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

Vol. I -- Named Accounts

JUSTIN MARTYR

[It may be correctly stated that the material below does not contain an account of the subject's entire sanctification nor a direct testimony to the experience. It is inserted as a matter of interest and evidence that Christians from the earliest times were aware of the need of that "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." And, in some cases their written insights on the subject may indeed have originated from personal experience. -- DVM]

Justin Martyr, a philosopher, converted to Christianity after vainly searching the philosophies of the ancients, and who finally sealed his testimony with his blood, wrote as follows: "For our own Ruler, the divine Word, who even now constantly aids us, does not desire strength of body and beauty of feature, nor yet the high spirit of earth's nobility, but a pure soul, fortified by holiness, and the watchwords of our King, holy actions, for through the Word power passes into the soul. O trumpet of peace to the soul that is at war! O weapon that puttest to flight terrible passions! These instructions that quench the innate fires of the soul! These have conquered me -- the divinity of the instruction, and the power of the Word: for as a skilled serpent charmer lures the terrible reptile from his den and causes it to flee, so the Word drives the fearful passions of our sensual nature from the very recesses of the soul; first driving forth lust, through which every ill is begotten -- hatreds, strife, envy, emulations, anger, and such like. Lust being once banished, the soul becomes calm and serene. And being set free from the ills in which it was sunk up to the neck, it returns to him which made it."

Source: "Objections to Holiness Considered" by H. A. Baldwin

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THE END