



The Latter Rain Evangel

The days of Heaven on the Earth

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An International Monthly Magazine

EARNESTLY CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH ONCE FOR ALL DELIVERED TO THE SAINTS

The Laws of Soul Winning

How God Convinced an Agnostic

Ira E. David in The Stone Church, September 3, 1916.



WE HAVE been studying Soul Winning, and I do not think it is any less important this morning than two weeks ago. The theme I have on my heart this morning is, "The Laws of Soul Winning." Practically everything in this world goes according to fixed law. God has laws by which He generally does things. I am not saying He always does things according to rules, for God is greater than all rules and all laws, and while He does things according to fixed principles and according to regular laws, yet He steps in and does the supernatural over and over. But generally speaking, we may say that God does things according to rule, and in the natural world people who want to get on and succeed, learn these natural laws and work in harmony with them. For instance, we have the law of gravitation. It is absolutely uniform; it always works. It would be impossible to construct a church or any kind of a building if it were not for the law of gravitation. We never think of beginning at the top and building down; we always begin on the ground and build up. Why do we do it? We have learned that the law of gravitation is so absolute we cannot work any other way. So it is with the laws of electricity. We study them and conform to them, and as long as we do, things go well; but as soon as we cross those laws that govern electricity, then the danger point is reached. So it is with the law of the seasons. It is a very simple thing to learn the law of the seasons. We find in this latitude if we want an oat crop we must sow the oats in April; we have learned if we want a corn crop we must plant it in the month of May, and if we would have a winter wheat crop, we must plant that the last week of September or first of October. Those are simple things, but supposing we get it into our head to plant differently, and instead of planting wheat in September and oats in April we turn around and sow the oats in September and winter wheat in April. Anybody with understanding of conditions would say: "You are sure to fail, for there is no such thing as raising a crop of oats in this climate sown in September. So it is we study natural laws and conform our practices to them.

In the spiritual realm, so often we think it is a

matter of hap-hazard, hit or miss, go ahead and do it anyway, regardless; but there are certain fixed laws of soul-winning, and do what we like or say what we like, we cannot avoid them and have success. The first one that occurs to me is, Passion for Souls. People who win souls are people who have a passion for souls. John Knox said, "Give me Scotland or I die," and we are not surprised that multitudes of people are turned to God through the intercession and ministry of John Knox. Paul said, "I could wish myself *anathema* for my brethren's sake." He had intense love for souls and especially for Israel, who was persecuting and rejecting him, and scheming to destroy him and his influence in every possible way; he had such a passion for lost men and women everywhere, he looked up into the face of God and said, "I could wish myself *anathema* if only that would result in the saving of my brethren." You see it in the life of Moses, back in the book of Exodus, 32d chapter. You find Moses coming down from the mountain, and seeing Israel in sin. He knows that the curse of God must be pronounced upon such sin, and he says: "I will return to the mountain, I will go up again to the Lord; peradventure I shall make an atonement for your sin." Did you ever meditate on what Moses was thinking about there that day? Moses left backslidden Israel; he left Israel that had been bowing down to the golden calf, that had been dancing naked around that golden calf with idolatrous ceremony—Moses left that people, many of them wrong at heart, and he said, "I will go to God in the mountain and offer to Him my own life, peradventure I, by my life laid down, shall be able to make an atonement for your sins." That is passion for souls. He goes to God and talks to Him about that matter, and He says to his Almighty Father, "Yet now, if Thou wilt forgive their sin——" and then Moses breaks out in a great sob and says: "If not, blot me, I pray Thee, out of Thy book which Thou hast written." That is the limit, isn't it? I do not know anything more sublime in the records of history or in the realms of literature than that. This saint of God loved his people so much he was ready to have his name blotted out of the Book of Life, if thereby he could only lift them out of sin and degradation. We must have a little bit of that, if you and I

are ever going to win any souls. There must be some of the passion of the Holy Spirit, some of the passion of the Lord Jesus throbbing through our souls that will keep us going after them until they are won for Jesus. You cannot sit in your easy chair; you cannot rock away and fan yourself to sleep, you cannot enjoy the comforts of your own home, knowing men and women are going down to perdition, when you have any of that sort of passion about you for souls. It takes that to break up our lives of ease and home comforts and send us after men and women who are down and out.

Now the second law on soul-winning that impresses me is this: that truth that you would have wrought into the lives of others must first be wrought into your own life; that which you would carry to others must be a conviction in your own life. If you believe only a little, you will not be able to convince others at all. You must believe what you believe with all your heart. There must be a certain set of convictions that dominate your life that you cannot escape from. Now those fundamental truths that must move you in order for you to move others, cluster around the atonement. You must know for a certainty that the judgment of saints is already passed; that when Jesus said on the cross, "It is finished," the judgment of the saints of this world was finished, and the perfect atonement that was good enough for everybody for all eternity was wrought out there on Calvary's cross on that day. If you have any doubt about that fundamental fact of the Bible, you will never be able to win anybody to Jesus. You must know for sure that men without Christ are lost and that it is an unspeakable, terrible thing to be lost; you must have at least that much of the Bible as dominating convictions in your lives. There are many professors who do not believe that much, who say that God is so good that He will not damn anybody; He is so good that somehow the ignorant and the erring, the careless and the rejectors will some day find mercy on the other side of the grave. Now if you have any of that kind of salvation about you, any of that kind of theology, you will never be a soul-winner in the wide-world. You must get rid of that, and get back to the fundamental facts of the atonement, and wait before God with an open Bible, an open vision and an open heart until those things dominate you, until you are sure that men without Christ are lost; then you will start out after somebody you want to see saved.

A third law of Soul Winning, exceedingly important, is this: obedience to the Holy Spirit, sensitiveness to the Holy Spirit, acquaintance with the Holy Spirit. Certainly we miss multitudes of opportunities to win souls because we do not know the Holy Spirit well enough to respond when He calls, to go when He prompts, to obey when He says. Dr. Pierson somewhere says, that Acts 8, 9 and 10 are inspired chapters on soul winning. If you have never studied them with that thought in mind, the next time you read those chapters do it with that thought. You will find in them three characteristics: there are always persons to be saved, there are agents of salvation, and there is the Holy Spirit dominating everything. The great character to be saved in chapter 8 is the Ethiopian eunuch, and the great human agent of salvation in that chapter is Philip, but the really great Actor, the supremely important one, is the Holy Spirit. The Ethiopian eunuch was miles and miles away from Philip. Philip got a supernatural revelation to leave a glorious revival meeting and go to the road which goeth from Jerusalem to Gaza, the same one that is *desert*. Strikingly put in, isn't it? Philip knew God; he knew the Holy Spirit well enough to obey, and to obey at once; to obey in spite of human reasoning, for this was not according to human reasoning; it was directly antagonistic. Just note the circumstances: here is this evangelist, the only preacher in the city of Samaria, right in the midst of a wonderful revival of religion, with the whole city moved, a multitude of people being healed, numbers turning to God, and great joy in that city. Every time they come together, they have a new crowd of penitents seeking salvation, and one night this evangelist in that city has a revelation to leave the revival meeting and go into the desert, where there is no one apparently to preach to. He was simple and obedient enough to get up and leave his crowd and go where there was no one. This is obedience to the Spirit in spite of human reason. Well, he went, and when he got out on that road, which is desert, when he got out on that lonely road, he finds an officer from the kingdom of Ethiopia, a high officer, but a man who had a very hungry heart. He made a long journey to consult with the priests of Jerusalem about how to find peace; he didn't find it, he hadn't gone to the right teachers, but there was one thing he had secured, and that was a copy of Isaiah the prophet, and he was reading that wonderful 53rd chapter about the suffering of the Messiah. He

didn't know about the Messiah, didn't know if the prophet was talking about himself or somebody else, and when Philip got within range of the Ethiopian and the chariot, the Holy Spirit said: "Draw near and join thyself to this chariot." He obeyed and preached the eunuch a sermon, taking for his text that very chapter. A baptismal service followed and Philip was then translated to his next point.

In the ninth chapter of The Acts you have Saul of Tarsus to be saved and two agents of salvation. There is Stephen, the account of whose burial comes out more clearly just before this, and there is the agent of God, Ananias, and then running through the chapter from beginning to end, is the Holy Spirit. Saul is breathing out threatenings and slaughter. He is met on the way to Damascus by the risen Lord Jesus. He goes into Damascus blind, and more or less blind spiritually. Ananias, the humble saint, had a revelation from God concerning this Saul of Tarsus. He was afraid to go to him, but the Spirit of God called on him to go in spite of his fears. Philip had to go in spite of his reasonings, but Ananias had to obey the Holy Ghost in spite of his fears. You remember how the Holy Spirit assures him, "Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto Me, to bear My name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel; for I will show him how great things he must suffer for My Name's sake." Ananias put away his fears and obeyed, and the result was the salvation of Saul of Tarsus.

Look at the next chapter. The man to be saved is Cornelius, a devout man, a praying man, a benevolent, but not a converted, man; the agent for salvation is Peter, who was miles away; the worker all through the chapter is the Holy Spirit. Cornelius gets a revelation from God to send to Joppa, and Peter has a revelation from God to go in spite of his prejudices. Philip had to go in spite of his reasoning, Ananias had to go in spite of his fears, but Peter had a mountain of Jewish prejudices that overshadowed him and hindered him from winning any Gentile souls for God. But God dealt with him and in spite of his prejudice he obeyed the Spirit of God; and the result was the salvation of Cornelius and his household. So we have three chapters in succession, each one examples of soul winning, and above everything else we have the Holy Spirit, and the law in soul-winning in each one of those chapters was *immediate obedience unto the Holy Ghost*. Very simple, isn't it?

I read a beautiful illustration this week of F. B. Meyer, a saint of God, now over eighty years of age. He was crossing the Atlantic, and they invited him to preach in the saloon to the first and second-class passengers. Among them was a loud talking agnostic. Mr. Meyer was prompted by the Holy Spirit to use as his theme, Answered Prayer, and he opened the Scriptures on that line and gave many beautiful illustrations of answered prayer. After the meeting was over, the people knowing this loud-mouthed agnostic was present, said, "What did you think of Mr. Meyer's message this morning?" "I don't believe a word of that kind of thing; it is nonsense." That afternoon Mr. Meyer was to speak to the steerage passengers, a multitude of them, and something quite unusual happened on ship-board that day. All of the first-class passengers concluded they would go down and hear the white-haired saint. Generally speaking they didn't want to mix with steerage folks, but they said, "If that saint is going, we will go too," and they went *en masse*. This agnostic came along with several oranges in his pocket. Some one said: "Are you going too?" "Yes, I will go and hear what that babbler says." By and by he came to a white-haired old lady among the passengers, sound asleep with her hands stretched out, and impulsively he reached into his pockets for his oranges. He put one in each of her hands, went to the meeting and listened to the sermon. As he came back he saw this old silver-haired woman munching one of the oranges which he left, and he said: "Well, Auntie, does it taste good?" She said, "Yes, my Father is very good to me." "Your father? You are an old woman. Your father must be dead." "Oh," she said, "I have a Father and He is very much alive. He is alive forevermore." And the agnostic said, "Now will you tell me how you know your father is alive?" "Why," she said, "I have fresh evidence of it. I have been so sick for two days and I was sitting here awhile ago asking my Father if He would not please give me an orange, and I suppose while I was asking for an orange I must have fallen asleep. Anyhow I woke up awhile ago and I had a nice big orange in each hand. My Father is alive." That agnostic knew that day that God was alive. He didn't know it before. Isn't that a striking combination of circumstances, that this old, white-haired man should give a talk on Answered Prayer, and this old white-haired lady should ask the Lord for an orange, and that God should use an agnostic who says,

"There is no God," to answer an old woman's prayer, and let him see the answer with his own eyes, and have all the doubt taken out of him in a single hour, and be made a humble follower of the Lord Jesus? That is the Holy Ghost, and if we are going to win souls, whether we are the old lady in a steerage crowd, or the preacher, we need to obey the Holy Ghost, and we need to know Him well enough when He speaks. May the Lord keep us everlastingly at this matter of personal acquaintance with the Holy Spirit until we are sensitive to Him. I sometimes have gotten a little tired of hearing people on all occasions say: "The Spirit said to me, 'Do this,' or 'Do that,'" when the results didn't prove it. The intentions, of course, were good, but we must have something more than good intentions. We have to know Him, so that when we say, "the Spirit said," He *will* have said.

The third law of Soul Winning then, is obedience to the Holy Spirit. He is the great agent. He is keeping up the advances all the time and He knows where the vulnerable spot is, and if we are under the dominion of the Holy Ghost He will send us where needed, and where we will give the right word at the right time. This will be a nail in a sure place. But if we say that the Lord sent us, when He didn't, that only makes a bad matter worse.

Now the last one of these laws of Soul Winning on my heart is love, divine love, supernatural love. You remember the Lord said to Peter, "Peter, do you love Me?" Peter said, "Yes." The Lord said, "Feed My lambs. Save them from wolves. Gather them in your arms. Get them home to God. Feed My lambs." Did you notice He didn't say, "Peter, do you know all the Bible?" He didn't say, "Peter, did you have a good education?" That wasn't what the Lord said. He said, "Peter, do you love Me?" He repeated the question, "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me?" "Yea, Lord, Thou knowest that I love Thee." "Feed My sheep." Once more came the question, with practically the same answer. What is the Lord bringing out there? He is bringing out this fact, that the supreme qualification for a soul-winner, for a lamb-tender, for a sheep-feeder, is *love*. If you love God enough, you will love people, and if you love people you will win them. If you do not love God you will not love people, and if you do not *love* people you will never win them. The supreme test in the outcome, the supreme qualification, the supreme law of soul-winning is real, downright, supernatural love. Human love won't do; it is spasmodic, it is limited. Di-

vine love is universal and it is eternal too. Praise God, it doesn't get tired. It never gives up. It is like Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever. If your heart is full of supernatural love it will carry somebody to Jesus. Oh I have seen it over and over again.

When I am tried, sorely tried, and inclined to get out of patience with sinners, I think of the life and ministry of Col. Sam Hadley. I remember one case of a man whom he boarded in his own home. He became so obnoxious that he could not keep him and had him boarded at a hotel. He paid his board week after week, month in and month out, and all those weeks and months that man was telling how wicked a sinner Sam Hadley was. He would tell the guests at the hotel, "Sam Hadley pays my board because he has to. He is a vile sinner and he knows I'd tell how bad he is if he stopped paying my board." What would you do if you were paying board for a sinner like that? I am afraid you would quit. You would say, "I do not wish him any ill but I am not going to pay board for a man who opposes me every day of his life." Hadley continued paying that man's board and prayed conviction upon him until he was saved. On one occasion he was coming home from a meeting at eleven o'clock at night, and as he walked the streets of New York City a woman of the street, dressed in gaudy apparel and cheap jewelry came along and drew her arm through his. Mr. Hadley walked along quietly as though nothing had happened. Presently he turned and began to talk with her. He walked on with her, not shaking her off as most moral men would have done. By and by he came to the place where he lived, and there was a sign over the door, "Lodging 20 cts. a night." She looked up and said, "You are not going to take me into a cheap place like this, are you?" He looked down at her saying: "It is clean, and good enough for me; it ought to be good enough for you." She said, "All right, I will go in with you." They went in and there was Mrs. Hadley waiting up to receive her husband, and any way-faring one he might bring in there in the middle of the night. Hadley and his wife sat and talked with the woman from the street, first about her attire and then about her soul and her eternal welfare, and before she left she was on her knees crying to God for mercy and salvation. That is love, supernatural love.

Take another case: Mr. Hadley went one morning to the morgue in New York City, found

a little cluster of fallen girls wringing their hands and weeping over the body of another fallen girl who had died through the night. He pushed into the little circle and said: "Girls, what are you crying about?" They said: "Here is our companion picked up dead last night. We want her to have a decent burial and we have only twenty-five dollars, and we cannot give her a decent burial for that." Mr. Hadley said: "Well girls, dry your tears, I can get a good burial for fifty dollars." "But we have only twenty-five." "Well," he said, "I have twenty-five and I will put my twenty-five with yours, and we will give her a decent burial, and you will let me preach the funeral sermon, won't you?" "Sure, we will." And so they took Mr. Hadley to that home, and there surrounded by that company of fallen women he told the story of the Christ

that had died to save the like of them. Do you love fallen girls enough to pay twenty-five dollars for a chance to tell them of Jesus? That is love. It is the law of love. If any of us have an idea of doing Christian work for what we can get out of it we had better quit, but if we have an idea of doing it for what we can put into it, then we are subjects for the grace of God and the work of the Holy Spirit. "He that winneth souls is wise." The most work we do is temporal, but praise God, this is eternal, and if the Spirit of God has wrought these four thoughts into our hearts this morning we are going to win, and nothing the devil can put up will stop us when we are dominated by these four laws of Christian life: passion for souls, conviction concerning the truth, obedience to the Holy Spirit, and the love that wins.

The Earmarks of a Backslider in Heart

Hardy W. Mitchell in The Stone Church, September 17, 1916.



SOMETIMES the message that God lays upon the heart of a minister is not acceptable to the hearers. I have had the experience of preaching and feeling no response from the congregation, and under those circumstances it is no easy matter to preach. On the other hand, I have often realized the experience of preaching a very heart-searching sermon, and though it hurt, they did not resist the truth but thanked God for it. There is a verse of Scripture we feel led to speak upon, found in Proverbs 14:14, "The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways." If we will notice that statement we must come to the conclusion that it is possible for people to backslide in their hearts and yet not necessarily in outward conduct. Only God sees the heart. You remember when God sent Samuel down to anoint one of the sons of Jesse as a king in place of Saul, the first son who came before Samuel was a tall, fine-looking fellow, of good countenance, and Samuel judged from his appearance, and said, "Surely this is God's chosen one," but God doesn't look upon men as we do, and He told Samuel not to look upon his countenance or his stature. "Man looketh on the outward appearance but God looketh upon the heart." It doesn't matter what you and I appear to be outwardly, for the best and wisest among men are deceived sometimes; God doesn't take us for what we appear to be, but for what we are. So I feel this afternoon that God looks deep down in

our hearts and He knows the state of them, whether they are hot or cold, or lukewarm or indifferent toward Him. There are many people, and some preachers too who can put on a look of piety and you might think they were filled with the Holy Ghost and fire, but after you learned to know them you found out they were not what they appeared to be. Many times I have to try my own heart to see if I am working in the energy of the flesh or from my heart. It is possible for people to backslide in their hearts and they not be aware of it, and by the Lord's help we will show the evidences of a backslidden heart when outwardly there is a profession of religion and profession of love to God. Some people are as the Lord spoke through the Prophet Ezekiel, "with their mouth they show much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness."

The "backslider in heart" is one who withholds that which, in his consecration, he gave to God. It is one thing to get under conviction, go to the altar, and make your consecration but another thing to fulfill the vows you make. The Holy Spirit brings up one thing after another that you have to lay on the altar, and you say, "Lord, I lay this down in my life," "I will give up that thing that is hindering my spiritual progress," "I will give my life, my time, my possessions to Thee, I am willing to go anywhere with Thee, to do anything for Thee, or say anything Thou dost want me to say,"—this is the consecration we make when we come to God, hungry for His blessings, but there comes a time in our lives

when God will call upon us to fulfill some of these vows and we withhold from Him and draw back, and say, "Lord, I cannot." If we do not say it with our lips we resist with our minds, and right there we begin to backslide in heart. When you made your consecration you said, "Lord, I will give You my time if You call upon me for it," and some day the Lord says to you, "My son, My daughter, I want you to spend some time in prayer today," and you say, "Oh, I am too busy." Again He says, "I want you to go on some mission for Me, to visit a poor woman," but you say, "I am too tired," or perhaps He wants you to attend the services of His house, and you say, "If I do I will be too tired to go to work tomorrow." Friends, you are withdrawing from God what you gave to Him, your consecration, your time, your talent, and these are the first steps to backsliding in heart.

Then God calls upon you for some of the means you consecrated to Him; perhaps to give to the support of some of the missionaries in the foreign field, but you say, "I am hard pushed," "these are hard days." The future looks dark, and you withhold from God even your tithe. The Lord tries to deal with you on this subject but you fail in your consecration, and I say to you that God calls upon you not only to put yourself and your belongings on the altar but to keep them there. You have to obey God if you would keep the fire burning in your soul. There are Christians whom God has called upon to work for Him, but they put it off and make this and that excuse like Moses did. Let us beware of the spirit of disobedience. If you fail to obey God you will lose your inheritance and God will give your crown to another and your place in the kingdom to a neighbor who is better than you.

Another evidence that people backslide in heart is that they lose their first love. God commended the church at Ephesus for their labor and for their patience, and for their work; they didn't even become discouraged in their work or become faint-hearted, and they couldn't endure those who called themselves apostles and were not—after God praised them and approved of all that was good in them, then He says, "Nevertheless, I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love." An evidence that the fire of God has cooled off in your heart, is that you become indifferent to lost souls. You don't care if we have a revival or not, you don't care to pray for anybody at the altar, or to speak to anybody about his soul. Do you remember when the fire of God was burning in your soul

how there was something in there that sent you out after souls; everyone you met you wanted to bring to Jesus. Friends, if you have lost that out of your life you are backslidden in heart and need to get a fresh touch from God. If the love of God is in our hearts like it ought to be we will love to go to the altar and pray for souls.

When people have lost their first love they become irritable and easily provoked; I confess there are some people in their dispositions very weak on those points, but I have never found the person yet that got filled with divine love, no matter how naturally weak he was, who could stay provoked or angry; he could bear everything when filled with love. Our natural weaknesses will not excuse us, but God's love will do for anyone and everyone what it claims; if we are filled with it we will not become impatient or provoked. A mother becomes provoked at her children, slaps them and slams the door, and throws things around, and then makes the excuse, "Why child, you would provoke the angels of heaven," but what is the matter with that soul who professes to be a follower of the Lord Jesus? The old iron in that person's nature has never been broken. God will take that nature and disposition out of us and give us the lamb nature, make us meek and lowly, if we submit ourselves to Him.

Another evidence that people backslide in heart, they drift from that state of entire devotion to God. I have often heard people express themselves about Pentecost in the past; they have said there were many things they did not understand about it but one thing they noticed and that was how devoted to God the Pentecostal people were. If our hearts are filled with God and His love we will be wholly devoted to Jesus, and our hearts will be filled with worship in the services; we won't have our mind on home cares and on business, and thinking of what we are going to do tomorrow. But a backslider drifts into a state of being controlled by a self-pleasing spirit, seeking to please himself rather than to please God; he cannot attend the meeting during the week, he is too tired. He lets business or pleasure crowd out the worship of the Lord's house, or drifts into a kind of stereotyped way of serving God. He will testify and pray so you can hear every word, but you never feel any spirit in what he says. The Lord led me to speak on this subject down in Texas, and God led those dear people to see that they had unconsciously drifted into a backslidden state towards Him. The Lord said to the Laodicean church, "I would that you were hot or cold," but because they

were lukewarm He cast them off. The religion of the backslider is a burden to him. Many people are with the Lord like a dutiful but unhappy wife, married to a husband whom she does not love. Realizing after she is bound to him, that it was just a mere fancy: she awakens to the fact that she does not love him but she remembers her marriage vows and so she tries to make the best of life, though she doesn't have any joy in it; when he comes home she is not overjoyed to see him, just welcomes him as a matter of duty. This is the way many people serve the Lord, from duty rather than through love and devotion. There is no joy in it. The woman who is unhappily married never encourages anyone to get married, neither does the backslider ever encourage any one to come to Jesus, but one who delights in His love and has joy in His service, is always seeking for some one else to bring to Jesus. Are you inviting others to come to Jesus? If not, where is your heart? How does your heart appear before God?

Another thing about backsliders in heart, is that they will always manifest a spirit of uncharitableness; they would rather condemn and criticize than to bear and forebear. A child of God who is filled with His love will always put the best possible construction on people's words and actions, but the backsliders are always hunting faults and failures, and parading them around; they love to sing hymns like, "Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love," and have no interest in the Bible. They prefer to read the daily newspaper and pick that up first; "Oh I can read the Bible at any time; I have to know what is happening today," and so the Bible is neglected. Now I am not a fanatic and am not one to condemn reading the newspaper, but I never get out of the newspaper what I get out of the Word of God. A little girl came to her mother one day and said, "Mama, whose Book is that?" "Why that is God's Book," the mother said. The child looked up and said, "Well, mother, don't you think we had better return it to Him, we never use it." It is the most precious treasure to the soul who is walking with God. The other day I read an incident of an old aunt who died and left to her nephew a certain amount of money and her old Bible. This nephew spent all the money she had left him, and being in rather straightened circumstances was just about to go to one of his sons to live with him. He was old and helpless and just as he was getting ready to go he picked up this old Bible that had lain there for thirty or forty years, and as he opened it he found there-

in some bills for large amounts; there were from eight to ten thousand dollars which that aunt had left there for him; he found it when he was facing poverty. This Book is filled with rich treasures, and you are missing a great deal when you do not find any interest in it. When you are burdened and sorrowful in your heart and weary of life, God's Book has something that will inspire your soul. If you do not love it like you once did, then examine your heart.

The backslider in heart never finds any enjoyment in secret prayer. He thinks it is all right to pray in church but finds no interest in praying in the closet. I love to pray in church but I would far rather be shut up alone with God. Jesus said, "When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father in secret." Do you find interest in secret prayer? May God help us to find out just where we are today.

A backslider when he prays will pray just like a convicted sinner. I was in a certain meeting this summer, and the leader of the meeting called on a certain man near me to pray, and he prayed like this: "Lord, we are all sinners. We thank Thee Thou dost forgive us for the sins we have committed this day, and we thank Thee now that Thou dost forgive us for the sins we are going to commit tomorrow." Friends, that is what I call presumption. It is all right to confess and ask forgiveness, but don't presume on God's mercy. There is deliverance for us today, but God expects us to live a life of victory and faith. There is a place in His grace where you can have victory. You can do just what He exhorted the church in Ephesus to do; He commended them for their patience but told them to repent; they had backslidden in heart and He threatened them He would take away their light if they did not repent. God doesn't look on sin with the least allowance, and He calls upon us to confess it. He says, "Remember from whence thou art fallen." You can remember the first step you took away from God. Remember that and repent, and do your first works over again. If we do not He will remove the candlestick out of its place. He will take out the last ray of light and hope that is in our hearts. Friends, the sermon that has no application for the present time is not worth wasting time in giving. We can preach about things that happened yonder, but let us be practical Christians and face present-day conditions. If you are not fired up and filled with zeal for souls, you are backslidden in heart. I do not say you

do not love Jesus. Peter loved Jesus even when he cursed and swore. When Jesus said to Peter, "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me?" Peter said, "Lord, Thou knowest that I love

Thee." If we love Him let us come to Him and have Him fill us with what we are standing in need of today. God help us to realize our standing before Him.

"He Must Needs Go Through Samaria"

Meeting the Needy Soul by the Wayside

Mrs. Nellie Lincoln in The Stone Church, May 24, 1916.



In the fourth chapter of John, fourth verse, we read these words in reference to Jesus, "And He must needs go through Samaria," and there is something about that little verse that grips my heart. Jesus might have gone another way, but there was a reason for

His seeing the need of passing that way, and do you remember what that need was? It was the Samaritan woman living in sin, without God and without hope. She had a form of godliness, she knew Israel's God, but she didn't know Jesus of Nazareth, the Savior from sin, the real Redeemer of the human race; and so the Son of man must needs go through Samaria. When I look at my own life and see how the Lord needed to go through certain places in order to find me; when I think of the ways in which He searches men and women out in their sins and causes them to come and believe on Him for salvation, I am amazed at the patience and love of God, and so it was in this case. He must needs go through Samaria.

"He met me, He met me, when I was far away,
He led me, He led me, into the narrow way.
He saved me, He saved me, He took my sins away,
And now I'm going to glory upon the crowning day."

He came through my Samaria, He came through your Samaria. We had a profession and we had a name but we didn't have the life. I am so glad He awakened me. When I think of how I was a Sunday School teacher and how I visited and was engaged in religious duties—I had the form but not the power; had the profession but not the possession, yet O, how far short of living a Christian life! If I had died in that condition I would have gone to hell, and I am not the only one like that. Perhaps some of you are in the same condition and need to meet the Nazarene in Samaria; need to get a revelation of your lost condition and of the Savior who came to seek and to save that which was lost. You need to realize your own thirst and His streams of living water.

As Christians we should be like Him and go

and meet other people by the well and tell them of the water of life, though we often chafe and say we would rather go some other way. But God has a purpose in sending us through Samaria; there is somebody there who needs to hear the real story of Christ, not according to the letter that killeth, but according to the Spirit which giveth life. I remember one time of being compelled to stop in a small place between trains, where I was trying to make connection. I had four long dreary hours to wait in the dingy old depot, and I chafed under it because I was in a hurry. I felt I couldn't sit in that little country depot for four hours in that heat. I said, "Lord, why *did* You let this happen? I prayed all the way that You would hold that other train or hurry this one up. Why didn't You do something?" I tried in every way I could to get out of there, but soon the Spirit whispered, "All things work together for good to them that love the Lord." After a while a woman came in and being the only ones in the depot, we had a conversation and I had the privilege of telling how God could save the soul, heal the body and baptize with the Holy Ghost and fire. It was her Samaria. Some months after that a friend of mine was detained in that very identical place, and pretty soon this same woman came in. My friend didn't know anything about this woman, and the woman didn't know this was my friend, but she began to talk about the things of God, and the woman said, "Oh I know all about it," and she began to tell her of my experience and my friend knew it was I and she said, "What about it?" "Oh, I have been saved myself now. I know she told me the truth." If you are obedient and follow God's leadings He will send you in byways and corners that you cannot understand, but you "must needs go through Samaria" to meet some hungry soul. You may not be able to understand about it now but there is a purpose in it and one of these days you will get the reward. I have learned to know that God's hand is in these Samaritan trips and just as soon as I get into such a place I begin to look around for the woman with the water pitcher, and she is always there and thirsty too. In other

words, these Samaritan trips are real fishing expeditions after all. You know Jesus said, "Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men." It is sweeter and better than anything else to be a fisher of men. I have been learning to fish since I have been over in Michigan along the lake and I cannot tell you the fascination when you realize there is a fish at the end of your line. You see the cork bobbing up and down, and the fish tries to get away, but you land him and there is a satisfaction in it. So it is spiritually. When you come to Samaria's wayside wall and begin to tell the thirsty ones there of full salvation, they begin to nibble at the Gospel bait and soon you find that God is using unworthy you to draw them to the shore. They say, "Oh I am so glad you talked to me. I never would have been saved if you hadn't." Then you begin to realize what it means to be a fisher of men.

I was in a tent meeting in Des Moines one time and I was very tired. My voice was almost gone, I had been speaking a great deal, and I said, "Oh Lord, won't You let me fish somebody out of this maelstrom of sin tonight?" It was down in the very worst part of the city, and right in the midst of my sermon I had to stop; I could not talk any longer, but the Spirit began to cry out through me, "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." When I had spoken that, the Spirit whispered, "You have caught a fish." "Oh," I said, "thank you Jesus." A few nights after, an old man over sixty years of age came into the tent, and I noticed he was a stranger. The first opportunity I had I went to him and asked him if he didn't want to be saved. We prayed with him and the Lord saved him. Then he said, "I would like to see the person who cried out the other night, 'Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.' I was yonder across the street and was just coming out of the doors of that saloon when I heard those words and I came here tonight to be saved." Ah the Lord will take your hands, your feet and your voice, and make you a fisher of men, if you are willing to go through all kinds of Samarias!

To go on these Samaritan fishing expeditions often means for the flesh to humble itself, to be weary, to have its own plans thwarted and to condescend to men and places of low degree. You know the Jews had no dealings with the Samaritans, yet when the woman came with her water pitcher, Jesus asked her to give Him a drink. Her astonished answer was, "How is it that you being a Jew asketh drink of me which am a woman of Samaria?" What did the Jews

consider the Samaritans? Nothing but dogs but Jesus humbled Himself to speak to this Samaritan woman. The scribes and Pharisees would have ridiculed Him if He had spoken to that woman in their presence, but He came to break down the middle wall of partition in every case between Jew and Gentile, bond and free. "If thou knewest," He said, "the gift of God and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink, thou wouldst have asked of Him and He would have given thee the living water," but Christ hadn't been revealed to her yet; she didn't know what He could do for her. Oh what ignorance is spiritual ignorance! I'd rather be as dumb and stupid as it is possible to be along the lines of earthly wisdom and have a spiritual knowledge of God. No wonder Jeremiah said, "Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: but let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise loving kindness, judgment and righteousness, in the earth; for in these things I delight, saith the Lord." That is something to glory in. She was in the dark but Jesus came to people who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death. As Jesus spoke to this woman she could not understand it at first, but the light began to dawn upon her. I know when God began to talk to me along certain lines I was densely ignorant of His meaning, but He never gave up; He continued talking till I saw the light. And this woman who was in the dark, her first illumination, her first understanding was along physical lines. Oh how many people are after the loaves and the fishes, the satisfaction of the natural life, but that wasn't the most important. It was her soul He was after. In this narrative can be seen God's compassionate, faithful dealings with a blinded, deceived soul. Notice His tenderness and recognition of "her" belief and at the same time the fatal blow struck at it.

When she really believed that He had living water to give, she wanted it that she need not thirst, "neither come hither to draw." How freely the living water is offered, but e'er souls taste of its quenching flow, sin must be confessed and forsaken. It makes no difference how dense our spiritual understanding is, God will put His finger on the spot somewhere that will open our eyes, that will cause us to realize we are not dealing with humanity but with Him, with *Somebody* who knows all about us. Jesus put His finger on a sore spot when He said, "Go

call thy husband," and then in the conversation that followed He is telling her the truth about her life, which she cannot deny and with this comes the first glimmer of spiritual understanding and realization of who Jesus is. She said unto Him, "Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet." A new understanding comes to her now about the living water; she realizes that anybody who could speak to her about her past life must be a prophet. When God begins to speak to us concerning things that have not been confessed and forgiven how it opens up a perfect panorama in our lives. It opens up to us the path of restitution, confession and light. You talk to people and pin them right down and they will try to get out of it, and instead of saying, "I am a sinner and need to get right with God," they begin to argue about religion. I went to talk to a man in the back of the house one time at a meeting and I said, "Brother, are you a Christian?" He said, "My mother was a Methodist. You people do not need to think you have it all." That wasn't what I was after at all. He was pricked to the heart, he felt something and tried to throw it off and that was the way with this woman. She stood up for "her" religion, her traditions, for her forefathers. She said, "Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshipped in this mountain and ye say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship. We have as much truth in our religion as you have. Jacob dug this well and we come here in this mountain and worship the God of heaven and it is all right." There are lots of Samaritans today. They have a part of the truth; they have a knowledge of the living God but how about His Son, Jesus Christ? There is no salvation except through Him. No matter how much men and women believe in God, they have to be in the redemption through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. I am glad for the light that streamed upon my pathway; when it comes to us, if we don't begin to talk about this mountain or that mountain, but realize that we belong to a lost and ruined race and need redemption, there is help for us. How did Jesus answer her? "Woman, believe Me, the hour cometh when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem worship the Father;" I praise God for that, for if everyone had to travel to Jerusalem to meet God like in olden times, not very many would meet Him. "The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship Him." What a wonderful sermon that was! I think of the eunuch that

Philip met on that desert way. In his own land, he had heard of Israel's God and wanted to worship Him so he came to Jerusalem. I don't know how many days it took him to come and go, but when he met Philip he had been up to Jerusalem to *worship*. I remember the Greeks who went up to the temple and they heard about Jesus and said to Philip, "We would see Jesus." What were they in Jerusalem for? They had come up to Jerusalem to worship the God of Israel.

Solomon at the dedication of the temple prayed that God would have mercy on the people and whatever prayer they offered with their faces turned toward Jerusalem would be answered. Jerusalem, the city of the great King, beautiful for situation, was dear to the heart of every true worshipper, but after the law and the prophets, came grace and truth by Jesus Christ. Then in the dispensation of grace and the Holy Ghost, it came to pass that wherever men and women called upon the name of the Lord they were saved.

As Jesus reveals Himself to the woman, creed, traditions and unbelief vanish, and from His presence she goes forth a living witness to the truth. The water pitcher is forgotten but the message is given out, "Come, see a man which told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ?" Through her testimony others are caught in the Gospel net, saying "Now we believe, not because of your words, but because *we have heard Him ourselves.*"

In the wake of the Master's Samaritan journey we find a company of souls who testify—"We know indeed that this is the Christ, the Savior of the world."

Beloved, let us be willing to go through Samaria that precious souls may receive this glorious truth.

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THE EVANGEL PUBLISHING HOUSE,
3635 Michigan Ave. Chicago, U. S. A.

The Latter Rain Evangel

3635 Michigan Avenue - - - - Chicago, Ill., U. S. A.

Published Monthly on the Fifteenth by
The Evangel Publishing House

Subscription Price

TO ANY PART \$1.00 (4s-2d) per year in advance
OF THE WORLD .50 (2s-1d) six months in advance

To those wholly engaged in the work of the Lord
Seventy-five cents (3s-2d) per year in advance

¶ Special rates to Assemblies ordering twelve or more copies. Write for terms. ¶ Send drafts, express or postal orders payable to The Evangel Publishing House.

¶ Contemporaries wishing to copy any article from this paper will kindly add "LATTER RAIN EVANGEL," Chicago, U. S. A.

¶ Entered as second-class matter, April 8, 1909, at the Postoffice Chicago, Illinois, under the act of March 3, 1879.

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Notes

WITH the beginning of the ninth year of The Latter Rain Evangel we earnestly solicit the prayers and co-operation of our readers for its continued success. The blessing and helpfulness of the past is our pledge for the future. Through the grace of God we will do our best to lift up an all-sufficient Savior to a dying world and inspire men and women to press the battle for souls to the very gates. Souls and Soul Winning is our slogan for the coming year, and our every effort shall be to that end before the Lord comes.

It has been stated by thoughtful men and those who have knowledge of the times, that the year 1917 will bring about some very important world changes leading to the winding up of the dispensation. In view of this ought we not to double our efforts to warn men and women of coming judgments and point them to the way of escape? Every Christian has friends and relatives who are unsaved, the most of whom have been unapproachable on the subject of salvation. Why not send them a year's subscription to The Evangel? Would you not think a dollar well spent if it secured the salvation of one for whom you had often prayed? No religious paper can enter a home for twelve months without exerting a strong influence there. False religions and false teachings have spread so rapidly because of circulated literature. Ought we not to be as aggressive as those who sow tares? A great influence can be wielded through sending forth the

inspired message. Its value cannot be overestimated.

A missionary writes that when they were discouraged and disheartened because of Satanic opposition in their midst, the monthly visit of The Evangel brought them an article which put fresh courage and new faith into their hearts, and they united definitely to fight through, which they did, and it was not long before they had an outpouring of the Holy Spirit in their midst.

Another missionary writes: "We really receive great blessings from The Evangel. Whenever we read from it the power comes upon us. Yesterday again, while reading a certain portion my wife and I felt Jesus was in the room; we simply melted down under the power, laughed and cried; laughed for joy that came into our souls, and wept for this country. Yes, it means a sacrifice to us to renew our subscription but we cannot do without The Evangel."

To show that it pays to send the paper to apparently disinterested persons we quote the following from a letter: "The magazine has brought a great blessing to our home and has been the means of bringing the whole family into the Pentecostal faith, where we have received the deep spiritual truths of the Word and the blessing of healings. May God bless and prosper the work."

A missionary who receives The Evangel regularly sends her copy far and near. She says, "After I am through with it, it goes to Mrs. B. She finds it very helpful and from there it goes on to my sister in Calcutta. She sends it to her daughter first and then to her son who is at the front." The original subscriber to that copy will be one of the reapers of the souls that are gathered in and blest through its influence.

Plan now what you will do to sow the Gospel seed during the coming year. Practice a little self-denial in order that that soul for whom you have prayed may have the truth. And don't forget to pray that God will bless the seed which is sown beside all waters.

From now until Christmas time we will make a special offer of seven new yearly subscriptions for \$5.00. Let us have your orders early.

* * * *

Special Revival Meetings

FOR some months God has been laying upon the hearts of the people of The Stone Church much prayer for a revival. In the early summer a few of the sisters met regularly for prayer; later we had a night of prayer in which some lingered until nearly dawn; this was fol-

lowed by a week of prayer in which every night was given to earnest supplication that God would give us a revival; every message from the platform had this for its object, and every prayer breathed out longings for a revival. We praise God for His visible presence in our midst, for the growing interest and manifest power, and that He is answering prayer. Every week souls are being saved and healed. A woman totally blind in one eye and a cataract over the other, was wonderfully healed and sight restored. When the Lord touched her eyes she was overcome with joy. She had been led into the place several times, but said she had no faith. As the message on "touching the hem of His garment" went forth in power, her faith began to grow and she reached out and touched Him.

A Jewess was healed of spinal trouble from which she had suffered a long while, and another sister of a goitre.

We are now beginning (October 8th) a special series of meetings, which will be held every eve-

ning during the week except Saturday. Brother Hardy W. Mitchell, whom the Lord brought to us some weeks ago, will be with us indefinitely, and other ministers will assist us in the revival. There will also be some day services for prayer for the sick and waiting upon God. We give this information to those who have written in asking when we would hold special services. We have confidence that God will save souls, heal the sick and baptize believers, and we invite all to come who are seeking a refreshing.

* * *

Sunday, October 8th, the opening of the special meetings, was blessedly marked by the presence of God. The Lord used Brother Robert Brown of New York City to bring us His Word and souls were saved at all the services. Brother A. P. Collins of Ft. Worth, Texas, who will assist in the revival meetings, remarked at the close of the evening service as souls were being saved around the altar, "This is like it was in your revival three years ago."

On the Firing Line

Filling the Empty Barrel

EVERY missionary who steps out on faith lines, is tested, and sometimes the test is a very severe one. It is very human when the flour-barrel is empty to wonder why Brother A. has forgotten them and why Sister B. has not sent them a substantial remembrance this month, and sometimes they think out loud, "Is everybody dead whom we used to know?" Occasionally the Lord closes up the regular channels in order for them to get their eyes off of Brother A. and Sister B. and then He steps in and does the unusual because of His great love. Instances of God's special undertaking along these lines have come to us from China, India, and Africa. These experiences brought Him so near and so strengthened their faith that they felt they would almost rather have an empty flour-barrel than a full one.

Some missionaries in China had just stepped out into the untried paths of faith and were going through a trial because of it, but God was mindful of them. One morning when all were at church a man came to their big gate with a basket of fruit which he left at their door and then walked quietly away. The Chinese marvelled as they saw the hand of the Lord in providing for the missionaries' needs.

A missionary in India was greatly in need of money to pay her rent and cried to the Lord to help her in her extremity. The mails brought

nothing and in the natural she would have been in distress, but she kept looking up. One day she was invited out and when she returned home she found the needed money in her pocket-book, put there by one who did not know she was entirely out of money.

The mails in Liberia have been unusually slow, owing to war conditions, but we have already shown that the Lord is not dependent on the mails. One day He gave one of the missionaries I. Kings' 17:14, "The barrel of meal shall not waste neither shall the cruise of oil fail until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth." They didn't know just how it was coming about but they believed the promise. The next morning as she was going through the yard she felt impressed to turn aside and look. Calling a boy she told him to dig cassada (a native product). To their surprise they found two large pails full, just enough for one meal for twenty-eight boys. The boys said that was all. When the next meal came she told them to go and dig again but they protested saying there was "no more there." Imagine their surprise to find two more pails full, and so it continued until several weeks. Then the natives in the town did an unusual thing. They were cutting their rice farms and made a law that everyone had to give a certain portion of their beaten rice to the missionaries, and brought them almost two bags of rice.

This was just a preparation for a spiritual

feast with the Lord, which was on the way. Two of the boys were taken ill, down to death's door, but God healed them and then used them to help break the dead-lock that the missionaries had been facing for some time. Conviction fell and here and there one was saved and another baptized in the Spirit. Then others became hungry and the fire fell. Soon the whole school was saved and all baptized in the Spirit but a few. Then they went into the heathen town and began stirring up the people there. A booth was built for meetings and there were a number of conversions. One writes, "It was a glorious sight to see the chief men on their faces in the dirt crying out to God."

The latest letter from there says that seventeen were baptized in the Holy Spirit, and there is much rejoicing on the part of the missionaries that they have been able to stand and see "the end of the Lord."

* * *

Hunger for The Word

During a recent mela in India 2214 Gospels and tracts were sold to the pilgrims. The fact that they were sold will insure their being read. No doubt some will be read many times and discussed by the heathen. What a harvest will some day be reaped in response to the many seed-sowings!

The military governor of Szechuan, a western province of China, on his own initiative writes to the local agent on the border of Tibet, "It is the Bible that has made America great. Thank your supporters at home for this benevolent work of circulating the Bible and ask them not to be weary in well-doing." A pioneer missionary working in the most dangerous corner of the Empire distributed 160 Scriptures in the Tibetan language. A Mohammedan priest came to him with a number of Tibetans and suggested that he supply them liberally with Gospels, as they returned to a thickly populated remote region.

During the construction of a chapel in China, the leading mason and two workmen were converted.

* * *

While a young Japanese Christian, who was blessedly saved, was walking one evening along the beach, he met a young man who had become despondent and was contemplating suicide because he had failed in his school studies. The young Christian said he need not do that as he could be saved from his burden and trouble. They knelt down and prayed and the burden rolled away, whereupon the Christian then and there baptized the one who had so recently been

in despair, as he had seen the missionary do. The police seeing the performance thought he was trying to kill him and arrested them, both, but released them when the matter was explained.

* * *

"Now It Will Not be Long"

As one of our missionaries in Liberia, Mrs. Neeley, was playing the organ in a little meeting, she realized that a door at her right side opened. Looking up, she saw the door closed yet felt that some one had entered, and was conscious of an overshadowing presence. Another missionary sitting near said she saw Jesus enter the door and pass to the back of the organist. They were singing, "Oh Lord Jesus, how long!" "Now," she writes, "I know it will not be long." Another night she saw two angels with trumpets enter the room getting ready to blow, and again one morning as she awoke, an angel said to her, "The great day of His wrath is come." Surely it will not be long!

* * *

A native Bible woman in India had a vision of Jesus praying alone; it brought condemnation to her because she had been neglecting prayer. Then she fell asleep and dreamed that Jesus came to her and told her to keep in a spirit of prayer. He began to repeat the "Lord's Prayer" hesitating at the end of each sentence for her to repeat it after Him.

* * *

Walked Twenty Miles for Prayer

A poor native Chinese woman who had been sick for several years, walked alone twenty miles to a meeting in Tianfu, Santung, because she heard that God was healing people there. She expected that it would take her three days, but the Lord seemed to give her special strength so that she reached there for service that night. She was possessed with evil spirits, and by fasting and prayer they were driven out and she was delivered.

* * *

Among the Natives in Egypt

Encouraging news of the work in Egypt comes to us from Ghali Hanni. In spite of the fact that there are no Pentecostal missionaries now in Egypt, and the work is being carried on entirely by native workers, God is blessing and has enabled them to conduct work in nine stations, three of which were newly opened this year, Wasta, Somalet and Mallawi. Brother Hanni says:

"Our native workers are eight in number. These are giving their whole time to the Lord's

service, but we have four more brothers who are giving very good assistance in the meetings. In Samalut the Lord is using a precious brother who is a government employee but giving much of his time to the cause of the Lord. There is quite a revival in that place; about a dozen were baptized in the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4. In Wasta, which is only a little place, quite a few were baptized in the Holy Spirit, but these are suffering much persecution from the Copts. In spite of all this they are standing faithful and true to God. In Mallawi about ten were saved and most of these were baptized in water.

"In the old stations God is also working, especially in Alexandria and Beni Suef, but we are praying for a special visitation, that a great and glorious revival may sweep this valley of the Nile from north to south, saving, baptizing and healing to the glory of His Name.

"In Port Said, our dear Brother Lowder and wife are continuing their labor of love among the soldiers, scattering the word of truth by means of tracts, and God is blessing.

"May the Lord help His dear saints to work more earnestly than ever, 'redeeming the time for the days are evil,' and 'snatching souls from the fire' before the glorious appearing of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

* * *

Missionary Report

THE following is our three months' report (July, August, September) of money sent to the field. It comprises money received through The Evangel and the Stone Church to date:

Nicholas Yest, China	\$95.00
Miss Bertha Meyer, China	92.00
Mrs. B. Hammond, China	75.00
Mr. and Mrs. I. S. Neeley, South Africa..	68.35
B. S. Moore, Japan	60.00
Miss C. B. Herron, India.....	59.99
Miss Carrie Anderson, China.....	50.00
W. S. Norwood, India	49.99
Miss Margaret Clark, India	45.00
Harry Bowley, West Africa	45.00
Wm. H. Johnson, West Africa.....	45.00
B. A. Schoeneich, Central America	35.00
Pandita Ramabai, India	35.00
Mrs. Mary Chapman, India	30.00
Paul Van Valen, India.....	30.00
Mrs. Lillian Denney, India	25.00
Mrs. Lydia Brelsford, for Egypt.....	21.00
Mrs. Julia Richardson, Congo.....	20.65
Miss Olive Mau, China	20.00
Miss Eva K. Bietsch, India	20.00
Miss Bernice Lee, India	20.00
Charles Chawner, Africa	20.00
Miss Margaret Piper, Japan.....	20.00
Miss Sarah Kugler, for native worker, China	18.00
Miss Sarah Kugler, China	17.00
Robert Cook, India	15.00
Miss Edith Baugh, India	15.00

C. W. Longstreth, Africa	15.00
Miss Lillian Trasner, Egypt	10.25
C. F. Juergenson, Japan	10.00
MISS ANNE WOOD, South America.....	10.00
Miss Alma Doering, Congo	10.00
Miss Edith Kirschner, India.....	10.00
Miss Jennie Kirkland, India	10.00
Mrs. Adele Harrison, China.....	10.00
Miss Ethel King, India	10.00
A. D. Urshan	5.00
J. M. L. Harrow, Africa	4.00

Total\$1,149.23

Send us your offerings for the foreign field. We will send the money to whomsoever you designate, or if left to us we will send it out prayerfully. We are in touch with a large number of faith missionaries. If, after allowing for delayed mails, our missionaries have not received the amounts opposite their names and will so inform us, we will send tracer after them.

* * *

We have been requested to publish the following statement from Brother A. Lindsay, Parry Sound, Ontario:

"Inasmuch as the impression has gone out that we have accepted the teaching that God is only One Person, we wish to affirm our belief in the three persons in the Godhead. We have always believed in the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and after much prayer we are firmly convinced that the Word of God does not agree with the present so-called revelation."

* * *

The new Tabernacle which has been under erection in Milwaukee at 718-720 Lee St., is now nearing completion. The Pastor, Cyrus B. Fockler, writes that they are expecting (D. V.) to have the dedicatorial service Nov. 12th, at which time they will begin a Gospel campaign. They are building this Tabernacle through much sacrifice, and it is not yet by any means clear of indebtedness, but they are trusting that God will help them to meet every obligation. They solicit the prayers of God's people that every need may be met.

* * *

We have just published three new tracts for which we have had frequent calls. HIS COMING DRAWETH NIGH, by S. A. Jamieson, THE UNPARDONABLE SIN, by A. G. Jeffries and THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER, by F. F. Bosworth. We have so often been asked for a tract on the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and can now send this out in any quantity. Orders promptly filled.

Prices of the above, 3 for 5c, 12 for 15c. 100 for \$1.00. Add 15c postage on 100 lots.

A Pentecostal convention will be held at Beulah Heights, North Bergen, N. J., November 25-December 3. Friday, December 1, Missionary Day, offerings for missions taken. For information write Beulah Heights Rest Home, 4741 Hudson Blvd., North Bergen, N. J.

"Where is He That Put the Holy Spirit Within Us?"

The Spirit-Indicted Message Brings Conviction

Mrs. Lydia M. Piper in The Stone Church, July 20, 1916.



FOR days the Lord has been speaking to me from the words found in the latter clause of Isaiah 63:11, "Where is He that put His Holy Spirit within him?" but the way He gave it to me was changed to read thus: "Where is He that put His Holy Spirit within us?"

What was the condition of the disciples on the day of Pentecost? What do we learn about them in the Holy Word? That they were engaged in prayer. That is the first thing we know about them, and such craving for intimacy with our Lord and Master always establishes a deep fellowship and communion. You cannot come to God in prayer with a real honest heart without drawing into His presence. These disciples craved an intimacy with our Lord, which they received in prayer. We read they were all in the Upper Room and were all of one accord. They were united in prayer, and that is the secret of every revival born of God that we have ever had in this land. It has been that united force in prayer. There is an energy and exhilaration and a common faith that goes from heart to heart as a crowd of people gather together unitedly for one thing. Faith begets faith. If you go into a room where everyone is praying for a sick person, and you feel all are holding on to God in faith, it will spring up in your own heart. These disciples were gathered together, united in their request to God and what happened? They were filled with the Holy Ghost.

What a wonderful Personage is the Holy Spirit! Yet we talk about Him so lightly. We speak of the infilling of the Holy Spirit so glibly; about the outpouring of the Holy Ghost and His work as if it were some trifling blessing and not the coming of the Holy Comforter to abide in our hearts. Friends, I believe the Lord is displeased. We lack reverence in the Pentecostal Movement. We can criticize the denominational churches; they may not have gone as deeply as some have in Pentecost, or known the heights, but there is reverence in their services that we lack sorely. They realize they are in the house of God. Sometime ago I was asked to identify myself with a certain work; I went to see it once and told them when I went to church I didn't want to go to a religious picnic. Let us

ask God to make us realize that we are in His presence when in His house.

How are we to get this "oneness" in our midst, this infilling of the Holy Spirit which we so crave? It is nine years ago tonight since I received the baptism in the Spirit. No wonder this message has been pouring in upon me so today! He has been making Himself especially real on this anniversary day. Do you know what I was thinking about when I sought God nine years ago? Do you think I was bothering about how Sister A. was living? or what Brother B. believed about a certain doctrine? Ah no! I was saying, "Search me, O God, and try my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me." I wasn't concerned about my brethren, what they were doing, I was doing business with God. And as I waited before Him for His blessed Holy Spirit to come into my life, it was a going down and a cleaning up of my own life. I wasn't asking God to straighten you out. The Holy Spirit had me in hand. He wasn't speaking to me about the church, but about Mrs. Piper. I was on a stretch for the Holy Spirit and I said, "By God's grace I am going through until I get it," and I received it. I praise God tonight for the mighty outpouring that came into my life at that time. If no one else ever knew what it did for me, my own husband knew. If those in your own family recognize that God has done something special in your life, you may be sure it means something. I praise God for the determination He put into my heart nine years ago to get right before Him. I was not seeking "tongues" or demonstration, but the infilling of the Holy Spirit, and I purposed in my heart to hold on until I received it. But God took me down before Him until I saw myself at the foot of the cross only a few inches high, I laughed at my own picture and said, "Lord, that is just what I am, a little, insignificant creature like that." We say, "Get back to Pentecost." Let us get back to the Lord. "Where is He that put His Holy Spirit within us?" We cannot cry for the baptism until we get the Lord in our hearts. Let us not go at it backwards. If we want to get what the disciples got on the day of Pentecost, a burning fire to do His will and preach His Gospel, we have to get into that united condition before Him where the power of

God will fill each one of us because each must get right individually before Him. Today it came to me with tremendous significance: What would not God do for one person wholly abandoned to Him without a selfish motive in his heart, without any desire to be lauded, but only to exalt the name of Jesus, and to say, "I will do Thy will, Lord, no matter what it costs!"

I was interested in reading about the first missionary sent to the Mohammedans about the Thirteenth Century. At that time there was no missionary spirit abroad, but God kindled within him a missionary zeal so intense that he was willing to give himself even unto death, as it meant in those days. Hear his pathetic prayer of self-dedication: "To Thee, O God, I offer myself, my children and all that I possess." Have you ever prayed that prayer from the heart? Some of us know what it means to make that consecration, giving to God ourselves, our children, and all that we possess. Is it any wonder that after such a prayer, through his instrumentality a wonderful missionary spirit swept over the country? That man was mightily blessed because he gave all to the Lord. If we want the fire of God to burn in our meetings we have to pray that prayer as individuals, "To Thee, O God, I offer myself, my children and all that I possess," and if we really mean that, God will take us up. We do not know what He will call upon us to go through, but we can trust Him. I thank God, tonight, that after nine years of walking in the light of the Holy Spirit, I know Him better than I have ever known Him before. I thank Him that even though it has been a hard preparation time, a hard school, and I have been a rebellious child in many ways, He has put me through and held me steady, because through it all I have loved and trusted Him.

We cannot look to each other for success; we cannot look to the platform or the pew. We become appalled when we look at the divisions and the awful chaos through the land over different doctrinal issues, but let us forget them all and get where we were nine years ago, fighting through for Jesus to come into our lives. I wasn't bothering about doctrinal issues nine years ago; I didn't care what you believed, and I don't care tonight; what I want is that Jesus may reign in our hearts. During our revival here in 1913 some people came from the Northwest and said to some of our people, "Which side of the issue are you on?" But those who had just received a wonderful blessing from God, said innocently, "What issue?" They didn't know what they were talking about. I said to

a brother minister a few nights ago, "Brother, when we get to fighting over doctrines, it is a sure sign we are backslidden," and he said, "I believe you are right." If you have the living fire of God in your hearts you will be too busy saving souls and too busy praying for the sick to bother about controversies. But you see it in every church, every assembly and every individual's life—when the power of God wanes and we become lukewarm, we turn our attention to discussing doctrinal matters. When we think of those who were merged into this assembly some years ago, who we thought in the natural would never pull with us, it is an object lesson of what God can do when the sweet winds of heaven blow over the church.

I believe if we are honest before God and pay our vows He will again give us a mighty revival. We may have to come down in deep humility, give up something very precious to us; we may have to give up position, to give up our rights, and go through deep waters to get the power of God to rest on our lives sufficiently to be felt in the church, but it is just such a surrender God is calling us to. I said this afternoon to the Lord while on my face, "Lord, burn this lesson into my heart first. Let me not say a word to the people I myself am not willing to live." We say in the enthusiasm of the moment, "Our all is on the altar," but when the great test comes we realize how little is on the altar. We put it there when we are in the meeting but before we go to bed that night we have every bit of it on our shoulders, strapped tightly. I am not seeking humiliations; I do not go through hard things as easily as I might and when I get through I feel as if the skin had come off my body. We may have to go through that experience in order to obey God. We are so very selfish we say in effect, "Lord, bring down the power of God in my way." "Sweep out all confusion in my way." "Bring my enemies down in my way." The Lord wants us to lay all that down and to ask Him to lead forth in His own way, though that may mean an awful death to us.

Are you willing to have your enemies triumph for a time? to have those who despitefully use you, glory in it and seem to be successful? Are you willing to suffer in silence and let the Lord vindicate, or are you going around in circles trying to justify yourself? May the Lord take the "self" out of us. He said to me today, "Just as you become nothing before Me, just so can I use you." He doesn't want us filled with our own ideas; He wants a clean channel; He cannot flow through when the channel is filled with

obstructions. Our own ideas clogg the channel so the Spirit of God cannot flow.

We often hear men and women get up in meeting and say, "The Lord is making me say this," and there is no conviction accompanies it, but friends, when God, through His Holy Spirit takes hold of a man and makes him say strong things, the convicting power of the Spirit falls upon the meeting, for that is a divine law. I was interested in reading of a native minister in Burmah who had a number of converts. They applied for baptism and he took them down to the stream to immerse them. In a neighboring village was a wicked blasphemer who was their bitter enemy. He came down to the water's edge and in order to make trouble he took his son, a young man, stripped him perfectly nude, took him by the heels and ducked him into the water using the name of the Trinity. It was so shocking he stopped the entire service, and it could not be continued because of the hooting of the crowd. He carried out his purpose and broke up the service while the native preacher stood helplessly by, not knowing what to do. Soon a native Christian stepped up, the power of the Holy Spirit came upon him and he began to rebuke this man, called him "child of the devil" and exhorted him to repent. When he spoke, these evil doers were conscious-stricken and fled up the hillside. As they fled, the father dropped dead and the young man had a stroke of apoplexy from which he died within a month. That is a striking instance of how a man can rebuke under the power of God and have it effective, but there is also the other side, of one speaking in the power of the flesh and nothing but confusion and consternation follow. If the Holy Spirit doesn't dictate to us what to say we had a thousand times better keep silent.

When the Holy Spirit wants us to give forth a rebuke, He will back it up with conviction. If He doesn't want us to say it, it will reflect on ourselves. I heard an illustration in the East some years ago of a woman who had gotten into error. Her friends came to set her right. They flayed her and were very strong in their denunciations of her, and when they got through she was farther away from the truth than ever. That night when she retired, the Holy Spirit came to her and said, "My child, this is error." "Yes," she said, "I see it." While they had come and torn the heart nearly out of her and stirred up resistance in the flesh, the Holy Spirit came and convinced her while He healed the wounds. If you tear me in the flesh there is no healing power back of it, but if you are backed

by the Holy Spirit, it heals while it wounds.

Several years ago I attended a campmeeting in which a crowd of people came solely out of curiosity. One was speaking who was apparently out of God's order. When he saw this ungodly and curious crowd he felt it was an opportunity to preach to them about their sins. He held them over perdition, but the crowd grew restless and ridiculed in the most unbecoming manner. The situation became extremely embarrassing, a number of workers were on the platform but the one in charge of the campmeeting was not present. My heart was grieved as I saw the situation becoming more critical, and I prayed, "Lord, isn't there anything You can do to stop this confusion?" The Spirit said to me, oh so quietly, "If you are not afraid I will use you." In the natural I was very much afraid, but as I held steady before the Lord a real courage took possession of me. The one speaking tried again and again to redeem the situation, but was not being led by the Spirit. Had the Spirit of God accompanied the words it would have been a powerful message and would have carried conviction, but as it was it only antagonized. Feeling the pressure of the Spirit upon me I finally asked permission to say a few words, which was granted. I felt helpless and thought of these workers who had had more experience in handling situations of this kind, and I wondered what I could say, and while I hesitated the Spirit said again, "If you are not afraid." I didn't remember all that I said, but one thing I remembered was this, "We have come from different parts of the country to help you. We thought we were among a civilized people but instead of that we find we have reached the heathen." This wasn't what I thought of saying, but the words came spontaneously. It became so quiet you could not hear a sound. One young fellow who seemed to be the ring leader, said, "Let the lady have her say." So while the Spirit of God held them quiet I spoke the words the Lord gave me. As I talked, the tears came to my eyes and I could not refrain from weeping. When I left the platform my children came to me and said, "Mother, you had better get a man to go home with you." They were afraid their mother would be mobbed, but I said, "If the Lord has spoken tonight I have nothing to fear; if He hasn't spoken I need to learn my lesson."

When I reached my cottage I found quite a number of people waiting for me. I didn't feel very good just then and wished I might get into the house unnoticed. A lady stepped up and

said, "You are Mrs. Piper." I said "Yes." She said, "I heard your remarks tonight. I represent the people of this town, and these people who are with me belong to this place. Those who made the trouble are not our townspeople; they are campers. I want to say that I am on your side and I admire your grit and courage to stand up before that crowd. It was God who gave you the courage. We are not in sympathy with those who disturbed the meetings and will co-operate with you for law and order." I knew if I had stopped to analyze the situation that night, I never would have spoken, but I simply obeyed God on the spur of the moment.

The next Sunday the very people of that town sent one of their leading men after me to come and preach in their little church. I said, "I am not a preacher." "Well," he said, "Come and talk to us. I am a representative of the townspeople and of the better class of campers." I went, and felt like a Methodist circuit-rider as we drove up the creek. I had ransacked my Bible from cover to cover for a message, and couldn't find a thing, so I closed the Book and asked the Lord to give me something. He said, "Talk to them about the power in Jesus' Name." I went and held up the Name of Jesus and told them how He was working in the world today. I saw a fellow here and there surreptitiously wiping his eyes, and when I finished my message the man in charge said, "Mrs. Piper, do you know what kind of an audience you have had

here today?" I said, "No." He said, "You had two Christians. The rest were sinners and the room was filled to the door." I asked what brought them and he said, "The little talk of the other night had aroused their interest and they wanted to hear further." Before closing the meeting this man turned to the audience and said, "Who wants Mrs. Piper to come back next Sunday?" and every man and woman rose to their feet. I had won their hearts by being faithful to God.

Let us be careful when we speak that we are backed by the Holy Spirit. If I had gotten up in my own strength I would have failed, but the Lord gave me just the words to say and I obeyed Him.

Zinzendorf, that mighty man of God said, "I have one great passion and that is He and He alone." Friends, if we have as our one great passion, Christ, and Him alone, we will come out victoriously in this fight with the powers of darkness. We are not fighting against flesh, nor against man, but against the powers of hell, and the quicker we recognize it the better. Every spiritually discerning man or woman can feel that, and we need to get to the place where we can be used for God; then nothing can keep back the power of God. There is a divine law there that covers the whole situation; if we get right before God and move as He leads, we can unitedly storm the gates of heaven and the power will have to fall.

The Refreshing

Elizabeth Sisson



"THIS is the refreshing" says God in Isaiah 28:12. What is refreshing? All over our land are many places called Restaurants, where the people crowd daily, one, two or three times, to "restore" or "refresh" (same meaning in the French) themselves. Restaurants are not merely for the sick, but even more for the well, and in Nature, God has made it that we thus require daily repair of loss, "the refreshing." The harder we work, the more we need in home or hotel, the restaurant, the restorative of new food.

Thus God put prophetically in this Isaiah chapter a promise seven hundred and fifty-eight years before its first fulfillment and two thousand added years before its later fulfillment, the promise of "tongues" as we find them reported in Acts 2:1-4 and given now in the "latter rain"

all over the earth. In Isaiah He says "This is the rest wherewith we may cause the weary to rest, and this is the refreshing;" "For with stammerings of lips (margin) and another tongue will He speak to this people." The marginal reference of the passage turns us to I Cor. 14:21 where Paul under the Holy Ghost quotes it, "In the law it is written, with men of other tongues and other lips, will I speak unto this people."

And now we find the secret of God calling it "a rest," "a refreshing." I did not see it myself (so blind are we but for His Spirit!) till God revealed it to me, though in these Scriptures it is as plain as the nose on a man's face. I have been experiencing for some time such a rejuvenation going on all through my being, spirit, soul, and body, and very much led out in worship, prayer and praise, followed by long seasons in tongues. Many who read this know the delightful glow that pervades the entire being as

"tongues" subside and we pass into a silence in the immediate presence of God. It was one of those balmy seasons when I felt more in heaven than on earth, that He whispered in my inmost being, "*This is refreshing.*" I had to laugh! Sure enough it was refreshing. Didn't I feel rejuvenated throughout my entire being? Wasn't I younger than just turned sweet sixteen? Now seventy-three years old! Wasn't the atmosphere in which I luxuriated as of the ozone of the sea, the spices of the pines, the exhilaration of the mountains, the sweet solitude of untrodden valleys, the fragrance of rose gardens, and more and more, and more, all heaped together till every faculty of my threefold being tingled and glowed in the immediate presence of my Maker, Redeemer, Brother, Lover, Husband and Friend? Oh the holy worship! When God comes, takes our tongues, locks for the moment our "soulical" powers and does the worshipping Himself, while we taste for a while sweet fellowship with those seraphim, who before the throne cease not crying, "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty." And then the praying in tongues! **Forget it not,** God is more pleased when He does the praying through us, than when we pray. No wonder that life is suddenly made a blooming oasis in the desert of mortality. "Refreshing" indeed! I can but laugh in childlike glee.

Then the Scriptures we have just been considering opened up before me and I saw the *reason*. "With stammering lips and another tongue will *He* speak." "With men of other tongues and other lips will *I* speak unto this people; and yet for all *that*, will they not hear *Me*, saith the Lord." You notice that the three pronouns used "He," "I," "Me" declare the Speaker is the Lord. Hence "the rest!" Hence "the refreshing."

"He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth,
And love, joy, hope, like flowers
Spring in His path to birth."

"His presence is salvation." "In Thy presence is fulness of joy." "Times of refreshing come from the presence of the Lord." "I will make the place of My feet glorious." No wonder that it is with "joyful lips" we praise Him, though we may not understand what we say, when He Himself is the Speaker! "Because Thy loving kindness is *better than life*, my lips shall praise Thee." No wonder that the earthiness of our poor nature after such an uprising of His presence within us, deigning to take up our faculties and Himself use them, should cry "*Thou* visitest the earth and waterest it; *Thou* greatly enrichest it with the river of God." And all our being ex-

ults in the quickening. It's Himself. You can make no more and no less of it. His presence is "the rest" and oh! "the refreshing."

"Yes" says Mr. Objector, "but I don't think much of tongues. I think the people who speak in tongues are no better than others. I have heard tongues that I am sure are not of God; I have seen some of them to be in temper and rebuke horribly in tongues." "Oh yes, Mr. Objector, I have been through that too, and many phases of it." The devil kept me in my youth out of salvation two years, bidding me look at Christians, notably one that lived in the same house with me and had as much temper as I had. I used to think, "I don't have to be a Christian to fly into a passion," but Jesus pulled down that bulwark in my heart saying, "If any man be in Christ he is a new creature." "My grace is sufficient for thee," etc. I found it was not between me and Christians; it was between me and my Lord. I was shut up to His Word. I surrendered, hallelujah! and got saved. But Satan tried it again before I got through the gates of sanctification, "Holiness people, this, that and the other matter with them, bah!" But again my Lord said, "What is that to thee?" Of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption. "I am raised up as a horn of salvation for *you*, that *you* should be saved from your enemies . . . that you might serve me all the days of your life." "Ye are complete in (Me)" etc. Again shut up to His Word, again surrender, sanctification, satisfaction!

Along with Divine Healing or the Lord's life for the body, Satan, the great objector, came also, "Oh these people say that Jesus is their physical life and with the very next opening of their mouth they are telling you of their aches, and pains and you see them dragging weary disease loaded bodies about. You don't want that." But God "If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in His sight, wilt give ear to His commandments; keep all His statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon you for I am the Lord that healeth thee." "With His stripes we are healed." "He healed all that were sick that it might be fulfilled. Himself took our infirmities and bare our sicknesses." Shut up to God and His Word. Surrender again! Consequence, life almost from the dead repeatedly as by the very mouth of the Lord. Objections, objections, through the inconsistencies of people! Jesus said, "Have I not

chosen you twelve, and one of you a devil!" Yes, and another, a doubting Thomas, still another a cursing, swearing Peter. Yet from the members of that twelve has Christianity spread in the earth! Yea, and already peopled heaven with millions of saints, and all along tares have grown with the wheat, in that foolishness of God which is wiser than the wisdom of men.

Ah, Mr. Objector, it is the *Living Word* in the written word, who is here dealing with us over this "refreshing." "For with stammering lips and another tongue will He speak to this people, to whom He said, This is the rest where-with ye may cause the weary to rest; this is the refreshing; *Yet they would not hear.*" There is a solemn indictment here, and in the corresponding word in the Corinthian chapter, "with men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people, and yet *for all that* will they not hear *Me*, saith the Lord." The indictment is, that God and not His people has been despised! "*T*" have spoken and they despised "*Me.*" So scornfully people speak of "the tongue movement." Yes, but who moves that tongue? God says, it is "*Me.*" "*T*" have spoken. Infinite condescension! That God should rise up in a poor earthen vessel, so frail, so inconstant that Jehovah in His foreknowledge saw that the creature, with Him today, might remove from Him tomorrow, as some of them, alas! have. Yet in the hour of the creature's full union with his Lord, He the glorious One, would stoop to pray, praise and sing through the disciple, shoving on His creature's feeble supplication and adoration, into a fulness that satisfied Him, because it was Himself! God evidently feels it was great to have so condescended, when He adds as if it were the height of man's guilt—"Yet—for all that, will they not hear."

It means something to let in at God's good pleasure, this "rest," this "refreshing." It is the provision of His wisdom, in the heat of the battle, to which we are surely now coming, in the end of this Dispensation. For the weary soldiers of His trenches "This is the rest." It is the "Refreshing"—meals three times a day, yea sometimes more, amid the heavy labors of the last hour. "This is the refreshing." The fine needlework of the Bride who hath "made herself ready" is thus speeded on, to bring all to the completion of the marriage supper of the Lamb. God makes no mistakes in His provisions. He doth not deal in folly. He doth not deal niggardly but with an overflowing cup of

His bounty. Spiritual viands heaped up, "Come taste and see that the Lord is good." He brings us "butter in a lordly dish," singing within us, "Eat, O friends, yea, drink, O beloved; eat, drink abundantly." "Take of the water of life freely!" Looking upon God's provisions and man's contempt He says, "Yet for *all that*, will they not hear." Is not His attitude unchanged as when He spoke in Acts 13:41, "Behold ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no-wise believe, though a man declare it unto you." Isa. 29:14 and Hab. 1:5. Despisers, unbelievers, and (may we coin a word?) perish-ers; seem to be ever the same class with God. Such an attitude brings God's indictment. He will not have *His* movings in the children of men and in the earth despised; despising brings perishing. "Now therefore be ye not mockers, lest your bands be made strong: for I have heard from the Lord God of hosts a consumption, even determined upon the whole earth. Isa. 28:22. Satan brings up objections, as we yield to them, our bands of prejudice are made stronger, and they can be made so strong, that turn again we will not, but come in under the consumption that is called in these last days upon all that is earthly.

But oh! if we will yield unquestioning suppleness and pliability to God, how He Himself will take the rise in all our faculties and carry us far beyond our human conceptions in prayer and praise in tongues, leaving behind only the "rest" and the "refreshing" of quickened powers, that somehow in an ever-increasing deep mystical sense, have been betrothed unto the Lord; and thus we speed on to "know the Lord." "I will betroth thee unto me forever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment and in loving kindness and in mercies. I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the Lord." Hos. 2:19, 20.

In short what is the "refreshing"? What has God given to feed, to restore, to rebuild, refresh our souls? God Himself uprising within and speaking forth in His gladness, His joy, His love, what He will! "He shall rest in His love," "He shall joy over her with singing." It is a piece of love-life, love-joying, love-crooning over Love's beloved. Oh what a hard time God had to conquer our indifference, our hungerlessness, our prejudice, our questionings and human reasonings, our unconscious resistance, and unpliability! He wants us as responsive to the breath of the Spirit as a feather is to the wind. Yes, *He* had a hard time! but now—Hallelujah! This is the rest and the refreshing, to Him and to us.

I need not go abroad for joy
Who have a feast at home.
Down in my heart the Dove of God,
The Comforter has come.

She lifts her wing, she trills, she sings,
And all her song is love.
The echoes wake the heavenly harps
Of countless hosts above.

"Is this the sinner once so vile,
A rebel against God,

Whose yielded powers now in His hands
Such melody afford?"

"Rest" and "refreshing" on the earth,
And in the heavens too
As their Lord's sweet humility
The wondering angels view.

Highest Heaven sound His praises,
Deepest Earth reply, Amen!
When He thus our spirit raises
Speaking for Himself within.

Fighting the Devil in Africa



NOTHING could have been more peaceful than that April Wednesday. A blue sky and a bluer sea, with a steamer lying at anchor in the harbor, golden sunshine, the mission sheep browsing beside the road in charge of one of our boys. Just outside the Cabo fishtown a mile distant, Sanso, our native preacher, and a little Wissipo boy beside him, walked along the same road toward the mission.

The child had followed Sanso from Wissipo town, fording the river and running along the beach at his side despite the warning of the devil-doctor the preceding day that a boy would be found dead in the river. Now, wanting to send a message up to his boy at the mission and no one else being available just then, Sanso sent on this small child, watching him along the road until he turned a small hill, when the mission buildings come into full sight.

The little lad walked on until he drew near to our small shepherd to whom he gave his message, then turned back to town instead of keeping on to the mission. The sheep moved just then and our boy moved with them. When he turned his head once more the child had disappeared.

THE SEARCH

All that long night men were out with lanterns searching through the bush and the farms nearby. We watched the gleaming lights and listened to the voices, calling, calling, and our hearts ached to the breaking point at thought of that little boy out somewhere, alone in the darkness, while all the time a deadly suspicion gripped us with sickening fear.

At rice cutting time it is the native custom to dedicate the farm with a human sacrifice, the human blood and parts of the body being made by the devil doctor into country medicine which is supposed to give the land power to bear large crops. The people at Nanah Kroo cut their rice farms every two years, and in this place, within the past ten years there have been five human

sacrifices. It was now the rice cutting, and a child is lost!

Days passed, one palaver court after another was held, devil-doctors from far and near were consulted, conflicting decisions were rendered. One devil-doctor declared that the child was being held a prisoner in the dense bush back of King Naffir's town. Another said the boy was dead. A third declared that the names of the witch people holding him were known to him and all their movements watched. We could do nothing but wait and pray. For a week the suspense remained unlifted while the judges "sweated" the people, "ate them up," as the natives put it, in the fines imposed. Since the lad had followed Sanso, they held him and forced him to pay an atonement for the loss of the boy, putting a second fine on him in a few days, followed closely by a third, though they acknowledged he had nothing to do with the death of the child. Then the guilty ones were named, three Cabo men and a Cabo woman. One week from the day the boy was taken, the sasswood court was held and the four suspects were made to drink the poison.

THE PUNISHMENT

Sasswood is a deadly poison, most bitter to the taste, and it is administered in wholesale doses, quart after quart being poured into the victim until he is full. While undergoing the test there are some things he is forbidden to do. He may wear no clothes whatever, he may not sit down, nor spit, nor wipe the sweat from his face, and he may not speak in a low voice. He must shout, else he is a witch.

If he vomits the sasswood, he is declared innocent and guns are fired in token of joy. But if the sasswood passes from his body through the intestines he is judged guilty and is driven away. If he retains it, and dies, he is guilty. If he retains it, and lives, through some trickery in making the medicine, then he is a witch man for truth, his witch being more powerful than the witch in the sasswood, and he is exiled for seven years.

Under the present test one died—and died quickly. He was an old man, very quiet at all times that we saw him, a regular attendant at our church services in his town, a quaint figure in his long overcoat and high beaver hat, but a man trained in witchcraft from his boyhood and with a heart as black as pitch. After drinking the sasswood he shouted, "I be Brofly. I killed the boy. I, Brofly, killed him. I was coming from my farm with a bundle of bamboo on my head. I caught the boy on the road and hid him in my farm. Then I killed him!" The words had barely left his lips when, with one convulsion, he fell to the ground, dead—fell with a thud like the explosion of a cannon, his tongue hanging out like a dog's!

CANNIBALISM AND WITCHCRAFT

The most horrible feature of this witchcraft crime was the fact, developed that same day, that Brofly carried some of the flesh of that murdered boy into town, cooked in palm oil, and ate it with rice as they eat fish or chicken, and gave some of it to the other men in his quarter. This is witchcraft and savagery practised within ten minutes' walk of the mission and in spite of the weekly preaching of the gospel!

Prior to his arrest, Brofly told something of his life in a testimony meeting. "My father's brother," said he, "was a devil doctor and he taught me witchcraft. One day a devil-doctor asked me:

"You fit to dig in a dead man's grave and bring me a piece of the cloth from his body?"

I answered, "I fit it," and brought the cloth and he made me a big war medicine.

Another time the devil-doctor said to me, "Are you fit to do something I ask you?" I said:

"Yes."

"Will you sleep all night on top of a dead man's grave in the graveyard?"

"I did it and told the devil-doctor, and he sent me back to get some of the sand from that grave and with it made me war medicine. Then I married a witch woman and she taught me more witchcraft. If I have done this thing I shall be like my uncle. My uncle died in sasswood for witchcraft and he died quickly, and if I have killed this boy I shall die like him, almost at once."

As he had said so it was.

A MISSIONARY COLLECTION IN KRU LAND

But there are some bright things to report from Kru Land. The darkest shadows cannot wholly blot out God's sunlight. "The blue of heaven is larger than the cloud." Easter Sun-

day was a golden day, sunshiny without and sunshiny within the little bamboo church in Wissipo town, brave in its decorations of palm branches and banana plants.

For a week previous the missionary had been conducting services, using lantern slides on the last week of Christ's life on earth. Deeply attentive audiences overflowed the church and much feeling was manifested, culminating in Good Friday, when most of our women spent the entire day in the church, fasting and praying, preparatory to receiving the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. It was that night when, crossing the river on his way to church, the missionary found the water running so swiftly that it took ten boys, swimming five on each side of the canoe, to keep it from being swept to sea! At the week night services we had reminded the people that Sunday was the church's Foreign Missionary Day, and said we should take no regular collection, only giving opportunity to those who loved Christ for the great sacrifice He had made for them, to deny themselves in return and make a sacrificial offering to Him.

How the people did give on Easter morning! On a table within the chancel were large pans which the people quickly filled with palm-kernels, rice and some money, including two silver finger rings, dear to the Kru woman's heart. Underneath the table were bundles of fiber, pieces of cloth, pans and plates, and half a dozen fowls. Our mission boys, at their own suggestion, went without a meal in order to have the rice to give. Better than all, the power of the Holy Spirit fell upon the people and several felt the touch of God upon them. That morning we baptized nineteen out of heathenism into Christianity, and received nine into full membership.

AN APPEAL

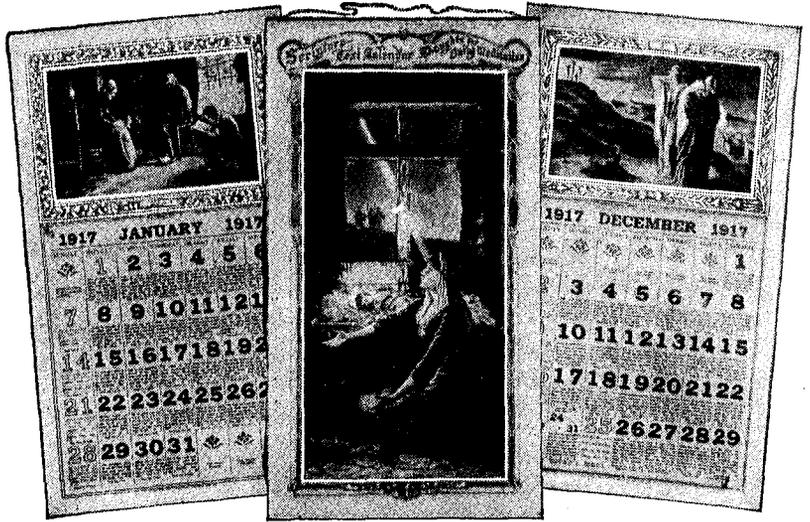
Dear home friends, would you want to live through such a fortnight as your missionary representatives have just lived through—a fortnight of Witchcraft, Kidnapping, Murder, Cannibalism, Sasswood Poisoning, Leprosy and Boa Constrictors (for we have a standing dispute with the serpents over the ownership of the mission fowls)? You are powerless to share this burden with us. But there is another burden pressing heavily upon us which you can lighten—even remove—if you will, the crushing burden of securing necessities for the boys our mission is gathering up out of these filthy heathen towns into clean, enlightening, soul-reviving environment of a Christian mission.—*Walter B. Williams, Liberia, West Africa, in Miss. Rev.*

Scripture Text Calendar for 1917

We can now fill orders for the beautiful Scripture text Calendar for 1917. It is without exception the most attractive calendar for the money ever gotten up. The cover is a beautiful reproduction in color of the famous painting "Christmas Morn," now owned by the United States and shown in the National Art Gallery at Washington, D. C. This picture, framed, will add greatly to the attractiveness of your home and favorably compare with your best paintings.

The pictures for each month are beautiful half-tones in sepia, taken from famous paintings. There are twelve in all, among which are, Christ Blessing the Children, Jesus on the Mount of Olives, Golgotha, He is Risen, The Last Supper, and the Return from Calvary.

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SONGS OF CALVARY.

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- Is your All on the Altar—Hoffman.
- Cleansing for Me—H. Booth.
- The Royal Telephone—Lehman.
- Jesus, I'll go thro' with Thee—Gilmour.
- God Is Coming—Mrs. Hoffman.
- Filled with God—Jones.
- Christ Is Coming—MaCombery.
- Down in the Valley—Bradley.
- Nailed to the Cross—Graves.
- Our Lord's Return to Earth—Kirk.
- Power of the Holy Ghost—Harris.
- Joy Unspeakable—Warren.
- If Jesus Were Coming Tonight—Harris.
- The Penitent's Plea—H. Booth.
- Washed in the Blood—Jones.
- The Fire Is Burning—Hugg.
- Honey from the Rock—Gabriel.
- I've Believed the true Report—Jones.
- The Grand Excursion.
- The Year of Jubilee.
- The Song of Redemption.
- Victory at the Cross.
- Like Jesus Himself, etc., etc., etc.

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