

The King's Highway.

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness.

And an Highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holiness—Isa. 35-8.

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SOME OBSERVATIONS ON PENTECOST

In continuing our study of Holiness or Sanctification, we wish to set forth some propositions and sustain them by the Word of God. Everyone who is interested in the deeper things in Christian experience never tires of inquiring into the meaning of Pentecost. It is an outstanding and epoch-making event, and every phase of it is freighted with unusual importance.

If Pentecost was the answer of the prayer of Jesus, as recorded in the seventeenth chapter of John, it meant to the disciples: first, **purity**, "sanctify them;" second, **unity**, or oneness—"that they all may be one;" third a **convincing testimony** "that the world may believe;" fourth, **readiness of glorification**—"that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am." And we may well observe that the Pentecostal experience was not confined or limited to that company assembled in the upper room or to any one generation, "but is for all them also to be sanctified."

Supernatural Manifestations

A great event was transpiring. This was the Pentecost of all Pentecosts. It is only fitting to think that God would mark these epoch-marking events by certain supernatural manifestations. While God was giving the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai, the lightnings flashed and played about while thunders rent its ragged summit, thus terrifying the people by such manifestations until even Moses said, "I exceedingly fear and quake." So at Pentecost, when God was writing His law upon the fleshly tables of the heart, forked tongues of fire played upon their heads, and the sound of a rushing mighty wind filled the house where they were sitting. Thus we see the supernatural on this occasion quite as remarkable as on the former. And the remarkable phenomena of the occasion was augmented by the miracle of speech, which miracle made it possible for everyone present to understand the gospel preached on the day of Pentecost.

Unity Attained

"They were all with one accord." The word in the Greek translated "accord" is the one which is used to express the perfect tuning of the harp, when not a discord remains, but every string is in perfect accord. On the day of Pentecost not a discordant note remained among the Pentecostal company. There had been discord—rivalry, misunderstanding, self-seeking and even jealousy—but none of

these were in evidence as they waited in the upper room for the baptism of the Holy Ghost. And even after that they were free from discord—no more place seeking, selfish interests never again entered into lives which were hid with Christ in God. They entered into a state of perfect unity, even as Jesus prayed. And dear reader, so will we today continue in perfect accord so long as we are obedient unto the heavenly vision, being led by the Holy Ghost. Sanctification makes and keeps us ONE.

Hearts Purified

The unity above described will not continue among unsanctified hearts. But our hearts are purified by faith, as Peter declares God did for them on the day of Pentecost when they were baptised with the Holy Ghost. He declares that God put no difference between the Gentiles and the Jews, but that he also gives the Holy Ghost to the latter just as was given to them (the 120 in the upper room). The Baptism of the Holy Ghost purifies the heart, removing all that is contrary to the will of God, cleansing us from all sin by destroying the carnal, depraved, Adamic nature which remains in us after we have been borne from above, which is not subject to the law of God neither indeed can be. As it is from this carnal nature that all actual sins spring forth in the life of the individual, the only sure remedy for us is to get it cleansed out. Thank God we have a divine remedy, the baptism of the Holy Ghost is like a refiner's fire cleansing our nature from every particle of sin. In this purified heart the Holy Ghost abides, dwells in us and works through us to the praise of His glory. Jesus said of the pure in heart, "They shall see God."

Witnessing Power

Jesus had said that they would receive power after the Holy Ghost was come upon them and that they would be witnesses unto the uttermost part of the earth. Before Pentecost they had been timid and had acted cowardly on more than one occasion, but never after that were they afraid to witness for the Lord the things that God had done for them. The record says, "And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus and great grace was upon them all." And again it says, "They spake the word of God with boldness." They were delivered from the man-fearing spirit. Their hearts were aflame with the holy zeal and the Holy Ghost abiding within gave them power to wit-

ness. Indeed the word witness in the Greek means "martyr" so you see they were not weak-kneed witnesses after the day of Pentecost. But with great power they preached and witnessed so that the people were convinced. The world did believe their testimony.

With Him

This glorious experience fits us to live with Him. When Stephen was being stoned to death he was permitted to look into heaven and see Jesus. He was received up into glory and is now with Jesus for Whom he was a faithful witness (martyr). So everyone that receives and retains this blessed experience will find a place in His presence where there is fulness of joy and at His right hand where there are pleasures for ever more. All who seek and obtain this experience of sanctification will be satisfied when they shall awake in His likeness, that is with a body like the glorified body of Jesus.

The Abiding Gift

The supernatural manifestations which were within the realm of the senses—the forked tongue of fire, the sound of a rushing mighty wind and the miracle of speech—did not remain. Of course God could repeat them any time He should choose. It is not a question of His ability to continue them, but it is a question of His will. But the abiding result of Pentecost was: "They were all filled with the Holy Ghost." The significance of the Pentecostal experience then is **purity, unity and power**—the baptism of the Holy Ghost.—K. in Holiness Banner.

Holiness is not all doctrine; it is a life. Holiness is not all life; it is a protest against sin all about us. It is not only that, but it is a standard of life and doctrine that must be uncompromisingly maintained. It is as much our duty to contend against any letting down of the standard as it is to live holiness in our private life.

There was never but one man—Adam—who was made holy without his own consent and there will never be another. And even Adam could not remain holy without his own consent. If you and I become holy it will not only be with our consent but it will be at our most earnest entreaty and desire.

"There is something better than a revival, and that is a Christian life that doesn't need to be revived."