

QUESTION—ANSWER.

Can men know God without regeneration, and the baptism with the Holy Spirit?

The answer to this question depends largely on what we understand by the word "Know," as the word is used in a variety of senses in the Bible. Natural knowledge is acquired by the use of our own senses, by reflection, by the use of our powers of mind. Spiritual knowledge is the gift of God, but may be improved by study, meditation, prayer, etc. God is the source and fountain of knowledge and Jesus possesses the same as in him "are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

Knowledge of God in the Bible does not mean a mere knowledge of his existence, for demons have this (Luke IV. 34, 41). Nor can it be a partial acquaintance with the character of God, because no doubt the Jews possessed this, yet Jesus said, "Ye neither know me nor my Father." To know God, in the true spiritual sense, implies a real, personal, experimental, sanctifying acquaintance with him.

Trusting knowledge is Faith; personal knowledge is Love; perfected knowledge is the Bliss of Heaven.

To know God is to be in vital fellowship with him, to love and obey him. "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments."

Knowledge of God implies the new birth, as "No man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him," and involves sympathy, love, submission and obedience; and is not so much of the sphere of the mind as of the heart.

Therefore the sinner does not know God in the true spiritual sense, as he does not love God, as "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." Men must be regenerated before they can know God; must be born of the Spirit; as the Holy Spirit alone reveals to believers the fundamental facts of regeneration, forgiveness, adoption and entire sanctification, as "The things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God; and "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his," and "The Spirit beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." In regeneration the disposition to sin is removed and the disposition to holiness is implanted, and the Holy Spirit leads the true believer to present himself as a living sacrifice, to be wholly sanctified by the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Hence regeneration gives men a true spiritual knowledge of God, and entire sanctification or the baptism of the Holy Spirit, gives a fuller knowledge of him, and Heaven will give a perfect knowledge of him.

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NO DEFEATS.

"Whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." The man who lives the standard of the first Psalm suffers no defeats. He is a constant victor, for "his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night," and he has no time for defeat.

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\* BEULAH CAMP MEETING \*  
\* July 2-11, 1920 \*  
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\* RIVERSIDE CAMP MEETING \*  
\* Aug. 6-15, 1920 \*  
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\* EVANGELIST JOSEPH OWEN, \*  
\* of Boaz, Alabama. \*  
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WHAT IS BOLSHEVISM?

Bolshevism is atheism and infidelity run to seed. It is an organized enmity against all religion and all law and order and the fact that it is being disseminated in our country stares us in the face as an awful feature of the times. It has stated its belief thus, "We hate religion because it lulls the spirit with lying tales, takes away courage and faith in the power of man, faith in the triumph of justice here on the real earth and not in a chimerical heaven. Religion covers everything with fog. Real evil becomes visionary and visionary good a reality. It has always sanctified slavery, grief and tears, and we declare war on all gods and religious fables. We are atheists."

This false accusation against religion is believed by thousands today in our land. And when we remember that three-fifths of the people are affiliated with no church, the situation is alarming. The evangelical churches ought to do nothing but stay on their knees until a general outpouring of the Holy Spirit becomes a fact. We are alarmed that there is little said about beseeching God for help. Things are fast approaching the state of society witnessed in the days of the French Revolution. The same spirit is rife in America. We see no help for the situation unless God pours out his Spirit upon us as a nation. God pity us!—Christian Witness.

THE TOBACCO TEST.

Many people in the South are passing through the tobacco test at this time. The high cost of everything one has to buy makes the temptation to raise tobacco very great, because of the unusually high price that commodity is bringing. Lest we be accused of not understanding the situation in the South, we quote from a Southern authority that ought to command respect in all religious circles, Dr. H. C. Morrison, of Louisville, Ky., editor of the "Pentecostal Herald," who says: "Tobacco is bringing immense sums of money and it means quite a good deal for the man to be true to a Spirit-enlightened conscience, and not give way to the lure of gold. Tobacco is not bread, nor meat, nor drink, nor clothing, nor medicine. It is poison, it is filthy, it is expensive; the use of it is wasteful. The tobacco habit is unclean and repulsive. Among the young it is very destructive; among women it is extremely dangerous; but at the present time it is bringing immense sums of money. Men's souls are being tried; many will yield. Some men claiming the experience of heart holiness can get easy victory over raising tobacco when it sells for six cents a pound, but they will have to pray, perhaps, when it sells for seventy-

five cents per pound; but the principle is the same."—Wesleyan Methodist.

THE NEXT NEED.

"Only by putting our life-blood as a stream of power into the Church organization can the Church be the instrument for saving mankind; it would be a calamity if the Forward Movement ended with the raising of even so magnificent an offering," said Rev. A. Lloyd Smith, addressing the meeting of Toronto workers, held in Central Church, to receive the announcement of the passing of the \$4,000,000 mark. He added that the amount constituted, probably, a world record in per capita givings, surpassing even the American Methodist Centenary.—Christian Guardian.

TOO POPULAR.

The preacher who is universally popular, "whom none know but to love, whom none name but to praise," who has aroused no opposition, who has made no enemies, awakened no unkind criticism, has met with no resistance, had no conflicts, no friction, no storms, all quiet—and universal calm—such a pastorate should awaken every grave suspicions and severe examination; a strong fear else there had been compromise and surrender at vital points—certainly such a pastorate has come into a perilous region, one accursed of our Lord. "Woe unto you when all men speak well of you, for so did their fathers of the false prophets." A bad succession to be in!—Sel.

PRAYER.

The greatest thing anyone can do for God or for man is to pray. It is not the only thing, but it is the chief thing. The great people of the earth today are the people who pray. I do not mean those who talk about prayer; nor let those who they believe in prayer; nor let those who can explain about prayer; but I mean the people who take time to pray. They have not time: it must be taken from something else. That something else is important, very important and pressing, but less pressing than prayer. These are the people who are doing the most for God.—S. D. Gordon.

FIVE CLASSES OF GIVERS.

- He who gives nothing at all.
- He who gives as little as he can spare.
- He who gives as much as he can spare.
- He who gives until it hurts him.
- He who gives because it will hurt him if he does not give.

Not another February in this century with five Sundays in it.

"I will go anywhere, provided it be forward."—David Livingstone.

"Wealth is not the greatest need of missions. God needs the surrendered wills of His children; other things would immediately follow."

"There is money enough in the hands of Church members to sow every acre of earth with the seed of truth."