants of Genoa and Spain, who took pity on the aged missionary of the cross.

**His First  
Missionary  
Journeys**