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HOW THEY ENTERED CANAAN
(A Collection of Holiness Experience Accounts)
Compiled by Duane V. Maxey

Vol. I -- Named Accounts

SAMUEL BUDGETT (Methodist)

"My heart seemed melted to tenderness, and the name of Jesus was exceedingly precious. Sister Elizabeth then said, 'Cannot you now put in your claim for the blessing of full salvation?' Remember the promise, "I will circumcise thy heart," ' &c., &c. I said, 'I am suffering all this because I would not take the necessary pains to obtain that blessing when that very promise was so often and powerfully impressed on my mind; and as it was so clearly my duty to obtain, to enjoy, and to preach that great and glorious gospel privilege to others, I could not hold fast even a sense of my acceptance with God, or overcome various temptations to sin, -- and it is of the Lord's mercies that I am not consumed:' but when sister Elizabeth said, 'Put in your claim just now,' I made a violent effort and said, 'Lord, thou hast said, "I will circumcise," &c., &c.: now fulfill thine own word. I hang upon thy word; thou wilt do it. I dare believe.' I did not struggle long before my heart seemed deeply humbled, filled with love unutterable to God and all mankind.

"I, however, could not entertain an idea that God could spare my life; and though I felt safe and happy, I could not feel willing to die even to go to heaven with such a consciousness of unfaithfulness up to the eleventh hour, and earnestly prayed, 'O spare me a little that I may recover my strength before I go hence to be no more seen.' On the following morning my dear wife came into my room with the Bible in her hand, saying, 'I have just opened upon this passage.' See Isaiah xlvi, 9, 10. Never did Scripture so powerfully impress my mind. I said, 'It is the word of God to me, in answer to his servant's prayers: I shall not die but live.' From that time I never entertained a doubt but I should have another opportunity of preaching salvation -- full salvation by Christ Jesus to every one who will put in their claim for it. My mind has since been kept in perfect peace, and I have been gradually recovering.

"Now, my dear brother James, my object in being thus minute in the description is, first, to lead you, as you would avoid the gloom, the horror, the anguish, such as no tongue can tell, of an unsatisfactory state of mind on a dying bed, or the more tremendous consequences of being hurried out of time into eternity; as you would enjoy this life tenfold more than you possibly could without it; as you would be unspeakably happy, safe, useful, and rising daily in refinement and elevation of character; and as you would have a glorious entrance administered to you among the saints in light;

in a word, that as you would escape hell and gain heaven securely, you at once give the Lord your whole heart, and accept his full salvation: this, my dear brother, is much easier than doing it by halves. I am, my dear brother,

"Most affectionately yours,
"S. B."

Source: "The Successful Merchant" by William Arthur

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THE END