- Editorial THE 23rd PSALM (2)

The Twenty-Third Psalm is not only associated with beauty. It is beautiful itself. Its beauty reveals God in a manner that is understandable to every creature. This beauty is revealed in the many translations of the psalm as well as many paraphrased portions for many callings. Captain J. H. Roberts paraphrased the Psalm like this:

"The Lord is my pilot; I shall not drift.

He lighteth me across the dark waters;

He steereth me in deep channels;

He keepeth my log.

He guideth me by the star of holiness for His Name-sake.

Yea though I sail in the thunder and tempests of life, I shall dread no danger, for Thou art with me:

Thy love and Thy care they shelter me.

Thou preparest a harbour before me in the homeland of eternity;

Thou anointest the waves with oil,

My ship rideth calmly. Idd vd aluga vasar 10

Surely sunlight and starlight shall favour me on the voyage I take.

And I shall rest in the port of My God forever."

These renderings of the psalm may be helpful, but the greatest meaning of the psalm is revealed when we think of it as the Shepherd psalm. Thus the Psalmist has helped many to bear their burdens; and has brightened the way for those who have put their trust in God.

* * * THE WITNESS OF THE SPIRIT TO SIN

by H. T. Davis

The first office of the Holy Ghost is to witness to the heart of the sinner the great part of his lost condition.

Christ says: "When He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment" (John 16:8) The marginal reading is "convince." He will "convince" the world of sin."

The Holy Ghost unconditionally convicts every man of sin and of the need of pardon. But the Holy Ghost does not unconditionally convert man. Man is a free moral agent. He has the power to yield to the hllowed influences of the Holy Ghost, or repel them. He can walk in the light God gives him, or he can refuse to walk in that light.

THE ABUNDANT LIFE

From "Holiness Echoes"

"I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10).

As the west-bound traveller speeds over the Alleghanies his watchful gaze can hardly fail to note the gleaming surface of a little artificial lake whose azure-tinted waters mirroring the skies above, add much to the beauty of the great railroad system which shares our native state. This lakelet is the reservoir which furnishes water to a busy neighbouring city, and is fed by a mountain stream of modest supply. In the drought of last summer the infilling stream dwindled to a tiny thread; the waters of the reservoir sank to their lowest limits; and all the ills of a protracted water famine, with its constant menace

to health and home, beset the city. The most rigid economy was urged by the authorities. The water was cut off save for a few hours per day. Not a hundred miles from this city lies a smaller one nestling also among the mountains. In this very centre bursts forth a natural fountain of unlimited abundance and marvelous beauty. In the summer of drought this famous spring furnished the thirsty city with a fullest supply and then still overflowed over its waste-weir a sparkling, leaking stream of water earning right royally the privilege of not only refreshing with its waters, but of Christening with its own name the city of "The Beautiful Fountain." The larger city had water. But the small one had it more abundantly. The reservoir prouded enough to save from keen thirst. But the living bubbling fountain, pouring forth its liquid wealth for its native town, and had still enough to slake the thirst of a city many times the size of its greater neighbour.

Even so it is with the life of the Holy Spirit in God's children. Some have His indwelling life only as a trickling stream with scarce enough to keep and refresh them at times of test and stress, and never knowing what His fullness means. Others there are in whom the words of Jesus are joyfully fulfilled: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly (more abundantly). Not only are they filled with the Spirit in their own inner life, but they overflow in abundant, outgiving blessing to the hungry and thirsty lives about them that seek to know the secret of their refreshing.

ONE SERMON LEADS TO 1,000 CONVERSIONS

Stephen Grellet was directed by the Spirit of God to take a long journey into the back woods of America and preach to some wood-cutters. Going direct to the place told him of in his prayers, he found a number of shanties but to his surprise there was silence. The timber-cutters had gone deeper into the forest finding a large shanty, he entered, and though there appeared to be no one in sight or hearing, yet following the inward impulse which was strong upon him, he preached the Gospel. Years passed and Grellet heard nothing of his visit. One day, walking across London Bridge, in England, a man somewhat rudely took hold of him, "I have found you at last; I have got you at last, have I?" "Friend," said Stephen Grellet, "I think you are mistaken." "But I'm not," said the man. "Did you not preach on a certain day at a certain place in the back woods of America?" "Yes", said the great man, "but I saw not one there to listen". "I was there; I was the ganger of the woodmen. We had moved further into the forest. I discovered that I had left my lever, so, setting my men to work, I went back for my instrument. As I approached the old place I heard a voice, and saw you through the chinks of the timber walls. I listened to you and was deeply convinced of sin, but I left and went back to my men. The arrow stuck fast. I had no Bible. I felt more and more wretched. At last I possessed myself of the sacred treasure. I read till I found words whereby I obtained eternal life. I told my men the same blessed news, and they were all converted to God. Three of them became missionaries, and", added the strange man, "I became possessed of a desire to tell you that your sermon had led to the conversion of at least one thousand souls."

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