

former cinema theatre, we had soon to rent the largest concert halls in the city, until the need of our own spacious building was evident, which by this time has been finished, and was dedicated on the 7th of August, 1927, for the winning of souls, under the name of the Salvation Temple. The Temple, as well as the adjoining "Mission House," is throbbing with joyful life and activity for the Lord. A revival Bible-school with over fifty students has been established as one of the branches of the work, every student having become imbued with the spirit of revival and soul-winning. And wherever they go on Sundays, and on other occasions, to hold meetings, crowds of people gather, in rented theatres and in barns, or in the open. Everywhere there is revival in the air, because the atmosphere of a revival is the presence of God with His people.—Selected.

#### WELLS AND RIVERS OF LIVING WATER

Joseph H. Smith

Christianity has a two-fold benefit to humanity: Wherever it obtains and in proportion as it obtains, it acts like yeast to bread—it raises civilization and standards of living personally and in business and in society. The bread is not transmuted into yeast, but it is lightened by its property. The world is not transmuted into the Kingdom of Christ; but it is elevated by its influence.

And secondly: Christianity is as a tree of life, grown from very small beginnings, but become the greatest in earth, within shelter of which the weary and wind-tossed of earth may find rest.

They are not all Christians who partake of the benefits of Christianity in their country or their community and their home; but all true Christians favor and further all the benefits of the gospel to humanity at large: and are on the right side of every moral question by voice and vote as well as example and practice, yet they themselves "look for a better country."

So manifest is the benefit of spiritual religion upon society in general, that we venture the security of the 18th amendment, the restraint of the terrible crime that sweeps over our land, and the lifting of our business depression will be best assured by a nation-wide revival of Holy Ghost Religion.

Evolution may figure in the physical, material and legislative benefits of the gospel to the world at large: but the vital things of individual salvation are matters of instant precipitation: for this generation of eternity-bound souls is to pass away in a night, and our urgent calling is "to serve the present age." Educationalism, Legislation, Reformation and Civilization may follow on in their train but none of these is the major business of the church or the main work of the ministry. Evangelization—the actual and immediate salvation of men's souls is our imperative calling:

"I sent you to reap" is the Master's mandate.

We said, "immediate salvation of souls" and would here call attention to the suddenness or swiftness of the conversions recorded in Scripture. Some 3000 who had never before listened to the gospel were saved in a single day. A little later some 5,000 such in one afternoon. The chief persecutor of the early church, is preaching the gospel he once destroyed, in about 3 days from when he was stricken down on the Damascus road. His jail-

er at Philippi and the whole family were converted between midnight and early breakfast time. Zaccheus, from a curiosity seeking political grafter, perhaps, is at the feet of Jesus, renouncing his sins and starting a big Christian philanthropy all in one day and in time to take the Lord home to dine and lodge at his house.

And here by a well in Samaria we find a lowly woman transformed into a Christian exhorter, leading the men of the town out to a two-day revival all within the hour she had gone to draw water for the noonday meal.

Mortality will outstrip Christianity in men's race to eternity unless there is a this day salvation for lost men.

Here are figures of two great phases of "LIVING WATERS"

Salvation under the type of:—

No difference at all between the waters.

And scarcely any likeness whatever between—"A Well" and "Rivers."

One is "within." The others are flowing "out of them."

The first is to spring up into the eternal life of the soul receiving it.

The second is pouring out to bless the parched and thirsty world, through the souls that are cleansed and opened up for its flow. The former is bestowed for the asking of the penitent suppliant. The latter is the heritage of the obedient believer received by the intercession of his glorified high priest. We will consider:—

I. The sinner's estate at the time it is found by the Saviour.

II. The conditions proposed by Him for salvation.

III. The proofs of a saved state.

This is well illustrated here in the case of this woman of Samaria who was not altogether without some religious ideas, a superstitious veneration for the patriarchs, an idolatrous esteem of order or place—as this mountain of worship, a prejudice or bigotry towards religion of others, and a vague anticipation of the coming of some one as a Messiah to enlighten and deliver.

Yet in the common drudgeries of life: living in sin—and yet in sin perhaps so common and condoned as to attract little attention of others or consciousness or shame to herself; and brought unawares and by surprise into the presence of God.

Christ's humanity brings him within reach of such. His infirmity, as of thirst, leads him to ask drink of the woman.

Responding to the surprise questions of the woman He states the threefold condition requisite for a sinner's salvation:—two of knowledge; one of prayer.

"If thou knowest the gift of God," that is the gospel. And we must tell them that "and who it is that saith unto thee," etc. And this he showed himself to her as: 1. a good man; 2. a greater than the patriarch; 3. a prophet; 4. the Christ.

And we, too, must proclaim him and reflect him as such. Ever the Son of God and the Saviour of the world.

"Thou wouldst have asked"—this is the sinner's part. "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Religious Education has its place but will not fill the place of a penitent's supplication. Inquiry rooms may help, but there must be mourner's benches. The woman soon cried: "Lord give me this water."

And her state of salvation is evidenced by these four facts:—

1. Her confession of a sinful life. "I have no husband"—to which the Lord added his affirmation of her guilt. "Thou hadst told the truth he is not thy husband."

2. Her prompt obedience: Leaving her water pot, she ran to declare him and call the men.

3. Her testimony, "I have found one who told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ?"

4. Her starting a revival. First they believed in Christ because of her word. And then because at her word. And then because at her instance, they had come and heard him for themselves.

5. The blessing thus received in so short a time was meant and calculated to continue unto everlasting life. And this, the soul-salvation of the individual, is our foremost purpose and calling. Mass meetings may now, as then, soon and surely follow but our first attention is not to humanity but to a man; not to organization, but to personal salvation. Sharing the Lord's valuation of one single soul will impel us to more and more personal evangelism—if we will but keep in mind the distinction between church joining and the salvation of a man.

And while we can not do it justice, we must not close without a few moments with the Lord in the last great days of a feast. For here both the water to drink, and the rivers to outflow are proclaimed.

Again, we remark, it is the same, the very same water that he offers them who are thirsty to drink, as that which he promises shall flow as rivers from the inmost parts of those who believe. Both are the "Living Waters." But this last he promised not as he did the "drink" to the thirsty throng, or as he had bestowed as a well springing up to everlasting life to the Samaritan woman; but (upon his own glorification as the right hand of the Father) they who believe should be made the channels for his Spirit outpouring upon the desert earth.

The conditions for this were: first, that divine condition of his glorification as our High Priest, and second, the tarrying of his disciples for this "the promise of the Father." These two conditions were met—in heaven by Him, and in the upper room at Jerusalem by them—and the Holy Spirit was outpoured. And has been flowing ever since wherever there are believers who have tarried till by faith in the precious blood they are cleansed. God has made river-beds of their hearts through their passion for souls, and by their passion to live for Christ himself.

But alas! alas! the world about us so dry and keeps thirsting so because the church has missed the Fountain of Living Waters.—Heart and Life.

God's mercies are a fountain which flows without pause. He "delighteth in mercy."—Newman Hall.

#### REPENTANCE

The man who misses repentance will miss everything. If your repentance is shallow, your religious life will be shallow. If your coming to Christ does not mean everything, you will not get everything. If your surrender is not complete, you cannot receive. If your hands are full, you cannot take hold.—Gipsy Smith.