

Restoration Steps

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Some of our ways of looking at the Lord and His attitudes toward us should be changed. One is that we must get God persuaded to be favorable toward us. We seek the Lord, but we do not see that God is seeking us.

Amos was down in Samaria, Amaziah said to him, "Oh, thou seer, go, flee thee away into the land of Judah, and there eat thy bread and there prophesy." Amos replied, "I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was a herdsman and a gatherer of Sycamore fruit: And the Lord took me as I followed the flock, and the Lord said unto me, Go, prophesy unto My people Israel." Amos 7:10-15. Amos did not make himself a prophet. The Lord took him. If we caught God's angle we might see that God is after us more than we are after Him. "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth." We see from man's angle, from man's side, we do not get the Divine view.

The fact is, you would not be a Christian if God had not sent someone to preach to you. You hung back. The Lord had to push you. God is after man. He is as a Rescuer. He has met us many times and tried to work upon us. Sometimes we ran away. He wishes possession of us, He is hunting after men. "I sought for a man among them that should stand in the gap for the land." He would give you a commission if you could receive it. It would perhaps be more than your ability to handle. You would need help with it. He would give you more gifts and enlarged capacity.

Some people sit in the corner and can find nothing to do. I went to Bible School, and now the Lord does not have any place for me so I have a job. Jer. 5:1. Hear the Lord search Jerusalem to see if He can find a man. If you will qualify it is in your reach. It is in the ability of everyone to meet the call of the Lord, to be what he wants you to be. The Lord will take you if He can get a chance. You are spiritually lazy. You do not pray nor seek the Lord in earnest. If you will qualify, it is in your reach.

Amos was just a common everyday man, but the Lord got hold of Him and took him. The Lord will take you if He can get you as He wants you. It is not slackness with the Lord, but is our neglectful ways. We are not earnest. We do not press, pray and seek.

Man is a creature and has creature habits.

God wants to get us out of many of them. He wants to have us so He can turn us whither He chooses. It is not the wise and noble that are called. It is not that kind of people that God wants. It is people who will do what God wants them to do. There is a spiritual quickening of conception when we seek the Lord, we do not have otherwise. There is a great lack in us. My landlady said she prayed when the train hit her. A lot of us do not pray till a freight car hits us.

The way we have been doing will not get us through. There must be a change in our methods if we succeed. We do not know what it is. The way to find out is to pray. We cannot get through by ourselves. We are helpless. We are having difficulty because our vision is from the human side. Our view point must be changed. We must see that God is sovereign. He is Almighty. He does not need anything. He is self-existent. He does not dwell in our realm. He does not depend on anybody or anything. All depends on Him. He says, "Come up with Me where I live. Come where I operate. Come, take a walk with Me." We shall not get much farther while we follow human vision. We must see from God's angle. Suppose that you discover something lacking in your methods. Then there must come revelation. We must see that we have been measuring God by feeble sense and by man's free will.

We never understood God's sovereign determine counsel. We are up against the close of the ages. Methods we have followed will not close the age. God says, "Get out of My way. I am going to move. Come up into My way. Come up with Me. But I will not do things by your measurements."

I did not get these things by study. I had no idea what He was going to say. He talked and opened it to me. We should prize revelation. It has been lost. We are in the time of restoration. But the restoration steps will never come by the way we are going. We must have revelation. Illumination of the Scriptures by the Holy Spirit is not a human operation. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is one hundred percent supernatural.

We have filled Christianity with man's notions. Dragged it down to earth, taken it out of God's hands. But the day of man is passing away. This is the day of the Lord. The Church is not to be run by man's ideas, but by the power of God. He is working to get us out of our old ways into His supernatural ways. When

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Praying Through

We note with appreciation, in Roy Hill's excellent letter on page eleven, of the current issue of the Herald, that he and his wife, recognized that the time had come for them to reach the Egyptian Sudan to which locality they had received a call, and therefore the responsibility rested upon them to pray through to that end which they did, step by step.

First, in answer to prayer, missionaries were reported in sight to assist. Mr. and Mrs. Keller in Kisumu in the Hills' expected absence in the Sudan. Secondly, a substantial sum of money was prayed in toward expenses. Thirdly, in face of a governmental refusal to enter the new field, finally the authorities were influenced to grant permission to them to enter as residents. Truly, prayer changes things. The things which are impossible with men are blessedly possible with God.

Elim Missionary Society affiliated with Elim Bible School does not pledge any material support whatever to missionaries sent out by the school. However, we send to all missionaries on the field designated funds sent in. Donations undesignated are allocated to missionaries on the field as the Lord directs. While this procedure may be criticised by some adversely, we can but say this practice has been followed by instruction given by the Lord through the Spirit. We seek to act strictly on faith lines believing such to be God's revealed will. It has been proven that such procedure is designed to bring our missionaries into vital dependence upon the living God and His manifold promises which never fail.

This heavenly practice of praying through has been made impressive by an incident in the writer's knowledge, while temporarily associated with a company of believers in a small town in the middle west.

The young daughter of the leader of the local assembly became seriously ill with a throat affliction. A group numbering about ten engaged to pray through to victory. It was a prayer in sections. As well as I am able to recall the sequence of appointments, a period of two hours was spent in supplication for the sufferer in the morning followed by another period of a few hours in the afternoon, when prayer was offered as the Spirit led. Supper being over, a third session was seriously entered upon before the hour to retire. The patient up to this time continued in pain having experienced no

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God starts with us we say, "Hold on, Lord, where are you going with me?" Instead of saying, "Go where you like, I am yours." It is one thing to work for the Lord and another for the Lord to be the Actor and you an agent. God is going to turn loose a power that will smash and sling aside all man's works.

Paul called himself a slave of Jesus Christ. If God gets hold of you and you become His slave then you will know what it is to be free. It is slavery that is freedom. But, you fear if you give God a free hand with you that He will strip you. That is one of Satan's lies. We must see that God is our friend. Jesus is your greatest Friend. Jesus would not do a thing with your circumstances or deprive you of anything that is good for you. He is the Creator, He is still recreating anew in Christ Jesus.

There is something in God's plan that takes in every individual. The whole race and each individual particularly. You may approach Jesus as your Saviour as if He had no others to save. God is far too small in our vision. God wants to give us a vision of His greatness. As long as God is so limited in our conception the miraculous is shut out. God is going to restore the miraculous.

What is it that shall make us forsake our old methods. It has to be done. We have measured by our human sight and judgment. We look at the Acts and see that we ought to have that ministry. We go after it in our own way. But God must get us out of our way of thinking.

The Lord is trying to get to us a sight of Himself that will raise us above our limited ideas. When Paul describes the power he desired the Ephesians to receive, he said it was according to the power that raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus Christ was Victor full Victor by resurrection from the dead. He will come into you and overcome in you. If the Overcomer is in you He will get the Victory.

Pilgrim Song

It was with voice of singing

We left the land of night,

To pass in glorious music

Far onward out of sight.

O children, was it sorrow?

Though thousand worlds be lost,

Our eyes have looked on Jesus,

And thus we count the cost.

G. T. S.