

He Came to Set every Captive Free !

“ Satan seeks to draw our minds away from the mighty Helper, to lead us to ponder over our degeneration of soul . . . But though Jesus sees the guilt of the past (last year, last month, last week, and even last night), **He speaks pardon** . . . and we should not dishonor Him by doubting His love.

The feeling of guiltiness must be laid at the foot of the cross, or it will poison the springs of *your* life. When Satan (the accuser) thrusts his threatenings upon you, **turn from them** . . . and comfort your soul with the promises of God. The cloud may be dark in itself, but when filled with the light of heaven, it turns to the brightness of gold; for the glory of God rests upon it.

- Tesimonies to Ministers, p.518

“By sin we have been severed from the Life of God. Our souls are palsied . . . Of ourselves we are no more capable of living a holy life than was the impotent man capable of walking. Many realize their help-lessness; they are longing for that spiritual life which will bring them into harmony with God, and are striving to obtain it. But in vain . . .

In despair they cry, “O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from this body of death?” (Romans 7:24). **Let these desponding, struggling ones look up.** The Saviour is bending over the purchase of His blood, saying with inexpressible tenderness and pity . . . “Wilt thou be made whole?”

He bids you arise in health and peace. Do not wait to feel that you are made whole. Believe the Saviour’s Word. Put your will on the side of Christ. Will (choose) to serve Him, and in acting upon His Word you will receive strength. Whatever may be the evil practice, the master passion which through long indulgence binds both soul and body, **Christ is able and longs to deliver**. He will impart *His* Life to the soul that is “dead in trespasses.” Ephesians 2:1. He will set free the captive that is held by weakness and misfortune and the chains of sin.

The sense of sin has poisoned the springs of life (ref: Proverbs 4:20-23). But Christ says, “I will take your sins; I will give you _____ (your name) *My* peace. *For* I have bought you with My blood. You are Mine. My grace* (G5485) shall strengthen your weakened will; your remorse for sin I will remove !”

When temptations assail you, when care and perplexity surround you, when, depressed and discouraged, you are ready to yield to despair, **look to Jesus** . . . “Look unto Me, and BE ye saved, all the ends of the earth . . . !” (Isaiah 45:22-25), and the darkness that encompasses you will be dispelled by the bright shining of His Presence.

When sin struggles for the mastery in your soul, and burdens the conscience, look to the Saviour. His grace is sufficient to subdue sin. Let your grateful heart, trembling with uncertainty, turn to Him. Lay hold on the hope set before you. Christ waits to adopt you into His family. His strength will help your weak-ness; He will lead you step by step. Place your hand in His, and let Him guide you.

Never feel that Christ is far away. He is always near. His loving presence surrounds you. **Seek Him as One Who desires to be found of you.** He desires you not only to touch His garments, but to walk with Him in constant comm-union . . . !”

- Ministry of Healing, p.84-86

Quote -

“If you feel yourself to be the greatest of sinners, then Christ is just what you need; for He is the greatest of Saviours. Lift up your head, and look away from yourself, *look* away from the poisoned wound of the serpent, to the Lamb of God, Who taketh away the sins of the world (Daniel 9:24).

What will all your groaning and the torturing of your soul avail? You may entertain thoughts that condemn you, but in them there is no salvation. **Put away your thoughts, and receive** the thoughts of God (ref: Jeremiah 29:10-14), through which your mind may be elevated, your soul purified and uplifted.

The Lord says: “For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee. In a little wrath I hid my Face from thee (ref: II Corinthians 4:6) for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the Lord thy Redeemer.”

Why will you carry your burden of sin, when Christ has come to be your burden bearer? Roll your sins at the foot of the cross. Unload! unload! *for* He takes away the sins of the world, *and says* . . . “I, even I am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for Mine Own sake, and *I* will not remember thy sins !”

You have been pronounced a sinner, and Christ has announced Himself a Saviour. **Accept the remedy God has provided for you** in a sin-pardoning Saviour. How would you have felt had you been in the camp of Israel, and seen the people groaning and shrieking in distress because of their swollen and painful wounds, when the brazen serpent was uplifted . . . and when by one look they might be healed? Would you not have exclaimed, “why do they not look at the uplifted serpent? How strange it is that they do not perform the one simple act by which they may receive healing!”

But is it not as inconsistent for you to refuse to look at the crucified Saviour? Heed the invitation: “Seek ye the LORD while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the LORD, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God (Mighty One), for He will abundantly pardon !”

Why should the repenting sinner forsake his thoughts?--It is because they are not in accordance with Truth. He is tempted to believe that because of his sins God has given him up to the will of his enemy, and that there is no pardon for so great a sinner as he. **But all these thoughts** are dishonouring to God, because man is God's possession, both by creation and redemption . . . !”

- Bible Echo, July 2, 1894

Quote -

When the Saviour said, “Go . . . teach all nations,” He said also, “These signs shall follow them that believe; **In My name** shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up* (loose the hold of) serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover !” ref: Matthew 28:18-19 and Mark 16:15-20.

The promise is as far-reaching as the commission. Not that all the gifts are imparted to each believer. The Spirit divides “to every man severally as He will.” I Corinthians 12:11. But the gifts of the Spirit are promised to every believer according to his need for the Lord’s work. **The promise is just as strong** and trustworthy now as in the days of the apostles. “These signs shall follow them that believe.”

This is the privilege of God's children, and faith should lay hold on all that it is possible to have as an indorsement of faith. "They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover !"

This world is a vast lazar house, but Christ came to heal the sick, to proclaim deliverance to the captives of Satan. He was in Himself health and strength. He imparted His Life to the sick (ref: Isaiah 53:4-12 and II Corinthians 5:21 and 4:10-11), the afflicted, those possessed of demons . . . He turned away none who came to receive His healing power.

He knew that those who petitioned Him for help had brought disease upon themselves; yet He did not refuse to heal them. And when virtue from Christ entered into these poor souls, they were convicted of sin, and many were healed of their spiritual disease, as well as of their physical maladies. The gospel still possesses the same power, and why should we not today (II Corinthians 6:2 and Hebrews 3:7-19) witness the same results?"

- Desire of Ages, p.822-823

Quote -

"The world's Redeemer is still the world's Restorer. Today Christ is feeling the woes of every sufferer. When the evil spirit rends the suffering frame, the Saviour feels its curse. When fever is burning up the life-current, He experiences the agony as if it were His Own. And He is strong to deliver !

Help has been laid on One that is Mighty (Isaiah 63:1). He encircles man with His long human arm, while with His divine arm He lays hold of Omnipotence. He Who created man knows just how to rid the human machinery of the clogs that have weakened the action of nerve, brain, bone, and muscle, and poisoned the life-current of the body. He knows how to speak the Word, "Be whole," and bid the sufferer, "Go, and sin no more !"

"And every command is a Promise . . . !" ref: Education, p.126

- Youth's Instructor, December 29, 1898