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Tongues of Fire

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4-1-1897

## Tongues of Fire, Vol. 3, No. 07

Frank W. Sandford

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### Recommended Citation

Sandford, Frank W., "Tongues of Fire, Vol. 3, No. 07" (1897). *Tongues of Fire*. 6.  
<https://scarab.bates.edu/tonguesoffire/6>

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# TONGUES OF FIRE

From the World's Evangelization Crusade on Apostolic Principles.

"Ye shall receive the power of the Holy Ghost coming upon you . . . and be witnesses unto me . . . unto the uttermost part of the earth."

"There appeared . . . tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them."

Vol. III. No. 7.

Lisbon Falls, Maine, April 1, 1897.

Entered at the P. O. at Lisbon Falls, Me.  
as second-class mail matter.

"Beloved, I was constrained to write unto you, exhorting you to contend earnestly for the Faith, which was once for all delivered unto the saints.—R.V.

## Tongues of Fire

Is published semi-monthly in the interests of the speedy evangelization of the world on Apostolic Principles.

Editor, F. W. Sandford, Bible School, Lisbon Falls, Me.

PRICE \$1.00 IN ADVANCE.

In clubs of ten, 75 cents, which with the address of subscriber, should be sent to the Editor.

Subscriptions begin July or January. Back numbers sent.

## Editorial.

### THE MIRACULOUS.

THE following quotations from true men of God reveal the cry among the saints of the Most High, for the supernatural, a cry that is sounding out with increased power throughout the length and breadth of the spiritual world.

Geo. F. Pentecost, D.D., writes:

"It is refreshing to turn away from the elaborate and cumbersome methods devised by men, which seem rather to have hindered the work of the Lord, to the simple methods of the Spirit under which such marvelous progress was made in the Apostolic age. It might be of incalculable benefit to the church and the world, if we could and would have the courage to return to these primitive methods. We see no reason why they are not as good for our time as for the times of Paul and Barnabas."

A. J. Gordon, D.D., made the following statement on this subject:

"The world dislikes the recurrence of miracles. Yes, without question. For the world which 'by reason knew not God' is very jealous of everything which it cannot explain or reproduce. A miracle is something very embarrassing to mock pro-

fessors. Doubtless; for it brings such, uncomfortably near to God. . . . The Church in every direction needs to be reshaped to the Apostolic model and reinvested with the Apostolic powers. For is it not apparent that between the indignant clamor of skeptics against primitive miracles, and the stern frowning of theologians upon any alleged modern miracle, the Lord's people are in danger of being frightened out of their faith in the supernatural?"

"In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established. 2 Cor. 13: 1.

Jesus Christ said, "These signs shall follow them that believe, in my name shall they cast out devils: they shall speak with new tongues: they shall take up serpents: and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them: they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover."

The scarcity of these signs is the measure of our unbelief. The Apostles adhered so strictly to the promises of their Lord, that they had special prayers for special miracles.

Acts 4: 29, "And now Lord, grant unto thy servants that with all boldness they may speak thy word, by stretching forth thy hand to heal: and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus."

That God endorsed their petition, is proved not only by the fact that the "place was shaken" by the power of the Holy Ghost, but that "by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people . . . insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one."

This gospel is not the *Apostles'* gospel, but is called by inspiration, "the everlasting" or age lasting gospel. We read that just before Jesus Christ comes, "the spirits of demons working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Rev. 16: 14. This is but the devil's mimicry of what God is at that time to do. But it is with the same mighty signs and wonders that "the everlasting gospel" of Rev. 14: 6-7 is to be proclaimed to "every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." The mightiest signs and wonders this world has

ever seen are just ahead of us. The "two witnesses" are to have power to do miracles, and to bring plagues upon the earth "as often as they will" (Rev. 11: 6). As it is distinctly stated in the seventh verse that they are to be martyred by the Antichrist. We know that this is yet future. Such unlimited miracle power will bring around them a band of people "fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners," who will go forth to the evangelization of this world in the power of "the everlasting gospel." This Apostolic company, having unlimited miracle power, will be preceded in the world by the two mighty miracles of the raising of the "dead in Christ," and the transformation of the living believers, and the translation of both at our Lord's coming in the clouds. That will be followed by the personal coming of Jesus in great power and glory back to the earth with this same company of previously translated saints. Then Antichrist will be cast into the lake of fire, his army destroyed, Satan bound, and the world blessed for a thousand years, with the personal reign of our Lord Jesus Christ, together with those who with mighty signs and wonders had prepared the way for the coming of the King and kingdom.

*To that extent that you are to be used in preparing the way for this glorious result, you are today moving on in*  
THE MIRACULOUS.

### "GOING ON STILL."

OF THE "Father of the faithful" in his first missionary emigration to Canaan, we read, "Abram journeyed, *going on still* toward the south." It is a wonderful thing for one of his descendants to "also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham;" and with joy we insert the letter below, from *God's* and therefore one of *our* missionaries, *en route* for Africa. Some Christian people sent across the water from this country, a representative to secure evidence of our sister Glassey's gift of tongues. Provided this gift was proven genuine, it was proposed to have her return to this country to still further verify the supernatural, with the understanding that funds would *then* be furnished to send the whole party to their far distant destination. Upon hearing of this scheme, the Bible School most earnestly besought God to protect these dear ones from the shameful spectacle of exhibiting God-given gifts for the sake of *money*, even though that money was to be used in reaching a missionary field.

The following letter will show how the prayers of Christ and His people prevailed with God; and prove that these dear ones are "GOING ON STILL."

16 Lloyd St., Liverpool, Eng., Mar. 10th 1897.

DEAR BROTHER SANDFORD

AND BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE LORD:

I cannot tell you with what joy we read your many letters. It was such a comfort to know that there was a little band of Holy Ghost people who understood and was one with us. *We have met so few who have any sympathy with us.*

Some would try to persuade us to go to the American Consul to be sent back to America. But glory to God! He gave us grace to bear all their insults and to say, "No man putting his

hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." How blessed it is to have the privilege of *standing firm for God* in this dark world of sin! The Lord has made us workers together with Him. We must walk very gently and carefully before Him, in order to hear His voice at all times, and in order to glorify Him in all things. We must give the Holy Ghost a listening ear. In order to do this, I find I must walk softly before God, and listen for His sweet tender voice. Oh, how blessed it is to know we are just where God desires to have us, and doing only those things which are well pleasing in His sight.

It is no wonder the Lord would not permit me to verify the gift of tongues when there were so many volumes of prayer ascending to God for us. Do you know while [the above representative] was trying to compel me to do as *he* said, I felt as if I was held by such an unseen force I dare not move. God answered prayer not only for us but for many in the United States.

When we received the letter telling us he was starting for England and his purpose, *i. e.* my going back immediately with him to New York, we cried mightily to God for grace to overcome; and that he would help us to *stand true to Him*, if it cost us our lives to do so. The blessed Lord heard and gave us a face "like as adamant." We praise God night and day that we have but one Leader, one Director and one Ruler, that being the Holy Ghost.

Oh, how blessed it is to look back and see how tenderly, how gently, and how wisely He hath led us in the past! We can trace His hand, even where the flesh would say "it was cruel," and we could say "all power, praise, dominion and majesty unto Him, who doeth all things well" and in the best way for us. Praise His dear name! The dear Lord has blessed and promised to do "exceeding abundantly ABOVE ALL that we can ask or think." Oh, what a promise that is for the children of God! For the last few days God has led me to ask for "great things" of Him, and "all things are possible to him that believeth." Faith never looks for anything small, but for "great and mighty things." He (the Holy Ghost) has been leading me in wonderful ways.

It is so blessed, so sweet just to lean upon Him, and "take Him at His word," as a little child does its mother, *just to believe He means what He says, and act upon it.* He has been teaching me more about higher things, and drawing me by the cords of love closer and closer to Himself, where all is sunshine, peace, rest, joy and faith in the Holy Ghost. I would not exchange my short Christian experience for all this world could offer; and my experience (I say it with all humility in the sight of God) is higher and deeper than many so called. *God has never let me keep at a stand-still*, since I surrendered all; it has been a daily progress on to deeper and higher things (which the Holy Ghost has revealed to me marvelously); and He has kept me looking *only to Him* for everything. He has always "supplied according to His riches in glory," and *I would rather "live by faith" in God today than have one thousand dollars a year coming to me.* It is the sweetest way. Now we have been where we have had to trust Him for our daily bread. It might not just come when we were looking for it, but it was always on time. Oh! He knoweth just how to deal with us each, and just how to handle us. The "life of faith" *is the life.* As we read the account of how you trusted for the money to pay for that building, it filled our souls with joy. We can see how God would be pleased to see that your faith was *in Him alone*; and His name would thus be exalted and glorified in the eyes of the world. Then to see how everything was just on time. How beautiful it was! We all know "the Holy Ghost knows how to make ends meet," and will have everything to honor Jesus.

Well I must tell you again, the great blessing we received from reading those beautiful letters which were dictated by the Holy Ghost I feel quite sure from the great thrills of joy they brought to us. It seemed as if the Lord was speaking to us through them, and especially through the passages of Scripture. They all were suited to our experiences exactly, and we praise God with ALL our hearts for them, for His "words shall last forever and ever." Praise God! Oh! how blessed to have Jesus walking side by side with us! To realize that as He walked and talked with His disciples day by day, hour by hour, and moment by moment, so the Holy Ghost walks and talks with everyone who will receive Him, and give Him full sway. *Oh! what a Comforter Jesus left us*, when He said, "When the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, He shall testify of Me;" and then, "He is to abide with us *forever*." So as Jesus comforted His disciples and conferred power upon them in the same way does the blessed Holy Ghost comfort, energize all who take Him.

*I am seeing more and more the necessity of real, earnest, true believers in God, and His almighty power, such as Abraham.* There would be something done for God then and Jesus would be exalted, honored and glorified. People say they believe God, but when God begins to pour out His Spirit upon a person and give them apostolic blessings they immediately say, "It is a delusion." Oh! does it not grieve Jesus to have to look down upon such? Jesus Himself said, "These signs *shall follow* them that BELIEVE," not partly, but WITH ALL THEIR HEART. May God speedily raise up many more "BELIEVERS."

God has kept me very humble at His feet, though it has been His blessed will to give me these "gifts." I feel the more humble, because I realize it is all of God, and I am worse than nothing. I have no desire to verify but rather the opposite, for I do want my Teacher to have all the honor, glory and praise. It is "the wicked and adulterous generation that seeketh after a sign," but not BELIEVERS IN GOD. I would rather BE TRUE TO MY GOD than to own the whole world; and my intention is, by the grace, strength, help and power of the Almighty Triune God to *keep true* until He calls me home; even if to do so *means giving up all human friendship, and dying on the streets*. I desire to go on nothing else than the *highest lines* and to stand for Him if it takes my life.

When I left home January 20th, 1895, I promised God to do as He said and placed myself in His hands to be prepared to work for Him, (though I was weak) to obey Him and to stand by Him. I had very severe trials for just a beginner, but I looked to God and kept in His hand, and He carried me through. Hallelujah! My first and hardest trial was giving up my home and my precious mother, for I was only seventeen, with short dresses and my hair down my back. Of course my relations all thought I was better at home with my mother. Though I loved my mother very dearly, and while (in the natural) it was the desire of my heart to stay as close by her all my life as I could, *it was quite another thing after God called me*. I stood in the face of my relatives and said, "I am going to obey God" and *I did*. I have never been home since I left. I just tell you this to show you how I had to stand when but a "babe in Christ." So it was no new thing for me to stand for Him as I have recently been called to do.

We trust we shall meet some day here below, and have the blessings of God showered upon us.

Take for your encouragement, Deut. 1: 29, 30, "Then I said unto you, Dread not, neither be afraid of them.

The Lord your God, which goeth before you, he shall fight for you, according to all that he bid for you in Egypt before your eyes."

Josh. 1: 3, "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses,"

Job 23: 10. "But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold."

The Lord bless you all.

In the Lord and for Africa,

M. JENNIE GLASSEY.

## PRESENTED TO THE LORD

March 19.

THIS IS the fortieth day since the birth of our child John, and like the parents in olden time, we have formally presented him in the temple to Jehovah. A remarkable blessing came to the hearts of all present upon this occasion. This being the day in Mrs. Sandford's prayer calendar to pray for neglected children, a company of such were taken by faith from every nation as a spiritual inheritance for the little one. While praying, the power of the Holy Ghost manifested was very marked.

Before rising from their knees the Spirit told Mr. Sandford to give one dollar as the beginning of a fund for a children's building. To this was quickly added five dollars given in John's name, and another dollar promised by brother Small. The blessing of the Almighty was claimed by the entire School upon these dollars, the perfect number seven suggesting a perfect victory in the days to come. God bless all the little ones who shall be gathered and prepared within the walls of this future building, to sing "Hosanna to the Son of David."

As the Spirit led the School to read the following Psalm, which the same Spirit had given to the "sweet Psalmist of Israel" upon the removal of the ark of God, the flood tide of blessing rose still higher.

(1 Chron. 16:8-24, 27-29, 31-33, 36.)

"Give thanks unto the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.

Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.

Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord.

Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his face continually.

Remember his marvellous works that he hath done, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;

O ye seed of Israel his servant, ye children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

Be ye mindful always of his covenant, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations;

Even of the covenant which he made with Abraham, and of his oath unto Isaac;

And hath confirmed the same to Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant,

Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance;

When ye were but few, even a few, and strangers in it.

And when they went from nation to nation, and from one kingdom to another people;

He suffered no man to do them wrong; yea, he reproveth kings for their sakes,

Saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm.

Sing unto the Lord, all the earth; shew forth from day to day his salvation.

Declare his glory among the heathen: his marvellous works among all nations.

Glory and honor are in his presence: strength and gladness are in his place.

Give unto the Lord, ye kindreds of the people, give unto the Lord glory and strength.

Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and let men say among the nations, The Lord reigneth.

Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof: let the fields rejoice, and all that is therein.

Then shall the trees of the wood sing out at the presence of the Lord, because he cometh to judge the earth.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel for ever and ever. And all the people said, Amen, and praised the Lord."

The joy of the occasion was then still further heightened by the remarkable answer to prayer for the engine, as recorded below. Thus God's manifest approval of this service from first to last, made it one never to be forgotten by those present.

#### "PROVIDED."

LAST December while in Portland purchasing the boiler, we found connected with it an engine. We inquired its price, and some time later at our request, one of the workers wrote to the owner asking him if he would take one hundred dollars for it, a sum about fifty dollars less than the price asked. Not long afterward to our amazement, we were informed that the engine had been shipped. We had not ordered it, nor given its owner the least occasion to suppose we had done so, although we had offered encouragements that we might purchase when we found ourselves possessed with the necessary money.

The blunder of sending an engine with all its fixtures by freight to a distant village, was so unusual and almost unheard of, that it seemed like the providence of God. After several days of prayers God bade Mr. Sandford to remove the engine. Accordingly he wrote the owner that as the blunder had been made, he would if he so desired, convey it to the School building, and at some future time after testing its powers, if everything proved satisfactory, and he was then able to do so, he would purchase it; but no responsibility whatever to purchase it was assumed.

Being very busy Mr. Sandford had never taken the necessary time and labor to test it, and had gotten the impression that the time of payment, provided the purchase was to be made, was April 1st. A recent letter assumed that the time was March 1st, and as that time had passed, it was taken for granted by the owner that the purchase had been made. To Mr. Sandford's astonishment last night in looking over the letters, he found the statement was correct, and although he had in no way agreed to buy the engine, yet he somehow felt that his blunder had placed the

responsibility upon himself to do so. On the one hand he felt clear in his mind that it was God's thought for the engine to be used in the work to run the printing press, etc., (feeling the responsibility to purchase, arising from his blunder as to time); on the other hand, *he had no money whatever for that purpose.*

This morning when he knelt in private prayer he felt like the Israelites at the Red Sea; the impassable waters before, the mountains on either hand, and the Egyptian chariots thundering on in the rear. As he waited a long time before the Director of this movement, he finally heard "the still small voice" whisper just one word; it was this, "PROVIDED." Thereupon he told the Holy Ghost that he would just as soon have His promise that the engine was provided for, as its actual fulfillment.

Feeling that God wished the School to stand in faith with him for this miracle, Mr. Sandford laid the matter before its members at morning prayers. Mr. Sandford himself had no prayer, for God had told him what He would do. Being called from the room he left them to pray for the engine, and upon his return asked, "Have you got it all settled?" to which the scholars replied, "Yes, sir!"

Not three hours later, as the three men of God, Dr. Kiefer, Bro. Holland and Mr. Sandford were about to pray over and dedicate seven dollars which had been given for the purpose of erecting a children's building, an envelope was handed Mr. Sandford with these words upon it, "For the engine." At the conclusion of the prayers the School expressed their confidence in God by standing before Him and repeating in unison the 23d Psalm, "The Lord is my Shepherd," etc. When they reached the verse reading "*Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies,*" the Holy Ghost led Mr. Sandford to open the envelope. To his unspeakable joy he found *a check for one hundred dollars.* As he announced this most remarkable and speedy answer to their prayers, the entire School fell upon their knees in the deepest emotion. Scarcely a word could be spoken in the Spirit. Every heart was melted. *God had moved the mountain.*

This was the most heart-melting, joyously triumphant occasion ever experienced in this work. The Almighty God was present, together with such as "worship Him *in Spirit and in truth.*"

"Lord, I had just as soon have Your promise that the engine is *provided for*, as to have its *actual fulfillment.*"

Every triumph that you will win, every attainment to which you will attain, every blessing which you shall ever enjoy, is likewise already "*provided.*" "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who HATH blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ, according as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame."

Every need of yours has been as truly provided for as that engine. God is waiting for you to step up and take that which He has already "PROVIDED." Hallelujah!

"Wherefore, be of good cheer, for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told."

## MY EXPERIENCE.

BY A GENUINELY CONVERTED YOUNG MAN.

PERHAPS it would be interesting to the readers of the TONGUES OF FIRE to read a little of my experience. I praise the good Lord that I do not want anybody else's experience. People of today are looking at others' experience, and not having the same, think *they cannot be saved* unless they have lots of feeling. We all must have an experience of our own. Suppose Bartimeus had gone to Jerusalem to the man that was born blind, and said, "Now just tell me how the Lord cured you." The Jerusalem man might have said, "He just spat on the ground and anointed my eyes with the clay." "Ho!" says Bartimeus, "I don't believe you ever got your sight at all. Who ever heard of such a way as that? *Why, to fill a man's eyes with clay is enough to put them out!*" Both men were blind, but they were not cured alike. A great many are kept out of the Kingdom of God because they are looking for somebody else's experience. But let us look to Christ alone.

I always had respect for religion; but thought I was good enough without it, and living as near right as some of the members of the church. But don't you see that I was living on *other* people's failings. Praise the Lord however that I heard Mr. Sandford preach over in Litchfield on Isaiah 40: 37, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint." *Thank God He did not lie when He said that.*

Mr. Sandford said he was going to have a tent in Richmond, either down on the Fair Grounds or at Richmond Corner. Then I said to myself, "If that tent comes to the Fair Ground I will make a start." I didn't think it would, but it did. Praise the Lord! I knew if I went down to that tent I would have to make a start in order to keep my word true; so I kept away for a little while. Then when Sister Maria Lancaster carried on the meetings I went. She was wonderfully used by God, *and every word that she said was for me.* When she gave out the invitation for all those who wanted to be saved to come forward, I knew that "now is the accepted time," but I didn't have the courage to go forward and so the meeting was closed. Then I made up my mind to go the next night and when she again gave the invitation, I would go forward. Well, I went down and I enjoyed the preaching very much. Then there were a few testimonies. I was waiting for the invitation but there wasn't any that night, and I felt *very bad.* "But there," I thought, "if the Lord wanted me to start He would have had the invitation given." You know that Satan is always telling people something like that. He tries to make us think that we are all right. *But Satan will never save us;* instead he will lead us into everlasting punishment. Then these words came to me, "Look and live." So I looked and I found these words, "If we confess our sins *He is faithful* and just to *forgive* us our sins and to *cleans*e us from all unrighteousness." Hallelujah!

I do praise the good Lord that He is true and I do praise Him for the night when eleven of us started to serve the Living God. I have been wondrously saved ever since. Praise Him!

*Saved* because I confessed my sins Sept. 4th, 1895, and He took me in.

*Saved* because I do believe His words.

*Saved* because I am living for *Him.*

*Saved* to have a home in the Kingdom, to reign with Him forever and ever.

I do praise His great and holy name. I know there is peace in believing and joy in the Holy Ghost.

WILLIS BLAIR,

Richmond, Me.

## "KEPT BY THE POWER OF GOD."

BY M. JENNY GLASSEY.

*1 Peter 1: 5.*

With kindest wish and prayerful thought this morning  
I offer thee these simple words of cheer;  
Whate'er may meet thee in life's future dawning,  
May they afford thee comfort year by year.

Kept by His power—no earthly power upholding;  
No human hand outstretched to point the way,  
But God's great love His feeble child enfolding,  
Is all sufficient for thy need each day.

Be not afraid; for as each need arises  
With strong absorbing self-important claim,  
God it will meet with His divine surprises,  
If thou but call upon His holy name.

Kept by His power, when sun is gayly shining  
And glory crowns thy pathway with its light;  
Kept by His power, when daylight is declining  
And lengthening shadows tell of coming night.

Kept when the world for thee its smile is wreathing,  
When skies are fair and life with roses spread;  
Kept when its frown to thee it is bequeathing  
And clouds are darkly massing overhead.

Kept for the guerdon of the Master's praises,  
Kept that His "well done" may thy Spirit greet,  
Kept through earth's labyrinth of wildering mazes,  
Kept in the track of the great Shepherd's feet.

His power to keep is strong and true as ever,  
No length of years can e'er its force abate;  
His will to keep can never fail, no, *never,*  
While mercy stands at heaven's wide open gate.

Then journey on; leave fear and anxious worry  
To those who *knew not* that the Lord doth reign;  
Keep step with Him, forego impatient hurry,  
Trust Him to make the rough, steep places plain.

His name is Love; and love its best doth measure  
With royal largeness upon those in need;  
Then may He not outpour His choicest treasure  
Upon thee graciously, in very deed?

"Blessed be the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, which . . . hath begotten us . . . unto a *lively hope* . . . to an inheritance . . . reserved in heaven for you, who are *kept by the power of God* . . . wherein ye greatly rejoice."

## DANIEL.

**D**ANIEL means "God is judge," and as we shall see, whatever question came up in his life, God Almighty, not man decided it. He was of royal descent "of the king's seed" of "such as had ability to stand in the king's palace;" and as truly as royal blood of kings flowed in his physical veins, so did the royal blood of the King of Kings permeate his entire being. His whole life proves this statement to be true. Not a word is recorded in Holy Writ against the character of this wonderful man, unless it be his confession of the sin of the Jewish people at the time he prays for their return to Jerusalem, in which he says, "we have sinned." The secret of this marvelous life was given by the queen when she said before Belshazzar, "there is a man in thy kingdom in whom is the spirit of the holy gods." Although this sentence fell from the lips of a heathen, yet it showed that like Pharaoh in the case of Joseph, she recognized the power of a Holy Ghost life, as when he said, "Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is." The mighty Holy Ghost when followed implicitly will make any life sublime. *That* is the secret of the victory in the life of every man of God in the Bible, and that secret, thank God! is open to the Christians of the nineteenth century after Christ, just as truly as to believers in God in the nineteenth century before Christ.

Before we give the tests of this life, tests covering about seventy-five years, notice that the Holy Ghost had prepared Daniel to be true to Jehovah at any cost. "He purposed in himself that he would not defile himself." When the Holy Ghost is really ruling in the heart of any young man, every question of right and wrong is already settled, for God is working in him to *will* and then to *do* of His good pleasure. The trouble with most lives is they have not a real purpose formed within. Their emotions can be easily stirred by some enthusiastic speaker, but their choices have not yet been settled. Every test that ever came into the grand old prophet's life, had already been settled by the power of the Holy Ghost in one great main choice, namely **TO BE TRUE TO GOD AT ANY COST**; "I will not defile myself let it cost what it may." Although he together with his three young friends had been taken prisoner of war when probably not over sixteen or seventeen years of age, and carried six or seven hundred miles to far off Babylon, yet this young hero determined to be true to the God of his fathers even in exile. The main choice of his life settled, included all the minor choices, and caused him, like Paul, in all that might follow to be a love slave chained to the chariot wheels of Jehovah.

I. He was tested on the line of the physical, that is as to what he should eat and drink. "But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the king's meat, nor with the wine." It was however one thing to make a decision, and another thing to be courageous enough to carry it out. Disobedience to the wishes of the king of Babylon was very likely to bring death as a penalty, and yet this young man was bold enough to go to the prince of eunuchs and request "that he might not defile himself." The official fearing lest he should endanger his own head, hesitated about granting the request. Daniel however had stood the test, and the providences of God were (as they always are in such cases) his protection. At the end of ten

days trial, the very bodies of the four young men proved to be in a better condition than those who had eaten the king's meat. Daniel's soul was undefiled, his body in an uncommonly good condition, and the whole coast of his future life free from religious restraint. His first battle in Babylon had resulted in a glorious victory. The Holy Ghost who had enabled him to be true in the first test, would henceforth fly "victory" over his head.

When thrown into new surroundings, the first battle is usually the turning point as to one's future in those surroundings. Whatever you do, and wherever you go, take your stand in God quickly, at the very first opportunity presented. Quick, uncompromising loyalty to the truth at the very beginning, is the secret of a glorious ending.

II. He was next tested on the line of the mental. These four young men were in the college at Babylon where they were taught the learning of the Chaldeans. There is no place in life where the Holy Ghost will not make a man victor, provided he will honor Him in his life as the Almighty God. The same God who had given wisdom to Solomon, and filled Bezaleel with the Spirit of God that he might "teach in all manner of workmanship," gave these four young men "knowledge and skill in learning and wisdom." At the end of the college course when the king examined them, he found among them all "none like Daniel" and the other three. In all matters of wisdom we read the king found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm. The Holy Ghost is just as able to make "Christ *wisdom* unto you" as He is to make Him *salvation* unto you on any other line. There is no excuse for a person who has the Holy Ghost to be ignorant. Cases have been known where ignorant women, who could neither read nor write have become noted for their wisdom, through the power of God's Spirit alone. Jesus Christ expressly promises His believers that, following the reception of the Holy Ghost, they should be led into "all truth," taught "all things," and as John added they "need not hat any man teach them" anything. Thank God for victory in the intellectual as well as in the physical!

III. And now Daniel is tested in a realm where neither the physical nor mental can go, that is, the spiritual. Nebuchadnezzar had a dream. None of the astrologers could interpret it. For this cause the king being angry and very furious, "commanded the destruction of all the wise men." Daniel asked for time, which was granted. He then called his three companions that they might ask God for His special revelation concerning the matter. It was God or death. There was no chance for human reasoning. Man's mind could not fathom the mystery, and now his faithfulness to God in the past, formed a solid foundation on which to rest his faith. Like John he could say "if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God, and whatsoever we ask we receive of Him because we do those things which are pleasing in His sight. Their prayers were heard. "Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision."

Ah! it pays to be true to God. One little knows what moment his very life may depend upon a quick answer from the Almighty. The same Holy Ghost that made him true in the two tests, was at hand to meet his needs in the third

Then this godly young man broke out with the following expression of praise: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever . . . He giveth wisdom to the wise . . . He revealeth the deep and secret things; He knoweth where is the darkness, and the light dwelleth with Him. I praise and thank Thee, Thou God of my fathers, who giveth me wisdom . . . and made known unto me *what we desired of thee.*"

Jehovah had proved Himself true in the physical, mental, and spiritual realms. He was God of the whole man. What He was to Daniel, He will be to *you*. "The very God of peace sanctify you wholly, and I pray God your whole spirit, and soul, and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." The next verse shows that this is no idle theory, but a deep reality, "Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will DO IT."

IV. Having won victories in every department of his being, he proves himself worthy of them by giving the glory entirely to God. Being brought into the presence of the king, he says, "the secret which the king hath demanded, cannot the wise man show; but there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets. Thy dream and the visions of thy head upon thy bed are these . . . But as for me this secret is not revealed unto me for any wisdom that I have." No glory to himself; all glory to Jehovah. What a victory was this! More than a conqueror is one who in the hour of victory, gets victory over victory, and give the glory to God and to God alone.

V. It is one thing to have a revelation from God; another thing to have the courage to declare it, especially when the fulfillment of that revelation is directly opposed to popular desire. Nebuchadnezzar has a second dream. As before, all the wise men are unable to interpret it. Daniel is summoned. The king relates how in vision he saw a tree reach unto heaven, and heard the order given by an angel, "hew down the tree . . . nevertheless leave the stump of his roots in the earth . . . and let his portion be with *the beasts.*" God flashed its revelation through the mind of His prophet, but the future was so dark for the king that it tested all the powers of this man of God to declare what God had shown him. Daniel was "astonied for one hour and his thoughts troubled him." But the Holy Ghost that had made him true to God in the past, enabled him to stand before the king of the whole earth, and there amid the royal splendor, unflinchingly declare that the king would become insane for seven years, living in the woods and fields like a very beast.

The king had said, "thou art able to make known unto me the interpretation, for the Spirit of the holy God is in thee." Yes, the Holy Ghost makes one able to speak in behalf of God whatsoever God wishes spoken. HE is the secret of faithfulness to the King of Kings. The land today is filled with cowards talking about the brave deeds of men of God in the past. The God of Daniel desires that this country shall be flooded with heroes, boldly speaking in behalf of Jehovah, as God's Spirit shall give them utterance.

The closing period of the gospel age is to be the blackest part of human history, a time so awful in its human sorrows (wars, famines, pestilences) that but "for the elect's sake," "no flesh should be saved." To stand forth amid

the damnable optimism today which teaches that the world is gradually growing better and better until we reach the millenium and to boldly proclaim "the perilous times," and the awful "vials of God's wrath as revealed in Revelation, (so soon to be poured forth upon the whole world) requires a courage which only the God of Daniel can give. The Holy Ghost however is equal to the emergency. There are a few men upon whom God's "woe" against pastors, in Ezekiel the 34th chapter will not fall; for here and there a man of God is "earnestly contending for THE FAITH" which was "once for all delivered unto the saints." The "two witnesses" with faces like adamant, and a fearlessness that all hell cannot overcome are, amid the royal splendor of the nations of the earth, to boldly declare "the whole counsel of God." Is your name Daniel? If so, God and not yourself, will be the judge as to what you should speak to the nineteenth century.

VI. It is one thing to reveal God's chastisement coming to a believer in God, but quite another to face and sternly rebuke an open blasphemer. Nebuchadnezzar had been deeply touched by the power of Daniel's God, and even made proclamation forbidding his subjects to "speak anything amiss against Him." Thus the way was somewhat prepared for Daniel's declaration that he would be made insane on account of his pride, though finally to be restored. But a score of years have passed since that took place. Nebuchadnezzar is dead. Belshazzar, a new, blasphemous, riotous king has taken his place. At a great feast attended by a thousand lords, the holy vessels captured at Jerusalem are used as drinking vessels. Thus that which had been solemnly dedicated to the most holy purpose, was degraded to the most disgraceful. *Jehovah had been insulted.* It was in the midst of this blasphemous act that the silent, yet awful hand of God wrote the doom of the kingdom upon the palace walls. Consternation was on every face; horror filled every heart; and the blasphemous man found himself in the presence of an angry God. None of the wise men can read the handwriting. The aged queen, probably the wife of Nebuchadnezzar, learning the consternation of the king and his lords, came into the banqueting house saying "there is a man in thy kingdom in whom is the spirit of the holy gods . . . now let Daniel be called and he will show the interpretation." Her advice is followed. Daniel is summoned. Nearly seventy years have elapsed since he first passed within the walls of Babylon as a slave, and yet with a purpose in his HEART. THAT PURPOSE IS STILL THERE. The grand old man of God enters. What a picture! The white haired dignified prophet of the eternal God, face to face with a blasphemous, trembling king of earth. Does his courage fail him? NEVER. The Spirit of the Almighty God is within him. That Spirit never fears the "face of clay." They offer him a chain of gold, scarlet-clothing, and the highest position in the land, to interpret the handwriting. With a dignity born of another and higher court, he replied, "Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another." He then reminds Belshazzar of Nebuchadnezzar's pride, and his humiliation to a very beast, till he had learned that the most high God ruled. Then he strongly adds "and thou, oh Belshazzar hast not humbled thine heart, although thou



knewest *this*, but hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven, and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, thou hast drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the Gods of silver and gold, of brass, iron, wood and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know; and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose ways are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified. THEN WAS THE PART OF THE HAND SENT FROM HIM AND THIS WRITING WAS WRITTEN, *God hath numbered thy kingdom and finished it. Thou art weighed in the balances and art found wanting. Thy kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.*" Like Gladstone recently, the grand old man had come forth from his retirement to give a stern rebuke to ungodly national acts, and then retired from the scenes, every inch of him a man. The Holy Ghost had made him TRUE.

VII. It is one thing to be true when there is simply *danger* of death; it requires a more wonderful victory to continue true when there is apparently an absolute *certainty* of becoming a martyr. The very night Daniel had read the hand writing upon the wall, the army of Cyrus took Babylon, and Belshazzar was slain. Darius the Mede, reorganized the kingdom, Daniel being placed as president over one hundred and twenty princes, being practically the prime minister of the realm. The jealousy of these princes could find nothing against him, save his religion. Appealing to the vanity of Darius, they requested him to make a decree that no one should pray to any God for thirty days, other than Darius himself, the penalty being to be cast into the den of lions. Not realizing the trap that had been set, the king signed the decree. What will the man of God do now? Surrender his religion for thirty days, and then resume it? Never. The Holy Ghost that formed the purpose in the boy's heart seventy years before, formed a purpose that would carry him to martyrdom if need be.

Behold that noble son of God in his chamber! Nearly one hundred years old, and the purpose of absolute loyalty to his God has grown during the years. Without a moment's hesitation, without drawing a curtain or closing a shutter, with his windows wide open, with his enemies outside listening, with death staring him in the face, *he kneels down and prays.*

Oh! how bitterly the king repented of his rash act, when he found the REAL PURPOSE for which that law had been passed, but there was no change. The law of the Medes and Persians could never be altered. Although the king labored until the going down of the sun to revoke his rash act, even he was unable to do so. Daniel is cast into the den of lions. What a night for the king, fasting, sleepless, weeping! Early next morning the king hastens to the den. Trembling with fear lest his honored servant had been slain, he "cried with a lamentable voice, O Daniel servant of the living God, is thy God whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?" Breathlessly he listens, listens, hearing no reply, yet with a trace of faith in Jehovah, hoping that somehow deliverance has come. HARK! HE HEARS A VOICE. "O king, live forever. My God hath sent his angel and hath shut the lions' mouths that they have not hurt me." Then was the king exceeding glad;" *rejoicing* while Daniel gives the reason for his deliverance "for inasmuch as before Him innocency was found in me." So Daniel was taken up out of the den of lions and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God."

We are coming to these things within the life of the present generation. Martyrdom on the right hand and on the left, and before us. One hundred thousand Armenians are but a few drops before a drenching shower. "The third part of men" are to "be slain" (Rev. 9: 15) by the same hellish power that has butchered the Armenians. It is to be given unto the Antichrist "to make war with the saints and to overcome them; *all that dwell upon the earth* shall worship him, whose names are not written in the Book of

Life," while his prophet has power to cause that "as many as will not worship his image shall be *killed*" (Rev. 13: 7, 8, 10). The Holy Ghost that could make Daniel face the lions, has the only power that will enable us to go through the awful scenes ahead. But the same God who delivered Paul out of the paw of the lion when at Ephesus he fought with wild beasts in the gladiatorial combat, will enable us like Daniel, to come off "more than conquerors through HIM."

In conclusion, what are the results of this wonderful life? Not only victory in the individual life of Daniel, victory in the Jewish nation stirred during the centuries by reading the mighty deliverances God wrought in the life of their illustrious countryman, but victory in most remarkable answers to his prayers, answers which have effected directly and indirectly every creature. He prayed for the return of the Jewish nation to Palestine. God heard that prayer and sent them back. He prayed that he might know the future of his people throughout the days to come. God granted that prayer, and sent his angel who said, "I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days." God marvelously opened up the first coming of Christ, the entire gospel age, the second coming of Christ and even the millenium to the astonished gaze of this genuine servant of His. The world owes him a debt for his great panorama of the future. More than that, God caused Nebuchadnezzar, as a result of his life, to proclaim "unto all people, nations and languages, that dwell in all the earth," the power and the reality of Daniel's God. "I thought it good to show the signs and wonders that the high God hath wrought toward me. How great are his signs and how mighty are his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation." The king then goes on to give an extended account of his vision, Daniel's interpretation of it, his insanity and finally his restoration. He closes by saying "Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven." What a mighty sermon was this, proclaimed to the very ends of the earth as a result of this man's loyalty to God. Again when this servant of Jehovah came unscathed from the lions' den, King Darius wrote "unto all people that dwelt on all the earth." "I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel, for he is the living God . . . and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end. He delivereth and rescueth, and worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions." What a sermon was this! Twenty years later than the former one, causing another generation scattered throughout the then known world, to become acquainted with God Almighty as a reality, acknowledged by the reigning king of earth.

*Ah! beloved, there is a power in being genuine and true to God: power that does effect the entire globe. Any man filled with the mighty Holy Ghost, controlled at every point and turn by God, does and will cause the evangelization of the world, by furnishing a channel through which the God of glory can thunder the reality of His power to the very ends of the earth.* Do you wonder that when this man who had been brought into the presence of King Nebuchadnezzar, been true to God before Belshazzar, and shown himself the prime minister of the Almighty at the court of King Darius, was ushered into the royal presence of the King of Kings, he should hear that glorious yet awful voice thus address him,

"OH MAN GREATLY BELOVED!"