

TEMPERED TRUTHS

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In our two preceding articles we wrote of the privilege and necessity of beholding through the Word, the Godhead, as is therein revealed. God, the Father, as the Determining God, and God the Son, as the Redeeming God, making the subject-matter for those articles. The third Person in the Godhead, the Holy Ghost, is also very fully revealed in the Scriptures. He is therein revealed as the Active God. Someone has said, that the fifth book in the New Testament, the Acts of the Apostles, might well be called "The Acts of the Holy Ghost." This is the nature of the Holy Ghost as seen throughout the Scriptures.

The first introduction we have to the Holy Spirit, He is actively engaged in the work of Creation. "The earth was without form and void. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be." From the first chapter of the first Book of the Old Testament to the closing chapter of the last Book of the New Testament, the Holy Spirit is constantly revealed as the energising, life-giving, active Agent of the Godhead. "My Spirit shall not always strive with man." "The Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him." "The Spirit of the Lord clothed Himself with Gideon." I believe it was Samuel Chadwick that said, "Christ, in His ministry on earth, emptied Himself of His Divine Prerogatives and lived and wrought by the power of the Holy Ghost." Consider these scriptures: "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, for He hath anointed Me," "He was led of the Spirit into the wilderness," "But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you," "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the Eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God." These, with many other like scriptures, show how closely associated was the Ministry of the Spirit with the whole work of Christ.

The Scriptures show the Holy Spirit to be the Active God in the work of Salvation. Christ having promised the Spirit as His love-gift to the Church proceeds to outline the work which the Spirit will do. "When He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." "He will lead you into all truth, for He will take the things of Mine and will reveal them unto you." "But tarry ye in Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high." "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto Me." "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot see the kingdom of God." As we have above stated, the whole Book of the Acts is a history of the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Here, He is "purifying hearts," "enduing with power," "separating chosen workmen. In fact, directing and supervising the whole work of God on earth. Being omnipotent He has power, being Omniscient, He has wisdom, being Omnipresent, He is everywhere. Having access to the full resources of grace, He is never embarrassed by the needs confronting Him. "He is able to do exceeding, abundantly, above all we ask or think." He inspires prayer and praise; He

"helpeth our infirmities;" He witnesseth to the sinner's pardon, and to the believer's sanctification; He makes the preached Word powerful, and the Provisions of Calvary actual. And with all, His supreme work is to "glorify" Christ. "He will not speak of Himself," were the words of Christ concerning Him. To keep Christ and the things of Christ prominent in men's minds is the supreme work of the Spirit. Hence our need of honoring Him, entertaining Him, heeding His words. He who gave the word is alone able to interpret the same to our hearts. There is an understanding that Spirit-filled souls have which even "the princes of this world" do not possess. "But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and know all things," says the Apostle John. The natural man is not schooled to discern the things of God. The Spirit, however, gives insight into even "the deep things of God."

To make possible this benefit to men of earth, Jesus Christ went the way of the Cross. "It is expedient for you that I go away, for if I go not away the Comforter will not come." Here, Jesus has reference to the manner of His going more than to the fact of His going. Going by the way of the Cross would make possible the coming of the Comforter to execute the mighty work of Salvation in the hearts of men—a Salvation that justifies freely and sanctifies holy. In the Word we have the privilege of knowing the Presence, the Person, and the Ministries of the Holy Ghost. "But we all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

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Our work at the hospital keeps much the same. Yesterday I was examining a patient and every question I would ask her, she would say, mina? -I gave her pills and vitaminized oil but she said she did not have money to pay for it all, so we took the oil back. Then she decided to take it, and some salve and another bottle of medicine for her child. By the time I finished with her I was really tired. In the morning we had examined several people and made up different stock solutions as time afforded. The work is very interesting.

We have a young girl here who had been very ill at home. She has been with us about a month and a half now, and seems to be improving some. We were not certain what was wrong with her. Several days ago, the doctor was out here to examine a case that had been suspected of leprosy, so we asked him to examine this girl. He is very kind and did several people for us that day. He told us that this girl has bacterial endocarditis which is a very serious heart condition. She professes to be a Christian, and has been very cheerful and uncomplaining all through her illness. We are asking God to raise her up if it is His will.

We have had several babies very ill with pneumonia and dysentery, but all recovered with treatment. We had a poor little baby here the other day, only two weeks old, so thin and scrawny. It was nursing from a bottle of sour milk. They are strong believers in sour milk, these natives. But I hope the mother won't give it any more. When she left, she asked if she should boil the water before giving it to the baby. Please pray that we shall be able to get the Gospel across to these people as they come with their illnesses, and as we give medicine

and try to instill a few rules of hygiene into their minds.

Charles has just arrived home from his meeting at the out-post. They did not have it in the kraal that they usually do, but went on a mile or so farther and had it in the kraal of a woman who is ill. The yhad a good meeting. It was a warm ride, but Charlie was better off than the other worker for he went on horseback, and Philemon had to push a bicycle. There was a dry, hot wind today and Charlie was very thirsty and tired, but happy that he had been able to tell the story of Jesus once again.

God bless you all.

Yours, happy in the Service of the King,

MYRA SANDERS

THE CHRISTMAS NIGHT

I should like to have heard the angels sing,
On the first great Christmas morn,
To have knelt and listened to music so sweet,
O'er the Babe in Bethlehem born.

But I may sing of that Babe today
Oh, so tender, so kind, so fair
And the angels still gladden our Christmas
morn,
And sing in our midnight air.

I should like to have seen that manger crib,
To have knelt before that shrine
To have laid my gift at those tender feet,
And have worshipped the Babe divine.

But I may worship that Babe today,
And as truly my Christmas see,
For His presence is now my Bethlehem,
And His love shall my carol be.

—Selected

THE MORNING STAR

Annie Johnson Flint

When the evils of earth were greatest
The Christ-child came from afar;
When the night of the world was darkest
Shone forth the Bethlehem Star;
Glory and peace was its message,
Love and goodwill to men—
A peace beyond their making,
A love beyond their ken.

Long has the vexed world waited
The peace that He came to bring;
Long have the turbulent peoples
Looked for a righteous king;
Long has His sad creation
Waited redemption's word;
Long have His faithful servants
Watched for their absent Lord.

Long—but the time draws nearer,
The Bridegroom comes from afar;
When the night of the age is darkest
We shall see the Morning Star.
Evil is growing stronger,
And hearts are sick with fear;
But our hope is growing brighter,
For we know that the hour is near.

Faint in the dark skies gleaming,
Faint on the roaring seas,
But it heralds the dawn of glory
And it hastens the day of peace—
The glory, the peace He is bringing,
The King who comes from afar;
And to Him who overcometh
He will give the Morning Star.