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

Vol. I -- Named Accounts

### **JOHN A. MCKINNEY**

Rev. John A. McKinney, who had read the Guide to Holiness, the original holiness journal of America, then published by Mrs. Phoebe Palmer, in New York City, grew hungry for the blessing and attended the holiness meeting at Calvert, was sanctified, and invited Rev. Hardin Wallace and his band of workers to come to Ennis, Texas, for a meeting, which they did before returning to Illinois. Rev. Mr. Wallace was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at the time of the Calvert meeting, but at its close united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, as it was more congenial while working in the South. At the Calvert revival a Rev. Mr. Ellis, a Methodist pastor, was sanctified and became a very zealous worker.

In March, 1877, the Wallace Band began a meeting in the Cumberland Presbyterian church in Ennis, Texas. They preached so hard against tobacco and worldliness that the ruling elders had a session and ordered Cyrus Hogan, who was then an elder in the church to lock the doors, but on his way to do so he met John A. McKinney, who told him he need not do so as they would vacate without the doors being locked, and the meeting was finished out under the trees in McKinney's yard. This caused great division in the town, while many tobacco-soaked church members fought holiness, the sinners in town contended for the holiness meeting to run on. At every place they held meetings they organized holiness bands, started Tuesday night holiness prayermeetings, and took subscribers for The Banner of Holiness, a paper published in Illinois. At the Ennis meeting some Baptists were sanctified, and at the next regular church meeting they were excluded from the church, their pastor telling them that they had accepted the Methodist faith by being sanctified, and were no longer Baptists. That same night a tremendous storm struck the town, utterly demolishing the Baptist church, the only building that was seriously damaged in the town. A company of Texas toughs waited on the deacons the next day and told them that it was the curse of God, for turning out these holy people. Before leaving Texas they had a great meeting at Lawrence, in the Methodist Episcopal church.

Source: "Pioneer Days In The Holiness Movement In The Southwest" by C. B. Jernigan

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