

## PENTECOST.

By Rev. B. C. Dewey.

We read: "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord" (Zech. 4:6). The place the Holy Spirit holds in all departments of the activities and deliberations of the church and life of its members is either not fully realized or lost sight of. The Bible declares, "We are the habitation of God through the Spirit."

All the mighty fulness of Christ our Lord and God our Father flows to us by the Holy Spirit. Is it sanctification we need? It is by the Spirit. "Being sanctified by the Holy Ghost" (Rom. 15:16) Is it to be renewed? It is by "the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost." Is it "power from on high," or "rivers of living water?" It is by the Holy Spirit. Is it liberty? "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." Is it to scale greater heights and behold the glory of God, and be "changed into the same image from glory to glory?" It is "by the Spirit of the Lord." Do we desire that Christ abide with us that we may be "rooted and grounded in love," that we may be "filled with all the fulness of God?" It will only come by being "strengthened with might by the Spirit in the inner man." Are we to abound in hope? It is "through the power of the Holy Ghost." Do we want to know the deep things of God? We are informed the Holy Spirit "searches all things, yea, the deep things of God," and that He reveals them unto us by His Spirit." Also, Jesus said: "He shall glorify me, for He shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you." If it is teaching and guiding we need, it is by the Spirit. Is there a great work to be performed and men of wisdom and power needed? The Holy Spirit comes upon some one or more, and brings it about.

When the tabernacle was to be made, "the Lord spake unto Moses saying, See I have called by name Bezaleel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; and have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom and in understanding and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship." Does God want a man to deliver Israel? Again and again when they cried unto Him we read that the Spirit of God came upon some one for the work. Is a world to be created? "And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." Is a Redeemer to come and deliver a lost race? God sends Gabriel to a virgin to announce, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee and overshadow thee: therefore that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." Is Christ the Son of God about to enter upon His public ministry? He does not undertake it until the Holy Spirit comes upon Him. And after His temptation in the wilderness, "He returned in the power of the Spirit," and wrought mighty miracles.

He attributes his preaching and work to the Spirit. In the synagogue at Nazareth He opens the Scriptures and reads: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He

hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor." Again, it is written: "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power, who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with Him.

What a place the Spirit occupied in the life of Jesus, and when He came to offer himself up for the sins of the world, He did it through the Spirit. We read, "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the Eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works, to serve the living God" (Heb. 9:14).

The Holy Spirit is the executive of the God-head, and the administrator of the atonement that was made through Him. We were commanded to "wait for the promise of the Father," and to tarry until they were endued with power from on high.

In view of all this, shall we give the Holy Spirit the place He demands in our lives? We are to be "filled with the Spirit," "led by the Spirit," "live in the Spirit," "walk in the Spirit," "pray in the Holy Ghost," and preach with "the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven," "in demonstration of the Spirit and power." These Scriptures make it clear that we should so honor the Holy Spirit that He may rest like a cloud of glory on our general assemblies.—Free Methodist.

## THE FIRE OF PENTECOST.

Daniel Rand Pierce.

Our fathers worshipped God in truth,  
And in the Spirit too,  
And perfect love burned in their hearts,  
In pulpit and in pew;  
Their words were clothed with holy fire,  
They felt what life had cost,  
And sinners wept and plead because  
They knew that they were lost.  
Their preaching was the simple truth;  
Not of the modern kind,  
That treats of some dogmatic fad  
To please the worldly mind,  
But like the words that Peter spake,  
They pierced the sinner through,  
And showed him pardon for his guilt,  
And grace to cleanse him, too.  
They had the Spirit's pow'r within,  
And loved to pray and shout;  
And no one, bearing Jesus' name,  
Once said: "I fear they're out."  
And Christ was there to own and bless,  
Within the hallowed place,  
And overflowed their hearts with love  
And joy and keeping grace.  
The house of God was holy kept;  
Within its sacred walls  
The Devil led no hellish sports,  
No fairs nor festivals.  
No merchandise, by sinners, there  
Was either bought or sold.  
They made and kept their temples pure,  
As Jesus did of old.  
O sad, sad change! Has all the salt  
Its pristine savor lost?  
Shall Satan smother, by his power,  
The fire of Pentecost?  
Ah, no! the arm of God is bare!  
The powers of hell shall see  
That, though the remnant left be small,  
He can give victory!

## THE WORLD'S NEED.

E. O. Hobbs.

A genuine revival of real religion is the world's greatest need. It is needed to spiritualize the church, drive dishonesty from business, destroy crime, create respect for law and observance of same, and save the souls of men. It would do this and much more than we have mentioned; also, it can be had. God longs to send it, and will, when we meet the conditions.

First, it must begin in the ministry. Ministers as a class are splendid men, but we need to draw nigh to God, and pray till our souls are burning with revival fire. Then we will declare saving truth with earnestness and unction; sin will be exposed and routed, and God will come in saving power and glory.

Second, the church must repent of worldliness, carelessness, and spiritual ease; sin must be forsaken and God sought till found, and a personal experience of salvation is obtained.

Third, Christians must seek and obtain the blessing of holiness.

Fourth, We must give ourselves to earnest, continuous, united prayer, and move forward like an army to capture the souls of men. Then God will come in mighty power and hundreds and thousands will be gloriously saved.

## THE PENTECOST! ANOTHER PENTECOST!

This is our need. Dr. Pierson said, "The greatest lack in the Church of God today is the loss of the power of the Holy Ghost." Dr. Buckley said years ago, "There has never been a time since the ascension of our Lord when the need of the Church of just such a baptism of power as came upon her at Pentecost, was as great as now."

1. This is our personal need. We need a personal pentecost—a personal baptism with the Holy Ghost and fire.

2. It is promised: "He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire." Matt. 3:11. "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Acts 1:8.

3. It is to be prayed for and waited for. The disciples learned the secret of power as they tarried ten days in the upper chamber in Jerusalem. When the day of Pentecost came, they received the baptism of power which made them Christians of power. They prayed with power (Acts 4:31). They witnessed with power (Acts 4:33). They worked with power (Acts 5:12-14). The secret of power will never be learned unless there be an "upper chamber," a tarrying, a waiting.

Let us be more watchful and more careful of the small things. Let us not love in deed only, but in truth, knowing that we shall pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that we can do, or any kindness that we can show to any human being, let us do it now, let us not defer or neglect it, for we shall not pass this way again.