

# THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT SAITH THE LORD

SPIRITUAL LIFE EDITION



And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

(Acts 2:3, 4)

## THEY ARE SAYING

### DRIVEN TO HIS KNEES

I have been driven to my knees many times by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seems insufficient. My mainstay in trying moments has been the promise given by the prophet Isaiah: "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."

—Lyndon B. Johnson, U. S. President

### THE CURE FOR BROKEN HOMES

The broken home is our number one social problem today. Although more than a million and a half persons will have married this year, approximately 500,000 will end up in the divorce courts. As a result, thousands of boys and girls are in orphanages, reformatories, corrective institutions, while others are living abnormal lives elsewhere. What to do? It is high time our so-called experts turned to the Bible. Marriage counselors have been consulted. Psychiatrists have done a land-office business. In it all the One who performed the first marriage in the Garden of Eden, and instituted the union between man and wife, has been left out.

—Evangelist Billy Graham

### NUMBERS INSTEAD OF NAMES

The trend toward substituting numbers for Christian and family names continues to grow. Automation and data processing urge the necessity. You are a Zip-Code number, a Social Security number, an Internal Revenue number. Students at large universities are becoming mere "business-machine numbers," known to administrators and faculty only by their numbered identification cards. Heretofore this indignity has been reserved for animals and prison inmates. Sin always cheapens an individual. As sin increases, so does the tendency to degrade man increase. The Book of Revelation presents an accurate picture of earth under these conditions—a penitentiary planet. In the world of the Beast, the Antichrist, men will be tagged. "And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name" (Revelation 13:17).

—C. M. Ward, International Radio Evangelist

### POWERFUL PROPAGANDA

Three hundred and fifty million new readers within the next five years! But what will they read? I doubt whether there is a more crucial question than that. Communism is in no doubt as to the answer it would give. I do not suppose the Communists want to launch an atomic war to advance their aims. But they know that the power of the pen is greater and more lasting than that of the bomb, else they would not spend 500 million pounds (\$1,400,000,000) a year on printing and disseminating their literature. . . . Give them Christian literature—literature which makes much of the mighty acts of God in visiting and redeeming His people in Christ. Literature is the core of the message—God so loved the world that He gave His only Son.

—Dr. F. Donald Coggan, Archbishop of York

# "GOD GIVES HIM HIS SPIRIT WITHOUT MEASURE"

(John 3:34, Goodspeed)

**A** GIFT WITHOUT MEASURE! What a thrilling concept of the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.

Revealed in John 3:34 is one of the great principles of the Spirit-filled life. This is the relationship God intends between the Holy Spirit and your own heart. God's plan is for the Holy Spirit to come to you in such marvelous fullness, such overwhelming sufficiency, that your life will be filled to overflowing.

Through the baptism in the Spirit, the believer is brought into a life that is measureless in gifts, graces, and power. The only possible limitation is *your capacity to receive*.

The Mississippi River has its source in Itasca Park in the heart of Minnesota. At its source, the Father of Waters is just a tiny, bubbling spring. It would be easy to step across the small stream. But as it flows southward it deepens and broadens. Soon the Mississippi becomes a mighty river—waters to swim in, waters to fish in, waters to navigate with ships.

The Mississippi could mean these things to you, and much more, depending upon *your* interest and *your* desire.

This is but a faint picture of the possibilities in the Spirit-filled life. All you need or desire has been pro-

# THE

By EMIL A. BALLIET

vided for you in the promise of the Father. Let's look at some of the facets of this measureless gift.

### HE IS A GIFT

The Holy Spirit is given to the believers as a gift from God. "And ye shall receive *the gift* of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:38). Our Heavenly Father delights to bestow gifts on His children. Our lives are encircled, enriched with His gifts.

His greatest gift was the gift of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to be the Saviour of the world. To all who have received Christ, God now offers the gift of His Spirit. And He greatly desires that this special heavenly Gift be yours.

The gift of the Spirit must be understood in the same sense in which you normally give and receive gifts. Gifts are expressions of love. They are not to be earned, nor are they to be paid for. *They are to be received!*

When the apostle Paul considered God's gift of His Son, he exclaimed, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." And so with God's gift of the Spirit. Your response should be grateful thanks and simple ac-



THE TAUQUAMENON FALLS (MICHIGAN TOURIST COUNCIL PHOTO)

# MEASURELESS GIFT

ceptance. The key to a correct relationship with the Holy Spirit is to recognize you receive Him as one receives a gift.

## HE IS A DIVINE HELPER

The Lord Jesus said, "I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever." (See John 14:16, 18; 16:7.)

The word *Comforter* is a translation of the Greek word *parakletos*, which literally means one called alongside to help. You have *two* divine Helpers! One is your Helper *above*, the Lord Jesus Christ who intercedes for you with the Father (Hebrews 7:25; 1 John 2:1). The other is your Helper *within*, the Holy Spirit, who strengthens and helps you in your daily life.

Several years ago, Berlin was in deep trouble. The Russians, as part of their cold-war strategy, decided to cut off all supplies going into the city. The objective was to humiliate the Allies occupying the city and, if possible, force their withdrawal.

The Russian strategy was to starve and freeze the Berliners into submission. All roads to the city were

closed. But the Russians failed to consider the inventiveness and the courage of the Allies. The Berliners learned their help would come from the skies as the Allies undertook to fly in both food and fuel. The Berlin Airlift is now a remarkable part of history. The Berliners did not starve, nor did they freeze. Neither did they surrender!

Sometimes we, like the city of Berlin, are surrounded and all help appears to be cut off. Defeat seems certain. Our only hope is help from above. Then the Holy Spirit, our divine Helper, establishes a spiritual airlift. He brings His limitless supply of measureless power. And with such help, how could any believer fail?

## HE IS A TEACHER

You are aware of a deep need of guidance, understanding, enlightenment. God's answer to your need is this measureless Gift. The Holy Spirit is the ablest Teacher of all! The Lord Jesus promised, "When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13). Again He said, "He shall teach you all things" (John 14:26). The apostle Paul expanded

this thought further: "God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God" (1 Corinthians 2:10).

Have you ever taken a conducted tour? I have, in the RCA Building in New York City. I had been there before, but not on a guided tour. All who were taking the tour were asked to assemble in the foyer. The first thing the guide did was to ask us to look up! On the ceiling of the foyer is a magnificent mural with considerable significance. I had passed through this foyer several times, but never had I noticed the mural.

Consider what the guide did for me. He did not create the mural; it was already there. He simply called my attention to it, made me aware of its beauty, and guided me into an understanding of its meaning.

In much the same way, the Holy Spirit will *guide you* into all truth. He is the Author of the Scriptures. Who could be a better Teacher? And His specific ministry is to reveal the Lord Jesus Christ to you. He does not speak of Himself; He magnifies the Lord Jesus Christ. The living, warm reality of Christ as a Person and the truth of His Word are conveyed to your heart through the measureless ministry of the Spirit.

#### HE BRINGS DYNAMIC POWER

"But ye shall receive *power*, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me" (Acts 1:8).

God intends your life to be radiant with His glory, dynamic with His power. Not like Lazarus, raised from the dead but bound hand and foot. Nor like Samson, shorn of power, sightless, and grinding at the mill. But like Peter on the Day of Pentecost—filled with the Spirit, bold in utterance, and effective in witness.

Christ likened the dynamic of the Spirit-filled life to flowing rivers. (See John 7:37-39.) He used the plural form, "rivers," to convey the thought of the resistless; overwhelming power that flows from a Spirit-filled life.

Consider the Gulf Stream, the river that crosses the Atlantic Ocean from southwest to northeast. In spite of crosscurrents, tides, and cold Arctic waters, the Gulf Stream retains its identity and bears its warm influence to the Scandinavian shores.

Or, think of the mighty Amazon River with a flow so powerful it literally pushes back the Atlantic Ocean. At the mouth of the Amazon, and extending for miles out to sea, the water is fresh! What a tremendous river!

You should pray that comparable rivers of the Spirit's power shall flow through you—outflowing rivers of the Spirit with positive power to push back the forces of evil; power to exercise a warm, spiritual influence on those around you.

In these and many other wonderful ways the Holy Spirit becomes to you God's measureless gift—an endless, inexhaustible source of life and of power. 

International Edition • The Pentecostal Evangel • No. 2712 • May 1, 1966

Regular edition published weekly by the Assemblies of God, 1445 Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Missouri 65802. Subscription rate: \$3 a year in the U.S.A. • International Edition (published monthly and available only outside the U.S.A.): \$1 a year. • © 1966 by the General Council of the Assemblies of God. Printed in the U.S.A. Second-class postage paid at Springfield, Missouri. (Use the coupon on page 15 to request a free sample of the 32-page regular edition.)

# How to Receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

By ARTHUR H. GRAVES

THE BIBLE HAS MUCH TO SAY about the baptism in the Holy Spirit, but it says very little about how we may receive this experience.

The reason, I believe, is twofold. First, the Bible presents the Baptism primarily from the standpoint of the Giver rather than from the standpoint of the receiver. Second, the Baptism is received by the same process as all the other blessings God has promised.

While we are told very little of what the disciples were instructed to do to receive the Baptism, we do read something about what they did before they received. So let us watch them as we follow the record.

#### BY TARRYING

Jesus told the disciples to tarry at Jerusalem until they were endued with power from on high. He told them to *wait* for the Promise of the Father (Luke 24:49). This is the only time this word *wait* is used in the New Testament, but much is said about *tarrying*.

The word *tarry* literally means to sit down—not simply to remain there for a time, but to remain there for a purpose. The same word is used about fishermen who drew their nets to land and sat down to sort out the fish. It is the word the eunuch used when he asked Philip to come up and sit with him in the chariot—not for the ride, but to explain the prophecy he had been reading.

We are told that Paul "sat down" or, as it is translated, "continued" in Corinth a year and six months, teaching the Word of God. The same word is used in Hebrews 8:1 where we are told we have an High Priest who is "set" on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens. It is used of the time when Christ shall sit upon the throne of His glory to act as Judge. And it is used of the Antichrist as he shall sit in the temple of God, claiming to be God.

So when Jesus told the disciples to tarry, He did not mean they were simply to wait in idleness. They were to sit down to do something. They were to remain in Jerusalem for a purpose.

#### BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION

We read that the disciples "all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication" (Acts 1:14). This combination of prayer and supplication is worth studying. Supplication is prayer growing out of a desperate need—it is literally begging. It is the kind of prayer that is earnest enough to go with fasting.

Supplication is the prayer of one whose only hope

depends on the answer. Paul wrote to Timothy about a widow who was desolate, who trusted in God and continued in supplications and prayers day and night. She had to, for God was the only One to whom she could look for support.

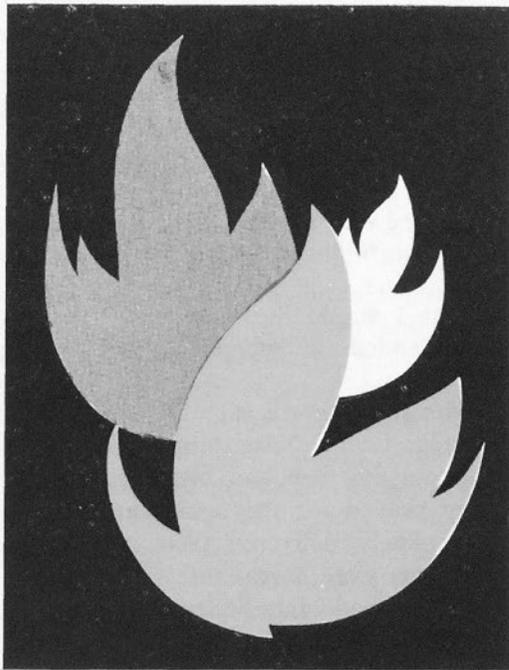
The elderly Anna, who came into the temple to see the baby Jesus, is also described like this. A widow, she departed not from the temple but served God with fastings and this kind of prayer night and day.

The kind of praying the disciples did while they tarried was earnest enough to be described by the same word used of Jesus who, "in the days of his flesh, offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears."

The disciples prayed as earnestly as the demon did when he pleaded with Jesus not to send him to the pit, but cried, "I beseech thee, torment me not!"

This was the kind of prayer James said "availeth much." This was the kind of pleading Simon did when he begged Peter and John to pray for him that the curse might not come upon him.

What did the disciples do to receive the Baptism? They prayed and continued in the most earnest kind of prayer the Bible speaks of. They remembered that Jesus had told them the Baptism would be given in answer to



prayer: "How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" This is interesting. For they had been assured by Jesus Himself that they would receive, and that it would happen within a few days. But they knew that God's promises are not self-executing. That is, God's promises are not fulfilled except for those who are ready to recall the answer. They "all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication."

#### **BY LOOKING TO GOD**

The work of baptizing believers in the Spirit is God's work. Therefore the seeker should get in the spiritual condition which makes him ready to receive the Baptism. The Word does not emphasize how we should receive—but how God will give. "He will pour out.... He

will baptize.... He will send.... He will give."

There is a very good reason why the Bible presents the Baptism from the standpoint of the Giver instead of from the standpoint of the receiver. It is to keep our earnestness from becoming self-centered and to keep it directed toward the God who promised.

Earnestness will not help unless it is properly directed. The father of the afflicted boy "besought" the disciples for the healing of his child and did not get it. Then he turned and besought (same word) Jesus, and the boy was healed. The prophets of Baal were certainly as desperately in earnest as Elijah—but Elijah's earnestness was focused upon God, and the fire came.

Some people get very discouraged because they do not receive the Baptism. The reason they do not receive is that they are centered on themselves. God wants us to take our eyes off ourselves and fix them upon Him. That is why the Bible emphasizes God's side of the Baptism instead of ours. We must look to the Giver.

#### **BY REPENTING**

When Peter gave instructions to the converts on the Day of Pentecost, he said, "Repent... and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:38). On several occasions in the Book of Acts all the believers present were baptized in the Spirit at the same time. This is not so at Samaria; here Simon did not receive through the prayers of Peter and John. The reason, God revealed to Peter, was that Simon's heart was not right. When Peter was preaching to Cornelius' household, the Holy Spirit interrupted him—but timed the interruption so that Peter got to the truth of repentance and remission of sins through Christ before the Spirit was poured out.

#### **BY BELIEVING**

Just as the baptism in the Spirit comes as an answer to prayer on the foundation of repentance and consecration, so also faith must be exercised in receiving.

Jesus spoke of the Spirit as rivers of living water, but John said they would be received by those "that believe on him," (John 7:37-39). Paul reminded the Galatians that they received the Spirit "by the hearing of faith." And speaking of the blessing of Abraham coming on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ, Paul said it came that "we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."

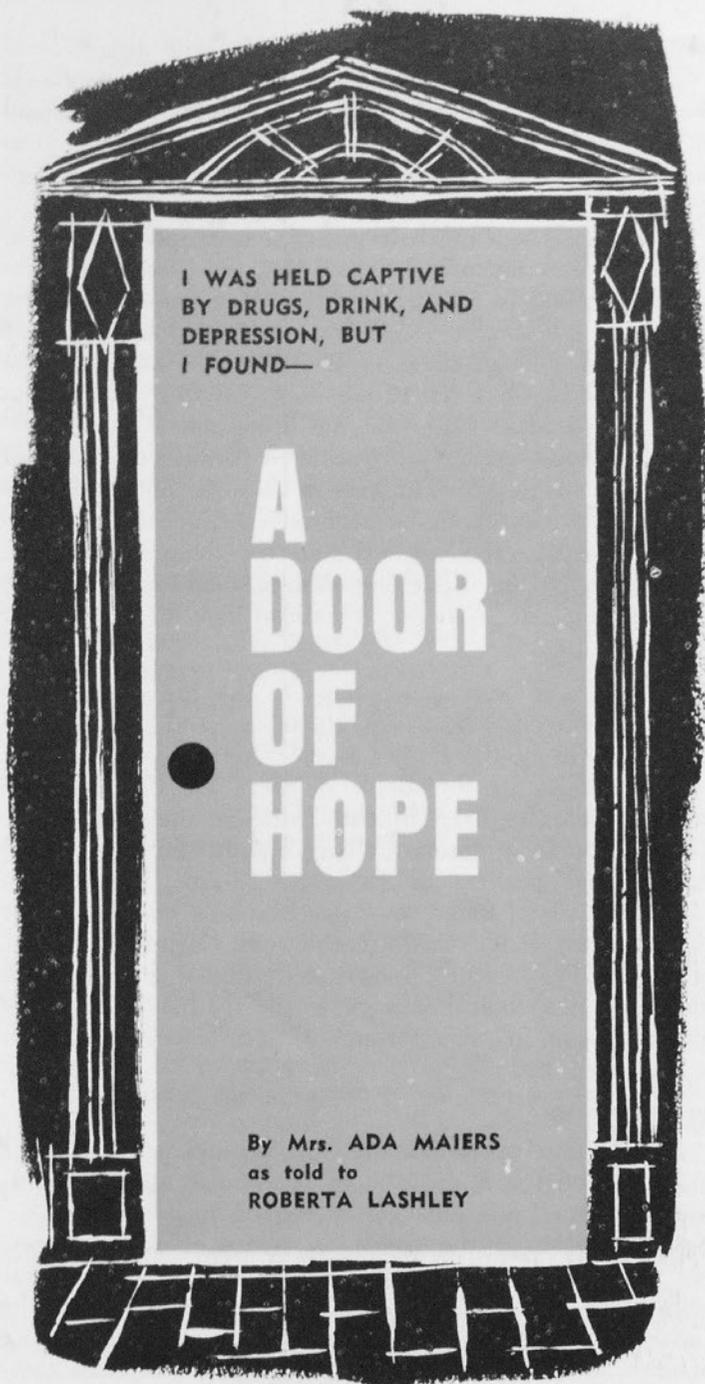
Faith is a necessary part of receiving anything from God. James wrote about the double-minded man who is not to think he shall receive anything from the Lord, and he uses the same word *receive* that is used of receiving the Spirit. The condition of double-mindedness would make it impossible for him to receive the Baptism or anything else.

#### **BY TAKING**

In the last chapter of Revelation where "the Spirit and the bride say, Come," we read: "And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." This word *take* is the same word that is translated "receive" in the references to receiving the Spirit. It speaks of reaching out and taking a gift that is extended. God gives the Spirit, but we must take the Gift from the Giver. This is the way we receive anything from God.

John used this word in speaking of Christ. He said

*(Continued on page fifteen)*



**Y**OU HAVE CANCER. You may die today." These were not the words of a competent physician, but rather the haunting Satanic suggestions that held my mind in the clutches of fear and torment for over 10 years. In that period of time I had consulted many doctors, including a specialist in Baltimore, but received no help. Their verdict was simple: I had an anxiety neurosis and would always be dependent on medicine.

I realized my need was not mainly physical, although it eventually affected me physically. I felt depressed and tormented. I had no inner peace or rest. The fear of death hounded me constantly. In a two-month period my weight dropped from 150 to 116 pounds. The nervous pressure became so intense I could not eat.

At times my body became numb with terror. I would walk the floor in this tormented state for as long as eight hours straight. My greatest horror was of being alone.

To ease my agitation and anxiety, I began taking phenobarbital. Its tranquilizing effect wore off after four

hours, but the doctor warned me not to take it except under extreme circumstances. I underestimated his warning, however, and within two months I was addicted to this drug, taking 10 pills every 24 hours.

What had brought me to this crisis? As a child, I had known the ways of the Lord. I had been saved at one time, but wrong associations led me into a life of worldliness and sin. As a teen-ager I used to sing in a gospel trio with my sisters, but I drifted from God and eventually found myself singing in night clubs.

I was married and had two children. In my nervous condition my household responsibilities seemed like a mountain too high to climb. Worldly friends advised me to start drinking to "calm my nerves." This only complicated my life and led me deeper into sin.

From time to time a Christian neighbor, Mrs. Russell Hymes, would visit me and gently remind me of my mother. "She didn't teach you this way," Mrs. Hymes would say. "Why don't you go to church with me?"

The turning point finally came while I was in the hospital recovering from an accident. "If You get me out of here, I'll go to church," I promised God.

When I entered the doors of Central Assembly in Cumberland, Maryland, that Sunday night in October, 1955, I was immediately impressed by the atmosphere of love. Although I was nervous in such a large crowd, I felt welcome.

Once more God's love was made real to me. As prayers ascended in my behalf, I found my burden lifting. Jesus Christ became my Saviour. A few weeks later, I was baptized in the Holy Spirit. The battle wasn't over, but now I had an important Ally.

I continued taking nerve pills for five or six months after I was saved. But one day as I prayed, God assured me He would take me through if I would give up the pills.

Satan whispered that I would die.

The struggle within ended the moment I said, "Yes, Lord."

When I made the decision, I went to our pastor, Frank J. Fratto. He and James L. Tate, assistant pastor of the church at that time, told me they had been praying for my deliverance. They prayed for me again, and within two days I was completely delivered from the drugs. Those two days, however, were a real test.

Without the drugs, my body felt lifeless. I paced the floor, pleading for God's help. Waves of agony swept over me and at times I felt I would never live through it. I felt light, giddy, and out of touch with reality. But somehow God granted the strength that I needed.

Since 1955 I have been free from the need of narcotics! Many times I've had to call for prayer, but God has been faithful. There have always been Christian friends to encourage and pray for me.

I no longer fear being alone. My days are filled with music, for the Lord has given me new songs which comfort and encourage me and express my gratitude to Him for my salvation.

Occasionally I meet someone on the verge of nervous collapse as I once was. Now I can sympathize with their fears and insecurity. But I can also tell them of God's power to deliver from the bondage of fear.

I was a prisoner of fear and evil habits, but I found a door of hope in Jesus Christ—and a glorious song of deliverance.

# God Changed Our Home

By BERTHA CARPENTER

**I** HATE YOU!" "Drop dead!" "I'm leaving." "I hope I never see you again!"

These were typical words on a typical day at our house a year ago. Now, thanks to the Lord Jesus, they are all in the past.

On one of those typical days our landlord and his wife came to collect the rent. As usual, upon leaving, they invited us to come to church with them; and, also as usual, I stalled.

It was my husband who said we would go to Wednesday night Bible study with them. But when the day arrived, I was unable to go, so he went along without me.

He came home telling me he had enjoyed it and wanting me to go with him on Sunday. I agreed to go although I didn't know what to expect there. In fact, I was almost afraid to go. I had attended church most of my earlier life because my mother had sent me and because it was "the thing to do," but I never really felt the presence of Jesus. In fact, I never thought much about Him.

Then my husband and I had gone to the Billy Graham crusade in Omaha, Nebraska, some time before. While there we went forward hand in hand to accept Christ as our Saviour. We knelt together and prayed with many others. My heart felt pure. I had never felt so clean before. I was so happy I cried for joy. There was peace in my soul at last!

We went home with love in our hearts and with very good intentions. But we did not nurture our newfound love of Jesus with more prayer and instruction. We did not attend church regularly so we strayed from our Lord after about three months.

The darkness came back. My tongue became evil again. I was mean and hard to live with.

It hurts when you lose Jesus after knowing what He can do for you. It hurts more than if you had never known Him.

That was why I was reluctant to go to the Assemblies of God church that Sunday. I was afraid it was too late to find Him. How wrong I was! God bless those good Christians who took the trouble to keep inviting us to church.

At the church I came back to my Lord. I didn't think I could ever feel better than I had the first time, but this time it was even sweeter to find Jesus real to my heart again.

Both my husband and I have received the baptism in the Holy Spirit since that time. We enjoy the Sunday services in church and the Bible study on Wednesday nights. We go to church because we need the fellowship of other Christians and are strengthened by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the services.

We pray directly to Jesus without shame, only with love, and it is wonderful. He has transformed our hearts and our home by saving us and sending the Holy Spirit to be our constant Companion and Guide.

We recommend our Lord to all whose lives and homes need a change for the better.

**S**EVERAL YEARS AGO the nominating committee of our church approached me about becoming an elder. At that time I was a deacon, taught the men's Sunday school class, and was attempting to live a good moral life. After much prayer, I agreed to be considered.

In due time I was ordained an elder of that church. This new position became a serious thing in my life. I wanted to do my very best so I sought God for wisdom and knowledge; and for the first time I read the Bible completely through.

I became the Sunday school superintendent. This work helped me see the need of studying the Bible diligently and of learning still more about the things of God. Through this I realized I was a sinner and that Christ

## THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS ME BE A BETTER LEADER



By ROBERT L. SIMPSON

died for me. I accepted Him as my personal Saviour and was filled with the peace and joy that only God can give.

I was eager to tell others of this wonderful new experience; but the people whom I told would say, "How can you know such a thing? You can't be sure of salvation until you die." No one could discourage me, however, nor take away the joy that filled my heart.

After moving from that city, I began attending a Pentecostal church where the full gospel was preached. I found the members were humble, good-living people who knew and loved the Lord.

Little by little the things I witnessed in this church began to link themselves with the Scriptures. The gifts of the Spirit were in operation here, and God spoke to my heart about seeking the baptism in the Holy Spirit. I sought Him constantly for this experience.

One night the pastor of the South Buffalo Assembly of God visited my home. He asked, "Why are you trying so hard? Relax and accept the gift God is trying to give you." I knew then the Lord would baptize me in the Spirit that very night—and He did.

In 1963 I became director of the Royal Rangers (boys program) in the church. I appreciate the opportunity of working with a God-centered boys' program where fellows are taught to appreciate nature, wildlife, the out-of-doors, and the spiritual inheritance of the Christian.

I am so glad God directed my life step by step. My desire is to be the kind of leader of boys that He wants me to be and the power of the Holy Spirit is helping me.



## BRAZIL. GIANT OF THE SOUTH.

Fifth in size among the nations of the world, Brazil occupies nearly half of South America.

It is a forward-looking, forward-moving land. And in this giant of the south is occurring one of the great revivals of all time.

The Pentecostal revival in Brazil is reaching the masses as they hadn't been reached before. Today, more than a million of Brazil's 80 million people are associated with the Brazil Assemblies of God. And this work has been in existence only since 1910 when Swedish Missionaries Gunnar Vingren and Daniel Berg took the Pentecostal message to Brazil. In fact, the first Brazilian ever to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit, Sister Celina Albuquerque, is still alive!

What accounts for this remarkable growth of Pentecostals?

Leaders of other Protestant groups in Brazil and elsewhere have been asking that question. As they search for reasons, they always come back to the one experience which distinguishes Pentecostals from other Protestants—the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

In fact, after sincere inquiry many of these leaders have become filled with the Spirit.

Brazil is a spiritually hungry land. In his book, *New Patterns of Church Growth in Brazil*, William R. Read has stated: "The vacuum that exists in the soul of the masses is not a figure of speech, but a sad reality. Of all the evangelical churches in Brazil, only the Assemblies [of God] and their sister Pentecostal churches are in a position at this moment of history to take full advantage of the sociological receptivity of a people in revolution."

Of course, it is possible to list several contributing factors to this fantastic growth in Brazil.

For one thing, workers have gone where the people are. Churches have been established first in the metropolitan areas; then branches have been established later in the interior. As a result, about 80 percent of the Assemblies of God membership is concentrated in strategic centers where 93 percent of Brazil's population lives.

Training has also been emphasized. Short-term Bible schools located throughout the country provide training for national pastors.

This contributes to another source of strength—the indigenous church. The work in Brazil is carried on largely by national pastors and by the people themselves.

And it is in this latter respect that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is so evident in the lives of the Brazilian believers. Every believer learns it is his responsibility to pray, testify, and even preach. He realizes that Christ paid the price of salvation for all men—but that God depends upon him to spread this joyful news to his family, friends, and neighbors. It is such good news to him that it is normal for him to share it.

The courage and power to share this message come through the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the believer's



Celina Albuquerque, now 90 years old, was the first Brazilian to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. She is standing with Lawrence Olson, American missionary to Brazil.

LEADERS OF OTHER PROTESTANT CHURCHES ARE ASKING—

# What's the Secret of the Pentecostal

life. Jesus said, "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me" (Acts 1:8). The power of the Holy Spirit to communicate the witness to Jesus Christ is what Brazilian Pentecostals are experiencing.

This spark which literally draws others to Christ is the major reason for the amazing growth of the Brazil Assemblies. If you were to ask these believers where they receive their drive to witness, they would tell you this power comes from the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the Spirit-filled life into which that baptism has ushered them.

The Spirit-filled life is not a special anointing given to a select few. It is the normal experience of Brazilian Pentecostals. The Holy Spirit gives them power to overcome temptation, habits, and fear. The Spirit gives them boldness to witness. Their lives are transformed as they give themselves fully to their Lord and Master.

When friends, relatives, and neighbors see this dramatic change for the better, they are open to receive the witness of what Christ can do for them.

Sunday is a high day for believers. They look forward to an entire day of services, with just enough time out for meals. The Sunday meetings are times of enthusiastic singing and fervent preaching, sincere praying and heartfelt worship. There are testimonies of salvation, healing, special answers to prayer. And there is thanksgiving for the goodness of God.

Sinners accept Christ as Saviour and Lord in these meetings. Converts usually are the result of enthusiastic witnessing by members during the preceding week.

Look at the results. One worker from the United States, Paul Pugh, recently baptized 146 converts in water! In one church in the interior some 240 converts were baptized in water. In that area the churches conduct monthly baptismal services during the summer.

Another example: in one year the Assemblies of God in the State of São Paulo baptized 10,000 new converts in water.

All this adds up to the fact that the Assemblies of God in Brazil has grown until now there are 1,150,000 members and adherents. Some 5,500 national ministers and lay preachers minister at 1,500 organized churches and 5,000 preaching points.

Adding to the witness of individual believers, the Brazil Assemblies of God also has an effective witness through literature and radio.

Although there is much evangelical literature in English and Spanish, there has been little evangelical literature in Portuguese—the language of Brazil. The Assemblies of God has taken this challenge seriously. Today millions of pieces of gospel literature are produced at the printing plant in Rio de Janeiro. Started by Missionary Andrew Hargrave, the plant is now managed by a Brazilian under the direction of a board elected by the national church. Mr. and Mrs. Orla Boyer are writing and translating evangelical books and tracts into Portuguese—and have already produced about 125 titles.

Lawrence Olson, founder of the Assemblies of God radio work in Brazil, has guided the radio ministry until

it now reaches the entire country, released on the most powerful radio station in Brazil as well as over HCJB in Quito, Ecuador.

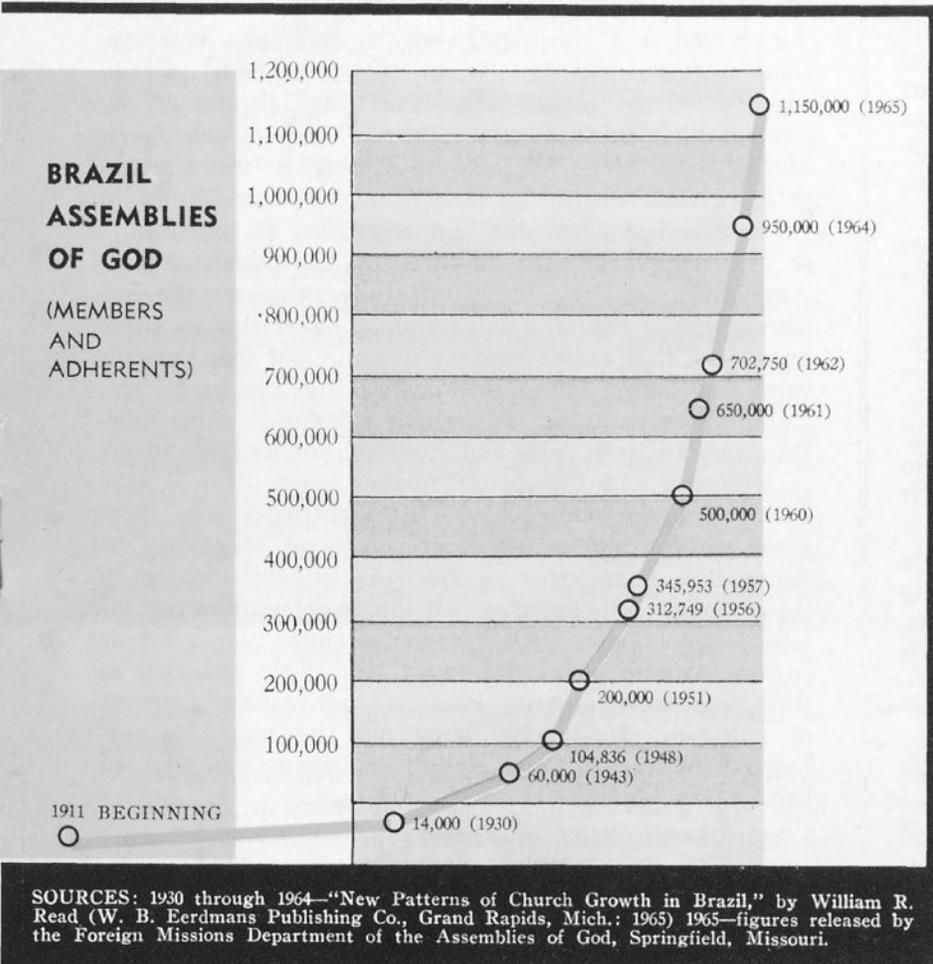
“If you were to ask me where the ripest mission field in the world is today, I would immediately have to reply, Brazil,” stated J. Philip Hogan, executive director of foreign missions for the U. S. Assemblies of God. He continued: “If you would further ask me where I feel radio evangelism is most effective, I would again have to say, Brazil.”

Infused throughout all the church activities is the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. Brazilian Pentecostals are willing to face ridicule, hardship, persecution, or any other problem because they have found life in Christ and in the Holy Spirit so meaningful, so personally satisfying, and so rewarding that all else takes second place. And they communicate this contagious spiritual enthusiasm to others who, in turn, accept Christ and become communicators of His glorious gospel.

It is in this land of progress and Pentecostal revival that the World Pentecostal Conference will be held—in Rio de Janeiro during the summer of 1967. This will undoubtedly be the largest Pentecostal conference ever held, with believers from throughout the world joining thousands of Brazilian Pentecostals in these meetings.

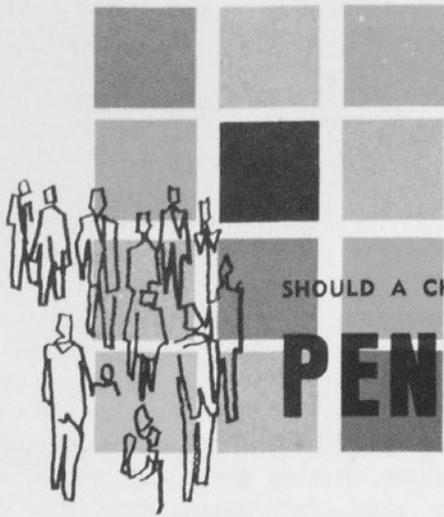
Theme for the conference is, “The Holy Spirit Glorifying Christ”—a fitting theme to stress a ministry of the Holy Spirit which is so clearly evident in Brazil, a land of Pentecostal revival.

# Revival in Brazil?



Leaders of Pentecostal groups met recently in Rio de Janeiro to lay plans for the 1967 Pentecostal World Conference. Speaking is T. F. Zimmerman, General Superintendent of the U.S. Assemblies of God.





SHOULD A CHURCH SERVICE BE "CUT AND DRIED"? WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

# PENTECOSTAL WORSHIP

By ARNE VICK

**O**F ALL CURRENT FALLACIES in the religious world, few are farther from Biblical teaching than the often-heard, "I have my own religion," or, "I have my personal preferences in modes of worship."

In fact, the treasured right to worship God according to the dictates of our conscience is a spiritual snare if it misleads individuals to think that conscience is the final arbiter and supreme authority in the matter of worship, rather than what the Bible says.

Jesus' lucid and emphatic talk with the woman at the well (John 4) is sufficient to forever shatter age-old traditions and theories regarding the "how" and "where" of true Christian worship.

## NOT RITUALISTIC OR CEREMONIAL

Concerning the "how" Jesus clearly corrected the erroneous idea that God demands *ritual* or *ceremony* as He formerly did in the Old Testament worship. He reduced the subject of worship to two uncompromising conditions: (1) "in spirit," and (2) "in truth," thus rejecting forever all external trappings as essentials to worship. God's interest henceforth would *not* be in holy buildings, holy garments, holy furniture, holy places, or holy water—only in holy *people* with holy *hearts!*

"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him *must* worship him in spirit and in truth." Jesus' use of the word *must* utterly destroys the position of any who today think they are free to choose their form of worship.

In building the Tabernacle for Israel's worship, Moses was stringently charged by God to "make all things according to the pattern showed to thee in the mount" (Hebrews 8:5). He was given no choice whatever in the design or selection of materials or anything else. It had to be built the way God wanted it!

The same sovereign exercise of God's will is seen in His amazingly minute and detailed instructions regarding all the Old Testament sacrificial offerings, whether birds, lambs, or bullocks. To be acceptable to Him they *must* be only such as He had pronounced clean!

## WORSHIPING IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH

If God was so particular then, how illogical it is for worshipers of the same God today to think He will accept just any approach or will let the worshiper define and determine what constitutes true worship. Rather, logic tells us there *must* be a divinely ordered and approved New Testament worship as surely as there was for the Old Testament era. And this transition is exactly

what Jesus explained in the clearest terms to the woman at the well: "The hour cometh, when ye shall *neither* in this mountain, *nor* yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father" (abolition of holy places). "The true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth" (the transition from the external to the internal). "They that worship him *must* worship him in spirit and in truth" (the God-imposed standard and criteria).

If the foregoing premise is valid and sound, our immediate concern should be to discover what is meant by worship "in spirit and in truth," and then practice it most diligently.

The Amplified Bible renders John 4:24: "God is a Spirit (a spiritual Being) and those who worship Him *must* worship Him in spirit and in truth (reality)." Two basic facts emerge here:

## SOMETHING DEEPER THAN THE INTELLECT

(1) God is a spiritual Being, so it follows that our communication with Him in worship must be a *spiritual exercise*. "Deep calleth unto deep"—the depths of the human spirit respond to the infinite deep of the Spirit of God. Though speech may be employed, such worship is more than words. In fact, it may produce times in God's presence when our "understanding is unfruitful," or, "My mind is unproductive" (1 Corinthians 14:14, Amplified), as the Holy Spirit fully possesses the human spirit. If the uninitiated should reject this as sheer mysticism, it is only necessary to point out that the cultured and highly intelligent apostle Paul was its author.

This is certainly not to say that worship is never worship unless it is ecstatic and euphoric, for he who wrote, "I will pray with the spirit," further wrote, "I will pray with the understanding also." The worshiper who measures his worship by the degree of fervor or ecstasy he experiences is in error as much as he who inclines to the opposite extreme in which the understanding or intellect is dominant. In the former, feelings play a major part in worship, while the latter pays little attention to their presence or absence. Paul does not make it a matter of either/or. He plainly sums up the issue by embracing both spirit and understanding as essential to balance in worship.

## A WONDERFUL SENSE OF REALITY

(2) The second basic fact seen in Jesus' phrase, "in spirit and in truth," is clarified by the Amplified Bible's use of the word *reality* as a synonym for *truth*. This would strongly imply Jesus' insistence that worship is

not true worship if it leaves the worshiper with a sense of *unreality*. Where does this leave multitudes of church members who month after month and year after year faithfully observe and practice the ritual or ceremony prescribed by their church, yet never feel a soul-satisfying sense of reality in it all?

To this point our consideration has been with personal and private worship. Let us now turn to group or congregational worship.

It is here that objections to Pentecostal worship are most often heard. They generally come from those whose religious background has been conservative or liturgical or whose personal temperament inclines to the reserved or undemonstrative. It is a common human tendency to want to make our personal outlook or experience the norm and standard for others.

#### REACTING ACCORDING TO INDIVIDUAL TEMPERAMENT

But the New Testament nowhere even hints at a demand for unanimous conformity to a rigid and inflexible pattern of *personal* worship. Apparently the God who gave us differing temperaments stands ready to accept sincere worship *from all*. For while the blessing of God may cause one person to shout aloud, it may be just as rich and deep in another nearby who weeps silently in adoring worship. Recognizing this fact is vitally important. However, accepting this truth does not in the least justify the worshiper who is cold and unresponsive, for Jesus' demand for spirit and reality in worship is still binding upon us.

In Paul's authoritative and Spirit-inspired instructions to the Corinthian church on the subject of congregational worship, two phrases seem to be underscored. "When ye come together, *every one of you* hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue. . . . *Let all things be done unto edifying*" (1 Corinthians 14:26).

The first (*every one of you*) clearly teaches what is today termed "audience participation." The second (*Let all things edify*) lays down the final and unchangeable criteria for accepting or rejecting in a meeting the psalm, doctrine, or tongue. "Does it edify?" This becomes the final basis of judgment.

#### A PLACE FOR "AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION"

Yet strangely enough it is on this point of audience participation that most non-Pentecostal people base their criticism of Pentecostal worship. The victory of tradition over Scripture has been so complete in much of the church world that most people seem ready to assume that the modern church service in which the voice of the minister or priest alone is heard (except for the singing) is the right way. But the above passage from First Corinthians totally disproves this and reveals plainly that a meeting of Spirit-filled Christians in the first decades of the Church was anything but a one-man show! It was a spontaneous and flexible service in which every member of the body functioned and made his contribution to edifying the whole, all under divine control and in divine order.

It is impossible to conceive of the phrase so often heard to describe today's church services—"cut and dried"—as having any validity to Christian worship in those early days. We should remind ourselves often that there is no such thing as a "dry" service; only "dry" servants!

Admittedly, it is difficult if not impossible for the

unsaved, the ill-informed, and the carnal to understand and appreciate Pentecostal worship. The Bible says that spiritual things are foolishness to the natural man (1 Corinthians 2:14).

#### HOW DID THE FIRST CHRISTIANS WORSHIP?

The apostle Paul seemed aware of this problem when he stood before Felix (Acts 24:14) to defend his faith and his life. He had just heard himself branded by the eloquent Tertullus as "a pestilent fellow," "a mover of sedition," "a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes." Paul's reply to the governor was not an attempt to prove his way of worship right and that of his accusers wrong; rather it was a calm and deliberate concession: "This I confess unto thee, that *after the way which they call heresy*, so worship I the God of my fathers."

Today also, anyone determined to practice New Testament worship must be ready to accept the stigma of "heretic" and "fanatic" from the traditionalists. But this is a very small price to pay for the deep heart-satisfaction that comes with full obedience to God's Word and total surrender to His Spirit. "For the Father seeketh such!"

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## SCIENCE AND IMMORTALITY

Today, more than ever before, our survival—yours and mine and our children's—depends on our adherence to ethical principles. Ethics alone will decide whether atomic energy will be an earthly blessing or the source of mankind's utter destruction.

Where does the desire for ethical action come from? What makes us want to be ethical? I believe there are two forces which move us. One is belief in a last judgment, when every one of us has to account for what we did with God's great gift of life on the earth. The other is belief in an immortal soul, which will cherish the award or suffer the penalty decreed in a final judgment.

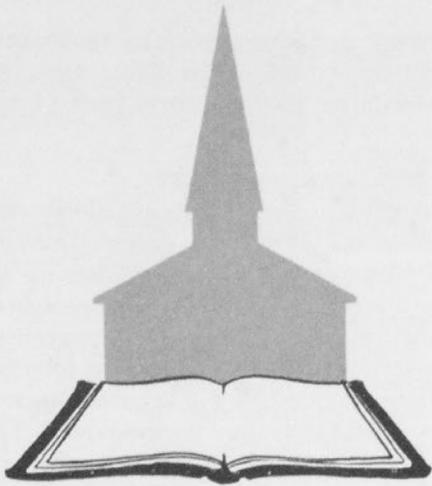
Belief in God and in immortality thus gives us the moral strength and the ethical guidance we need for virtually every action in our daily lives.

In our modern world many people seem to feel that science has somehow made such "religious ideas" untimely or old-fashioned. But I think science has a real surprise for the skeptics. Science, for instance, tells us that nothing in nature, not even the tiniest particle, can disappear without a trace.

Think about that for a moment. Once you do, your thoughts about life will never be the same. Science has found that nothing can disappear without a trace. Nature does not know extinction. All it knows is transformation.

Now, if God applies this fundamental principle to the most minute and insignificant parts of His universe, doesn't it make sense to assume that He applies it also to the masterpiece of His creation—the human soul? I think it does. And everything science has taught me—and continues to teach me—strengthens my belief in the continuity of our spiritual existence after death. Nothing disappears without a trace.

—DR. WERNHER VON BRAUN  
Development Operations Director,  
Army Ballistic Missile Agency



Next Week's Sunday School Lesson

# Victory Through Dedicated Leadership

Exodus 17:1-6, 8-16

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

ISRAEL'S EXPERIENCES in the wilderness typify experiences in the spiritual lives of all Christian believers.

## WILDERNESS REFRESHMENT (Exodus 17:1-6)

"And . . . Israel . . . pitched in Rephidim: and there was no water for the people to drink" (v. 1). Such was the situation into which God led His people. That they were in God's will cannot be questioned, for it was "according to the commandment of the Lord" they had arrived where they were. Why, then, this perilous predicament?

In this incident notice the following:

*The Limit of Human Ability.* The scarcity of water provided a lesson even for Moses. Lest he think too highly of himself after having led the people to such spectacular successes, Moses was brought to realize his own abject helplessness apart from divine help. Any

self-sufficiency and self-confidence he may have had must have vanished quickly as he became aware he was unable to provide water.

*The Perverseness of Human Nature.* "Wherefore the people did chide with Moses . . . and murmured against Moses" (vv. 2, 3). The Israelites reflected attitudes prevalent among us today. How easily we forget God's past blessings and deliverances! How quickly we complain—either inwardly or outwardly, or both—when we are caught in a place of human extremity.

"Thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us" (v. 3). How horribly unjust was this accusation against Moses! Yet how easily we entertain false and unjust thoughts about our faithful, merciful, and loving God when He brings us to the place of human extremity to reveal His all-sufficiency!

*The Patience of God.* "And the Lord said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod" (v. 5). Not a word of reproach did God direct to the people. Instead, God gave immediate directions for supplying the people's need. "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not" (Lamentations 3:22). How great is His faithfulness and patience with us all!

*The Presence of God.* "Behold I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb" (v. 6). The people had just spoken of stoning Moses to death; but God reminded Moses he could count on His unseen presence. God desired Moses—and all of us—to gain needed strength from the consciousness of His presence.

*The Provision of God.* "And thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink" (v. 6). What a miracle! What a revelation to Moses and to the people—God was able and willing to provide! What an illustration, too, of how God often sends help from an unlikely source and in an unusual fashion.

The smitten rock typifies Christ—smitten on Calvary. From Him the water of life flows evermore. "They drank of that spiritual rock that followed them: and that rock was Christ," stated the apostle Paul. (See 1 Corinthians 10:1-4.) We may see not only the waters of salvation flowing from the smitten Rock (John 4:13, 14), but also the brimming river of the Holy Spirit: "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink," Jesus said, speaking of the Spirit. (See John 7:37-39.)

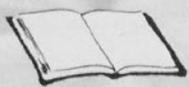
## WILDERNESS VICTORY (Exodus 17:8-16)

Amalek is a type of the flesh—the natural (as opposed to the spiritual) life. "The Lord will have war with Amalek from generation to generation" (Exodus 17:16). The battle between Israel and Amalek is a picture of the spiritual battle described by Paul in Galatians 5:17: "For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh."

This also illustrates our warfare against the forces of evil spirits: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world" (Ephesians 6:12).

Israel could maintain victory in this battle only as the intercessory hands of Moses were held aloft. Our victory over the world, the flesh, and the devil can be maintained only as we continue praying "always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit" (Ephesians 6:18).

Hear  
of the  
Bible



GREAT CHAPTERS  
DAILY READING  
PROGRAM

### GREAT CHAPTERS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday	.....	Ecclesiastes	3
Monday	.....	Ecclesiastes	12
Tuesday	.....	Isaiah	1
Wednesday	.....	Isaiah	5
Thursday	.....	Isaiah	6
Friday	.....	Isaiah	9
Saturday	.....	Isaiah	12
Sunday	.....	Isaiah	40

### PROMISE OF THE WEEK

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isaiah 1:18).



THE PHONE RANG AS I WAS ABOUT TO RETIRE

# THE MISTAKE

By EDWIN RAYMOND ANDERSON

ONE AFTERNOON MANY YEARS AGO a young inventor confided his hopes and dreams concerning a certain mechanical device to a trusted friend. The friend was sympathetic but, not understanding all that was involved, invited another friend to his home to view the plans and drawings.

As the two men bent over the papers, the host explained, "The fellow is really quite excited about this. He feels it will make a definite contribution to the welfare of the whole world."

The other glanced up skeptically, then returned to the perusal of the plans. Silence filled the room until their study was completed. Then the guest shook his head slowly and asked, "How long has he been working on this?"

"Several months, I should say," replied the host.

The man rose from the desk. There was disappointment in his voice. "It's a pity, a real pity. The fellow has talent, no doubt of it. I've heard good reports of his other work. But to spend so much time on this—why, it's all wasted effort. If the thing *does* work, I can't imagine what earthly good it will do. It would hardly be much more than a toy."

This might have ended the matter. But fortunately for the world, young Alexander Graham Bell was not easily discouraged—and we have the telephone today.

When I told this story to Jack Winters, whom I hoped to win for Christ, I waited for him to make the obvious application. He did.

"It only goes to prove," he said, "what fools some people can be. Even the smartest can make some pretty bad mistakes. Those boys probably kicked themselves to pieces later on!"

I looked straight at him. "Right, Jack; but remember it's a whole lot worse when people make the mistake of thinking they can get along without the Lord Jesus Christ and that they are good enough for heaven just as they are. That error will cost them everything for all eternity."

Jack had no answer for that except an irritated stare and a quick, "Good-bye!"

But Mr. Bell's "toy" came into the picture once again—it rang as I was about to retire. The caller was Jack, and I sensed at once a change in his attitude.

"I've been thinking over what you said about making

mistakes. Remember? Especially since I started the whole thing!"

There was a long pause. I waited prayerfully, and he said: "Well, it sort of threw me at first, but then I figured you were right after all. I'd like to come over for a few minutes, if it would be all right with you."

Of course it was all right! I wanted to win Jack for Christ.

How about you, friend? Have you looked upon God's great plan of salvation as unimportant and unrelated to you?

Then consider these three facts: First, you need a Saviour. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

Second, a Saviour has been provided. "Christ died for our sins..." (1 Corinthians 15:3).

Third, the choice is yours. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16).

Don't make the fatal mistake of ignoring the most important thing in the world—God's plan of salvation as it relates to You!



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# the HOLY SPIRIT

and  
the



# CHRISTIAN

By ANDREW TELFORD

**T**HE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE EXECUTIVE of the God-head. He makes real within the heart and life of the believer all that the Father and the Son have made possible.

The demands of God on the Christian are rather severe. Very little is thought about this today. The living standards that God sets are only made possible by the Holy Spirit as He masters and controls the believer's life. The divine standards are too high for the natural man to achieve. Human ability and human genius are inadequate to accomplish the demands of God in the life of the believer. The natural man lacks adequate ability to perform all the purposes of God in and through the believer's life.

Every possible attainment of the Christian's life demanded by God can be attained by the unfailing operation of the Holy Spirit. His ministry is available to every believing heart. The heart of the believer is His abiding place. He is not just a Visitor—here today and gone tomorrow. He takes up His abode—permanent residence—in every believing heart. Let us see just what He can be to a trusting soul.

### 1. HE IS THE STAMINA OF OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE.

"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death" (Romans 8:2). He is here called "the Spirit of life." As such He is divine energy rising in the soul of the believer to permeate every branch of the believer's life. He transmits divine energy into the fabric of human character so that the Christian can personally and publicly adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour. May He never be hindered in doing His office work in the life of any child of God.

### 2. HE IS THE SEAL OF OUR ASSURANCE.

"And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption" (Ephesians 4:30). He is God's mark on us that we belong to Christ. A seal denotes ownership. The reason cattle are branded is to place on them a mark of ownership.

A seal is a mark of safety. The reason railroad companies put a metal strap on a freight car after it is loaded and then seal the ends of those straps through the door fasteners is so that no one will open the door or tamper with the contents. It seals the car. The car is bonded through to its destination.

God will seal the 144,000 Jews for a testimony in the tribulation period. When they are sealed, they are bonded through the tribulation period, that awful period of human devastation. They cannot be destroyed by the Antichrist or any of his hordes. (See Ephesians 1:13 also.)

### 3. HE IS THE SOURCE OF OUR POWER.

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

Apart from the Holy Spirit we have neither might nor power. How frail man is when left to himself! Jesus Christ made a true statement indeed when He said, "Without me ye can do nothing." God knows how helpless we are. Sometimes we feel strong, think we are strong, and try to prove we are strong, but like Samson we rise to accomplish God's will and purpose and find that the Spirit's power is not upon us.

The Lord would not allow the disciples to enter the field of service until they were endued with power from on high. He told them to "tarry" or wait until Pentecost when God's power and God's enablement would engulf their whole being. They would then go forward as different persons with different results. This is just what happened. Their work has always been a wonder. What they accomplished can only have one answer—the power of God was upon them. We need this power for all our endeavors.

### 4. HE IS THE SPRING OF OUR JOY.

The Lord told the disciples in John 15:11, "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." The apostle John gave as one of his reasons for writing his first epistle, "That your joy may be full" (1 John

1:4). Paul told us that the fruit of the Holy Spirit is "joy" (Galatians 5:22).

Joy is not natural in the life of the natural man. Sinners are not joyful people. Sin kills everything that has joy attached to it.

The fountain of all joy is the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God filling the life produces a holy joy. Thousands of Christians can testify to this for they have a joy that is unspeakable and full of glory. It is by the presence and power of the Spirit of God that the believer is enabled to sing spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:18, 19).

Are you a joyful Christian? Sin can turn off the tap of heaven's joy and cause your soul to be dry and shrivel up. Confess your sin, and heaven's joy will rise in your soul as the sun rises in the sky on a cloudless morning.

#### 5. HE IS THE SECRET OF OUR KNOWLEDGE.

"But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God" (1 Corinthians 2:10). Spiritual truth is only discernible by the man who is indwelt by the Holy Spirit. "The things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God."

The unconverted man does not have the inherent ability to know or see the spiritual content of a text of Scripture. He might be able to see something of the outward letter ("the law") but the significance of its inherent truth is not apparent to his soul. "The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God... neither can he know them, because they are *spiritually* discerned."

Jesus told His disciples, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth." The Holy Spirit is the secret of the Christian's spiritual understanding of the Scriptures. Let Him guide you into the truth of God's Word. —*Gospel Herald*

## How to Receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

(Continued from page five)

that "as many as *received* him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God."

Peter used the word when he said that whosoever believeth in Christ shall *receive* remission of sins.

Paul used this word when he said, "We joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now *received* the atonement."

If you know how to receive Christ—if you know how to receive the atonement—if you know how to take the water of life, then you know how to receive the baptism in the Holy Ghost.

The Baptism comes in answer to prayer—not only the seeker's prayer but also the prayer of other believers. Thus the church at Jerusalem sent Peter and John to Samaria. When they arrived, they prayed for the people to receive the Holy Ghost. Then Peter and John laid their hands on these Samaritan believers, and they received the Holy Ghost.

The word *receive*, used of our receiving the Baptism, is an active word as well as a passive one. Jesus used it when He said, "He that *taketh* not his cross and followeth after me is not worthy of me." May God help every believer to *take* the Holy Spirit in all His fullness.



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# THE GREATER BAPTISM

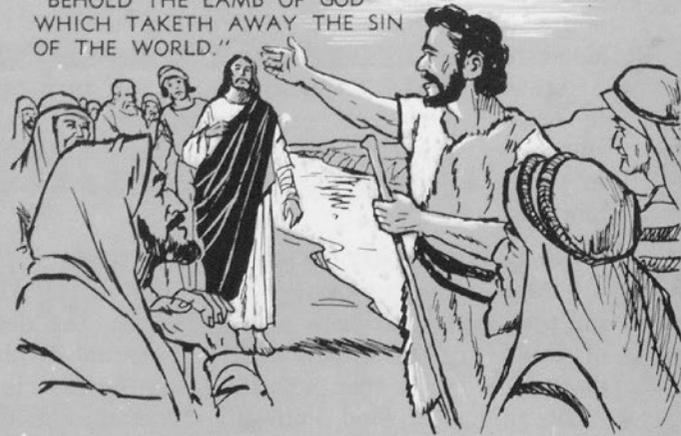
*John told of a greater Baptism...*

"I INDEED BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER UNTO REPENTANCE, BUT HE . . . SHALL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY GHOST, AND WITH FIRE."

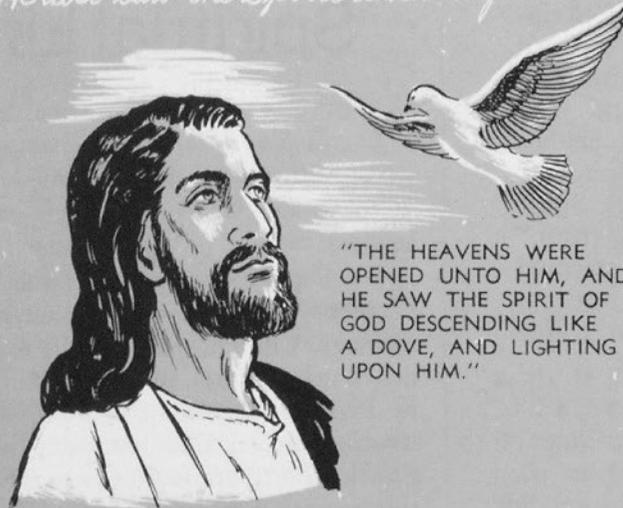


*and pointed to the Saviour and Baptizer.*

"BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD WHICH TAKETH AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD."



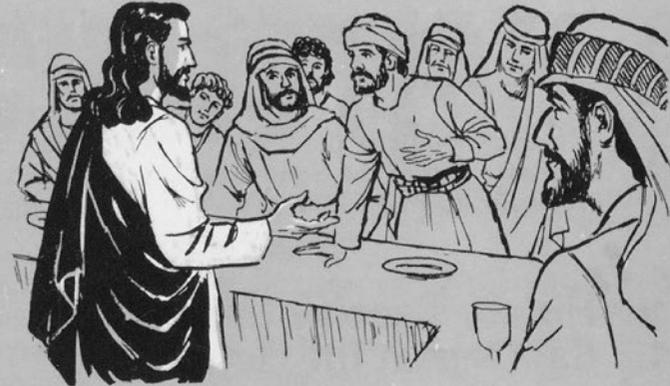
*He also saw the Spirit descend upon Him.*



"THE HEAVENS WERE OPENED UNTO HIM, AND HE SAW THE SPIRIT OF GOD DESCENDING LIKE A DOVE, AND LIGHTING UPON HIM."

*Jesus promised the Spirit to His followers*

"I WILL PRAY THE FATHER, AND HE SHALL GIVE YOU ANOTHER COMFORTER, THAT HE MAY ABIDE WITH YOU FOR EVER: EVEN THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH."



*who were filled on the day of Pentecost.*

"THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY GHOST, AND BEGAN TO SPEAK WITH OTHER TONGUES, AS THE SPIRIT GAVE THEM UTTERANCE."



*One of them, a man called Peter, said this Baptism is for all generations.*



"FOR THE PROMISE IS UNTO YOU, AND TO YOUR CHILDREN, AND TO ALL THAT ARE AFAR OFF, EVEN AS MANY AS THE LORD OUR GOD SHALL CALL."

This promise is for you. Peter said, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." When you have obeyed God's Word by accepting Jesus as your Saviour and Lord, and in humble repentance follow Him, you can believe He will answer your prayer to be filled with His Spirit. Ask Him now—and His promise will be fulfilled in your life.

*Ramsay*