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

Vol. II -- Unnamed Accounts

ACCOUNT #011

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Feeling deeply sensible that I should be doing injustice to the cause of my dear Redeemer, were I longer to neglect to testify what infinite grace has done for one of the most unworthy and undeserving, I take my seat at the feet of my beloved Savior, and give Him all the praise, while I speak of his salvation, a salvation purchased by his own precious blood. O, it is so free, so full, so perfectly adapted to my every want, that had I an angel's heart and an angel's tongue, I never could sufficiently praise my blessed Savior, that I have been led to embrace it.

It is fourteen years since I professed to be a child of God; and although I had some evidence of his acceptance through the merits of his Son, I was often sensible I followed Him "afar off." I often committed sins: especially was I guilty of sins of omission, which gave me much sorrow and led me to weep in secret places. But I did not understand how to get the victory over these sins. At times I had some peace and rest, but it was only for the moment. Thus I went on sinning and repenting, resolving and re-resolving to be more faithful, without any real, abiding, controlling change in my feelings for twelve years. At length through a kind providence I was led to contemplate the subject of "Christian Perfection." At first my heart revolted at the idea, but to live on as I had done I could not. I therefore resolved, in the strength of Christ, to yield to the teachings of the Holy Spirit. I resorted to my Bible as my guide, and poured out my soul to God in earnest unceasing prayer, that I might know by experience the joy of sins forgiven, and what it was to be united to Christ "as the branch is united to the vine."

For four weeks my soul longed after full redemption. The subject had become deeply interesting. My Bible was my constant companion, my closet was my retreat, but still "there was an aching void within." I did not find that peace and rest I heard of others enjoying. At length I became sensible I was trusting too much to my own efforts to obtain what I so much desired. By the aid of the Holy Spirit, I resolved to cease trusting in anything I could do myself, and cast all on Him who has said, "Call upon me in the time of trouble; I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." I soon became willing to make any sacrifice necessary that I might be delivered from this

bondage of sin, and enjoy that "liberty wherewith Christ makes free." I cast away my cherished idols, and sought my closet at the midnight hour, and there, in the agony of my soul, sank at the feet of my blessed Redeemer, a poor, helpless, miserable sinner. Before I was aware, my Savior met me and spoke peace to my burdened soul. And now language is powerless to convey even a faint idea of the deep uninterrupted pleasure, joy and delight that filled my soul the following day. Oh, it is all of grace; to God be all the praise and all the glory.

From that time till the present my peace has been as a river, and my righteousness as the waves of the sea. My mind seems continually soaring upward and onward, panting for more and more holiness, as the "hart for the water brooks." My confidence in God increases day by day, and He has taught me that no spiritual blessing for myself is too great to ask of Him in prayer. I have been encouraged to ask greater blessings, and often the promise has been verified, "Before they call I will answer, and while they are yet speaking I will hear." My trials and conflicts are not few. But be they ever so many it matters not; the promise, "my grace shall be sufficient for thee," makes every burden light.

O, it is blessed to trust, yea, most blessed to sit at the feet of our dear Redeemer and learn of Him. Truly his "yoke is easy and his burden light." I am often led to wonder and adore the goodness of God, in manifesting Himself to me, one of the greatest of sinners, as he has done. Had I a thousand tongues I could not sufficiently praise Him, but I give Him all. My whole being is at his disposal. In sickness or health, prosperity or adversity, I will praise the God I love, the God whom I adore.

My soul longs greatly to have all God's people see and feel the fullness of the promises and the fullness of a Savior's love. I trust the day is not distant when God will appear and purify his people, and transform the whole moral image of this fallen world. "God is faithful who has promised, who also will do it."

Source: "The Blessing of Perfect Love"

by D. S. King

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THE END