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

Vol. I -- Named Accounts

WILLIAM HENRY WINANS (Methodist)

In the latter part of the summer of 1868, he manifested symptoms of a slight indisposition in body, but was able to continue his business, as an apothecary, until in September, when he commenced bleeding at the lungs, by which he was brought very low. After a few days he appeared to revive a little, but still to linger and grow feeble; in the midst of his illness he continued to look for brighter manifestations of God's favor and higher attainments in religion. On the 14th day of the following January, when a few friends were present enjoying a season of prayer, he was wonderfully blessed, the fear of death was taken from him and all his doubts removed; pure light from heaven shone upon him; he received a bright evidence that his heart was cleansed from all sin, for several weeks he could say, --

"Not a cloud doth arise
To darken my skies,
Or hide for a moment
My Lord from my eyes."

but he had another battle to encounter with the grand adversary who came in like a flood, and though he never lost his confidence and trust in the Lord yet, he complained of the coldness of his heart; and a gloom that seemed to come over his mind; but his parents prayed with him, and encouraged him to cleave to his Saviour, and expect fresh tokens of his love; they pointed him to Calvary, and reminded him of the love of God, which is as vast as eternity and reaches to every condition of man; soon a flood of joy and comfort enraptured his soul, and again his peace flowed like a river. When his window curtain was raised the next morning, he turned his languishing head to see the rain that was falling, acknowledged the goodness of God and showers of grace descended upon him, and was happy in the Lord; he said he had given himself entirely unto the Lord, and exclaimed, "I am now happy, happy in His love," and then added, "The Lord is so good to me, He has given me all I desire in this world, pious and tender parents, and many kind friends, every blessing is bestowed upon me except health; But I am in the hands of the Lord and He will do right." In this happy state of mind he ever after continued; it appears to have been the last conflict with the adversary; his mind was left in constant peace, the path of immortality continued

to brighten before him. About this time he was much cheered and comforted by an encouraging letter he received from his friend, the Rev. J. Holmes, whom he had previously requested to preach his funeral sermon.

During the two months before he died, though unable to speak above a whisper, he was so anxious for the salvation of others, that he still continued to invite and urge, in whispers of love, his young friends who visited him to give their hearts to God, and seek and serve the Lord without delay; some of these were influenced by him and at once set about the work -- sought the Lord, and are now happy in His love.

In the later part of March, on Friday morning, it was thought he was entering the cold stream of death, and appeared to think so himself; and asked to see his only sister Mrs. Freeman, on her approaching his bed side, his first whispers were, "Glory, glory, glory to God;" and then after a little pause, he added, "O how happy I am -- the Lord is so good;" and then he added, "With me, all is peace."

Source: "William Henry Winans" by Conrad Van Dusen

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THE END