

and gain and glory. I want to leave those four words with you, by which you shall be ready for the coming of the Lord. Grace, grace, Oh magnify it! Grace and growth in grace will bring gain to

knowledge. Grace, growth, gain, glory, is Peter's last breath before he goes out to his final suffering, crucified head downwards that he might be glorified with his Lord.

"Mine Eyes Have Seen the King"

How the Lord Brought Me Down Before Him

Convention May 16, 1910, S. D. Kinne, 2816 Stoddard St., St. Louis, Mo.



MIGHT quote several texts around which the thoughts the Lord may give us, will probably cluster. The first one is in the second chapter of Acts, where it says, "to all that are afar off." Our brother spoke yesterday morning about the fact that we are removed nineteen hundred years and six thousand miles from the time and place of the first Pentecost and it came to me this evening that there is another sense in which we are afar off, and I think the Lord will perhaps enable us to see that sense also as we go along.

In Galatians 1:15, 16, we read, "But when it pleased God . . . to reveal His Son in me," and again in the second chapter, twentieth verse, he says, "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." In Colossians 1:27, Paul says he preached among the Gentiles this mystery, which is "Christ in you the hope of glory."

I was in Arkansas a few months ago, and my wife wrote me she thought it was time for me to come home. She said, "I feel the work cannot go on in St. Louis unless we go deeper, and you will have to come home and help us to get down." I thought about it and I said, "I don't know what to do. I am down as low as I know how to be. How to go down deeper, I do not know, and how to get at it I do not know," but I went home shortly after that. Some of our friends had been teaching some doctrine that seemed to scatter the people, broke the work and hindered the Lord. They were dear friends of mine; I thought about it, prayed about it some, and decided I would go and talk to them. My wife and I went to see them. I sat there and could not say anything about it. Every time I felt like trying to talk to them I was up against the biggest cross I ever had in my life. I asked the Lord what it meant and He said to me, "I want you to preach the Gospel. I want

you to preach Jesus. If other people will preach something else, let them preach it, but you preach Jesus." My wife said I had my commission. I have been pretty slow, but if I did get my commission so late in life I thank God I got it. I have had the best time preaching since then that I ever had in my life.

I am going to tell you as the Lord shall enable me, what I conceive to be in that thought, and perhaps I shall talk some about my own experience, because there doesn't seem to be any way to explain and teach truth so simply and so plainly as to tell experience. There is one other scripture I should have quoted as a part of this subject. It is in Exodus 32:4, where the children of Israel had a big feast and made a golden calf; they said, "These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt." That scripture came to me since I came into this Convention. I have thought a good deal about it. It seemed to me the Lord had shown me some of the things that people are saying today, "These are the gods," these are the things that have brought us up out of the Egyptian experiences of sin, into the experiences of God's favor and blessing, and that we as a people have a lot of false gods that we have substituted for the blessed Jesus and we do not know it.

A few days after this time I was speaking about, I was sitting in a meeting and the Lord showed me the way to go down. I had never seen it that way before, but it all fell out as plain and open to me as could be. I could not get down by hunting over my experience and digging up my heart and trying to see what was the matter with me. I did try that a good many times and instead of going down with the Lord I got down in myself and down in my experience and got into trouble, and I saw a great many people in the same sort of difficulty, but the Lord showed me how He brought down some of the great men in the scripture. He pointed me back to that time when Daniel was out by the river after having been fasting and praying for some days, and the message from heaven came to him, and when the messenger appeared and the glory shone upon him, and God gave him this gracious manifestation, he says he fell on his face and

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there was no more strength left in him. I saw that which caused Daniel to go down was a *revelation from the upper world*. Then I thought about Isaiah in the sixth chapter when he had a vision of the Lord in His glory, and said, "Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: *for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.*"

He went down, but *it was a sight of the Lord that brought him down.*

Then I remember about Jacob and a number of others back in the Old Testament. Jacob started away from home after doing a lot of meanness. He got off alone and lay down at night with his head on a stone for a pillow. He saw a ladder going up to heaven with angels ascending and descending, and he said, "Oh, this is a terrible place, God is here and I did not know it, and *he went down.*"

Moses, as he was out there at the backside of the desert, was spoken to by the Lord in the burning bush and he was a humble man in a minute.

Friends, there is nothing in this world that will take the pride and lifted-up spirit out of us as a revelation from heaven, and that is what we need; that is what the world is suffering for today, a sight of Jesus. When Saul, the murderous persecutor, full of spite and backed up by religious hatred that made him believe he was doing God's service, got a flash of the glory of the face of Jesus Christ, he was instantly changed from a persecutor to a disciple of the Lord Jesus, and at once he cried, "Who art thou, Lord?" The fight was all gone out of him. He was conquered immediately. Beloved, *it is a sight of Jesus we need!* Ah, that is what will break human hearts and bring men and women down! a sight of the Lord Jesus Christ!

There never was a man who lived any closer to Jesus than John the Beloved. He complacently laid his head against the breast of Jesus, but when John saw Jesus, as described in the Revelation, in his spotless white garment, His eyes as a flame of fire, His feet like fine brass as if they burned in a furnace, he said, "I was as a dead man." Oh, the reason we are so high, the reason we feel ourselves so much, is because we know so little of the presence of God. We have lived "afar off;" we have not gotten very near to Him yet; He has tried to get near to us. I thought today, "Oh, how the Lord is struggling; what efforts He is making through much human ignorance and our fanaticism, our foolishness, our coldness and our hardness." This world is cold and hard, and our people are cold and hard; we have lived selfish, earthly lives; we are so close to the earth and so far from heaven; God in the outpouring of His Spirit is

trying to get down to us and many of us are running away.

I used to have a pent-up heart. Do you know what it is to live a pent-up life? Did you ever know what it was to go on week after week and year after year, and feel there was something down in there if it could only get out you would feel better? I felt that way for years. It seemed to me if I could just preach like I felt down in my heart, how I could preach, and if I could just sing and write like I felt in my heart more would be accomplished.

A brother asked last night, "What is the matter with the baptism in the Holy Ghost?" and other things along that line. It is three years since the Lord baptized me in the Holy Ghost and I believe in this Movement. I am not asleep and I haven't my eyes shut; I see lots of folly, and lots of foolishness, but I see God also. I have a sight of Jesus, and I know something of what the brother meant when he spoke of "the larger Christ." Praise the Lord that pent-up feeling is gone! There is no pent-up feeling in there now; there is such joy and peace, such victory and light and heavenliness in my soul that I cannot tell it. I am living a happy life. My life is full of joy and happiness, but I believe I know a little something of what Paul meant when he said he had continual heaviness and great sorrow of heart for his brethren, and that he could wish himself accursed if thereby they might be brought to Christ. In walking about the city today with a brother I felt the sweetness of heaven in my soul, and as we spoke to one individual he seemed a changed man right away. We went into a place and met a lady who is one of the publishers of a religious paper, and we got to telling her about this latter rain movement and what God was doing all around the world, and how people spoke as on the day of Pentecost, and she was just as interested as she could be. I have a feeling there are a great many people, if we could only get to them, that the Lord Jesus is longing to reach through men, but He is hampered. Ah, He knows what it is to have a pent-up heart! There is a pent-up condition in the heart of Jesus as He looks down upon this sin-cursed, sin-bedraggled world. He has been praying and pouring out His heart, and longing to get hold of men and bring them to Christ, but I do not know what He will say at the judgment when He comes to judge the church for her crime of not having carried the Gospel to the people, and having been selfish and half-hearted, and having lost the blessed Holy Ghost out of their experience and out of the church. The infinite power of the Son of God has always been at the disposal of the church and she has not used it.

A brother spoke about people going off in the

woods and not knowing where they were, and it seems to me the Lord has not been able to trust us with much. When we get a little we think we get it all, and we jump up and run as soon as God meets us. That has been the trouble with me all my life. When only a young man twenty-three years ago the Lord showed me the condition of the churches. I saw it was not New Testament Christianity, and I then began to pray for the Lord to put that power in me and make me a New Testament Christian. The Spirit of the Lord began to work in me, but I pulled away and ran off. There were times when the power of the Lord was on me in intensity, but the Lord could never get me to hold still until He could do something with me. The only way He could get me to stop was by showing me one day one word in the Bible. I read in the Acts where it tells about Cornelius' household receiving the baptism, and the Jews that went up with Peter saw that the Holy Ghost was poured out on the Gentiles, for they heard them speak with tongues. I said, "I never saw that word *for* before. I never saw its meaning. Then it seemed I could see so clearly that the Jews had come to recognize the speaking in tongues with the baptism, and they said, "Why, they have the same baptism that we have;" they might have said they didn't know what was the matter, but when they heard them speak in tongues they said they had the Holy Ghost, and their Jewish pride and Jewish shut-in spirit was broken and gone.

One of the hardest things in the world is for people to get rid of notions and ideas that are in their heads. Peter had been baptized by the Holy Ghost eight years and the Lord had told him in the commission to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. Peter didn't act on the commission at first, any more than some of the rest of us, for he hadn't gone to the Gentiles. When he was up there on the top of Simon the tanner's house and fell into a trance, and the Lord showed him all those creatures in the sheet, he said, "Lord, I never ate anything common or unclean," and although he was under the power of the Spirit so much that he was in a trance, even then he talked back to the Lord. But the Lord took it out of him, at least a good part of it, and he went up to Cornelius' house and they got the baptism in the Holy Ghost.

When the Lord got hold of me that way I said, "I have the baptism in the Holy Ghost." I didn't mean holiness, because I never thought about the baptism in the Holy Ghost in connection with holiness. The Lord had a big time to get it out of me, but He finally succeeded. I left a kind of loop-hole, and I said, "Lord, whatever I have had, I haven't had it in the way they had it on the day of Pentecost. Others

are getting it that way and it is for me. I am going to have it." I hung up my tools and we sat with the Lord twelve hours a day. We didn't have any preacher to lead us, we just had the Holy Ghost and He taught us and led us further out into the Spirit, gave us the scripture, illuminated our understanding and showed us the way, but somehow I didn't get through. It went on week after week and I didn't get through. I finally got to the place where I said, "I have done everything in my power and I cannot get it."

One evening the Lord spoke to me as I was going down town; we lived on the edge of St. Louis, and the Lord said, "I want you to quit all this praying and all this struggling and just rest." I said, "Lord, I can't do that. I never got anything in the world without struggling and wrestling, and if I quit now I am afraid I never will get it." It seemed the last hope I ever had was going to leave me. I said, "Give me a scripture." He said, "You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you and ordained you." For about three days I went along in that quietness of waiting on the Lord and then He began to speak through me.

I don't suppose anybody who has received the baptism of the Holy Spirit in this Latter Rain Movement has had a harder struggle than I have, because I have always been going ahead of the Lord, and I didn't get all that rapidity out of me. I did a great many wild things, but God in His mercy kept His hand on me. I do not know but what I hindered some of my friends in seeking the baptism because I was not more wise. It means something to live in this world; it means something to touch the divine power of the Spirit of God. He says we have tasted of the powers of the world to come. It is astonishing how lightly we tread upon sacred ground, and how carelessly we deal with the most sacred interests that could possibly come to man, but the Lord in His mercy overlooks it all. My friends said to me, "You have gotten to be a fanatic, that is all." I said as I walked along, "Maybe I am, but I know my heart is honest toward the Lord," and somehow it got into my understanding that when people get into fanaticism they may get back to the Lord, but they seldom get their balance, and are not often very useful in the world after that. It is a mighty serious thing to get into fanaticism, and so when my friends would tell me I was getting fanatical, I would go away and pray. I didn't say, "*I know I am right and I am just going on*," for I wanted to be right. If I was wrong I wanted to know it, so I always looked up to the Lord about it, and after I did that I would see that I had the truth, and we were really on the right line. It was on a line I had wanted

for years, and the aspirations, the desires, the heart-longings, the glimpses of what we ought to be, that have been in my mind and heart in past years have really been experienced in my life in these last days.

If any body had told me in the past it would be my experience to enjoy the fellowship and joy and peace in my soul that I am enjoying these days I could not have believed it. It surpasses anything I ever expected in this life. It is a genuine work of the Holy Ghost, and if you see things that don't look right it is one of two things; either you don't see right with God, many of us Christians are cross-eyed and cannot see spiritually, or else what you see is not the Lord. There are three classes of spirits we have to deal with; there is the divine the Holy Spirit of God; there is the human spirit, and there are evil spirits that are around us. The Holy Spirit has access to the human spirits, and so have evil spirits; they all have their influence and effect upon us, and in the intricacy of these things we cannot always tell what is happening, but we can trust the Lord and we are safe with Him. I feel just as safe tonight as if I were in heaven. I know the blood of Jesus covers me and I am not afraid of anything. Jesus says, "Go and preach the Gospel to all nations." He says, "Because I have all power, I have conquered sin and death and hell and the grave, and have risen and ascended to my Father, the Holy Ghost has been given, and He has said, "Go," and back of the divine "Go" that is given to us, God is, Jesus Christ is, the atonement is, and we have nothing to fear. Don't you know that fear is ruinous? There are two things that cannot exist in the human heart at the same time, *faith* and *fear*. Fear destroys faith every time. There has been in some parts of the country in which I have gone, a great deal of talk about manifestations until people are afraid. They would go to the altar and seek, but they would not trust the Lord. They were afraid something would happen, and something would come in; you never will get anything as long as you take that attitude. We have tried to keep ourselves all these years. Haven't you tried to keep yourself? I made a botch of it every time I turned around.

Now what are the false gods that men are following today. One of them that very good people have followed is religious experience, and I am sure the most of us haven't yet gotten our eyes open and haven't seen what an idolatry there is along the line of experience. I have been a great lover of experience myself. There is something in my nature that inclines me that way. I am always happy; I have a great deal of feeling in my nature, and I have always enjoyed Christian experience. I remember when I first got sanctified, on going to bed at night I was afraid

to go to sleep for fear that sweetness would slip away from me. I was counting on it and doating on it, and there was a sort of idolatry in it

What is the center of Christianity? Not experience. A personality; the revelation of the personal Trinity is the center of Christian experience. It is not that I do not have experiences these days. I have ten times as many as I used to have when I was watching them and paying attention to them.

Three days after I got the baptism I got a tremendous shock. A certain man had not done the right thing. I thought about it and I made up my mind I had to tell him. I went and talked to him plain about how I felt at the way he was doing and talking, and I went home and found that sweetness and that communion I had was gone. I was broken-hearted; I prayed and sought the Lord earnestly for three days, and the Lord blessed me and came back to me in a gracious way. He hadn't left me, but He was grieved at my harshness and hardness of heart. I see now very clearly why I had to wait so long to get the baptism; it was because I would not yield. I hung on to myself unconsciously, and was relying on myself.

Then after this experience I made up my mind I was going to keep the baptism, now that I had gotten it, and the first thing the Lord did was to let me fall, and I have been falling ever since, bumping around, the Lord trying to bump these things out of me that were hindering Him. I saw I would never be able to keep the baptism in the Holy Ghost and keep where the Lord wanted me to be, and I said, "Lord, there is one thing sure; if the baptism of the Holy Ghost stays with me it will be because of the blood of Jesus," and one day the Lord said to me, "You have just so failed and spoiled every job I ever put in your hands; if I ever give you anything else to do it will be simply because of my mercy." I was saved years ago from pharisaism. One of the things the Lord is trying to do today is to get that pharisaism out of us, and our relying on our experiences. Experiences always accompany personality. There are many sweet and rich experiences in marriage when it is in the will of the Lord and pleases God, and when the little stranger comes into the home what sweet and precious experiences there are, and when your friend is away and comes back, what happy experiences there are; personality is the center of it all; the experiences that come to us in our Christian life are the result of personality, but when we get our eyes on the experience we get our eyes off the center. Jesus is the center and He is the Personality. He will be the center in heaven, the center of attraction. Everybody will be looking toward Jesus, and we will be so charmed with Him

and with His glories that other things will fade in comparison with the blessed Jesus Himself, and it ought to be that way here in this life.

Let me say a few words about what the Lord showed me concerning sanctification not long ago. In the first chapter of first Corinthians; "to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus." "Oh," I said "sanctified in Christ Jesus, and I discovered I had been trying to be sanctified in times past in myself; I was looking at myself. He says, "to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus." He was in me and as long as I stood in Him I would stay sanctified and no longer. The Lord is not going to give you an experience and set you up in religious business with an experience that you can run yourself. That is not the idea of Christianity, but it is Christ in you, and Christ is in you just according to your faith, and Christ is in you just as long as you stay in Him. The Lord will not sanctify us and baptize us in the Holy Ghost in a way that we shall need no longer to rely on Him. We get our eyes on the manifestation, but if we will keep our eyes on Jesus there will be no trouble about manifestations. The Lord said to me when I was seeking the baptism, when I was in such a hurry and couldn't get through, He said, "I spoke to you back there, you remember, when you were a young man twenty-five years ago. I have been trying to get you baptized ever since that. Now you might wait on Me a little and not be in such a hurry." I said, "All right, Lord, if you say so I will seek you for the baptism for twenty-five years.

But there is also a violence of faith that takes the Kingdom of God by storm and wrenches things from God. The Syrophenician woman had that. When Jesus said to her, "I am not sent but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel," and compared her to a dog she said, "True, Lord, but the dogs eat the crumbs that fall under the master's table. I am going under the table, and if there are any crumbs there I will get them, and You will have to throw me some down. If you can do anything, do something for my daughter; she is grievously vexed with a devil." Ah, if you get that sort of a spirit in you it will count. The reason some of us haven't that sort of a spirit is because God hasn't got hold of our hearts. We are "afar off." I look at some people and I say, "There is nothing there to baptize." Their natures are as cold and hard as a stone, and their minds as wild and wilful as they can be. There has to be something done before He can baptize them, something that the Holy Ghost can overthrow.

The Lord pours His Holy Spirit on some people

and they run off and do foolish and wild things, because they have never been tempered through. The Lord cannot give us His gifts. See how foolish we have acted with speaking in tongues. There is a serious process in connection with this baptism through which we must pass. It is described in Matt. 3:11, 12, where it says He will baptize in the Holy Ghost and fire, and His fan is in His hand and He will thoroughly purge His floor. Did you ever stand out in the wind when it seemed the clothes would blow off of you? The Lord is going to fan you and you will have to go through the process. He says the messenger of the covenant, the Holy Ghost, when He comes will come suddenly, but who may abide the day of His coming? Many cannot stand the coming of the Comforter, they are going to pieces; it is a marvel any of us can stand it, and only because of the mercy of God. The Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Jesus, the very power that created this world, the very power that holds this world up, the Spirit of God that goes all around the world, and is as infinite as the Father; that Power come and dwell in us? And Jesus Christ, whose glory was so bright that a flash of it struck those men to the ground, and that same Holy Ghost come and dwell in us? It is past understanding, but the Holy Ghost is in the world, not only to fall on us in our baptism, but He is also here as the Agent, the active God to accomplish heaven's will in and through us. What is it that can make us so that Jesus can bless us? It is not our coming into a condition of righteousness, but getting under the blood of Jesus. You will find out after you get the baptism you are further from being fixed up than ever; you will feel that you are not fit for anything; all that human fitness and fixed-upness is gone. There is a sort of pride and self-righteousness that God cannot use and He won't have. We need to get under the blood of Jesus, and the way to save ourselves is to get away from our righteousness and cry to God like the poor publican, "Lord have mercy on me a sinner."

It is only the Lord that will get us through, and it is my firm conviction that the people need repentance, and that if many would repent they would get the baptism in the Holy Ghost who are not now receiving it. That is what Peter preached on the day of Pentecost. Jesus will take away your sins, sanctify you and baptize you in the Holy Ghost. His great heart has been going out to you all these years; His eye has been on you, and many times He has doubtless protected you from death, so look up to Him in confidence and He will meet you.