

sermons that will stir the devil and put men under conviction and make them feel that sin is sin and that man is polluted with it and that hell is their doom unless they get rid of it. Thank God there is a remedy, the precious blood of Christ. Amen!

It has come to me very often that we allow our human love and sympathy stand in the way of divine love and thus many get into the church without a change of heart. What did Jesus say to the rich young ruler that came to him enquiring the way? He did not let his human love stand between his divine love and pass him as O. K. because he said he had kept the commandments; but Jesus looked on him and loved him for his morality, and then with divine love he told the young man, one thing thou lackest. Go sell all that thou hast and give to the poor, then come and follow me; but he went away sorrowful. Now if Jesus would not pass a man of this standing, how dare ministers preach people into heaven who have not even as good a record as this young man. If people will not submit to the word and will of the Lord, better let them go away sorrowful than have them join the church and be merely cold professors.

I fear these days we have too much trying to put new wine in old bottles or new goods in old garments and it fails to work.

First things First. "Abstain from all appearances of evil."

We must admit that one enemy in a camp is worse than two or three outside, and an unsaved person who is of the world is an enemy, so we have a goodly number in the church. James speaking of a class of professors that had gone flirting with the world said, "Ye adulterers and adulteresses know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." Jas. 4:4.

"Whosoever is born of God overcometh the world. Love not the world neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world the love of the Father is not in him." John 2:15.

Read 2 Cor. 6:14 to 16, and the 17th and 18th verses, "Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord and touch not the unclean thing and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you and ye shall be my sons and daughters saith the Lord Almighty." A thus saith the Lord settles it with me, regardless of what people may say. Amen! Glory to God for His word. Jesus in that memorable prayer found in John 17th, after telling His Father how he had given the disciples the words that He had given him and said that they had received and kept them, he to my mind settled forever the idea that one could be a worldly Christian when he said to the Father twice, "They are not of the world even as I am not of the world." Now in the next breathing, He asks the Father to "Sanctify them through thy truth." Paul in exhorting the Thessalonians in the language of my text, brings out the same thought that a candidate for sanctification must be spiritually enough advanced to abstain

from all appearance of evil or in other words every known sin, renouncing the things of the world and as free from it as Jesus said the disciples were, "then the very God of Peace sanctify you wholly."

One more line of thought in connection with our first text, then we will consider the second, and that is in regard to brotherly love and its opposite. It always was and is still a mystery how two persons in the same town, and perhaps in the same church, both claiming to be Christians and having fellowship with God and yet out of fellowship with each other and not even on speaking terms. Now I feel that from God's word we can find ample proof that they are not Bible Christians.

Let us stick to the word, "Preach the Word." "We know we have passed from death unto life because we love the Brethren."

I have often wondered if the old custom of foot washing was instituted today if it would not be very humiliating for some folk to submit to having their feet washed by some other folk, and can almost hear them say, "Well, I would not let Brother Smith wash my feet." Just as Peter said to Jesus, "Ye shall never wash my feet," and I say to such that have such an unyielding spirit that if they continue in this attitude toward your brother, Jesus will say to you as he did to Peter, "If I wash ye not ye shall have no part with me."

"If I your Lord and Master have washed your feet, ye shall wash one another's feet."

"Wash me and make me thus thine own. Wash me and mine thou art; wash me but not my feet alone, my hand, my head, my heart."

I remember well when I was under deep conviction for my sins, and wanted to be a Christian. Not a joiner, but one genuinely, "Born of the Spirit," that one Sunday afternoon in the Reformed Baptist Church in Hartland I told the people I was going through with God, but I knew of some people that would not speak to me, while I had nothing against them, I was going to go to them and be reconciled. Now you can go a right way and a wrong way in dealing with an enemy. If you go with the intent to make them own up that they are the one that is in the wrong, you have lost, but if you go to them in the spirit of meekness and hold out your hand and say, Friend or Brother, I am here to make all wrongs right, and without any talking over the past, say, 'Will you forgive me so we can be on friendly terms henceforth,' I am confident from personal experience that you will not only win your enemies' forgiveness, but will put them under conviction. The blessed word of God contains that which will settle every problem in life, home, business, nation, church and every other place if we will but heed its directions. "He that saith, he is in the light and hateth his brother is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother, abideth in the light and there is no occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness and walketh in darkness and knoweth not whither he goeth because that darkness has blinded his eyes." I. John 2:9-10-11.

"Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him, hereby perceive we the love of God because he laid down his life for us, we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." I. John 3:15-16.

In writing this first verse reminded me of a meeting the Praying Band held in a Baptist Church some twelve miles from Hartland. The church was nicely packed with seemingly eager listeners. It came my turn, or the other band boys wished me to take the meeting, which I did, taking for a text, "Oh, Israel, return unto the Lord thy God for thou hast fallen by thy iniquity." The Lord did by His Spirit wonderfully help me and blessed me in trying to deliver the truth. I remember I made some references to my own past sinful life and remarked that I had committed all kinds of sins and that I was even a murderer. Well you should have heard the exclamations and seen the looks of that dear people, and you could almost hear them say, "What, a murderer in our pulpit? I said, 'Hold on now, get me right.' You don't have to take your gun, load it, and go out behind a fence and shoot down your fellow man to be a murderer in God's sight. He that hateth his brother is a murderer. Sufficient to say they let me off without my arrest.

I heard of an aged couple that once under some slight provocation got put out with each other and had not spoken to each other for days; while in this sad state the old man took ill and the doctor was summoned, and after a careful examination he prescribed a massage for the sick man, and as the old lady was the only one present she was the one that had to administer. So she took to the task which she performed faithfully and well. Her hands were very bony and rough for a job like this. Yet some things have to come rough at times to bring results. The old man for some time rather than give in and speak, submitted to the treatment thinking no doubt that there would come an end in the near future, but the good woman kept right on with the good work until the old man, nearly out of patience and exhausted in strength, was compelled to give in and cry out in his distress, and say, "Wife, I will have to give up and speak and ask you to stop or soon I will not be able to speak. This is one case where works produced results, but only on the surface. Now I know of cases where church members and professors will not speak to each other and are at variance and it will take more than an outward massage to bring them through. If I believed in carnal means to bring about spiritual results I think in this case I would prescribe two fly blisters over right; but where the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, and we cannot endorse methods like these, yet, praise the Lord, there is a remedy and a cure greater than disease—the precious blood of Christ. Where sin abounds grace does much more abound. And again, "Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone. If he shall hear thee thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee take