

The State of the Sanctified

By W. E. Green

(Continued)

Let us notice that true holiness is the fruit of the life delivered from sin, and has been engaged in the service of God. The third aspect of Romans 6:22 is, "ye have your FRUIT UNTO HOLINESS." Let us here ask the third great question of the chapter: "What fruit had ye in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? (v 21). This question is answered by describing the bitterness of the life of sin, which was characterized by servitude and shame; by depravity of the soul and guilt. It was a life which ended in shame.

"BUT NOW ye have your fruit unto holiness." The principle of the heart must ever be holiness, if we would bear righteous fruit. We believe that the fruitbearing life is the dedicated life. It is the life with all of its talents consecrated to the whole will of God. It is the life which produces fruit for every occasion in life. Every day of the year, we must bear fruit—fruit for every day, every hour, every occasion. But what fruit are the sanctified to bear? What is the fruit of holiness? Turn your attention to Galatians 5:22-23: "But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance . . ." If these fruits are not found in the believer, there is evidence that the life is still dominated by sin. The thrilling fact concerning this matter is that we may possess these fruits continually. In discharging our responsibilities in society we shall be called upon to face varied circumstances. One situation will require the fruit of love. Another circumstance may call for a manifestation of our joy, while another may test our gentleness, our faith, our meekness.

Let us personify an orchard. Suppose all those professing to be bearing fruit unto holiness represent trees in this orchard. Each tree bears its own fruit. Some of the trees may have branches grafted in so that they might bear different kinds of fruit. The true holiness fruitbearing tree will have branches bearing all of the fruit of the spirit. Now suppose some wandering one from the world comes to your tree to pluck a fruit to meet their need. They pluck from the branch bearing the fruit of love only to find that self has not been slain and the fruit is bitter to their taste. Another is seeking joy but finds the tree is barren. The wayward one comes seeking peace only to find that he has to be directed to another tree. Many people are in need of us exercising the graces of longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, but find so often that the tree bearing the name of holiness is barren and unfruitful. What a sad picture. The fruit of faith, meekness and temperance are so often lacking. Why are these trees so barren? Let us refer you to Jesus and His parable of the vine. In the 15th chapter of St. John's Gospel where we have a true picture of the fruit bearing life. Jesus said, "I am the true vine and My father is the husbandman." Every branch that was fruitless was cast away. These branches which bore fruit were purged that they might produce a greater yield. Here is the answer to the complaint of the church today, which seems to be perplexity over the fact that comparatively few people are bearing fruit in the church. Purging is the answer to the need. As Dr. Zwemer says, "Only as the knife cuts deep is there a promise of a cluster of grapes." Our

prayer is that God shall be pleased with the fruit we bear; and may we be willing to prune our lives so as to make them produce fruit unto holiness. By pruning and allowing the Holy Spirit to purge our lives, we shall produce fruit unto holiness and thus gain the reward of the fruitbearing life, which is everlasting life.

Let us seek for deliverance from sin, and engage all our talents in the service of God that we may bear fruit unto holiness.

For ever present cleansing Lord,
Our constant prayer shall be.
Fill full our hearts with love,
That Holiness our fruit shall be.

Our Need For Today

By C. D. M. Sanders

A great reservoir brimming full of crystal clear water, supplying water for power and for irrigation.

One outlet leading a torrent of water to turn great turbines which generate an abundant supply of electricity for nearby and distant homes, towns and factories. A second doorway releasing a steady, silent, swift flow of water to near and distant fields of abundant fruitfulness.

Have you ever thought of this illustration as typifying the Holy Spirit in His Life giving, and life empowering presence in the Church of Christ?

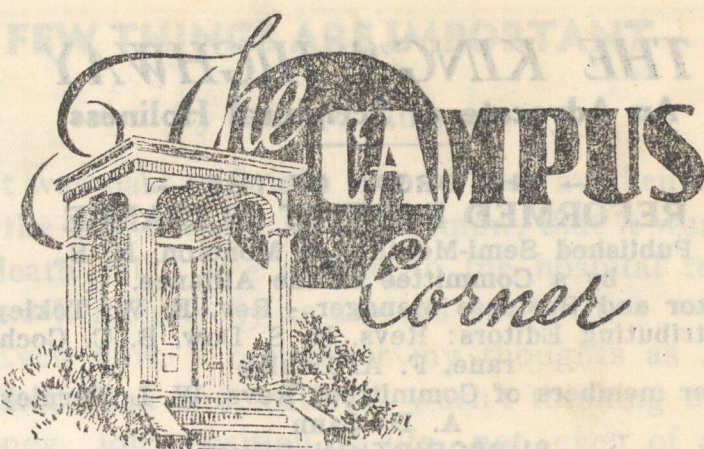
Let us read Acts 13:2-4: "As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. So they being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Selucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus."

A picture of normal, early church life, is given in these few sentences. Life in its most natural form for this, Holy Ghost Dispensation. God and man working together. The Holy Ghost filling, calling and directing. Man harmonizing his will with the will of God, and thus giving his own will its highest possible expression. Man hearing the call and command of God and responding gladly and without hesitation.

Then we see the blending of the human and the Divine. The two messengers sent forth, after prayer and fasting, and the laying on of hands. One verse ends saying: "And when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away." The next verse begins: "So they being sent forth by the Holy Ghost departed . . ." The following record of Missionary success is proof of the dynamic force of men filled with the Holy Ghost.

We find the counterpart to this picture on the day of Pentecost. We find the pathetic contrast, in the story of human failure, when Christ was in the agony of the Garden of Gethsemane, and at His betrayal, at the mock-trial, and at the crucifixion.

This reveals to us that man alone is of little influence in the great spiritual battle of world evangelism. But man plus God becomes an irresistible force. And the secret is found in the words, "... filled with the Holy Ghost . . ." Of Barnabas it is said: Chapter 11:24: "For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith; and much people was added unto the Lord." And of Paul: Chapter 13:9: "Then Saul, (who also is called Paul), filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him," (and you



ALL OUT FOR BETHANY BIBLE COLLEGE

By Clarence D. Dow

From the pen of a laymen only, it is my purpose to bring before all our churches at this time, the wonderful choice we made when we had the courage to launch out into the deep and start a new and much needed phase of our work, which is known as Bethany Bible College.

For some time now we have had Bethany Bible College and only God will be able to register the value of such a fine school and college. It is for us to put all we have into the backing of our college, first by our prayers and then by our giving, that we might not only see Bethany survive, but that we will hold this phase of our work open to meet the new demands being placed upon us.

It has been my personal belief that we will hold that which we have as churches but our needs can only be met as an expanding denomination through the medium of Bethany Bible College.

On a general look at world conditions and knowing the lack of God in most of our high schools and colleges, it should then intensify our efforts as churches to see that our church budget relative to Bethany Bible College has not been neglected, but rather let us adopt the slogan—"We shall exceed our budget for Bethany."

ONE LITTLE LIFE

Just one little life to live,
So today
I will pray
That each word and act of mine
May reflect the Christ Divine,
Whom I love.

Just one little life to give,
As the day
Wears away,
And in faith I look to see
What this life shall bring to me,
When 'tis done.

Just one little life to live
Soon I'll wait
By yon gate
Just beyond which mansions lay,
There I'll wait for God to say,
"Welcome home!"

—Selected

can read the rest of the account, as to what followed). I find in the margin that Saul means Destroyer and that Paul means Worker. These two words give a good summary of Paul's life. But the important part is that they were "filled with the Holy Ghost."

As a Missionary-minded people, having a great desire to help evangelize the heathen world, we have here a most thrilling picture of what the home church, and the body of Missionaries should be. It is not hard to imagine what the results would be on the various fronts, at home and abroad, if we could come up to this ideal pattern. Whereunto we have attained let us praise God, and press on to the place where He can do greater things through us. The world is waiting, and, dying, out yonder in the night of sin.