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when he knocks. He is too much of a gentleman to invade the sacred rights of your soul without first asking for admission. Climb down, abdicate, hand over the reigns of your life, and say to the sovereign King of kings, and Lord of lords, "Come in, blessed Lord. Set up thy government within my heart. Lay down the principles of obedience within my soul. What anybody else will do, I cannot say, but I am the custodian and keeper of my own soul. Here I am; take control. For whatever Thou dost do in or for me, Thou shalt have the glory."

When we have those principles of obedience in our hearts, so that we say, like Peter, "We ought to obey God," we don't sell out for a morsel of meat, or whimper when we hear a dog barking. I don't take the barking of a dog to be the roaring of a lion, nor the firing of a popgun to be the crack of doom. I have nothing to be scared about. "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil," for He is with me. That's it. When you say to the sovereign Lord, "Come in, and take over," He will do it. He is willing to come in the minute you want Him.

How wonderful it is to have those principles of obedience laid down on the inside! Then the temptations and the appeals of the world look ridiculous. People have said to me, "Well Brother Anderson, I just gave up." But what did you get when you gave us? What have you now? If it can take the sting out of death, if it can take the victory out of the grave, if it can keep you out of Hell, if it can guarantee a passport to Heaven, if it can bring you an answer to your prayers, let me see it. I want to advertise it for sale. Have you anything better than God is? Do you know anything that can give you more pleasure than the pleasure of God? Do you know of anyone who can stand by you in the hours of trial as God will stand with you? Do you know of anyone who has ever given you more sure promises, and given you hope as an anchor of your soul to help you in the hours of stress?

Not only is our obedience to be to the sovereignty of our Lord, but we cannot escape the fact of the necessity of His Saviourhood, "Him hath God exalted to be . . . Saviour." The word translated "Saviour" comes from Deliverer and Defender. Jesus is in Himself the one qualified not only to deliver us out of the hands of our enemies, but to defend us when He has taken us into His charge.

I travel around a good deal on my imagination. It doesn't cost anything and it isn't crowded. I climbed on my imagination not long ago and hurried back into the deep past, and stood on the shores of the Red Sea on the morning after the deliverance of the Israelites. I looked at Miriam beating on her tambourine and celebrating with her choir, singing about deliverance. One of those Hebrews came up, and pointed out into the tide, and said, "See that corpse? That was my taskmaster. He beat me, he cursed me, he kicked me, he mistreated me! But now look at him. He's lying dead in the tide where I came across, and I am clean delivered out of his hands." Then he joined the choir. How blessed it is to know that we have been delivered from our taskmasters that held us in the bondage of sin, and dictated to us the way we should live. In the Saviour we found happy deliver-

and a perplexity as involved as a dish of spaghetti, but God knows how to straighten you out, and kiss away all the guilt of your yesterdays, and give you sweet peace out of His own heart.

Peter said in his testimony that in the Saviourhood of Jesus He gave to us repentance and forgiveness. How wonderful it is! Perhaps you have read those words rather rapidly. Perhaps they have not seized upon you with their important meaning. Think about the fact that God has given to us repentance. What if you could not repent? What if things were so fixed that you could not change your course in the way of sin? What if you could never feel any compunction of conscience, any conviction of sin, any desire or wish to be better or different from what you are? What if you were caught on the tide of sin that carries its human freightage over the precipice, and there were no way to change your course, and you were carried into an everlasting Hell? We climbed into sin, but we could not crawl out. We waded into its current, but we could not extricate ourselves from its mire. There was nothing we could do but admit the fact that we had faltered and failed and disappointed God and deserved to be damned, but God gave us a chance to repent. He gave us the opportunity to change our course of living. He gave us the chance to show Him we were sorry for the way we lived.

It is no easy thing to repent. Repentance is something more than shedding a few tears at a mourner's bench, feeling sorry because you've been caught. Repentance is the deepest remorse of the immortal soul that can be awakened by the Spirit of the living God. It involves something more than a sorrow for your sins; it involves the fact that you have undergone, by your own volition and choice, a determination to turn away from the course that you have been pursuing and the life that you have been living. You are through with it you have washed your hands of it. You refuse to participate in it any further, and you cry to God Almighty for help.

The tragedy is that you can get to the place after a while where you can't change. There are a lot of people who will listen to preaching but who will never repent. They have no intention of it, and God is not going to bother them any more about it. Their character is just as much fixed as if they were already damned. They only await the last heartbeat to reach the destiny to which sin will bring them. I have seen people whom I know have been living in adultery for years, and they could stand up without any compunction of conscience, as if they had nothing against them. There are people who have besmeared other people's character, and can get up and testify and not have any compunction about it. Some of them will never straighten up their crooked lives and try to restore that which they have taken by false accusation or by scheme, but they will meet their own record at the judgment and be damned forever. God has given us a chance to change.

Dr. H. C. Morrison used to tell about when he was an orphan. He and a half sister stayed with an aunt of theirs, and it was their duty to do the chores of the morning and the evening. He said that one evening as he came in from doing his chores he threw a stick into a group of goslings and killed one of them. He buried it hastily under some trash, but his sister saw him do it. Then when it came time

to get the water from the spring, she said, "Henry, you get the water." He said, "I won't do it. That's your job." She said, "I'll tell." He got the water. He did all her work. She blackmailed him and took every penny he could earn. She made his life unbearable, until one day he went to his aunt, and laid his head on her lap, and sobbed out his story. She put her hand on his head and said, "Henry, your peace of mind is worth more than all the goslings. Don't worry about it any more." Wasn't it wonderful that the lad could find a place to repent? Suppose his aunt had been adamant, and refused to forgive him. What misery he would have nursed in his childish heart. The next day when his sister said, "Get the water," he said, "I'll not do it." She said, "I'll tell." He answered, "Go and tell. I've already told it."

Some of us have sobbed out our sordid story on the lap of God, and He has been patient to listen to our prayer of repentance. Then He laid his nail-scarred hands on our head, and said, "Your peace of mind is worth more than my own Blood." And from that time on, Satan has had no claim on us. We have been forgiven. No wonder we shout, we have something to shout about. It is wonderful to know your case can be settled out of court. That is the reason Paul jumped up and down, and shouted, "Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth," or "Who can get a case in court against the sin that has been thrown out for want of evidence?" When a man can go home with something like that in his heart, he has something. He may not know where his next meal is coming from, but he knows this—if he dies that day he will be in New Jerusalem before they get to his funeral.

Now obedience is not only to the sovereignty of our Lord and to the Saviourhood of our Lord but likewise to the Spirit of our Lord. I meet people who have a great deal of distress trying to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, seeking to get sanctified. God wants your obedience. You can't receive the Holy Ghost as you receive any other gift. If someone hands me a dollar bill and says, "This is yours, I give it to you," I become the custodian of it and may spend it for certain things that I may need. But when I say to the Holy Ghost, "I receive Thee," He receives me. I don't dominate Him. He governs me. I don't expend Him, He expends me. I hand Him the keys to every room in my personality. I don't try to keep hidden from Him one secret place. I give Him the sovereign right to explore my whole personality, and fill it with Himself. When He does that, He sweetly whispers, "I have come to abide."

Oh, yes, you can receive Him by obedience. And I'll say this—you can't retain Him without obedience. You are to be perfectly resigned to His will, heed His faintest whisper, and respond to every check. You are to keep up the things pertaining to spiritual life, you are to be continuous in your obedience. There is tragedy all about us because numbers of people have not continued in their obedience to the Holy Spirit, and they are suffering the results. Perhaps many of them do not know what their difficulty is. Well, they can trace it to the fact that they have not been obedient.

God is wonderfully good. You ought to obey Him. He will give pardon to them that obey Him. He will give the Holy Ghost to them that obey Him.