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

Vol. II -- Unnamed Accounts

### ACCOUNT #064

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My parents were godly people, members of the Congregational church, and instructed their children in the first principles of religion and their duty to God. I was, therefore, from my earliest recollection, a subject of serious impressions, but never indulged the hope that my sins were pardoned until about the age of fourteen years; and even then I could not tell the exact time when Christ spake peace to my soul. This fact was a hindrance, for several years, to my progress in the divine life; but I finally learned that the question was not, What have I been? but, What am I? Am I serving God now? If I am his disciple now, it matters not when I became one. Thus the tempter was foiled in his attempt to overthrow my faith.

Soon after my conversion I united with the church to which my parents belonged. But, after struggling against convictions for six years, I at length yielded, and united with a Baptist church. That was a new era in my spiritual life. From that day there was a greater change in my feelings than I had ever known before. I enjoyed very much of the presence of my Saviour from time to time, although I still felt that I had not reached the Bible standard; but I heard nothing of a higher life from Christians for several years.

At length some works on holiness were placed within my reach, and I availed myself of the privilege of reading them. I then saw that it was possible for me, even me, to walk in the "highway of holiness." I sought and obtained the blessing of sanctification, and for several months was enabled to trust in Jesus as my Saviour -- my perfect Saviour. But, not being fully instructed in the way, faith wavered, and I fell. I did not walk in darkness much in the years that followed, yet felt many times that I was living far beneath my privilege; although to the praise of God I can say that I received many precious answers to prayer, both for temporal and spiritual blessings.

In the winter of 1865-6, my attention was again called to the subject of holiness, and I determined again to make the consecration, and seek the blessing. Week after week passed away, and still I received no light. One evening after reading the tracts entitled, "The Experience of a

Baptist Minister," and of a "Once Fashionable Young Lady," the thought arose: Why do I not enter into this rest? I know it is attainable, and I long for holiness of heart. I trust I was enabled fully to count the cost. The subject was made more clear to me, and I again made the consecration, feeling that I could not leave the room until the victory had been won. I had all the time before been looking for the evidence of acceptance before I believed. I told the Lord now I would hold on by faith and believe even without any sensible evidence. He took me at my word. I did believe that the offering was accepted, though I had no evidence except the written word. Yet I held by faith, and though I had no ecstatic joys, I possessed sweet peace and confidence in God.

I find that the once aching void is filled, and I can say that Jesus is mine and I am his; and "though he slay me, yet will I trust in him." I am now not my own. My time, my talents, my all, belong to God. Oh that he may enable me to use all to promote his glory! This is all I ask: to know more of Jesus -- to be perfectly conformed to him.

"Blessed Jesus, unto thee  
Evermore the praise shall be."

Source: "Experiences of the Higher Christian Life in the Baptist Denomination" by John Q. Adams, New York: Sheldon & Company, 500 Broadway. Boston: Gould & Lincoln. Chicago: S. C. Griggs & Co. 1870

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THE END