

"When Christ Sanctified Me"

John S. Inskip, after many years of being hostile to a profession of personal sanctification, was led to preach, much against his feelings, from Hebrews 12:1—"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us." He had unusual liberty, and his appeals were uncommonly pointed and direct. He urged upon his people the duty and importance of immediate and decisive action. The culminating point was reached, and in the most vehement manner he exclaimed: "Brethren, lay aside every weight! Do it now. You can do it now, and therefore should do it. It is your privilege, and therefore your duty at this present moment to make a consecration of your all to God, and declare you will henceforth be wholly and forever the Lord's!" He sought to make this point clear, and emphasized it with increased earnestness. "Let us now lay aside every weight," he said, "and the sin which doth so easily beset us." He dwelt upon the thought; and as he continued to urge the admonition, a voice within said, "Do it yourself." He paused a moment, and the admonition was repeated, "Do it yourself, and do it now."

Must he turn away from his own teaching, and urge others to do what he would not do himself? He could, consistently, do nothing else but obey. He believed most fully in the correctness of the views he had presented, and urged his people to adopt. As an honest man he could not do otherwise than lead in their practical observance. He was not long in deciding what course to pursue. In the same earnest manner he said: "Come, brethren, follow your pastor. I call Heaven and earth to witness that I now declare I will be henceforth wholly and forever the Lord's." Having gone so far as to give himself to God in an "everlasting covenant," his faith gathered strength, and "looking unto Jesus," he exclaimed with unutterable rapture, "I am, O Lord! wholly and forever thine!" In this act of mingled consecration and faith, the great work was accomplished, and he was then and there divinely assured of its consummation. The bliss, the peace, the triumph of that hour, he never lost sight of. It was to him a new life.

He records in his journal: "My soul was indeed wonderfully blessed. I cannot tell when I was ever more filled with the Spirit." As yet he had not formulated the blessing received. He only knew that he had given all, and that God had come in and filled the human temple. In the evening of that memorable day, he witnessed about twenty souls at his altar seeking salvation, eight of whom found peace. He says: "It was truly a wonderful time." He attended the Preachers' Meeting the next day, but does not seem to have found any special pleasure in it, or in the political movements of the hour. "Matters of this sort," he says, "do not so much interest me just now. My mind and heart are absorbed in the great work of God which has commenced among us. This fills my soul with wondrous delight. My mind, I trust, is in good condition to labor. I have laid all upon the altar. The sacrifice through Jesus my Advocate will be accepted. Praise the Lord!"

Up to this time there had been no marked indications of a revival among the people. But, as we have seen, the same night after God had fully sanctified his soul, eight persons were converted. The revival continued until more than three hundred were converted, and a large number fully sanctified, and a special meeting for the promotion of holiness established and held weekly in the parsonage. The change came upon him so suddenly, and in some respects unexpectedly, that at first he did not seem to be able to adjust himself to his new experience. He does not say that God had perfected him in love, or sanctified him wholly. "Wholly and forever the

The King's Highway

Lord's," seemed to, as indeed it did, cover the whole ground. But his joy became so great, and his peace so deep and abiding, and his heart so filled and fired with love, that he could not refrain. He seeks the company of the holy, and confesses the Lord Jesus as his perfect Saviour.

From "The Life of Rev. John S. Inskip"
by W. MacDonald and John E. Searles.

I Was On Death Row

by William S. Deal

I found myself on death row, fearfully awaiting execution. For those who have broken the law must pay the penalty of their crime.

Orphaned when but ten years old, life had been hard and the future looked anything but bright. I had experienced all kinds of frustrations, and temptations of every kind had presented themselves. Ill-clad and often hungry, frequently other better-dressed youngsters, poked fun at me. The lack of sympathy for a poor orphaned boy in those days did not help matters; so naturally, sinning of an abominable kind became easy at an early age.

Forced by circumstances to be away from home, I soon began swearing, lying, and telling ungodly stories, for I was associating with a generally corrupt crowd.

At this time I attended a church meeting and was persuaded into making a profession of religion. I had, however, not turned to Christ, but had merely been pressed to say I would trust him. As a result, I was in worse condition than before. Drifting further on toward perdition, I gave up all hope of ever being a Christian. In fact, I told friends that I expected to be dead and in hell before I was twenty-one. So gloomy were my future prospects. In such a state of mind one is likely to do anything.

Then one day I wandered into a gospel tent meeting and sat near the back. The man of God shot an arrow of truth into my heart. He announced with the solemnity of eternity that God Almighty had sent his Son to the world to save men, and that those who refused him were "condemned already" because they had "not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:18). He further asserted that God had declared that "the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). But that was not all. He shouted "The soul that sinneth, it shall die!" (Ezek. 18:4). "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish!" (Luke 13:3).

Hopelessly I sat there realizing as never before that I was condemned to eternal death. I was as truly on death row that memorable night as if I had been in the state prison awaiting execution.

Seeing my helpless position and facing eternal ruin, I cried to God for forgiveness. I confessed my sins and my guilt; and in the name of Jesus, his Son, who had died to save me, I asked for pardon. He freely granted it for the sake of his dear Son.

With that pardon in my possession I walked out of that gospel tent-courtroom, a happy, free-hearted boy, redeemed by the blood of the Son of God. I had been saved from worse than death row—eternal destruction—but at a fearful cost. It cost Christ's life on the cross at Calvary.

In "Pilgrim Holiness Advocate"

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All around us are opportunities for loving service for Christ, and in His Name, and yet how often we allow the days to slip away without any effort to save the unsaved, to comfort the sorrowing, to lift the burdens of those who are cast down, or to strengthen and help the despondent. All this would reflect the love of Christ in us.

F. J. Horsefield.