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

Vol. I -- Named Accounts

JOHN H. CARROLL

I was saved at the age of fifteen and went into active work in the U. B. Church at Newton Stewart. I was made president of the Young People's Society and was an active worker in the church for ten years but had never heard a message on holiness. We got a new preacher by the name of Eskew and he was a sanctified man. When I met him it made me hungry for the blessing. I became a seeker and sought wherever I could find a place, on the farm, around the barn, in my room or any place where I could. I got a book on just plain, simple holiness and read it and my Bible and sought on. No altar calls were given at the church at that time. Holiness was new in our neighborhood. I was trying to pray through alone. As I kept praying I kept getting more hungry and God began to talk to me about preaching. I had no preparation to preach and I would excuse myself and tell the Lord that I could not preach. I was planning to be a farmer and felt I had no talent to preach. Being so bashful and backward it seemed impossible for me to make a preacher. However, I had felt from a child that I would have to be a preacher and when I was just a little lad they called me John Wesley, the preacher boy, but I was doing everything I could to get away from preaching. One day, after I had been seeking for about three months, my father and I went to Eckerty to attend the Quarterly Meeting. When the service was over Bro. Eskew invited us to go down to Anderson Chapel where they were in a revival meeting. When we got there they were having a testimony meeting. A woman got up to testify and she said, "I have been rubbing up my guns, getting ready for the battle". While she was testifying I could see she had what I was seeking for and it made me so hungry for the blessing. I said, "I must have it" and God said, "Will you preach?" I answered, "I will if you will go with me," and at that time the Holy Ghost went through me and filled me with Himself. When I returned home from the meeting I thought everyone would want it but when I began to tell them about it they looked at me so strangely. They thought I had gone too far and that I would hinder all the young converts if I kept testifying to it. I got to thinking about hindering them and the devil told me not to call it sanctification but to say I was saved and kept, or saved and had overcoming power. I tried it and lost the blessing and had to pray through again. I promised God I would never again quit testifying to the experience and I have kept my promise.

Source: "Forty-Seven Years With The Gospel Plow" by John H. Carroll

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THE END