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"FEAR NOT---ONLY BELIEVE"

FAITH TESTED

"I will not doubt, though all my ships at sea
Come drifting home with broken masts and sails;
I will believe the Hand which never fails,
From seeming evil worketh good for me;
And though I weep, because those sails are tattered,
Still will I cry, while my best hopes lie shattered,
'I trust in Thee'.

"I will not doubt, though all my prayers return
Unanswered from the still, white realm above;
I will believe it is an all-wise Love
Which has refused these things for which I yearn;
And though at times I cannot keep from grieving,
Yet the pure ardour of my fixed believing
Undimmed shall burn.

"I will not doubt, though sorrows fall like rain,
And troubles swarm like bees about a hive;
I will believe the heights for which I strive
Are only reached by anguish and by pain;
And though I groan and writhe beneath my crosses,
I yet shall see through my severest losses
The greater gain."

Author Unknown

"And we know that all things work together for good
to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Romans 8: 28.
GUEST EDITORIAL:

THE TRUTHS OF THE BIBLE
DO NOT NEED TO BE DEFENDED,
THEY NEED ONLY BE PROCLAIMED

BY OSWALD J. SMITH

The Enemy Is Upon Us. The Storm Is About To Break. Nothing But the Preaching of the Gospel, in the Power and Demonstration of the Holy Spirit—Can Stem the Tide!

Let Us Preach a Positive, Ringing Gospel — Which Brings Conviction, Hope, Courage and Decision!

Let Us Go Where the People Are, and, With Spirited Gospel Music, Fiery Testimonies, and an Anointed Gospel Message — Let Us Turn the Christian Masses to God!

Sinister forces are at work. False religions abound on every side. Nationalism is sweeping the earth. Communism, the most powerful weapon ever forged by satanic ingenuity, threatens to wipe out Christianity. Atomic energy holds civilization at its mercy. The human race faces destruction. Cataclysmic judgments are inevitable.

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The only hope of our day is a new manifestation of the power of God! Without revival — our Christian civilization will perish. We must evangelize or fossilize.

We are living in days of awful apostasy. The professing church is fast becoming apostate. Many are turning from the faith. Thousands of churchgoers never hear the true gospel.

We Need a Positive Message!

Too much time is given to religious controversy. Controversy has never been profitable. The truths of the Bible do not need to be defended. They need only to be proclaimed. We need a positive message!

In Unity There Is Strength

Oh, then, let us keep to our one great task of getting out the Gospel at home and abroad. Let us all work together in the unity of the Spirit. We may have our differences but there is one thing upon which we can unite — and that is evangelism. If we cannot get together on any thing else we should be able to work with each other in the winning of lost men and women to the Lord Jesus Christ.

The enemy is upon us. The storm is about to break. Nothing but the preaching of the Gospel in the power and demonstration of the Holy Spirit, can stem the tide! Then let us evangelize! Let us go where the people are, and, with spirited Gospel music, fiery testimonies, and an anointed Gospel message — let us win the Christless masses!

Do you know how many church members there were in the United States of America when Charles G. Finney commenced his great evangelistic campaigns? There were then two hundred thousand. Think of it! In the whole of America only two hundred thousand church members!

But do you know how many there were when he finished his work a few years later?

There were over three million! Yes, in the evangelistic ministry of one man there were three million souls brought to the saving knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. What a miracle!

It is true that God does more in a few weeks during days of revival than in years through the ordinary channels of church work. But there are many ministers and churches that do not want revival. They are afraid of what may happen. They are afraid of fanaticism. They abhor interruptions.

They prefer a formal church service with each item carefully typewritten for the service so that the service will go through from beginning to end in a dignified way, and close right on the dot. Revival, they know, will break into their order of service. They have read enough about revivals to know that when God is present in revival power in meetings — there are always interruptions!

The Divine Disorder

The Acts of the Apostles is a book of interruptions. There were uproars and commotions of one kind and another continually. Nothing seemed to go as planned. Peter and Paul, and for that matter, even Philip, experienced such upheavals, such interruptions, such miracles, that they scarcely knew what to expect next. In a genuine revival there are bound to be interruptions.

When will there be revival?

That is the question that must be answered. The church of today is in a pitiful condition. Revival is imperative! Nothing short of a great wave of evangelistic fervour and enthusiasm will ever restore God's people to their religious heritage.

Let us face the question. When will there be revival? When we boldly witness for Christ, there will be revival. We must get back to the preaching of the Word of God! It is not our word but God's Word that convicts and converts.

His Word is a hammer that breaks hard hearts. It is a sword and it pierces. It is a fire and it burns (Jer. 23:29; Heb. 4:12; Jer. 20:9).

amk MHFR

God's people must, I say, before revival comes, boldly proclaim the Word of God. In my study of revival, I have discovered that the men mightily used of God majored on five subjects. These five subjects invariably produced conviction.
First, sin and salvation, then heaven and hell, and finally, judgment. Salvation messages are essential. But more is needed. Souls must be brought face to face with eternity, hence the necessity of messages concerning heaven and hell. Eternity must be made real.

Eternity Must Be Made Real!

Men must be made to realize that life does not end all, and they must begin to give thought to the life to come.

But even that is not sufficient. There must also be a message on judgment. Men must know that they are going to be called to render an account, and some day they must meet God face to face. Hence the Scriptural warning, “Prepare to meet thy God!” (Amos 4:12).

Now if these five subjects are presented, in the power of the Holy Spirit, one way and another, there is bound to be conviction, salvation—and ultimately revival—for these are subjects that have been emphasized during the times of revival through the centuries.

Enduement of Power

“The Holy Spirit,” declares Chas. H. Spurgeon, “is as able to make the Word of God as successful today as in the days of the apostles. The reason we are not successful in the ministry and work of the Lord is because we have not the Spirit with us in might and power as in the early times.”

“It is extraordinary power from God, not talent that wins the day. It is extraordinary spiritual unction, not extraordinary mental power, that we need. Mental power may fill a chapel but spiritual power fills the church with soul anguish! Mental power may gather large congregations but only spiritual power will save souls. What we need is spiritual power!” (1 Peter 1:12).

But who has this spiritual power today? Who has the enduement of power? I do not mean we have “claimed it” and gone forth reckoning it is ours but have we the experience? If there is no outcome, we certainly have not! If we are Spirit-filled there will be Holy Spirit Fru!t (Matt. 12:33).

Men will break down in our meetings, and sob out their sins to God. Let us see the fruit if we believe in the anointing. The early disciples were told, “Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you.” — Acts 1:8. And when Peter received the Spirit, three thousand souls were saved during the preaching of a half-hour sermon.

And so with Chas. Finney, Chas. Wesley and others — there was Fruit! And “fruit” is the evidence and the test. If I am a man of God, endued with power from on high, souls will break down under my preaching. If I am not filled with the Spirit, nothing out of the ordinary will take place. Let this be the test for every preacher. By this we stand or fall.


Such power is received only in the soul-agonies of deep travelling prayer. The nights and days of agonizing prayer for the souls of men, the countless hours of intercession that we find in the life of David Brainerd, the mighty wrestlings with the spiritual powers of darkness, until the body is wet with perspiration that were so common to John Smith — this is something that goes much further than present-day teaching, but it is the only thing that will do the work of turning this generation to God!

It is from these hours of prevailing prayer that we go forth to our work, in the Anointing, to wield the Sword of the Spirit with deadly effect. Prayer is the secret. There can be no substitute. It is not merely the matter of yielding and believing. Ah no! the glorious supernatural results that I am talking of are not obtained so easily. It costs, and costs tremendously to receive the enduement of power from on high!

They “continued with one accord in prayer and supplication.” — Acts 1:14. Prayer, earnest, united prayer, and prayer persevering, are these the conditions, and these being fulfilled, we shall assuredly be “endued with power from on high.” “We should never expect that the power will fall on us simply because we happen to awake and ask for it.

Nor have any community of Christians a right to look for a great manifestation of the Spirit’s power, if they are not all ready to join in supplication, and “with one accord” to wait and pray — as if it were the chief concern of each one.

“It is only by waiting before the throne of grace that we become endued with Holy Fire. He who waits there long and believingly — will imbibe that Fire, and come forth from his communion with God, bearing tokens of where he has been.

“For the individual believer, and above all, for every laborer in the Lord’s vineyard, the only way to gain spiritual power is by secret waiting at the throne of God for the Spirit’s baptism, which baptism confers the enduement of power for service (Acts 1:8).

“If thou, then wouldst have thy soul surcharged with the fire of God, thou must draw night to the source of Fire, to the Throne of God, and of the Lamb, and shut thyself out from the world — that cold world, which so swiftly steals our fire away.

“Enter into thy closet, and shut thy door, and there, isolated before the Throne, await the baptism. Then the fire shall fall thee, and when thou comest forth, holy power will attend thee, and thou shalt labor, not in thine own strength, but in the demonstration of the Spirit and of power.”—Wm. Arthur.

There are many in false experience who think they are baptized with the Spirit when they are not. All I can say is that the evidence — the proof is lacking. If all who professed baptisms and fillings of the Holy Spirit in the modern conventions were real the whole country would be set on fire!

Nay, if just one man or one woman received the anointing, the towns and villages for miles around would be swept by a mighty revival, and thousands would be brought under deep conviction of sin and made to cry for mercy!

The proof of the anointing is the outcome! The evidence that the Spirit of Elijah had fallen on Elisha was the fact that he, too, smote the waters of Jordan and they divided!

“Why is it so hard to get?” you ask. Why? Because God will not pour His Spirit on the flesh. He must do His work first in us, and generally it takes a long time, for we will not let Him EMPTY us that He may fill us.

The savour of our own name, love of self, or some such sinful obstacle blocks Him at every turn. He cannot humble us nor break us because we will not yield!

A PRAYER

Oh for the Spirit’s mighty power,
The Unctlon from above!
Oh for a gracious heav’nly shower,
The fulness of God’s love!

This, only this, our one great need,
Naught else can e’er prevail;
Thus for the Unction, now we plead
It only can avail!

Our sins to God we now confess;
To Him we yield our all,
Believing He will surely bless
As on His name we call.

And so we give ourselves to prayer
That God may make us meet!
For He must first our hearts prepare,
His work in us complete.

Then shall men turn to Calv’ry’s stream
With burdened hearts of woe;
Salvation then shall be our theme,
And earth be heav’n below.

—Herald of His Coming

PAGE THREE
The Divine Anointing

By A. M. Hills

I used to think the disciples spent ten days in the Upper Room getting filled; but I believe they were there ten days getting emptied. Moody writes: "Let us ask God to forgive our sins and anoint us with power from on high. But remember, He is not going to give this power to an impatient man; He is not going to give it to a selfish man; He will never give it to an ambitious man, whose aim is selfish, till first emptied of self — emptied of pride and of all worldly thoughts. Let it be God's glory and not our own that we seek, and when we get to that point, how speedily the Lord will bless us for good... I believe firmly that the moment our hearts are emptied of pride and selfishness and ambition and self-seeking and picture and ambition and self-seeking and pleasure and the world, there is no room for the Spirit of God. I believe many a man is praying to God to fill him when he is full already with something else. Before we pray that God will fill us, I believe we ought to pray Him to empty us."

Cloven Tongues

It takes the dynamite of conviction to burst up the strong heart of the sinner. All sin is Satan's rock. It is so hard that nothing but God's dynamite can blow it out of the human heart. When God endues a man with this spiritual power from on high, he is fitted for service, and becomes mighty for God. Jonathan Edwards had it that day he preached on "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God," and sinners were so moved that they cried for mercy, and hung on to their seats to keep from slipping into hell. Calvin Worcester had it. Dr. Banes writes of him: "Such was the unctuousness of his spirit and the bold, resistless power of his appeals to the wicked, that few of them could stand before them. They would rush out of church or fall to the floor under his word. It is recorded of this holy man that when so far reduced as not to be able to speak above a whisper, his whispered utterances conveyed by another to the assembly would thrill them like a trumpet, and fall with such power on the hearers that stouthearted men were smitten down to the floor; and his very aspect is said to have shone in the divine glory that it struck conviction to the hearts of many who beheld him."

To Them Who Obey Him

How Dr. Akers received this spiritual power, he relates himself, "Immediately, as I believed for it, I was filled with such a sense of Christ's fullness and grace as overpowered me, and unable to speak or stand, I sat down. I felt that the power working in me was able to raise all the dead from the grave..."

MOODY'S COAT-TAILS

By Ivor Powell

An American minister preaching in Scotland told the story of D. L. Moody's visit to the church of which he was now the pastor.

Crowds flocked to the great auditorium. Then one evening a little boy came to the door and endeavoured to enter the church. He was tiny, dirty, and ragged. The steward at the door stopped the lad and said him to go home. Frustrated and greatly disappointed, the urchin walked a few yards down the street, and leaning against the building placed his hands to his eyes and wept.

A carriage came to the door of the church. Mr. Moody alighted and prepared to enter the building. When he heard the child sobbing, he looked around. Wondering what had caused the lad's grief, he went along and said, "Son, what is the matter?"

The lad looked up and explained how he had desired to hear Mr. Moody, but the man at the door had refused to allow him inside.

The preacher smiled and answered, "Do you really want to hear Mr. Moody?"

"Yes, sir."

"Well, my boy, I know you can pass the big fellow at the door. But mind, you will need to do all that I tell you. Are you willing?"

"Yes, sir."

The famous preacher took hold of his coat-tails, and pushed these into the hands of the youngster and said, "Sonny, if you hold on to these, I know you will get in. But remember, if you once let go, that big man will stop you again. Will you hold on?"

"Yes sir."

D. L. Moody entered the building and continued until he reached the platform. When he finally reached the pulpit, he turned to say, "Well done. I told you that if you would only hold on, you would get in. Now, my boy, you sit here." He indicated the chair reserved for himself; and there, for the entire service, the boy sat and listened to the great preacher.

The minister added, "I know that story is true, because I was the little boy. I heard the great D. L. Moody, but little did I know when I clung to his coat-tails, that some day I would become the minister of that same church."

When the small child seized Moody's coat-tails and refused to release his hold, no door-keeper could interfere. No barriers prevailed against him, and it became Moody's task to deal with hindrances. And in like manner, when we take hold of Christ, when we determine to follow Him at all costs to any lengths, when we refuse to let Him go, it becomes His delight to undertake for us.

Bible Windows
mill; it is more important that our souls shall be saved than that this factory should run"; and all th's time the mighty man of God has not spoken a word. A religious meeting is held, and hundreds cry for mercy and rush into the kingdom.

At another time, when for days Christians were discouraged, and sinners were enraged and stubborn and would not repent, Finney and a Baptist deacon went into a grove together, and spent the whole afternoon in prayer. Just at evening God gave assurance of victory. Mr. Finney says: "The Spirit of God came upon me with such power in preaching that night that it was like opening a battery upon them." Conviction spread over the congregation, and that night, after the service, he was sent for from many quaters to visit people in awful distress of mind, and great numbers were saved.

**Summoning to the Upper Room**

All should testify for this Holy Spirit power. I have no doubt that it would be infinitely better for the world if all Christians would suspend all their efforts in every other direct on till, with strong crying and tears, they shall have uction. How few stalwart souls there are in the church—moral giants—who can put their arms under a whole community and lift it Godward. The power of Satan over the sinner is alarming. The Holy Spirit alone can break this influence. How easy to lead a sinner to Christ when his power of Satan is smitten! "The people shall be willing in the day of Thy power."

If we would do more pleasing with God we would not have to do so much pleading with men. It is not great preaching that we need but great praying! It is power, power from on high that we need today. I desire to impress this upon every layman who reads these lines. It is one of Satan's wiles to lead the church to throw all responsibility for the possession of this spiritual dynamite and success in spiritual work upon the minister, the membership indulging themselves in worldliness and unspirituality. God can not lavish His best gifts upon such a church. At Pentecost, it was Peter and the whole church filled with the Holy Ghost that harvested thousand souls, and not Peter, alone, facing the mob with a breaking heart.

**Unity of Faith and Unity of the Spirit**

Willbur Chapman once said that, when he went to Philadelphia to be pastor of Wannamaker's church, after his first sermon an old man met him in front of the pulpit, and said: "You are pretty young to be pastor of this great church. We have always had older pastors. I am afraid you won't succeed. But you preach the gospel, and I am going to help you all I can." 'I looked at him," said Dr. Chapman, "and said to myself, 'He's a crank.'" But the old man contmued: "I am going to pray for you, that you may have the Holy Spirit power upon you, and two others have canvassed to join with me." Said Mr. Chap-

man: "I did not feel so bad when I learned that he was going to pray for me. The three became ten, the ten became twenty, and the twenty became fifty, and the fifty became two hundred, who met before every service to pray that the Holy Spirit might come upon me. In another room the eighteen elders knelt so close around me to pray for me that I could put out my hands and touch them on all sides.

"I always went into my pulpit feeling that I would have the anointing in answer to the prayers of the two hundred and eighteen men. It was easy to preach, a very joy. Anybody could preach with such conditions. And what was the result? We received eleven hundred into our church by conversion in three years, and six hun-

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**My Saviour And I**

**A Testimony to His Presence and Power**

By THOMAS D. WHITEMAN

Dallas, Texas

**IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS**

I was attending a meeting of spiritually inclined people in Southwest Texas. There were not more than a dozen people in the lounge. I noticed a woman sitting near me who appeared to be worried. Suddenly I found myself praying for her and a voice said to me, "Why don't you speak to her?" I walked over and took a seat beside her, and said, "Surely it can't be that bad." She looked at me rather surprised and said, "It couldn't be worse." I never said a word and after a moment of reflection she told me the whole story, and here it is:

She was married, and had a boy 13 years old who was mentally retarded, and had only the mentality of a child of five. She said she had prayed constantly that God would heal him.

I asked her, "Is he any better today than he was a year ago?" She replied, "Yes, I think he is." I said, "Is he any better today than he was a month ago?" She said, "I think so." I said to her, "Why not stop begging God to heal him, and thank God for healing him; for God is healing him just as fast as you will let Him. You are standing between him and God." The next year we were both back at the same place. I said, "How is the boy?", and she replied, "Fine." and pointed to a boy standing back near the book counter. I spoke to him and we talked several minutes about books, sports, school, etc. He seemed perfectly normal. I walked back to his mother and, with tears in her eyes, she said, "I will never beg God again for anything, but will thank Him for what I have." "It is the Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom." (Luke 12:32)

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**NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD**

This is the story of one of the most remarkable healings since the days when Jesus walked along the shores of the Sea of Galilee. The woman in question is the wife of a man who is prominent in the legal profession and known throughout the nation for his integrity and great works.

His wife had been troubled for some time with pains in her abdomen. She went to the hospital where her case was carefully studied from X-ray pictures and diagnosed as cancer. The doctors decided to operate and a few days later they did operate. One look was enough for them. The malignancy was at such an advanced stage they knew that to cut into it would cause it to spread and thus hasten her death. They told her husband that it was only a matter of 30 to 60 days and requested that she be allowed to stay in the hospital in order that they might watch her closely and do what they could to relieve the pain.

At the end of two weeks they asked permission to take another X-ray — just for their research. They studied the pictures very carefully and were amazed to find there was absolutely no sign of the cancer. They called her husband in and told him, "The miracle has happened — your wife is free of cancer."

What they did not know was that since the operation and the results were announced, a group of sincere men and women — members of a prayer group — had been praying earnestly for her recovery. That was eight years ago and she is still among us, radiant, happy, and serving her Lord in wonderful ways. "Thou will keep him in perfect peace . . ." (Isaiah 26:3)
dread of them were men. It was the fruit of the Holy Spirit in answer to the prayer of those men. I do not see how the average pastor, under average circumstances preach-es at all."

O disciples of Christ, remember you have something else to do besides going to church as curious, idle spectators, to be amused and entertained, or even instructed. It is your business to pray mightily that the Holy Ghost will clothe your minister with power, and make his words like dynamite to the flinty hearts of sinners.

My Glory I will not give to Another

If we would obtain this power we must feel deep down in our hearts that nothing can supply its place. Here lies the difficulty of the church in multitudes of instances. She leans upon other things to do the very work which the Holy Spirit was sent into the world to perform. In some cases she will lean upon the minister, his talent, his eloquence, his learning or his influence. When the church has secured the man of her choice, she sits down to rest. She expects he will build her up. What can a minister do unless he has this power to work with him? If he is as eloquent as Gabriel, not a soul will be saved without this power. The church must feel this, and be on her face, and plead with God for the Holy Ghost to work in him, and by him, If the church substitutes the preaching and talent of the minister, or leans upon them instead of this power, God will withhold this blessing.

Clothed with Power

It was a church leaning hard on God in prayer for a week, and spending nearly two whole nights in prayer, that brought the Holy Spirit power upon their pastor, Livingstone, when he preached the sermon at Shotts that brought five hundred to Jesus. Finney says that it was the praying of "Father" Nash and Brother Clary and other souls who were walking with God that clothed him with such power from on high that the stoutest sinners were broken down by his presence and his words. The Baptist evangelist, Earle, tells us: "An evangelist had just closed a four-weeks' meeting, and said, "The revival is at an end; we can go no further." I stopped in town to rest a day or two on the way to a meeting, and was asked to preach. The minute I got in I could see that the net was full of fish, but there was not power enough to pull it to shore. And I said: "Now, there is that double parlor, and we are going in there to spend the whole of this night in prayer, if Jesus does not answer sooner. You may rely upon it, He will answer when He has something He can use." One after another we poured out our souls until half past two in the morning.

"That night God sent conviction like a chain-shot of lightning to the heart of Judge... He was a bold sinner — and leaning-post of all the sinners in the town — and he was converted. There was another prominent man in the place, and as soon as he heard the judge was converted, he came and cursed us all, and said: "Judge... has made a fool of himself." I said: "Let the man curse; he will pray pretty soon." The Spirit took away the leaning-post, and swept it like a tornado. In three or four days all the prayer meetings were in the golden vials were used up. Again, fifty of us went to the vestry and prayed till past midnight. A third night two hundred of us prayed again to fill the golden vials; and the revival swept like a tornado, and one hundred and fifty men —hard, solid men — in that town were converted."

Prayer Turning the Tide

Moody said of his work at Cambridge University: "I don't think the preaching had anything to do with it. Mr. Sankey and I had a pressing invitation to go to Cambridge when England was ten years ago, and I refused. I thought I had no call to go to universities. But when we were there, another call came, signed by a name of six such or eight feet long, and I said, "I will go.""

"The first Sunday night we were in Cambridge the students tried to break up the meeting. I preached to all classes of people — to hoodlums and all — and never had that happened before. It looked very much as if they were going to snatch the whole thing out of our hands. I don't think there were fifty students out of that roomful that heard the songs of Mr. Sankey, and right on through the whole meeting it was just the same.

"On Monday night the disturbance was just as bad or worse. On Tuesday the outlook was darker than ever. But on that day a lady, a bed-ridden saint, who was very much interested in the work, sent around word to a few Christians to get together in a little upper room, to plead with God for a change in those students. That turned the tide. It wasn't the preaching. They had heard better sermons from the best preachers of the Church of England. It was those Christians, in that upper room, praying to God, that made the difference. And how they did pray! It seemed as if the prayers burst into heaven, and I said, "The victory is ours."

"That night I preached. I don't think I had much power. When I asked, "If any man in this audience wants to become a Christian, will you go into the inquiry-room", — they had their college gowns on; of course, they were known — I did not know there would be a man. But there was a hush over that audience and fifty-two men sprang to their feet and went into the gallery, and I had all the inquirers we could attend to.

"About one o'clock in the morning — I was getting pretty tired — a man came to me, saying, "I wish you would come and talk to this man." They were on their faces, crying to God for mercy. God had not only broken their wills, but their hearts were broken. It wasn't the preaching. I was pretty weak that night. I talked to the man, and the tears were running down his cheeks. But he found Christ that night. Someone said to you know who that was? That was the senior wrangler in Cambridge — the first in scholarship among three thousand students. There he was on his knees, and the power of God came in answer to prayer.

"The next Sunday night there were two or three hundred inquirers — men of brok-en hearts, crying out for God. It isn't preaching we want. It is prayer. I would rather be able to pray like Daniel than to preach like Gabriel. We don't want any more preachers in this country; we have enough. What we want is to pray. Let us open up communication with heaven, and the blessing will come down."

Increasing the Desolation in Zion

Churches are calling for men of great learning and eloquence instead of men who are deeply baptized with the Holy Ghost. Seminaries of learning are much at fault. They do not stress this enduement as an essential qualification. And so the seminaries of learning and the churches themselves are bringing up a barren ministry to increase the desolation of Zion. O teachers of ministers! O people of God! Lay stress upon the divine anointing! Pray for it for yourselves. Above all, bring down the cloven tongues, the heavenly fire, the spiritual dynamite upon the ministry so they will be able to break the hard hearts of sinners, and you, in a measure, will share in the everlasting glory of reaping floors full of wheat and fats overflowing.

—The Wesleyan Methodist
The Slain Lamb

By Stanley H. Frodsham

God's Standard

When I was quite a young Christian I went to hear a preacher who was a great Bible student. He stated that he considered the first Epistle of John the greatest of all the epistles in the New Testament. I took a mental note of this, and on arriving home I read through this epistle. My comment as I finished reading was, "That book has a standard that no human being can ever attain." At that time I knew nothing of life in the Spirit. Praise God, I now know that that which is an impossible standard for the flesh is possible through the work of the Holy Spirit.

We Shall Be Like Him

Watch that artist as he takes the shapeless lump of clay. Before him is a living model. Slowly but surely the deft hands of the artist change the yielded clay into the likeness of the model before him. Again and again he looks at the model. Then he turns to his clay and gives to it a touch here and a touch there, until in every way it resembles the model before him. In like manner the Spirit of God takes hold of us—a mere mass of ugly clay. Before Him in the Mount there is a Pattern, and He purports to make us like unto that Pattern, like unto Him who is altogether lovely. He takes infinite pains, and with a patience that no human being knows, He brings pressure here and there and there. He is in no hurry, for He is making a vessel for eternity. The clay has but to be restful, trustful, and submissive. What He has begun He assures us He will not fail to complete. We do not see the Pattern in the Mount, but He does, and He will not fail nor be discouraged until He has made us like to that Pattern. "We shall be like Him!"

The Eternal Lamb

In this first Epistle of John we read these words, "As He is so are we in this world." As He is today, so are we to be today. The prophet of Patmos peered into the glory and got a glimpse of Him as He is today. Tell us, John, what He looks like today. He answers, "I beheld, and lo, in the midst of the throne . . . stood a Lamb as it had been slain." He is eternally the Lamb. He was such when John Baptist pointed his index finger to Him as He walked by Jordan's bank, declaring, "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world." To the seer of Patmos He was revealed as "The Lamb slain before the foundation of the world." And as John peered into the future and saw the new heavens and the new earth, and the new Jerusalem coming down from heaven, he saw the Lamb, together with His Father, as the temple of this city. What He is, and was, and ever shall be—a Lamb—He purposes that all His people shall be. When? Even now, "in this world."

The Laid-down Life

In the 10th chapter of John we are taken to a sheepfold. Here we see Him who is the Lamb pictured as the Good Shepherd. He says concerning the sheep, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." How can they have life? He tells them what they're receiving this life, and this life more abundant, is going to cost Him—"I lay down my life for the shepherd." And lest they should not have caught this He repeats the phrase, showing them it is His Father's plan for Him, "Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life." Verse 17. And once more He repeats this message, showing that it was an entirely voluntary act on His part, "No man taketh it from me but I lay it down myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received from my Father." And this word of His was fulfilled. At Calvary He laid down His life for His sheep. Preparing for the resurrection morning He took it again. And from the morning of the Day of Pentecost onward He has by means of His Spirit, been pouring that life into His own.

Losing Our Lives

In this Epistle of John we see that we too are privileged to share in this same spirit of sacrifice that the Lamb of God had. We read, "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." I John 3:16. It is the will of our Lord for us to live "the laid-down life." To His disciples He said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it." Luke 9:23, 24. It is the life lost or laid down for His sake and for the sake of the brethren that we shall find over on the other side; just as He found or received again the life He laid down at Calvary. And He warns us of the consequence of refusing to lay down our lives—a warning repeated no less than six times in the Gospels: "For whosoever will save his life, shall lose it." That loss will be an eternal one.

A Parable in Nature

A missionary to North Africa, Miss Lilas Trotter, shows us in her Parables of the Christ Life, that all through nature we have pictures of Calvary. In North Africa they have the giant Aloe (called in California the Century Plant), which she tells us "flowers and seeds but once in its career. Up till this time its thick hard leaves look as if nothing could exhaust their vigor. The flower stalk pushes up from a fresh sheaf of them—up and up for twelve or fourteen feet—and expands into a candelabra of golden blossom, and not a droop comes in the plant below. But as the seed forms, we see that life is working death, slowly but surely. The sword-like leaves lose their stiffness and color, and begin to hang helplessly, and by the time the seeds are ripe every bit of vitality is drained away from those thick hard leaves, and they are dead."

Life Out of Death

What has happened? The plant has laid down its life for its seed, for all its vitality has gone into it. And in that picture of Calvary given in Isaiah 53, where we see our Lord Jesus as a Lamb led to the slaughter, do we not see Him giving His life for His seed? And did not Jehovah promise, "When thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, you shall see his seed. . . . he shall see of thy travail of his soul and shall be satisfied." And do we not see the same Spirit working in the apostle whose testimony was "For me to live is Christ," when he declared to the Corinthians, "For we which 'I've are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake. . . . so then death worketh in us but life in you." 2 Cor. 4:11, 12.

The Work of the Spirit

In the measure that we are filled with the Spirit of Christ, in that measure shall we live the life laid down, the crucified life. The cross had a large place in the life of the apostle Paul. He gloried in it. He exulted in a crucifiedaviour. He knew experimentally something of the cross, and his one theme was the Christ of the cross. He testified, "I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life that I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." The longing of his heart was to be "made conformable unto His death." And that death, remember, was crucifixion. Let us seek ever the meekness the lowliness, the yeildedness of the Lamb. It is His will that we become partakers of His nature—the nature of the slain Lamb. There need be no strain. Just yieldedness, yieldedness, yieldedness to all He sends along, or permits. The Spirit of God, as we yield to Him, will not fail to make us like to the Pattern in the Mount and the Pattern is that of a slain Lamb.
PRAISE

The LORD!

By

J. A. Dennis

Praise

STRONGER THAN STONE WALLS

"And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given
 into thine hand, Jericho, and the king thereof, and
 the mighty men of valour.

"And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war,
 and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do
 six days.

"And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven
 trumpets of rams' horns; and the seventh day ye shall
 compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with
 the trumpets.

"And it shall come to pass, that when they make a
 long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the
 sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a
 great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat,
 and the people shall ascend up every man straight before
 him." (Joshua 6:2-5)

When Joshua led the children of Israel against Jeri­
 cho, the first great walled city they encountered in the
 Promised Land, it was Obedience and Praise that brought
 the Victory.

First, they were to compass the city early in the
 morning.

"And Joshua rose early in the morning and the priests
 took up the ark of the Lord." (Josh. 6:12) "And it came to
 pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the
dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same
 manner seven times." (Josh. 6:15)

If you want to meet God, meet Him early in the
 morning.

"Because they have not hearkened to my words, saith the Lord.
 "And His presence came like sunrise,
 When my day was at its best,
 All day long He stayed with me,
 And we sailed in perfect calmness
 O'er a very troubled sea.
 Other ships were blown and battered,
 Other ships were sore distressed,
 But the winds that seemed to drive them
 Brought to us a peace and rest.
 Then I thought of other mornings,
 With a keen remorse of mind,
 When I, too, had loused the mornings,
 With the Presence left behind.

So I think I know the secret,
 Learned from many a troubled way:
 You must seek Him in the morning
 If you want Him through the day!

— Ralph S. Cushman

Second, the Israelites were commanded to "keep
 their mouths shut." They were not to speak a word as
 they marched around the city.

"And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye
 shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice,
 neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until
 the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout." (Josh. 6:10)

Why?

If they had been allowed to speak, no doubt they
 would have been commenting on the size of the city,
 the height of the wall, the strength of the enemy,
 the impossibility of the task, the foolishness of their leader,
 etc.

If we would enjoy victory over the enemy, we, too,
 must learn to "keep our mouth shut."

So often, as we walk around a sick bed or some other
 obstacle to our faith, we let our tongue express our
 doubts and fears and unbelief, and lose the victory. We
 say, "My, he looks bad, doesn't he?" "They say it's can­
cer; poor fellow!", etc.

Third, God commanded the Israelites to compass the
 city seven days, and seven times on the seventh day. In
 other words — to persevere.

Too many of us, when confronted by the enemy,
 pray once or twice, and if the enemy doesn't flee, we lose
 heart, give up, and are defeated

Elisha, the prophet, just before his death, was pro­
voked with the King, Josh, for his lack of perseverance.

"And he said, "Take the arrows. And he took them.
 "And the man of God was wroth with him, and said.
 Thou shouldst have smitten five or six times; then hadst
 thou smitten Syria till thou hadst consumed it: whereas
 now thou shalt smite Syria but thrice." (II Kings 13: 18-19)

Jesus teaches us, in the story of the healing of the
 Syro-Phoenician woman's daughter (Matt. 15:21-28) and
 the parable of the importunate widow (Luke 18:1-7) that
 we are to "hang on" to God's promises — how long? —
 until Victory comes.

When God's Word says, "Yes!", don't take "No" for
 an answer.

"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without
 wavering: (for he is faithful that promised); (Heb. 10:23)

"For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have
 done the will of God, ye might receive the promise." (Heb. 10:36)

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of
 God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day,
 and having done all, to STAND." (Eph. 6:13)

Fourth, the people were commanded to Shout the
 Victory BEFORE the victory came, BEFORE the walls
 fell, BEFORE the city was taken. They were to Shout
 the walls down, rather than pray them down, or wait until
 they fell, before praising God for the Victory.

Jesus thanked the Father for raising Lazarus to life
 BEFORE He commanded the dead man to "Come forth!" (John 11:41-43)

If we must "wait 'till we are sure we’re healed" be­
 fore we testify and praise God for healing us, it shows
 our unbelief in God's promise to do what His Word says
 He will do.
Praise

MORE POWERFUL THAN PRISONS

"And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

"And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed." (Acts 16: 22-26)

For casting the evil spirit out of a fortune teller, Paul and Silas were beaten and thrown into jail, their feet were thrust into stocks, and there they lay — in a dark, dirty dungeon, their backs bleeding, their sense of justice outraged their opportunity for self-pity perfect.

But, instead of whining or complaining, Paul and Silas decided to praise God for this opportunity to suffer for Jesus' sake.

And as they began to pray and sing praises, the Lord, who was watching and hearing in Heaven, sent an earthquake to tear the jail apart; their fetters fell off and they were free; the jail became a mission hall, and an entire household was saved!

"My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations." (James 1:2)

"But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy." (I Pet. 4: 13)

Praise

GREATER THAN SICKNESS

"Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; Who healeth all thy diseases." (Psalm 103: 1-3)

"Prayer for the sick is powerful, and deliverance is promised by the prayer of faith, but even mightier is Praise from the believing heart, for the health that God has promised, and which you know must come because his Word says so!

David sang this great truth on the hills of Judaea as he kept his father's sheep and trusted the Lord to keep his as safely.

"Who healeth all thy diseases." (Ps. 103:3)

"There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone." (Ps. 91: 10-13)

"And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee." (Exod. 23:25)

"Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." (Matt. 8: 17) "By whose stripes ye were healed." (I Peter 2: 24)

"Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." (Psalm 50: 14-15)

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4: 6-7)

The Prayer that begins with petition and ends with Praise is the Prayer of Faith. Anything less is unbelief. For if we really believe God's Word and His promises, and have asked for the promised blessing according to His Word and Will, and in the Mighty Name of Jesus, we cannot but know He will send the Answer.

And if we know the Answer is on the Way, we cannot but Praise Him for it and shout the Victory while we wait its coming.

"And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him." (I John 5: 14-15)

Mittie Watters, our dear friend, and the friend of many, was once facing death, with a split heart valve and a paralyzed left arm. Doctors had given her only a short time to live.

She went to a man of God for prayer. When she had finished pouring out her "tale of woe," he, by the Spirit, commanded:

"In everything give thanks" (I Thess. 5:18) "Throw up your hands and praise the Lord!"

A few days later, as she obeyed Acts 2: 38, she came up out of the baptismal waters praising the Lord with BOTH arms in the air! She was given a vision of Jesus, healed, and later filled with the Holy Ghost.

That has been some 25 years ago. Since that time she has given herself, unstintedly, to telling others, less fortunate, about "my Jesus" and what He can do for those in trouble or in need.

A minister friend of mine, twenty-five years or more ago, was dying of tuberculosis. He was so weak that he could not dress himself. He was taken to a Full Gospel Tabernacle and prayed for, but the next day he was worse. Friends and relatives urged him to let them take him to the hospital. He said, "No! Take me back to that Tabernacle!"

That night he was barely able to sit up on one of the benches. During the Testimony Time he stood up and said by faith, "I thank God for healing me of TB!" Then he sank back on to the bench.

From that night on he gained a pound a day in weight. In three months he was well. Soon he was preaching this glorious good news that God heals the sick and that God honors those who praise Him. He is now strong and healthy and preaching nightly in the Name and strength of Jesus, still Praising God for the Victory that comes through Him.

"Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (I Thess. 5: 16-18)

Praise

EAGLES' WINGS

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." (Isaiah 40: 31)

The eagle has been called King of the air. His domain is high above the clouds. He builds his home in the rocky mountain peaks. He doesn't fly with flapping wings like other birds. With outspread wings he soars, high up in space, or swoops down to earth in search of prey, then soars away to his mountain home.

In like manner "Eagles of the Lord" live above the people of the world, up where the air is purer, up where the view is broader, up on the mountain heights.

Eagles, unlike some birds of prey, eat only freshly killed meat. They swoop down on a flock of sheep, snatch a young lamb in their fierce claws, and fly away to share this fresh meat with the young eaglets in the mountain
Christian Eagles, likewise, thrive on living food, the flesh and blood of the Lamb of God. Jesus said, “Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you.” (John 6:53)

The Psalmist said, “Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things, so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle’s.”

Eagles of the Lord have two powerful wings. Many Christians use only one wing and wonder why they do not make much spiritual progress. The one wing they use is prayer. It is a very necessary wing, if we would rise up and live victoriously. But used alone it is not enough to overcome the world, the flesh and the devil.

Jesus said, “Men ought always to pray and not to faint.” (Luke 18:1). Paul said, “Pray without ceasing.” (1 Thess. 5:17). That we must do. But we are still using only one wing. Many Christians Pray, and Pray, but seldom receive the answer to their cries. They “Pray in circles” as a bird would fly if using only one wing.

What is the other wing that Eagles of the Lord use in order to soar up above the sordid things of the world and live on the mountain top?

That second wing is Praise. Praise and Thanksgiving to Almighty God for His many and wonderful blessings. None of us appreciate as we should the many, many wonderful and lovely things our Heavenly Father does for us every day. We take too many things for granted. or take credit for them ourselves.

Not one of us could live one moment without God. The air we breathe is loaned to us by His goodness. The food we eat comes from His bounty. The earth, that grows the food, was made by Him. The sunshine, the rain, the growing seed, all come from Him. The clothes, the homes, the furniture, the cars, were all made possible by His goodness. None of us know whether we will be here tomorrow. Each of us is but a heart-beat from death. Everything is in His wonderful hands. Yet we take these things for granted; yes, we even complain if the weather is bad or we do not have all we would like to have.

God’s Word says, “Enter into his gates with thanksgiving; and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.” (Ps. 100:4) “Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” (1 Thess. 5:16-18) “Rejoice and be exceeding glad.” (Matt. 5:12)

Praise and Thanksgiving, gratitude and appreciation, are a sweet savour in the nostrils of God. Thanksgiving is an indication of faith. When someone promises you a gift or a dinner, a job or a raise, you immediately say, “Thank you!”, though you have not yet received anything except a promise. Do we trust men more than we trust God and his promises?

Overcoming Christians are not only praying Christians; they are Praising Christians. Eagles of the Lord have learned how to use this second Wing and so to rise to greater heights than the average Christian knows.

“They shall mount up with wings AS EAGLES.” Not as birds, though they also have two wings, but as EAGLES. Birds flap their wings and fly before the storm. Eagles soar triumphantly ABOVE the storm.

E. Stanley Jones has given us an eye-witness account of how an eagle meets an approaching storm, such as often strike in India. While the smaller birds were flap-flapping their way to some shelter, the majestic eagle flew to the highest branch on a nearby tree. There he FACED the coming storm, lifted his great wings at the proper angle, and calmly waited for the fury of the storm to hit him.

The eagle knows instinctively what it took men centuries to learn: the exact angle for a wing to meet the wind to bear airplane or glider or eagle into the sky.

As the wind struck the eagle’s upturned wings, he was blown almost straight UP—up above the storm—and he soared off ABOVE the clouds to his mountain home. Had his wings been slanted “down”, the storm would have beaten him down to earth. But slanted UP, they carried him to Victory.

So with the Christian, when he sees the storms of life approaching. He can “flap, flap,” pray, pray, and get little help. If his wings are “down” the storms will strike him down to defeat.

But if, like the eagle, he will get up that other wing—Praise—and hold both of them — Prayer and Praise UP at the proper Believing angle, the storms that beat against us all will only blow him UP, closer to God and ABOVE the storms that would destroy us.

Have you found it hard to rise above the fears and doubts and defeats of today's world in which we live? Do you seem to be going around in circles as you pray and pray and wonder why your prayers aren't answered?

Get up that second wing, the wing of Praise. Lift them both Heavenward. FACE the approaching storm. Let it blow you up, UP, above the storm and strife, until you experience the miracle that Christ came to give you, Victory over every foe, and you soar in the blue skies and rest on the mountain top with God, an Eagle of the Lord, indeed.

“One ship drives east, and another drives west, With the selfsame winds that blow, ’Tis the set of the sails, And not the gales, Which tells us the way to go.”

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” (Rom. 8:28)

PRAISE IS VICTORY

“Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord, Jesus Christ” (1 Cor. 15:57)

Praise is more powerful than prayer. Praise without prayer might be presumption. But prayer without praise is unbelief. Praise anticipates the victory. Praise acknowledges that the answer is on its way. Praise testifies that God is more powerful than the devil or any situation the devil can bring upon us. Praise witnesses to the goodness and might and mercy and wisdom of God.

Praise is the “hymn of committal.” Praise proclaims that the burden is no longer on our shoulders, but on the Lord. Praise testifies that no matter what the outcome, we will be “glad and rejoice.”

Praise demonstrates the relief of a small child, faced with danger, when his father appears on the scene to take over in the child’s behalf.

Praise is the release that comes when committal is made to a “higher power.” Praise is the joyful acclaim that God is on the throne and all is well.

Praise is the most powerful “prayer of faith.”

Praise says, “It is done! Hallelujah!”

Praise shouts, “My worries are over, my struggling
LETTERS

SAVING SOULS THROUGH TRACTS

Ghana, West Africa
Feb. 22, 1962

Dear Brother Dennis,

I sincerely wish to thank you for your faithful support in the past. God bless you and I am glad to inform you that your labors are not in vain. Praise the Lord!

I can assure you of many souls being led to the Saviour by the way of your tracts and the booklets. I want you to share with me in the joy to know God is blessing and moving on our country, and I am praying for a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit upon all flesh.

I have started preaching from house to house and distributing of tracts. So many people converted last day for tracts. Thank God, in this way of saving souls through God that many have accepted in the town for tracts giving.

The more this people are healed and saved, the more powerful I become, and the more I have a deep burden for them.

Many people from their villages coming, invited me to reach their villages also. I will be going there next.

I have to inform you that God is working greatly in the houses as I prayed and gave them tracts in Jesus' Name.

Brother, it is truly the "God of Elijah" is still working and performing miracles as He did in the Bible days. Jesus never fails, and also He never changes. As He was yesterday, the same today, and for ever and ever. Praise the Lord! His mighty power is still in His ministries, that makes me so happy in this mighty work and makes me strong in faith.

In my letter of 21st Feb., 1962, I forgot to tell you. Whenever you are posting the parcels to us here (Ghana), write on them, GIFT PARCELS — RELIGIOUS BOOKS. Then they will all arrive safely.

The Lord has won the victory. The postmaster himself has accepted Jesus Christ, as soon as I approached him with the booklets. He read portions of them and said, "Indeed that is the true teaching of the Scriptures on our Lord Jesus Christ," and ordered me to pray for him at the office. It is wonderful. He showed me to tell you to write on the parcels as I have stated. God is truly great and His ways are wonderful.

The Texas Herald of December and January issues have been received with thanks. Prayer may move mountains. Prayer is wondering "if it will come to pass?" Praise is "knowing it is done."

God likes to see his children pray. But He rejoices to hear them praising Him for the expected answer. Prayer may move mountains. Praise moves God, so that He cannot refrain from rejoicing with his praising children in their victory.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise." Psalm 100:4

"Let everything that hath breath Praise the Lord." (Ps. 150:6)

“Praise The Lord!” is now available in booklet form.

As the Lord provides the funds for its printing and mailing, we will send ten copies of th's booklet FREE to anyone who will prayerfully distribute them for the glory of God and the blessing of his people.

Write today for your FREE booklets.

THE TEXAS HERALD

Box 2156 Capitol Station Austin 11, Texas, U.S.A.

is ended. God has taken over. The battle is now his concern, not mine. I am free to stand still, to cease to fight, to see the salvation of the Lord!”

Praise shouts, “Though he slay me, yet will I trust him.” "I will yet come forth as gold." "In all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

Praise confesses, “I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I but Christ liveth in me: and the life that I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.” (Gal. 2:20)

Praise shouts, “Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." (I John 4:4)

Praise proclaims, “And they overcame him (satan) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony.” (Rev. 12:11)

Prayer frightens the devil. Praise puts him to rout. Prayer makes the devil tremble. Praise causes him to flee.

Prayer: begs God. Praise thanks Him in advance. “Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me . . . Lazarus, come forth.” (John 11:41,43)

Prayer brings our petition to God. Praise takes honor the answer.

Prayer says, “Please.” Praise says, “Thank you.”

Prayer changes things. Praise shouts down the walls so we can take the city. (Josh. 6:20)

BOOKS BUILD UP HIS FAITH

Ghana, West Africa
March 5, 1962

Dear Brother Dennis,

I am very glad to have your good letter and books which you sent them to me. Dear brother, through them my faith is built up, I have got more faith to do the work of God, and winning more souls for our Lord Jesus Christ.

One Evangelist, called J. K. D. . . . . . . . whom you sent him some of your books, came to me to give him some of my books which you sent to me. So I have given four of them to him because we are all one in Christ Jesus. That man is doing well, more miracles appearing and winning more souls to Jesus.

Dear Brother Dennis, God bless you to win more souls for Christ. I one night saw you and Sister Dennis in visions, that you are doing some wonders in Ghana. So I hope you will one day come to Ghana.

The work of the Lord is going on well, so if you receive this letter, try to send me more of your pamphlets and books to the lost souls in Ghana. God will bless you and Brother W. V. Grant for ever and ever. Amen.

Your brother in Christ,
Ten Days That Changed History

By Vernon L. Wilcox, Pastor

Moreland Church of the Nazarene,
Portland, Oregon

John Reed titled his book on the Bolshevik Revolution Ten Days That Shook the World. All would be ready to concede that those days have shaken the world and many of the things we hold precious. But the most important ten days in all of history were the ten days preceding Pentecost. The whole future of mankind was wrapped up in that little band of believers led by Christ's twelve apostles.

Jesus had died, bringing stark tragedy to their hearts; He had risen from the grave, bringing incredible joy; then, in a few appearances, He had convinced them of His actual resurrection and had given them hopeful promise for the future. What He said to them during those forty days we little know, but we have recorded for us His primary concern in Luke 24: 49 and Acts 1: 8: "Tarry ye until ye be endued with power from on high." "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." His last words to His followers had to do with the coming of the Holy Spirit, and it is interesting to note in both texts that the promise was one of power.

I. The Need of the Disciples was Power

Take a look at the Church at this time. The apostles were afraid, meeting behind closed doors. At the Crucifixion not only Peter but all of Jesus' disciples forsook Him and fled, although John came back to stand with Mary at the Cross. Without the power of the Holy Spirit, the Church would have been stillborn. They were divided. Jealous, critical, consumed with personal ambition, these disciples were a sorry group on which to build a world organization. Without Pentecost, the Church would have culminated in a dead end.

They were intolerant. Resentful of those who did not agree with them, retaliatory in spirit toward any who opposed them, they had carnal tempers that would have ruined their usefulness in preaching any kind of saving gospel. With their attitudes, the Church would have ended in a rigid legalism.

They were small of vision. With men of such narrow, prejudiced minds constricted with stifling littleness of soul, the Church would never have gotten beyond the borders of Judea.

They were unbelieving. Jesus often was grieved by their "little faith." On this minimum basis, with little daring and no outreach, the Church could never have tackled her task with any hope of success.

These disciples needed a power that would lift them out of fear, and give them courage to meet the terrific demands of their time. They needed power that would unite them in love, so they could overlook their minor differences in the sublimity of a great mission.

They needed a power that would set their eyes on things above, so they could forget their irritation and face their problems.

They needed a power that would give them a vision of the world beyond the borders of race and culture — that would help them grow out of their prejudices and take the world for Christ.

They needed a power that would give them a dynamic faith in Jesus Christ as invincible, which would in turn make them invincible as they trusted in Him.

II. Jesus Promised Them Power

Not power for its own sake, for that is dangerous. He did not offer them the merciless power of a loose locomotive, or an unpredictable tornado, or a blindly undiscriminating flood.

But this power Jesus offered His followers is defined as "power from on high." It is distinguished from earthly forces like unbridled emotion, religious intolerance, prejudice, and jealousy, all of which have caused untold misery through the Christian centuries, all too often justified as being "in the name of God."

This power is defined as "the power of the Spirit." It is concurrent in time with the coming of the Spirit upon them — it is not a "third blessing." The Baptism with the Spirit is the baptism with power here mentioned — not two things, but one event. This is logical, for who with any understanding of spiritual values, could wish for more than the presence of God's Spirit in his life? Seeking for "demonstration" and "evidences" will fade away when we see the real meaning of spiritual power.

This power of the Spirit transformed the Early Church. Those men were never the same again. They took the world for Christ, turning it upside down, and right side up — preachers and laymen alike witnessing, courageously facing persecution, often facing the fire of the stake but always leaving behind them a blazing example of Spirit-filled lives.

III. We Need This Power of the Spirit Today

We are facing tremendous issues: a world of iniquity just about to rot on its own doorstep; an age of indifference, coldness, and spiritual deadness. The only way to live a victorious Christian life is to be sanctified by the Spirit, filled with the Spirit, empowered through the Spirit. Just as this experience was for the apostles and laymen alike on Pentecost, so today it is for all who will "tarry — until — ended."

This spiritual power will work out through our lives, our abilities, our personalities. We cannot all be great leaders, but God wants to work through the channel He has made, our own lives; but He does demand that it be a clean channel.

As electric power is modified by the size of the appliance or bulb, so we will demonstrate the power of the Spirit through the vessel God has made us. One of us may be a "thirty-watt bulb," while another is a floodlight — both are needed. How much better is God's plan than our haphazard arrangement would be. Peter speaks of the varied grace of God. (1 Peter 4: 10).

This is the only hope of the Church. We may try other things, but they will be only relatively important. Without the power of the Spirit the Church is powerless. No other power matters, for only when the Church makes Christ known to a lost world is she fulfilling her mission.

This is especially true of a "holiness church." We are particularly poor unless we have the power of the Holy Spirit. We have little or no justification for being without Him — there is nothing more hollow than "hollow holiness."

We need to pray and wait on God until He fills our hearts anew with His Holy presence, and makes us glow with His radiant fullness, until others will want to know Him because of the spiritual power they see demonstrated in our lives.

—Herald of Holiness.