

querable. Pray, Sis! Pray as you never prayed before. Tell everyone to pray. Tell all America to go on its knees!

"Before each decisive victory anywhere over here, sometimes for hours—sometimes for days, there has been a feeling of people praying from far away. The feeling is so strong you can hear it. One of the most stubborn of the men said, in the stillness of the night, 'Did you hear anything? Sounded like people praying from some distant place. Must be hearin' things in this dead place!'"

"So pray, everyone. It will have to come from afar. No one prays in this land of utter desolation. God has turned away from the horror and destruction man has brought down upon himself. Again, I plead, Tell America to pray! This war will not end until nations and people have paid in blood and tears for thrusting God out of their hearts and countries. And tell them to send Bibles, and more Bibles. A Bible gives a soldier confidence that God is with him.

"I'd like to have this letter broadcast over every radio in America. Try to get it on the air and printed in the papers. Make copies of it. Send it from coast to coast. Tell them the Army wants prayers and Bibles.

"And you complacent, bridge-playing, cocktail-drinking mothers, why didn't you teach your son about God instead of handing him a cigarette and a dance program? Get to your knees and ask God to forgive your sins—and then pray for the Army. Pray, Pray, PRAY! And you preachers, why didn't you teach the people to pray? Only repentance for sins can stop the shelling, the killing and the murdering.

"I could go on, but I am so tired, so weary—but so happy to see them coming to God one by one. So tell them to keep on praying. And when you send things to your boys, send Bibles. They want Bibles.

"Your loving brother, "Lieutenant——"

GOD'S PERFECT MAN

J. W. Veal

"There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God and eschewed evil." Job. 1:1.

The opposers of holiness often say, "Show us one who is a perfect Christian. We desire to behold just one." All right, here is one whom God, Himself, branded as a perfect man. God never lies; God never overestimates or underestimates a character. Therefore, when God says a man is perfect, it is so. We may not believe it or be able to see it, but nevertheless, it is true. "That man was perfect."

1. However, he was not perfect in the estimation of the devil. Satan looked upon Job as a scheming, self-seeking soul who served God because God rewarded him richly for such service. Hence, Satan said, "Doth Job fear God for naught? Hast not thou made an hedge about him and about his house and about all that he hath on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands and his substance is increased in the land. But put forth thine hand now and touch all that he hath and he will curse thee to thy face." But Job was a far better and stronger man than the devil thought he was. So is every Spirit-filled believer. The devil is a poor judge of Christian perfection and so are his children.

2. He was not perfect in the eyes of Mrs. Job. I say Mrs. Job instead of Sister Job because if she ever had any salvation she lost it when trouble came. So many break

with God in times of tribulation. When she lost out, her pious husband was nothing less than a perfect believer. She thought he was soft, too submissive. Hear her language. "Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God and die." But a companion who has never known God or drifted from God would hardly recognize sainthood, even in her mother.

3. Again, he was not perfect in the eyes of his miserable comforters. In those days the people thought that one's trouble was in proportion to his wickedness and since Job had more sorrow and heartache than any other person, he was the most wicked man of his day. It is quite difficult to be perfect in the eyes of our friends.

4. Still further, Job was not perfect in his own thoughts of himself. He said, "If I shall say I am perfect, he will prove me perverse." He knew his faults, failings, limitations too well.

God sees Christian perfection where others do not see it. God beholds perfect Christianity in our love, in our motive, and it is not what others think about us or what we think about ourselves that counts so much, but what is our standing.

I see Christian perfection in his uprightness. If holiness does any work in us, it makes us honest, truthful, just, upright, consistent, conscientious, holy believers. It is written of Zacharias and Elizabeth, "And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless." So does full salvation enable us to live. John says, "We keep his commandments and do those things that the pleasing in His sight." This is Bible holiness. Are we upright?

I see perfect love in his fear of God. It is said of the wicked, "There is no fear of God before their eyes." One said, "There is no fear of God in this place." What a terrible place it must have been. Christian perfection consists of fearing God more than we fear all else, living in constant dread of grieving or offending God. It says, "I have a principle within of jealous godly fear." What about your fear of doing wrong?

I see Christian perfection in Job's hatred of evil. The Book says, "And eschewed evil." The Word says, "Ye that love the Lord hate evil." Rev. 2:6 says, "Thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans which I also hate." God is not only a lover but also an unchangeable hater. He hates all sin and if we are like Him, we will hate sin enough to be against it, fight it, cry out against evil, expose it, and not practice it. What do we hate? How much do we hate? How long do we hate?

I see holiness in his perfect submission to the unusual providence of God. After Job lost his flocks and his children, the Book says, "Then Job arose and rent his mantle and shaved his head and fell down upon the ground and worshipped. And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither. The Lord hath taken away: blessed be the name of the Lord. In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly." This submission to God under such an unparalleled test satisfies me that he was more than an ordinary Christian. He was all that God said. "That man was perfect."

I see Christian perfection in the attitude of his will in the matter of faith. "Though he slay me, yet will I trust him." Surely he was delivered from the evil heart of unbelief. Paul writes, "See that there be in none of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the

living God." His will was on the side of trusting God. When he could not see or understand, he said, "I won't doubt God." Any soul who fully trusts God under such bitter circumstances has a perfect faith, and a perfect faith makes a perfect Christian. "Lord, give us such a faith as this, and then whate'er may come, we'll taste even here, the hallowed bliss of an eternal home."

I see Christian perfection in his matchless patience. James says, "But let patience have her perfect work that ye may be perfect and entire wanting nothing." Also James writes, "Ye have heard of the patience of Job and have seen the end of the Lord, that the Lord is very pitiful and of tender mercy." This is the last grace in which most people measure up. Job came up to the divine standard. Who will say he lacked a clean heart?

I see Christian perfection in his ability to hold his tongue. "In all this did not Job sin with lips." James says, "If any man offend not in word the same is a perfect man and able also to bridle the whole body." Can we keep silent when silence is golden? Our example could, "And as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth." Let us not be like the sister who asked Bud Robinson, "Why do I get sanctified every summer, and backslide every winter?" Bud said, "Sister, your mouth is always open." "But," you may ask, "Did not Job, for a time, fall far below what you have written of him?" Yes, but so far as I know, for years and years he lived in unbroken fellowship with God, and how quickly he got back to God. He humbled himself. "Then Job answered the Lord and said Behold, I am vile, what shall I answer thee? I will lay mine hand upon my mouth, once have I spoken but I will not answer yea, twice but I will proceed no further." Such a spirit will always find God. "And the Lord turned the captivity of Job when he prayed for his friends: also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before." "So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning." Thank the Lord, He can bless us more in old age and at the close of life than in the early days of our Christian life. This is the way it works with some of us. These are the most delightful, most enjoyable, most victorious days of our religious experience. Hallelujah! Praise the good Lord! Amen!—Christian Witness.

AT THE CROSSROADS

He stood at the crossroads all alone,  
The sunrise in his face,  
He had no thought for the world unknown—  
He was set for a manly race.  
But the road stretched east and the road stretched west,  
And the boy didn't know which road was best.  
So he took the wrong road and went down,  
And he lost the race and the victor's crown.  
He was caught at last in an angry snare,  
For no one stood at the crossroads there,  
To show him the better road.  
Another day, at the self-same place,  
A boy with high hopes stood;  
He, too, was set for a manly race—  
He was seeking the things that are good.  
But one was there who the roads did know,  
And that one showed him which way to go;  
So he turned away from the road that went down,  
And he won the race, and the victor's crown.  
He walks today the highway fair,  
Because one stood at the crossroads there,  
To show him the better road.