

ARE WE IN LINE?

We are more and more convinced that the possession of the experience of Perfect Love is the pearl of greatest price, so much so that it is quite rare, but we are glad that there are enough of the precious jewels to go around, so that in answer to the command of him who died to make the possession to everyone possible, we can be perfect even as our Father which is in heaven is perfect, and wear the jewel in our daily life so as to adorn the doctrine.

To belong to a holiness church, to profess the blessing of sanctification, to do any or all the various church duties, is a small thing in comparison to having the Baptism of the Holy Ghost that purifies the heart by faith, producing all the abundant fruits of the Spirit in supreme love to God, loving your neighbor as yourself, "joy without the sadness occasioned by sin, peace as a river, long-suffering without an end, gentleness with all the roughness left out, goodness, faith without any **doubt**, meekness, temperance in all things remembering that we are the temples of the Holy Spirit," "and whether we eat or drink or whatever we do, it is all to the glory of God."

Paul wrote to Titus concerning the doctrine that the Bishop (who we suppose is not to have a better experience than the layman) should be so sound in the faith that he would be able to exhort on the subject, and to so know by a living, vital experience the realities and blessedness of the blessing that he should convince the gainsayers, and we believe what it badly needed today by every Christian body and more especially the Holiness people, are some real convincers. Beloved, God has said, My word shall not return to me void, and as the world must be saved through the instrumentality of the church, if we who constitute the church live up and live in obedience to God's will, he will make our lives consecrated and sanctified, a convincing proof of the genuineness of the doctrine of Christian Perfection which we as holiness people hold and believe, and God's word will prosper in the thing whereto he sent it. Our church relation, testimony, or talk might be easily ignored and set aside as not worth much or anything, but our godly daily life and deportment according to the Bible, will tell and have its influence in spite of circumstances and conditions, and convince people against all their arguments. Amen!

God has conditions to be met in all the relations of Christian life, and if we fail to meet them He will also fail to meet us, and now it becomes us to prove ourselves and see if we are dwelling in Him and He in us, and also let God search us "and see if there be any evil way in us" that would hinder the Holy Spirit having His way and will in us.

The best people seem sometimes to lose out almost, it would seem, unconsciously and bring failure on their own soul, and pain and hurt to others, and so we would like just here to mention one or two things which we have noticed in the past year and not by way of criticism be the means of stirring up our minds by way

of remembrance.

We are admonished in the Word to humble ourselves and we feel it takes a lot of humility to keep ourselves low at the feet of Jesus so that we may learn of Him, and we fear the grace of humility or meekness has for one reason or another leaked out of some and perhaps a great many hearts of those who profess the blessing of holiness.

We have been pained at the lack of patience and the shortness of long-suffering in some brothers and sisters, and even preachers (and this is not confined to one denomination) in comparatively trivial things, and beloved, this very thing will and does prevent the fellowship so much desired by the true christian, and we have proved by our own sad experience that a lack, ever so little, of patience with others, so that we parted with the impatient difference still standing, "instead of agreeing to disagree in an amiable manner," where no compromise of truth is at stake, leaves the one or other and sometimes both, with the consciousness that the fellowship has been marred, and unless there is a confessing of faults quickly brought about there is sure to be a division if only in spirit and those who once were one through the Spirit have become two, and a sense of sadness and loss is sure to be the result, so it is well just here to take the advice of James, "confess your fault one to another and so forth that ye may be healed."

Beloved, is there in any of our readers a memory of a past difference of opinion between ministry or laymen, where we failed ever so little to keep humble, and when we gave evidence to them and others our lack of patience and humility, instead of letting the spirit have control, who would have us bear all things in the spirit of meekness, and endure all things in love, and where we had to resort to some diversion of mind until the torrent had subsided? Have we practised when the test came to us, what we preached in the pulpit to others, or what we testified to in public?

Another thing of importance that is passing almost unheeded, is that which is of great value as regards our individual salvation, forgiveness.

Jesus says: "If ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive you," and how some people regard the matter of forgiveness is a mystery indeed, and if it means to forgive others as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven us, we feel sure that there would be a different attitude toward some of our fellow-beings that we know exists at the present time in the ranks of Christian people. We would feel that our forgiveness was a very doubtful thing if as we remember our long life of sin so deep and dark that it caused us days and nights of bitterness and weeping and confession and restitution and promised we would be His ever afterward, the Lord said to us, now I forgive you, but you had better hike to the woods or skip the country for an indefinite time, and made us feel that we were a nuisance and an eye-sore, and this is the way some people are acting these days and we doubt if their forgiveness is any more real than those who they forgive in

this way, but no! God says I will blot out all your sins and love you freely, "I will remove them as far as the east is from the west and remember them no more against you forever," and then he gives us hope for the future and peace in believing and joy to the Holy Ghost, and gives us a chance to make good and redeem ourselves, and surely there is a blessed chance for the Lord to show his ability by saving such as have fallen in deep sin and showing to the world the wonders of His redeeming grace and power, Hallelujah!

Beloved, have we been feeling and acting the spirit of forgiveness according to God's standard? If not, it would be well to find the fellow or whoever he may be and make him feel that we forgive him as God for Christ's sake has forgiven us, for if God so loved us we ought also to love one another, and "by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, when ye have love one for another," and what if our lack of love and indifference caused a brother or sister to perish, could we meet them at the judgment with a clear conscience?

Beloved, if we want a Holy Ghost revival (and sure every spiritual brother and sister does) let us put ourselves before God and the Word and in real humility let Him and the Word search us and then yield to its admonitions and do as God bids us and when we shall have met the condition we will enjoy fellowship with the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and fellowship with one another in the work of soul saving, and a oneness that will convince the world, and we shall be perfect even as our Father is perfect.

Would it not be a good thing for every brother and sister, preacher and all to take stock, and if we have failed in patience, forgiveness, or any of the vital graces or our care for each other, let us confess our faults one to another, and in so doing be able to pray for one another (with effect) and so produce a seventeenth chapter of John, unity of love, thought and feeling, and we feel if this is done we will have a revival of power and many souls saved from sin be the result. Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight." Amen!

M. B. COX.

"A clean heart filled with the Spirit makes a soul-winner out of the man who receives the blessing. It was so on the day of Pentecost, when the disciples, having their hearts purified by fire and filled with the Holy Spirit, won 3,000 souls to the Lord in one meeting. With the blessing of a clean heart comes a passion of love for Jesus, and with it a passionate desire for the salvation and sanctification of men. It makes apostles, prophets, martyrs, missionaries, and fiery-hearted soul-winners. It opens wide and clear the channel of communion between God and the soul."

"The pastor who fails to call upon and pray with his people need not wonder if he fails in his work."

"All the failings of all the professed Christians cannot furnish an unsaved soul a single valid excuse at the judgment."