

All Rights Reserved By HDM For This Digital Publication  
Copyright 1994 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.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

Vol. II -- Unnamed Accounts

### ACCOUNT #013

\* \* \* \* \*

[In spite of the intense zeal for conformity to God's will and likeness, the author of this testimony makes no clear statement of having been sanctified wholly. Indeed, he seems to manifest a prejudice against those who do profess the experience when he writes: "Yet am I far as ever from regarding my work of spiritual improvement as finished. I have only begun it -- have but just learned how to get and hold the victory over sin -- how to have bad tempers transformed to good, and my soul kept in peace and love. My state is far as can be from his who supposes himself to have attained so much, and of such a kind, that his labor of growing in grace and watching against sin is over. I have no sympathy with that state." -- I marvel that this testimony was included in a book of genuine holiness experiences. -- DVM]

It is now about twenty years since I have supposed myself to be a child of God; and during most of this period, I have had little or no doubt of my being accepted of Him through the merits of his Son. Yet there has been a sad deficiency in the practical power of the gospel upon my heart to subdue sin, and keep me under the protecting wing and inspiring eye of my Savior. I have been conscious of sins, and have struggled against some of them long and hard, and almost in vain. For many years, my intellectual perceptions of truth were always in advance of my moral sensibilities in view of it. Over this, I have mourned bitterly as a grievous sin, and often have thought that my inveterate habits in this respect were incurable.

But I did not apprehend the adequate fullness of the provisions of the gospel. I was resisting sin more by dint of resolutions than by the aid of simple faith in Christ. I had not seen that there is grace enough provided to justify the rational expectation of being delivered in this life from all known sin, and from all sin as fast as revealed to us by God's word and Spirit. With these views, how could I expect more victory over sin, and more ample communications of the Spirit than I had?

Through a most kind providence, my mind, more than a year since, was strongly turned to the investigation of this subject, especially as taught in the Bible. The result in respect to my sentiments, you have in this treatise.\* [referring to a little volume on holiness] The result on my spiritual state remains to be briefly told.

1. My views of the provisions of the gospel have been greatly enlarged and have become more definite. The Bible taught me to regard them as entirely adequate for their object -- the supply of all my spiritual wants. 2. I see with great clearness how certainly and intensely the heart of Christ is set upon sanctifying his Church, and how ardently the energies of each person in the Trinity are devoted to this work. 3. Consequently I have learned to ask for greater blessings. No spiritual blessing for myself seems too great to be sought of God in prayer. I have a precious conviction -- worth more than both the Indies -- that I cannot please God better than in asking every moment to have my capacities absolutely filled with spiritual gifts and graces. I know that the more earnestly and confidently I pray to be just like Jesus Christ, the more acceptable will my prayer be, and the more sure of being answered. 4. Of course, I have learned to expect greater blessings. And, of course, also, I have received greater blessings. God has shown me that my moral insensibilities under intellectual apprehensions of truth can pass away in a moment under the melting touch of the Spirit's power. On gospel truths and promises my soul now feasts with a luxury which none can ever know but by experience. Everything about religion becomes a blessed reality. I know not how in better and fewer words to describe my state. Religious truths are transformed into solid realities. The shadowy objects of a dim and weak faith have assumed the full form, and vivid features of real existence.

This result I attribute to the operations of the Spirit. Yet without truth, intelligently and really believed, the result could not have been effected. In this view, the truth respecting the full provisions of gospel grace has been worth more to me than I can express.

Moreover, I have never before been so much and so delightfully engaged in studying God's law, and in carrying out its great principles over the whole broad field of human agency. I have desired intensely to know all that God would have me do, and to ascertain in regard to all the most minute thoughts and actions, what does, and what does not please Him. There has been a love of denying myself, and a desire to find things in which I might properly do it, and thereby indulge and cherish my regard for Jesus Christ. In this state, I am ready to carry the principles of the divine law over the entire field of my physical, social; and mental enjoyments, and have God show me how many and which of them all he would be pleased to have me sacrifice for Him. Anything, Lord, has been the language of my heart -- anything will I give up most sweetly for thee. I cannot sacrifice too much.

The great spirituality of God's law has been to me its chief glory. I rejoice that this law demands just all that we can do -- love with all the heart, and soul, and strength. For in this view I see that God is seeking to make us perfect as we can be; and for the universe I would not stop short of that. And when, with this view of the extent and spirituality of God's law, I couple the precious truth that the provisions of gospel grace exactly correspond with them; have the same glorious end in view, viz. -- our sanctification; and are adapted to secure it; I see that God is really in earnest "to cleanse me from all filthiness of the flesh and of the spirit," and to have me "perfect holiness in

his fear," and my soul rejoices in God exceedingly. His glory is unutterably precious. It is truly "glad tidings of great joy."

Yet am I far as ever from regarding my work of spiritual improvement as finished. I have only begun it -- have but just learned how to get and hold the victory over sin -- how to have bad tempers transformed to good, and my soul kept in peace and love. My state is far as can be from his who supposes himself to have attained so much, and of such a kind, that his labor of growing in grace and watching against sin is over. I have no sympathy with that state. God has taught me to press onward and upward. He has kindly taught me how to take hold of his arm, and believe his gracious promises -- yes, really to believe them, and to know assuredly that I may trust him for grace to help in every season of need. He has taught me how precious it is to love, -- how sweet to lie infinitely low before Him -- and how strengthening to feel that Jesus is mighty to save. The teachings of the Spirit sometimes make me feel that I never knew anything before -- with such amazing clearness do many of the most simple truths of the gospel present themselves to my mind. My soul longs greatly to have all God's people know how exceedingly clear and rich are the teachings of the Spirit, and how wonderfully adapted his influences are to sanctify the soul, and really to fill it with love, joy, peace, and every grace. Under his power, religion becomes a blessed reality.

And now, in conclusion, I cannot say less than that my heart's desire and prayer to God for all Christ's dear flock, is, that they may be saved -- yea, really saved now from the power of their spiritual foes, through the abounding grace of God in the gospel of his Son.

Source: "The Blessing of Perfect Love"  
by D. S. King

\* \* \* \* \*

THE END