

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

Hartland P. O.,

Via Paulpietersburg,

Natal, So. Africa,

March 17th, 1925

Dear Homeland Friends:

Just a few lines this morning from Africa to say that God is blessing.

"Mercy drops round us are falling,
But for the showers we plead."

I am so glad to be in this battle for God and holiness. It is a hard one but we are expecting great victory through Jesus the Captain of our salvation. We know that when the banner of "Holiness unto the Lord" is lifted high and we march in obedience to His orders, victory is assured. Glory to God. The devil hates it, but God honors His own truth. The cause of holiness was never so dear to me as it is these days and He is daily showing me the depths and heights of the good old holiness way. Nothing less has ever satisfied my heart and today I love it more than I ever did in my life. Praise the Lord.

These poor natives need it just as we do. The "old man" needs to be crucified in their hearts just as he must be in ours to make them real victors in the Christian life and we are so glad that

"Jesus offers this blest cleansing unto all His children dear,

"Jesus offers this blest cleansing unto all doubt and fear."

Last night we had a touch of real Camp-meeting, it seemed to me. Paulina who has always been a beautiful example of a believer, has recently passed through the experience of the death of the "old man" and has testified to the great change which she has felt in her inward nature. Last night when Faith was having native prayers the dear Lord graciously sent a beautiful out-pouring of the Holy Ghost upon that dear soul who has been walking in all the light He has given her. She has been digging deep, going through at any cost. Those are the ones who get the blessing as we all know.

I had just returned from prayers in the hospital feeling so blest in my own heart and so glad that I was in Africa for Jesus' sake and these precious souls. Paulina's shouts of praise and joy attracted our attention. George was here, and we went down with him to partake in what was going on. We found all present and Paulina standing in the hut praising God with all the powers of her ransomed being. It was a real out-pouring of the Spirit and it was beautiful to see and feel the power of God so manifested in this dear native girl. How she praised God for deliverance from the carnal mind and the wonderful victory which had come to her life and described to us how Jesus had manifested Himself to her at this time. It was as though a rain fell upon her bringing with it such a sense of the Divine presence that her whole soul was filled with love and the precious wounds of Jesus were revealed to her in such a beautiful way as being so sufficient for all her spiritual needs, and not hers only. All around her were included in this manifestation of Divine love. Other souls were seeking God and weeping before Him, and it was a precious time. We trust that many others will go through the

death route and get the victory. We are praying for a real visitation of God in this place and we know you will not fail to pray with and for us at this time. When conditions are met we believe we will have a revival such as our hearts are longing to see, souls born into the Kingdom of God and believers sanctified by the Holy Ghost. We cannot be satisfied with less than this when Jesus has purchased it with His precious blood. The results we look for do not come easy, we know it means much prayer, fastings and the searchlight of the dear Holy Spirit, but we are in His hands for this service and His will is what we desire above all things else. Keep on praying for us, dear ones.

We do not forget the dear homeland in this conflict and the dear ones who are standing by us.

Yours under the precious blood,

ALICE F. STERRITT.

THE PRIZE OF PHIL. 3.

Rev. H. C. Sanders

At the age of sixteen I was awarded the prize, in a large school, for making the most progress during the winter term. I well remember how I studied evenings and before daylight. Before me now lies that gift, "Pilgrim's Progress," with the proper inscription on the fly leaf, written by my teacher, Mr. A. J. McKennon.

With still more appreciation, I recall the many encouraging words he gave me from time to time. It was he who inspired me with the belief that I could secure an education and live a worth-while life. I would very much like to see and thank him now; and confess that, previous to meeting him, I had very little ambition for an education.

As I was then encouraged by kind words and an offered prize, so the Apostle Paul endeavors to inspire the saints of Philippi with a holy ambition to excel. The "Prize" of their "high calling" is held up to their view, while the conditions are emphasized in earnest appeal.

First, "that I may know Him" not by strenuous study, but by revelation, as the Holy Spirit who "shall not speak of Himself," makes Christ real to the soul and crowns Him their "Kings of Kings and Lord of Lords."

The Holy Spirit then leads the sanctified soul on to the second condition, "fellowship of His sufferings," which points to Gethsemane. Here the three who loved Christ most were led nearer the scene of His soul agony. Paul, I take it, was thinking of the garden experience and finds his soul stirred to its deepest depths. O, that he had been there! That he might have been near that bowed Form, to watch and pray in fellowship, and sympathise with Him whose soul was "sorrowful, even unto death."

This "death" too the apostle covets. Not only would he follow Christ to Gethsemane, but to Calvary, "being made comfortable unto His death:" which is the final qualification to the obtaining of the "prize."

Only the enlightened vision can grasp this deepest of deep truths. Therefore, he says, "let . . . as many as be perfect be thus minded."

This is what Christ teaches in His message. "Be thou faithful unto death." He means not only until death, but faithful in following Him to Calvary, via Gethsemane. Then only can one say, "I am crucified with Christ."

Beloved, pray for the enlightened vision, for this experience of conformity unto His death is a thousand leagues beyond conversion, where we first knew Christ as our Saviour, who washed us from our sins in His own precious blood. It is far beyond the "upper room" where we received the "cloven tongues of fire," purifying from sin and dross, and empowering for life and service. Consecration, entire, irrevocable, and internal, came in between Jordan and Pentecost. But now, at Pentecost we begin to see some thing away in advance, that was invisible until we reached this gate to the Highway of Holiness.

It is our goal, "the prize of our high calling of God, in Christ Jesus." We should look about to see if there is anything more we should cast aside and leave behind, so we may the better press forward towards the "prize"—the resurrection out from among the dead.

And yet there is a still brighter side to this "prize," the rapture of the Saints, "who are alive and remain" when Christ appears to take away His waiting and watching Bride. Our gaze, beloved, should be upward toward the sky, and not towards the grave. At any moment, night or day, He may appear to us "who wait for Him."

In the meantime we shall find abundant opportunity to "be faithful unto death." The privilege will be granted us to watch with Him in Gethsemane. As we agonize there, He will be with us. We shall hear His voice, "Fear not;" and feel the comfort of His "right hand," holding us securely, and leading on to Calvary. "For it is given unto us. . . to suffer with Christ," and to "fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ."

Then follows Joseph's tomb and "the power of His resurrection," verse 10. This is one of the great mysteries, but is revealed unto us by the Holy Spirit, who enlightens our eyes that we may know (Eph. 1:17-23) "the exceeding greatness of His (resurrection) power to us-ward who believe."

This brings us to our closing thought, that of service. The most efficient service is rendered by those who are "crucified with Christ," and now have Him living in them, manifesting His life, and resurrection power through "us who are kept by the power of God through faith . . . ready to be revealed" "when He shall appear."

H. C. S.

Visionary men are one thing: men of vision are another. The first are unreliable, the second trustworthy.

The greatest hindrances to the evangelization of the world are those within church.—John R. Mott.

"Though all men desire, yet few attain happiness because they seek it where it is not to be found."