

### MAKING LIGHT OF CHRIST AND HIS SALVATION

"And they made light of it." Matt. 22:5. Christ and His salvation is being made light of today by many who would deny the fact if they were cornered about it. This is being done by dead, drowsy preachers who either never were called of God and who never have seen the need of lifting up a standard sufficient to get the people to Heaven's shore, or let down, and backslidden since they were called. Such preachers have a dangerous influence over those whom they contact.

Full salvation is being made light of by those in the holiness ranks who have never received a revelation of their heart's need and consequently have never had a perfect abhorrence and horror of the inward nature of sin in their hearts. They have never experienced that desperate turning of themselves over completely to the working of the Holy Ghost who leads the soul into a perfect, conscious cleansing from inbred sin as He fills the heart with His purifying presence.

What a different attitude people take toward the things which are thought of lightly and those which they highly honor. Things which are highly honored are constantly remembered. Are we always thinking of Christ and His salvation, and do we have them on our minds while we are going through the daily routine of life? Those things which are highly honored will naturally be a matter of discourse. Do we talk about the realities of God's salvation in such a way that it would make the non-believer desire it? It grieves us to see the things of great value and things we highly honor treated with disrespect. How does it affect us when we see the looseness that is prevalent and the general lowering of Bible standards among those who profess to have the Holy Ghost, whether they are in our church or not? Are we inclined to defend them or do we stand in opposition to their actions?

The people of the world today think no pains too great to obtain that which they consider of great value. No price seems too dear for them to pay. I wonder how many today are putting forth as great an effort to know God's will and receive His best for their lives. Are we, down in our hearts, satisfied to go on without possessing the precious presence of the Spirit of God?

Think of the effort which has been and is being put forth to have a deeper understanding of the mysteries in the natural realm from which have come things which have greatly benefitted humanity! Even so a true Christian is always a student striving to know all he can about God and spiritual things.

Those things which people are delighted to possess are constantly presented to their friends. They are never satisfied until their aunt, uncle, father, mother, brother or sister, have it, too. Do we act as if we have the best there is for the people in this life? Or are we ashamed before our ungodly friends and relatives to tell them how wonderful it is to know Jesus, and to be rid of that warped, twisted, blasting nature with which all are infected until the refining fire of the Holy Ghost comes and burns up the dross.

The question is, are we in any way making light of the masterpiece of God's work—full and complete salvation from all sin? Many who would not think of slighting an angel, or

even a good, godly, Spirit-filled man, will make light of the fact that they can be made pure in their tempers, thoughts, words and actions by having their hearts filled with God's Spirit. Their sin is even greater due to the fact they profess to know the Lord and claim to be walking with Him. They are making light of God's own perfect salvation, which only can make them ready for Heaven. If they continue to do so He will profess unto them, "I never knew you."

People will not always make light of God's full salvation. In that Great Day, God will not only take from them that which they have valued so highly, but will also deny them His salvation which they have lightly esteemed.—W. Bramble, Covington, Ky.

### THE DISGRACE OF MODERN HOLINESS

Many people today are deploring the fact that worldliness is claiming the greater part of their church. Not much of a standard is being held for the young people. Modest dressing is considered a non-essential; necking and petting parties are now allowed among young people who profess holiness. They will stand and testify to being saved and sanctified, while they chew gum in a young people's service and smile about their testimonies when they sit down. Divorce and remarriage is a very ordinary occurrence.

What are the parents doing about it? The majority of them profess to be getting grace (?) to become reconciled to these conditions. It is not considered so bad for these days. Even those who once severely condemned these things are becoming accustomed to them. It is considered unChristlike to disagree with the popular trend. Unity is considered more essential than purity.

What will the end be? The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against such wickedness in the name of holiness. "Except the Lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah." (Isaiah 1:9).

### AN INFIDEL DISCIPLE

Voltaire believed that he had dealt a death-blow to Christianity. He had a young disciple named La Harpe, whose genius and gifted pen he expected would complete whatever needed still to be done in the way of demolition. He regarded the young aristocrat and literateur as his successor in the terrible work. The time came when France reaped the harvest which Voltaire had sown. The French Revolution broke out, and La Harpe was cast with a host of others into prison. He and the rest awaiting death did what they could "to drive dull care away." But time hung heavy on the young man's hands.

No literature found its way into prison, but one old gentleman had a book which was his constant companion, and of which he never seemed to tire. It was a Bible. La Harpe begged a loan of it. Its perusal startled him. "Here," he said "is everything to excite curiosity; and here is also everything to satisfy it!" His life was saved and he himself was converted to God. He came out of prison to build the faith which his master had hoped he would utterly destroy.—E. S. D., in *The Christian Witness*.

Let us so live that Jesus abides in our hearts; then we can bear fruit pleasing to Him.

### "SENT FORTH BY THE HOLY GHOST"

It is not only God's thought to call and send forth workers, but it is also His thought to make others share in the responsibility of such a call. God begins by having His own pray that He will send forth laborers into His harvest. This puts every praying heart in the attitude of responding to a call should it come to them personally, and it also makes the ones who prayed feel responsible for standing by those whom God calls in answer to their prayers.

Therefore God hath chosen to make His call clear to more than one individual. It may take some time before the perfection of God's call is revealed by the Holy Ghost to others. Those who fail to abide God's time have to do a lot of talking about their call before others are convinced. They also have to do a lot of agitating to get and keep the urgency of their call on those whom they depend for support.

Why is there so much strain about such? Many have failed to wait until they were sent forth by the Holy Ghost. They have had and are having to do, in convincing others, what the Holy Ghost would have done had they waited till God opened the way.

We read in Acts, chapter thirteen, that a band of people were just ministering unto the Lord and fasting, when the Holy Ghost revealed to them the call of Barnabas and Saul unto missionary work. They had to do something about this call just as these missionaries did. They must plan to send them in order to keep clear before God. These on whom God was laying the responsibility of standing by whoever they sent forth must be convinced the call was of God. There will be times when things get so hard that everyone must know that God was responsible for all that was done. They fasted and prayed more. They all trembled under the responsibility laid on them. It might cost the lives of those going and again if they failed to fully get God's mind His perfect plan would be marred.

How precious is that hour when the Holy Ghost assures all who know Him that such steps are divinely ordered. God never plans a failure. He plans success even if it costs suffering, privation, isolation, tears and death.

They "laid their hands on them." These were the leaders of the home bands. By this act they were declaring that the home bands were now convinced by the Spirit that they were sharing the responsibility of the call. The Bible says, "They sent them away," but they were only obeying divine orders so in reality they were "being sent forth by the Holy Ghost."

Premature inspirations often lead into confusion. Moses felt a call and started out in his own strength forty years ahead of God's time. But there is no confusion among those who have the Holy Ghost when enough time is given so that the mind of the Lord is clearly found. He convinces all concerned.—E. A. Gafford.

All the works of God in redemption avail nothing without the presence, power and operation of the Holy Spirit. Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit. Luke 1:35; He was led of the Spirit. Luke 4:2; He was offered to God through the eternal Spirit, Heb. 9:14; He was quickened (resurrected) by the Spirit, I. Peter 3:18; and when He was exalted at the right hand of the Father He sent forth the Holy Ghost who fully prepares the Bride for the rapture.

Victory and glory are ahead for those who are true to Christ at any cost.