

with us for a few services and Licentiate A. D. Cann was with us on Sunday, June 5th, which closed the series.

We feel that much good was accomplished, and we press on to continue the battle against sin.

Naturally, we were much disappointed, not being able to continue with our engaged workers. Nevertheless, those who came to help proved a blessing, and we appreciate their services.

Yours for souls,

L. T. SABINE

OUR NEED—MORE TALENT OR MORE SPIRIT

(A Pastor's Meditation)

I couldn't sleep tonight. This is early Monday morning. Sunday services are just over, and like many other preachers, my mind wanders back over the work of the past day. My morning sermon subject was "The Need of the Hour—Entire Sanctification." And, oh, how my heart yearns for all my members to seek and find the glorious blessing of holiness! I have tried to close my eyes and sleep but my mind returns to this subject.

It is my happy privilege to be pastor of one of the largest and best churches in the Southland. We have a beautiful, commodious, brick building with everything arranged for the helpful worship of God. Our people here are of the highest type; they love the doctrines of our great movement and are back of its program one hundred per cent. However, the greatest feature of our church here is our array of singing talent, trained singers who have wonderful voices. Also, we have some young people with talent to speak. They can make a speech that will equal anything the pastor can do. The main point I wish to emphasize is that we have a world of talent, talent that is anxious to do things at all times and to assist in all parts of our religious program.

I had a young man say to me last week, "Preacher, what our church needs is more talent, for that is our weakness." I have meditated on that statement ever since, asking myself such questions as these, "Do our preachers need to be more talented?" Do we need more talented singers and workers?" I have come to the conclusion that our young people should find their talents and train them, for this is the best route to real success. Also, I wouldn't belittle an endeavor to get some good new talent into our church, for we all can use more no matter how much we may have. But it is my conclusion that it is not exactly more talent that we need but the divine endowing, indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit and His anointing on the talent we already have. Oh, how my heart yearns to see all our talent melted, broken and mellow through a complete yielding to the Holy Ghost! May I go a little farther and make this statement. It may seem a little radical, but nevertheless it is true, in our spiritual service, talent not yielded to God is no talent at all. They may sing with glorious musical melodies, yet unless that voice is wholly given to God the talent is wasted so far as things spiritual are concerned. But have you ever heard a real talented person sing with the Holy Spirit on his song? There is a thrill to that song that you can never forget. One can have talent and use it for some good and to help somewhat, but if that same talent were yielded to God,

what a mighty moving power it could be for God and in this world.

People sometimes say, "What we need in our church is a new preacher, for ours is dead. We need a new song leader, for our present one is too formal. We need a new Sunday School superintendent or N. Y. P. S. and W. M. S. president if we are ever to make it." This may be true under some conditions, but many times it isn't the need. More often the need is not a new pastor, but more of God on the pastor we already have. Many times a congregation can remedy this by spending much time on their knees before God. Someone has said, "The curse that God puts on a prayerless congregation is poor sermons." Maybe we need to pray for more of God's anointing on our present pastor. Many times it isn't new special singing or a new song leader that we need, but more of the Holy Spirit on the great host of singers we already have. Not a new Sunday School superintendent, or N. Y. P. S. or W. M. S. president, but a greater passion to serve God by those we already have. Even some preachers may say, "What I need now is a new congregation, so I'll just move to another place." Many times moving on is the easy way, yet not God's way. More often it isn't a new congregation we preachers need, but it is a mighty outpouring of the Holy Ghost upon our present congregation. Often this is not a natural man's job, but we must yield to the supernatural for our victory.

And so I cry to God from the very depths of my soul for a mighty stream of glorious victory, direct from the Holy Spirit, to fill and to control all of our great host of talented young men and young women. My prayer is, "Oh, God help us to recognize that no matter how marvelous our talents may be, we are complete failures unless endued with the power of the Holy Ghost—so break in upon us, melt us and move our hearts until we shall always be completely yielded to Thee." Amen! —Selected.

SUCCESS

Joseph H. Smith

I think of no life as having been successful that has made a failure of getting to heaven.

When one who has grown great enough to employ thousands of men in manufacturing industries, and rich enough to leave endowment for hundreds of public libraries, comes towards his sunset saying, "I owe more to Shakespeare than to Jesus Christ," I esteem him a failure in life.

And when one whose mastery of science and by his inventive genius has given light to all earth's dark nights, though deaf himself, has captured currents of sound in the air that men, listening may hear all around the world, tells us as he is about to go, "I know nothing of immortality and have never seen a happy man," I must sadly pronounce that man's life a failure.

And though as at Athens, or some other Mar's Hill, they have come to "learn every new thing," but must build their monument "to the unknown God," their lives have failed.

Or those who have amassed such wealth that they are now employing lawyers and specialists to help them hide it from the tax collector, and are limited, at length, to the cost of a great funeral, and the price of a burying lot, and a bronze coffin in the use of it, as they themselves slip off to a realm

where there is neither taxes, nor bonds, nor rental properties, it is evident their lives have been failures.

For what is our life? What is it for? These "three score years and ten"—what are they but a minute fraction of the endless duration of the inextinguishable spirit our life is subject of? Is our life in time for anything else than our forming acquaintance with the everlasting God; and the working out of our own salvation? And for the acquiring capital for our occupation hereafter, and laying up treasures and forming social circle for ourselves in heaven?

For many men of this and all generations it is the fact that their ambitions, achievements, and accumulations are now but in the junk heap of forgotten pages of history.

But some have succeeded. Of course, from what I have said, it will be understood I am speaking only of the Christian life. I know of no other life that can possibly be successful. Any other is a failure as to God's design for man; and as to man's possibilities for God, and for the world in which he finds himself. The fact that many have made a failure even of the Christian life is but fresh proof that mankind in this our fallen estate is ever but an inevitable failure; and that it will require of any one of us to let Christianity do all it is purposed and promised to do for us to make a success of our life.

But notwithstanding, it is true as already recognized that, "Many are called, but few are chosen." That much gospel seed may be lost by the wayside, much again withered on shallow ground, and perhaps much more choked by the cares, riches and pleasures of this life, yet the great multitude which John saw that no man could number, and who in heavenly bliss were shouting Salvation! is evidence that "Christ shall see the travail of his soul and be satisfied." It is proof too that a man—any man may make a success of life if he will but let the Spirit of God be his guide and his helper.

Peter in one of his epistles publishes an insurance policy by which he guarantees a three fold success if its conditions are met. For he says, If ye do these things:

- (1) "Ye shall never fail."
- (2) "Ye shall neither be barren or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."
- (3) "An entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ."

—Christian Witness.

KEEP IN MIND

That we have nothing which we did not receive, therefore boasting is excluded.

That we are stewards of what God has entrusted to us. As stewards we will be called to give account to God.

That the prospects are as bright as the promises of God.

That faith honors God and God honors faith. That we are not serving men, but the Lord Jesus Christ.

That our bodies are the temples of the Holy Ghost.

That God expects much of us who have the light of true holiness.

That we are on the winning side, if we are on the Lord's side.

That we are our brother's keeper.

That now is the day of salvation, but the door of mercy may be shut at any moment.

—Standard Bearer of Bible Holiness