

All Rights Reserved By HDM For This Digital Publication
Copyright 1996 Holiness Data Ministry

Duplication of this CD by any means is forbidden, and
copies of individual files must be made in accordance with
the restrictions stated in the B4Ucopy.txt file on this CD.

* * * * *

ILLUSTRATIONS

By Abbie C. Morrow

Arranged Topically
By Duane V. Maxey

Selected From:
"Joy And Rejoicing"
(Pentecostal Bible Readings)
By Abbie C. Morrow
Editor of "The S. S. Illustrator"
and
Charles W. McCrossan

God's Revivalist Office
Mount of Blessings,
Cincinnati, O.

Copyright, 1898, by M. W. Knapp

* * * * *

Digital Edition 06/02/96
By Holiness Data Ministry

* * * * *

INTRODUCTION TO THIS DIGITAL PUBLICATION

All of the following illustrations were taken from the portion of "Joy and Rejoicing" that
was authored by Abbie C. Morrow. I have assigned each illustration a Topic, Subtopic, and Title,
and placed them in alphabetical arrangement by Topic. -- DVM

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 01
TOPIC: Asking in Faith

SUBTOPIC: As a Little Child
TITLE: She Asked, and Jesus Did

"As a little child" asks for anything and expects to receive it, so we are to "ask and receive." Jno. 16:24; Ph. 4:6. A dear child of three years had slept all night with grandma and in the early morning was chattering away, when her talk was stopped by the words, "Don't talk to grandma for a little while, her head aches." Baby Beulah smoothed the aching brow and said, "I'll put my hand on your head, grandma, and ask Jesus to make you well." After a word of prayer she opened her blue eyes and said confidently, "Jesus did." And grandma answered, "Yes, he did, darling, the pain is all gone."

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 02
TOPIC: Baptism of Fire
SUBTOPIC: Known When Received
TITLE: Beverly Carradine's Sanctification

B. Carradine says: "Looking for the baptism of the Spirit I lived for three days in a constant state of faith and prayer. On the morning of the third day after meditation and prayer from daylight until nine, I was in my room in profound peace and love and in full expectancy of faith when suddenly by some intuition of soul I recognized the approach of the Holy Spirit. My faith rose. In another minute I was prostrated by the power of God. I called out again and again, 'Glory to God!' while billows of fire and glory rolled in upon my soul with steady, increasing force. The experience was one of fire. I recognized it all the while as the baptism of fire. I felt that I was being consumed. For several minutes I thought I would certainly die. I knew it was sanctification. I knew it as though the name was written on every wave of glory that rolled in upon my soul."

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 03
TOPIC: Baptism of The Holy Ghost
SUBTOPIC: For Women
TITLE: Her Pentecost Brought Great Revival

"Women" were baptized and used at Pentecost. A lady came to Moody and asked, "Is the Holy Spirit for women?" "He certainly is." "Well, I have an unconverted husband and a class of girls out of Christ, and I need the Holy Spirit to glorify God in my home and in my work." She knelt and received the Holy Spirit, yielding all to His control. A revival broke out, her husband was saved and her class and five hundred souls were added to the Lord.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 04
TOPIC: Baptism of The Holy Ghost
SUBTOPIC: Now

TITLE: They Asked, "Now" and Received

When we say with intensity of "supplication," Ac. 1:14, "Father, baptize me with Thy Spirit, now," then He will come. A cultured woman who had long sought the fullness of God rose from an altar and said to Bro. Keen, "I have given all to the Lord, and I believe in His own time He will fully save me. He replied, "When is His own time?" "When He thinks best." "The Lord has told us when His own time is. He says now is the accepted time, today is the day of salvation." 2 Co. 6:2. She saw it; said "now" to God, and was baptized by the Spirit.

A clergyman wrote once to Bro. Keen, "I have been long persuaded of a fullness of blessing in the Holy Spirit that was my privilege; but while I preached it to others I did not know how to receive it myself. Yesterday I asked 'definitely, urgently, expectantly, now,' and He came; not the blessing but the Blessor. O it is wonderful! I had been looking for a blessing and trying to prepare myself to receive it; but it never occurred to me that I must first receive the Blessor. I need not tell you of the surging billows of glory that have been rolling over my soul."

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 05

TOPIC: Boldly Speaking God's Word

SUBTOPIC: Its Powerful Effect

TITLE: Wesley's Message To A Robber

"He ... spake boldly." Ac. 19:8. Paul spoke from principle, not policy. He valued his body less than the souls of his hearers. He must speak the truth and leave God to care for the result. John Wesley, stopped by a highwayman, fearlessly preached the Gospel to him. Long afterward the man met him and told him that the Word of God, spoken with boldness, pierced his heart and changed his life. It takes courage to cry aloud, spare not, lift up the voice like a trumpet, and show God's people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins. Isa. 58:1. It takes courage to preach to the heart and conscience; to speak against pride, fashion, wine-drinking, tobacco, dishonesty, the dance, the card-table, the theater, Sunday baseball and Sunday newspapers. Only the Spirit-filled man dare do it. But Paul recognized the necessity of such faithful ministry. Afterward writing from Rome to these same Ephesians he asked them to pray that he might speak "boldly" as he "ought to speak." Eph. 6:19-20.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 06

TOPIC: Carnality Slain

SUBTOPIC: Prevents Recurring Symptoms

TITLE: The Spider Killed -- No More Cobwebs

A Hallelujah lass, in White-Chapel Road, gave her experience in the following parable: "After I was saved I found some things in my heart not right. There seemed to be cobwebs in the corners. I used to sweep them out by watchfulness and prayer; but they would come again. For

some time I kept on sweeping out the cobwebs, only to find them soon appear. But one day the Lord came and killed the spider; and there have been no cobwebs in my heart since.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 07

TOPIC: Cleansing One's Life

SUBTOPIC: From Evil Books

TITLE: The Florentine Book-Burning

"Many ... brought their books ... and burned them." Ac. 19:19. These Ephesians remind us of the Florentines whom the searching testimony of Savonarola so pricked to the heart, that in the grand plaza of their beautiful city, they burned in one vast heap the pernicious books and all other wretched trash they were conscious had kept them from God.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 08

TOPIC: Conviction of Uncleanness

SUBTOPIC: Precedes Cleansing

TITLE: Conviction Must Precede Cleansing

"Woe is me." Isa. 6:5 Horatius Bonar says: "A new view of God's holiness gives a deeper view of our sinfulness. The more we realize a God of glory, the more we feel our unholiness and cry out in fear." Dan. 10:8, Rev. 1:17 Conviction must precede cleansing.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 09

TOPIC: Entire Sanctification

SUBTOPIC: A Second Work of Grace

TITLE: Brainerd Taylor's Experience

Brainerd Taylor was converted at fifteen. Six years afterwards he had a remarkable experience. He says: "The 23d of April, 1882, I was on a visit to Haddain, Coun. Memorable day! The time and place will never be forgotten. For a long time my desire had been that the Lord would visit me, and fill me with the Holy Spirit -- my cry was, 'Seal my soul forever thine.' I lifted my heart in prayer that the blessing might descend. I needed something I did not possess. There was a void within which must be filled. My earnest desire was that all love of the world might be destroyed, all selfishness extirpated, pride banished, unbelief removed, all idols dethroned, everything hostile to holiness and opposed to the divine will crucified; that holiness to the Lord might be engraved on my heart, and evermore characterize my conversation. At this juncture I was most delightfully conscious of giving up all to God. I was enabled in my heart to say, 'Here, Lord, take me, take my whole soul, and seal me Thine, Thine now and Thine forever. If Thou wilt Thou canst make me clean.' Then there ensued such emotions as I never before experienced. All was calm and tranquil and a haven of love pervaded my whole soul. I had a witness of God's love to

me and of mine to Him. Shortly after I was dissolved in tears of love and gratitude to our blessed Lord. The name of Jesus was precious to me; He came as King, and took full possession of my heart; and I was enabled to say, 'I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.' "

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 10

TOPIC: Guidance of The Spirit

SUBTOPIC: Not Contrary to Providence

TITLE: The Lord Had Not Told Her To Go

The Holy Spirit never speaks contrary to God's providence. A lady felt impressed to go as a foreign missionary. Looking for a promise she opened to Ac. 1:8, and felt sure she was to go. But the missionary board did not accept her and no money was provided for her passage. The Lord had not told her to go. But He fulfilled His promise by giving her a large Bible class from which many young men went out as missionaries to different countries.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 11

TOPIC: Guidance of The Spirit

SUBTOPIC: Specific

TITLE: "Go Speak To That Man"

An angel said to Philip, "Go toward the south." Ac. 10:26. The Spirit said, "Go near and join thyself to this chariot." Ac. 10:29. The Spirit Himself personally talks with the surrendered soul not only about spiritual things but about the particulars of personal work. God will guide us as He did Philip if we are Spirit-filled. Pastor J. G. Barton says: "There are many chariots to which God would have us join ourselves for His glory and our joy. At a service, when I was pastor in Burlington, one man lingered after the others. The Spirit said, 'Go speak to that man. I found a poor fellow just out of prison. He told me his story. He was sick of a sinful life and wanted to find the Saviour. I led him to Christ. We miss blessing by not being divinely guided.'"

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 12

TOPIC: Holy Spirit

SUBTOPIC: Manifestations of

TITLE: The "Mighty Wind" Was Heard Again

John Easton was holding a meeting in the forest. Hundreds had gathered to hear him. While all were listening to his words in breathless silence, suddenly a rushing sound as of a mighty wind smote their ears. All eyes were instantly turned upwards, but no storm had smitten the forest; still the awful wind swept over and around them. Hundreds of men and women fell upon their faces, stricken down by the mighty power of God. The cry of conviction that arose was appalling; even

the holiest Christians trembled in the presence of that mysterious sound. The work of conversion was instantaneous as the work of conviction, and many witnesses for Christ arose in the midst of the awe-stricken multitude. The effects of this display of divine power were great. The work spread far and near, and hundreds were added to the Lord.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 13

TOPIC: Hope of Salvation

SUBTOPIC: Is Living and Lasting

TITLE: Only Dust Remained in the Coffin

Hope keeps us from Satanic sophistries that would allure and ensnare. A. T. Pierson says: God sets before us objects that perfectly gratify our deepest desires, and permanently satisfy our noblest expectations. Let the world have its vain and vanishing good, its alluring and ensnaring hopes. Men built their palaces only to exchange them for sepulchers. Philip II. of Spain opened the sarcophagus of his royal father, to gaze on the remains of the great German Emperor. The form and features seemed perfect, but when light and air touched them they instantly collapsed, and only dust remained in the coffin! Men seem about to realize their dearest worldly hopes, but beauty, at the touch of eager hands, turns to ashes. God puts before us only realities, verities: an inheritance, incorruptible, undefiled, unfading, 1 Pe. 1:4, and before we reach our majority we enjoy the foretaste of redemption. Our hope is living and lasting."

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 14

TOPIC: Impressions

SUBTOPIC: From God

TITLE: Needed At Home

Once, while superintendent of the Deaconess Home in Minneapolis, I went with a deaconess to call on a family who were all ill. I prayed with the only unconverted one, and felt strongly, sweetly impressed to go home and leave her to pray with and care for the others. On the way how Satan lashed me with accusations that I did not care for the poor, sick people. Reaching home I found my husband had just returned unexpectedly with a clergyman, and seeing the house empty, was about to go into the kitchen to prepare supper for our guest. Satan would have been delighted to have had me off praying and my husband at home trying to do something God wanted me to do.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 15

TOPIC: Impressions

SUBTOPIC: From Satan

TITLE: A Good Thing -- A Bad Time

A woman whose child was crying, and whose bread was burning, felt impressed to go away and pray for an hour. It was Satan. God is never cruel, outlandish, abnormal, unnatural.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 16

TOPIC: Knowledge of Sonship

SUBTOPIC: How Received

TITLE: The Glorious Knowledge of Sonship

A gentleman said once to Bro. Keen, "I wish I knew I were a child of God. I have been a Christian for eighteen years. I am a class leader, and Sunday School Superintendent. I would not give up; but it is hard to get on when you do not know you are saved!" The answer was, "The next time you pray say, 'O Lord, give me Thy Holy Spirit, that I may know I am a child of Thine! You will do it. Amen.' " One week after, Bro. Keen met him on the street and he said, "I am a child of God and I know it." "Tell me about it." "After our interview I was busy all day. I went home in the evening. After family worship I remembered what you said and prayed, 'O Lord, give me Thy Holy Spirit, that I may know I am Thine. You will do it. Amen.' I sat before the fire reading the paper. After reading a few lines I said, 'Why, I never felt like this before. Such a sense of light, warmth, tenderness.' I folded my arms and took in the delightful emotions, when all at once it broke in upon my soul, 'Abba Father, child of God,' and I have known a whole week that I am saved. It is glorious. It makes every duty light."

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 17

TOPIC: Obedience Unto Death

SUBTOPIC: Tested and Performed

TITLE: He Didn't Expect To Return

A gentleman proposed to drive with his wife to the beautiful cemetery beyond the town. Calling his little four-year-old he told him to get ready. The child's countenance fell, and the father said, "Don't you want to go, Willie?" The little lip quivered, but the child answered, "Yes, papa, if you wish." The child was strangely silent during the drive, and when the carriage drove under the wide archway he clung to his mother's side and looked up in her face with pathetic wistfulness. The party alighted and walked among the graves and along the shaded avenues, looking at the inscriptions. After an hour they returned to the carriage and the father lifted his little son to his seat. The child looked surprised, and drew a breath of relief and asked, "Why, am I going back with you?" "Of course you are; why not?" "I thought when they took little boys to the cemetery they left them there," he said. As this little child said obediently, "Yes, papa, if you wish," though he thought he was going to a horrible death, so we should always say, "Yes, Lord," to any command, though it seems like our death warrant.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 18

TOPIC: Personal Testimony
SUBTOPIC: Brings Others To Christ
TITLE: Convinced That He Could Be Saved

An old man, ragged and intoxicated, came into our Temperance rooms. God saved him. Two years afterward I knelt beside another man, ragged and intemperate, and told him of God's love. With a look of despair, he said, "You don't know anything about it, Madam. God can't save me." I called the dear, aged, redeemed brother. He knelt beside the sorrowful sinner, and told him how two years before he had come into that room without money, friends or hope, and how God saved him, sent him employment, restored him to his wife, and gave him great joy in leading souls to Himself. Eagerly the man listened. At last he said, "God did it for you, He can do it for me." He believed, and went away rejoicing. The dear old man had led another soul to Christ in fulfillment of God's promise of "double" for all our "shame." Isa. 61:7. We should recognize that Satan is mighty, but that God is almighty.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 19
TOPIC: Prayer
SUBTOPIC: Necessary For The Battle
TITLE: A Sight At Which Satan Trembles

"Restraining prayer, we cease to fight:
Prayer keeps the Christian's armor bright;
And Satan trembles when he sees,
The weakest saint upon his knees."

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 20
TOPIC: Praying Without Ceasing
SUBTOPIC: A Fixed Habit
TITLE: Why He Never Forgot To Pray

The Christian must know how to "pray without ceasing." 1 Th. 5:17. Stonewall Jackson, asked about praying without ceasing, said: "I never raise a glass of water to my lips without asking God's blessing, nor seal a letter without putting a word of prayer under the seal, nor take a letter from the post without a brief sending of my thought heavenward, nor change my classes without a minute's petition on the cadets who come in."

"Don't you sometimes forget to do this?" "I scarcely can say that I do. The habit has become as fixed as breathing."

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 21

TOPIC: Preaching Simply, From The Heart
SUBTOPIC: Effective, not Offensive
TITLE: The Cause of His Interest

A clergyman in Boston had a plain country pastor visit him, and invited him to address his people. The preacher was so familiar in his speech and illustrations that the city pastor was disturbed lest his cultivated city congregation should take offense. A few days later there came a prominent member of that congregation to his pastor, in earnest desire for Christ; and when asked as to the cause of his interest, he referred to the homely words of that country preacher, who had spoken right to his heart as he had not been spoken to from that pulpit before. When the pastor told this story he said: "I'll never again distrust God's Spirit in guiding His preachers. I had written more than one sermon for the express purpose of reaching that man; but he was reached by one sentence from a plain man whom God's Spirit guided."

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 22
TOPIC: Promises of God
SUBTOPIC: Faithfully Fulfilled
TITLE: God Regards His Word

A true man has a regard for his word. A father had been six months on the Pacific coast. Returning home by way of Chicago, he met a friend who said, "Stay with me a week; we may never meet again." The father answered, "I should enjoy your hospitality, but I have sent word home that I shall be there Saturday night. Wife will be expecting me, I must go. I can not disappoint the hopes I have awakened in that loving heart." The Holy Spirit will never disappoint any hope awakened by any promise of God.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 23
TOPIC: Purified
SUBTOPIC: By Faith
TITLE: Faith Is The Means of Sanctification

Our hearts are purified "by faith," Ac. 15:9. Faith is the instrumental, human means whereby we obtain an inheritance among them which are sanctified. Ac. 26:18.

Fletcher said: "The same spirit of faith which initially purifies our hearts when we believe the pardoning love of God, completely cleanses them when we fully believe his sanctifying love."

Wesley said: "Exactly as we are justified by faith, we are sanctified by faith."

It is the same faith, in the same God, for different experiences.

William Carvosso said: "I began to exercise faith, and a heavenly influence filled the room; refining fire went through my heart, illuminated my soul, scattered its life through every part and sanctified the whole. I then received the full witness of the Spirit that the blood of Jesus had cleansed me from all sin. I was emptied of self and sin, and filled with God. I was nothing, and Christ was all in all." Ga. 2:20.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 24

TOPIC: Soul, The

SUBTOPIC: Invisible, but Perceptible

TITLE: "Did You Ever See A Pain?"

A physician, who was an infidel, once argued with a minister that he had no soul. He said to the minister, "Did you ever see your soul?" "No." "Then how do you know you have a soul?" The minister replied, "Did you ever see a pain?" "No." "How do you know that there is a pain?"

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 25

TOPIC: Standing Fast

SUBTOPIC: At The Master's Command

TITLE: He Stood Like A Rock

Stand. "Stand therefore." Eph. 6:14. Stand still. Ex. 14:13; 1 Sam. 9:27. Stand fast. 1 Co. 16:13. Stand perfect. Col. 4:12.

An elephant in battle on the plains of India was a standard bearer, carrying on his huge back the royal ensign; the rallying point of the Poona host. At the beginning of the fight his master gave him the word to halt, and received a fatal wound and fell, where he lay under a heap of slain. The obedient elephant stood still while the battle closed round the standard he carried. He never stirred, refusing either to advance or retire as the conflict became fiercer; until the Mahrattas, seeing the standard flying steadily, refused to believe they were being beaten, and rallied again and again. All this while the patient animal stood, straining its ears to catch the sound of the voice it would never hear again. At length the tide of conquest left the field deserted; the Mahrattas pursued the flying foe; but the elephant, like a rock, stood with the dead and dying, and the ensign waving in its place. Three days and nights it remained where its master had commanded it to halt. No bribe nor threat could move it. They sent then, a hundred miles away, and brought the master's son. The noble hero seemed to remember how his master sometimes gave his authority to the little child, and with shattered trappings clanging, went quietly, slowly away.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 26

TOPIC: Strong Drink

SUBTOPIC: Use of, Traffic In, Condemned

TITLE: Not Drunk, Not Given

A clergyman, dining with his bishop, asked to drink wine, said, "I cannot; 'wine is a mocker.' " "Take some brandy, then." "I can not; 'strong drink is raging.' " Pr. 20:1. "Pass the decanter to the gentleman next you." "I can not; 'Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him.' " Hab. 2:15.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 27

TOPIC: Supposing in Fear

SUBTOPIC: Overcome by Faith

TITLE: "I Won't Suppose!"

A dear friend in my home, suffering from a malignant form of grippe, which began with a peculiar sensation in the eyes, asked me to pray with her. As I prayed, I felt a severe pain in my left hand, extending to my head, but I would not take my hands from her until I had the victory. The next day, riding down town, I felt the sensation she had described, in my eyes, and a voice, as clear to my inner consciousness as any I ever heard in my ears, said, "Suppose you should have the grippe; what would you do?" I replied, "I won't suppose." "Suppose you should; how would you write the next Illustrator?" "I won't suppose." "But just suppose." "I won't suppose." So over and over the enemy thrust at me the dart of "Just suppose," and over and over I held up my shield of faith, "I won't suppose." At last I said the words with an emphasis which sent the enemy flying. The pain ceased, and I did not have the grippe.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 28

TOPIC: Voice of The Spirit

SUBTOPIC: Known By Intimate Acquaintance

TITLE: How They Knew The Lord's Voice

Paul was "forbidden " of the Holy Spirit to preach the Word in Asia, and not suffered "to go into Bythinia," Ac. 16:67. He lived in the things of God close to the spirit world. His ear was trained and his heart tuned to hear what others less quiet, less loving, less obedient never could. A lady, asked how she knew the voice of the Spirit, answered, "How do you know your husband's step and your child's cry from the step and the cry of all others? I can not tell you how I know the voice of the Spirit, but it is as real to me as the voice of any person I know."

Another lady asked, "How do you know the voice of the Lord?" hesitated a moment when her little niece Rilla, then four years of age, said, "You hear Him in your heart, don't you, Aunt Abbie?" It was no puzzle to the little child that God should speak to His own. If we are "filled with the Spirit," Eph. 5:18, and "live in the Spirit," and "walk in the Spirit," Ga. 5:15, 25, we shall have an intimate, personal knowledge of the Spirit as real as that of our dearest friend.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 29

TOPIC: Warning Souls in Earnest

SUBTOPIC: Regardless of What Others Think

TITLE: How One Train-Wreck Was Prevented

As some workmen were drawing the trunk of an enormous tree across a railroad track, the chain broke. An accommodation train came by and just escaped it. The conductor knew the express on the other track was due and would be wrecked and many lives sacrificed. He stopped his train, jumped off, ran ahead, waved his arms excitedly, and gesticulated so that those who saw him thought him a maniac. The engineer of the express heeded the strange warning, shut off the steam, put on the brakes, and stopped his train directly in front of the great tree. As the conductor looked into some of the grateful faces of those he had saved, it mattered little to him that he had been considered a maniac. Oh, how rare it is for one to show such a passion for souls that men think he is crazy. Those of us who are called "cranks" and "fanatics" will forget it all some day when we look into the glad faces of those we have rescued.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 30

TOPIC: Word of God

SUBTOPIC: Illuminated by The Spirit

TITLE: How The Glow Replaced The Gloom

The Spirit brightens the Word until it glows with the glory of God. In an old castle a king of England sought entertainment. It had stood for years silent and gloomy. On the night of the king's arrival the owner of the mansion illuminated it in his sovereign's honor. The golden light streamed from every window far out over the moor, and men came to admire the beauty of the castle. The Bible without the Holy Spirit seems dark and unlovely. He irradiates it and there streams from every one of the sixty-six books a glory which is the wonder and joy of many.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 31

TOPIC: Word of God

SUBTOPIC: Proven by Its Mockers

TITLE: How An Infidel Proved God's Word

An infidel, talking to a circle of young men, said "Look at David, a man after God's own heart; we would have him in the penitentiary these days." A humble Christian said, "Sir, do you know you have proved God's word to these young men?" "No, I don't." "When the prophet came to David and opened his eyes to his sin, he said, 'Thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme.' 2 Sam. 12:14. You are blaspheming God's word when you say David's sin was pleasing to God." The man went out. The humblest believer who knows how to use the sword of the Spirit can rout any infidel.

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 32

TOPIC: Worldly Pleasure

SUBTOPIC: Not For True Christians

TITLE: He Found The Source of True Pleasure

Joy is a "fruit of the Spirit," Ga. 5:22. We are filled with "all joy ... through the power of the Holy Spirit." Ro. 15:13. A. H. Hussey says: "After I had known forgiveness of sin, I found in myself a reluctance to serve God. I was not always obedient to God; I found an inclination to sin. [In] spite of my satisfaction in Christ, I found more pleasure in the world than in Jesus. I went to the world for pleasure, and to God for salvation. But one day I heard of the power of the Holy Spirit received by faith, and my heart burned with the desire for the experience. As it was explained to me, I was led to take one step after another in consecration, yielding to God and trusting Him.

[The following description of Hussey's experience seems to be like that of one who was first reclaimed, and then sanctified wholly. -- DVM]

"I remember the step of faith in the dark. I said, 'I give all to Christ; I yield all, everything I have.' Then I received the Lord Jesus as my Sanctifier. No special feeling took possession of me, only more rest in God, more of the consciousness I was not my own. No definite feeling came until making a public confession. I said, 'I am Christ's; everything I possess is His.' Peace and glory filled my soul. I began to teach this gospel truth, but I had not the power I desired. After this I sought definitely the enduement of power from on high. In an upper room alone I cried out to God. While I was praying a strange feeling came over my body, a strange moving in my heart. I said, 'Come, Lord, come in Thy power; come, Holy Spirit, come.' My heart was filled with glory, and I shouted, again and again, 'Glory to God!' Oh, it was real! Then I felt this Spirit of God permeating my being from the crown of my head to the soles of my feet, and I was cleansed from all sin; the fire of the Holy Spirit was burning through my soul, and destroying everything of a corrupt nature; and the power was so great I lay prostrate for three hours all alone; and I saw how Jesus died for my sin as never before, and received a wonderful illumination of the Scriptures, so that I could comprehend what God designed for us to make us perfect in Christ Jesus, and that we should live wholly, entirely and altogether for Him, and serve Him with a perfect heart and a willing mind. That joy and peace and thrill continued for hours. During the whole night, when I could not sleep for joy, every insect seemed to say, 'Glory to God,' the clock seemed to say, 'Praise God.' And that continued for days. This was fifteen years ago. The thrill did not remain, but peace and joy have filled my soul from that day to this."

* * *

ILLUSTRATION -- 33

TOPIC: Zeal

SUBTOPIC: Brings Attention and Questions

TITLE: "What does it mean, anyhow?"

"What meaneth this?" Ac. 2:12. When a church takes action on intemperance, or disciplines its members for theater-going or dancing, or when it is roused to unwonted zeal in saving souls, the world asks, "What meaneth this?" Years ago, a new pastor, determined to get the people out of their grooves, started a prayer-meeting before daylight, and created a sensation all through the community. Some said he was a fire-eater; some, a fanatic. But people came without breakfast or brought it with them. One morning there was a deep snow, and the pavements had not been cleared. The stars were in the sky. The sexton had overslept and the gates were locked and a crowd of people were waiting outside. Two policemen came up and one said, "This is an unlawful assembly at this time of night, and you will have to disperse." The other asked, "What does it mean, anyhow?" The pastor told him they had come to meeting, and this made him still more suspicious. "What denomination?" A boy blurted out, "Presbyterian!" "No, sonny, that's too thin, I know the Presbyterians; they are too high-toned to turn out at this hour. Why, they wear patent leathers; they don't go out in the wet. No, no, if you tell me any more of that I will arrest you all." Three elders arrived, who knew the policemen, and explained the situation, but they went away, thinking, "What meaneth this?"

* * * * *

THE END