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FRAGMENTS OF FLAME



AUGUST, 1910.

Special Missionary Number.

No. 7.

The Call.

"Not disobedient to the Heavenly vision."

"Come over and help us."

"It is not of the Lord to save whether by many or by few."

"He called whom He would—and sent them forth."

"Go ye into all the world and preach."

WANTED Workers; WANTED Prayers; WANTED Givers. *All* are wanted, old and young, men and women, and little children. The Baptism in the Holy Ghost with signs has *filled* you, *qualified* you—for what? To take active part in the biggest bit of business, the most fateful concern, the most astonishing enterprise under Heaven; the angels gaze and marvel. *Awake* and hasten yourself; cease dreaming; *live* as those who are alive; *work* with God-given, superhuman energy. You *can*, because God is in you; you ought, for men are dying, and the world is dying, in the evil one. God give you an *exalted ideal*, act up to it. *Believe* in the *power* that worketh in you.

A handful of nobodies *with God* is sufficient for the purpose. Get ready yourself, get ready your young men and young women—train them—*occupy* the buildings in London, in the country, send labourers into the fields white to harvest—*it can be done*. Room for all. Work for all. Mind you *do* what you can, *pray* as you can, *give* as you can. *God* will multiply your seed for sowing, so that you "always having all sufficiency in *all* things shall abound unto every good work."

The Opportunity.

Immediate, supreme, urgent, imperative, overwhelming. *Now* is the day of salvation; *now* is the accepted and acceptable time; "if we *tarry* till the morning light we shall find punishment." *China* is in the crucible—plastic, formative—another five years, and, for weal or woe, the image will be shaped, cooled and hardened. What shall it be? Experts of long years tell us the next five, nay, *three years*, may be, will be of priceless worth in *China's* evangelizing. A huge mighty nation in the making, what a giant issue!

This is *India's* day; now or never for *India*. Young *India* awakening—a *Christian* hand held out to meet and soothe the nation's growing restiveness. Again experts agree, that *now* is the moment of supreme importance for *India*.

And for *Africa*, only instant action, strenuous and determined, can avert the appalling calamity of the inundating Moslem wave sweeping over, submerging villages and towns now heathen. "*Too late, too late*, will be the cry."

And what of *Tibet, Turkey*? The whole world is ripe, *the set time*.

And the showers of latter rain are falling at this very time. *God* is ever in time. *His* clock is never slow. The *opportunity*—the blessing in readiness. What is Pentecost

for? Why these showers of latter rain? Can you not see? Look up and gaze. The need and *Thy* great fulness meet. "Be strong and work, for *I am* with you, saith the Lord of Hosts."

Changes in Tibet.

For some years China has been slowly and surely subduing her nominally subject Tibetans, in order to exercise absolute sway over the whole of "the Great Closed Land." Chao-er-Feng, the ever victorious Chinese General, has throughout, with here and there a pause, conducted the campaign with great skill and energy where necessary, wiping out monasteries and lamas, leaving unimportant tribes and districts, and seizing strategical points of vantage, making all ready for the final rapid rush of Chinese troops to Lhasa, which resulted in the sudden flight of the Dalai Lama last spring. There are not wanting evidences to point to the soon throwing open of Tibet to the outer world, just as the rest of China is already unlocked. Will my Readers pray that the long closed land may be entered soon by Holy Ghost filled men, clearly guided of the Lord.

Coming, coming, yes they are,
Coming, coming, from afar,
From Tibet's wild country opening
By the Prayers across the Sea,
They are passing out of bondage
Into glorious liberty.

OUR TRAINING HOMES have been doing good work. Many are the testimonies to the value of the training received. A Sunday meeting has rarely been held by the Sisters and Mrs. Crisp without a soul or souls saved, and frequently our Sisters have, through prayer, healed the sick. The Home re-opens the 1st week in September. Lady visitors will be gladly welcomed. Address, 118, King Edward's Road, South Hackney, N.

The men students received much help from Pastor A. M. Niblock. Since they broke up the Lord has greatly used them in healings and the saving of souls.

On General Principles.

(F. Bartleman).

Satan is certainly playing havoc in many instances with the "tongues." It is either but a step from the Spirit to the flesh, and many are taking that step, or else the enemy is running in a false manifestation on many originally. It is time to get down on our faces together.

The man who keeps his mouth shut, and knows nothing, will at least stand a fair show of holding the confidence of the people. Most people to-day seem to have their minds made up beforehand. They may agree with you while you are with them. Others do not seem to own minds of their own. To say the least there is but little confidence in the world generally. It is a characteristic of the times.

The manifestation of "tongues" may prove a powerful initial evidence even to the one exercised that the Spirit has come. But that must not be depended on for future, abiding consciousness of His presence. Faith realizes God.

The holding of the truth in love, for the salvation of souls rather than in mere zeal for the truth is a revelation that must come from God to many zealots to-day, in this "last days" religious connection.

It never was so dangerous in the world to talk, as it is to-day. Satan perverts and multiplies every word. And thought flies with telegraphic swiftness. The only antidote lies in a closed ear, or a refusal to judge until the charge is proven.

We will even abstain from the meat of selfish spiritual gratification, in manifestation, etc., where there is no particular principle involved, if this meat is going to unnecessarily stumble and hinder our brother. God requires nothing of us without a purpose. He seeks the highest good. The salvation of the most people.

The abuse of the "tongues" manifestation to-day, and the unwillingness of many to confess it, would seem to be convincing evidence that there is something wrong in the manner of its particular presentation that is responsible for this, or makes it possible. The premium is placed, the emphasis laid, on the wrong phase of the issue. On the manifestation.

To declare that no one has ever had the Holy Ghost, without they have spoken in "tongues," is an unwarrantable position. It cannot be proven. They evidently have not received Him as the disciples did. That is, He has not manifested Himself through them in the same way, at least. Likely they have not realized Him in the same measure

of fulness, at least in yieldedness in exercise for service. He has not possessed them as fully, in that particular. They should so yield for His possession and exercise to-day, if He so wills it. That we need to be more fully yielded to Him, possessed, and conscious, of Him, is clear to every honest soul to-day. We need more of Him. He wants more of us. There is a fulness of joy realized, naturally, in being fully yielded to, possessed by, Him. This the exercise in "tongues," in a peculiar way, seems to signify and realize pre-eminently. The mentality is yielded. Not to foolishness, but to God.

A people who still persist in clinging to an error, such as the setting of a date for Jesus coming, after it has failed them, are neither right nor honest. They can only go from bad to worse in such a matter.

We are being forced out of some circles in Pentecostal connection for the very same reasons that we found our ministry rejected in the holiness work in some cases. We cannot adapt ourselves to rabid, stringent dogmatism. We believe in being definite in our relations to God, and giving no quarter to sin. But there are some positions and differences we fancy will look quite foolish and inconsequential when Jesus comes.

While many are destroying each other, and themselves, on either side, over the "tongue" question, the world is going on to hell. Let God! Get Him to the people. Let Him have His way. "Resist not evil."

As earnestly as the philosopher of old, with his lantern, went in search of an honest man, we are looking for the Spirit of Jesus among the people to-day. God help us all!

The crowning distinction between one religious work and another should never be reckoned or vested in a mere outward manifestation, for proof of superiority, but rather in increased volume of God in real saving power.

First forms of religious life, in any stage, are apt to be more or less irregular, through a broken humanity. We must never charge God with our own folly. Babies are born with wonderful possibilities. But they are neither developed, matured nor perfected. They have all to learn, practically. They are born with the capacity for learning. And this is their hope alone.

If a man can have wisdom from God without the specific gift of "wisdom," pray the prayer of faith without having the specific "gift of faith," etc., why not be given to speak in "tongues" without having the specific "gift of tongues"? Consider the suggestion.

Can we not trust God to decide all questions, if allowed, sovereignly? The personal testimony to a superior experience in God will naturally bring a pressure in the Spirit, a conviction of need, to those not possessing the same.

"With all lowliness of mind." Oh the depth of humility and abandonment of God we are called to to-day. There is where we get the thought of God. We move as He directs us. He does not move us solely, but we move with Him. He moves us as we yield with Him. We move together. The operations of God are on a willing mind. And they are compatible, always, with the deepest spirit of love.

We are not to strive to make God out mysterious and perplexing. His operations are simple, plain, and actuated always by wisdom and love. Howbeit they meet and oppose the sinner in his way.

A man has to have a lot of sense after all to keep out of the devil's hands to-day in the line of manifestation, etc. But God wants to manifest Himself through His children.

We do not need to have the Spirit speak through us in "tongues" to know that He is there. "Tongues" are a "sign to unbelievers." We understand but little of the real, full purpose of this manifestation, but we would keep from error in the matter. Many depend upon it without an intelligent reason. We should be able at all times to give a reason for the matter within us. Hunger for God should be the incentive for seeking, for the Christian—not the desire for mere outward manifestation in that relation. God help us to abandon to Him. Results will follow. His inward presence, keeping, is our abiding comfort. It is blessed to know that we are abandoned to Him by being used of Him. The exercise in "tongues" has much significance also for us, in this connection. Fully abandoned to Him.

We are persuaded that much of the binding in the spirit, and the rebuking in meetings, is not of the Spirit of God. It is contrary to the general character of God, as revealed in the Word. There are exceptional cases, no doubt, at times, requiring such heroic treatment from God. But in general the exercise is much misunderstood, and only accomplishes harm to all concerned. Many weak souls are destroyed thereby. A great deal of it, where allowed, is evidently not of God. Much of it does not seem to be because of the grieving of the Spirit of God, but rather proves itself to be the crossing of the human spirit, the criticism of the saints. There is quite a difference between

being rebuked by the Spirit of God in a meeting, and feeling the criticism, in the Spirit, of the saints. When God is grieved, an honest, conscientious soul will realize He has rebuked him; he will sensibly feel the rebuke. But when the saints rebuke, he will feel grieved for the obtuseness and feeling of the saints.—*The Way of Faith*.
163 S. Gless St., Los Angeles, Cal.

VERY SPECIAL—Autumn Arrangements.

The following Brethren have been accepted by the Council for service in China and Tibet : Messrs. P. Bristowe, F. Trevitt, J. McGillivray and A. Williams, together with Mr. and Mrs. A. Kok. Two Sisters will also probably be ready for India.

The eight mentioned above are *ready*, it is for our dear people to say if they are to *go forth*. A sum of nearly £400 is needed at once if all are to be sent forth, of which about £112 is in hand. Another £340 is needed during the year for their maintenance.

For the year's training at the two Homes, a sum of £500 is asked.

For our Sister, Miss Lucy James, in India, and Mr. James Roughhead, Palestine, another £70 for the year, making the total need for the year £1,310.

Special gifts and subscriptions may be assigned, if preferred, to either out-going missionaries fund or training Homes, and remitted to the Treasurer, W. H. Sandwith, Oswaldkirk, Bracknell, Berks.

We desire to praise God for a door of service opened in *China* to our sisters *the Misses Beruldsen*, and their *brother*. They go forth this autumn at their own charges in connection with a Norwegian Missionary Society in full sympathy with Pentecostal work.

All who have known them during their stay in the London Training Homes will feel assured that their lives and testimony will bring blessing to many. Their sphere will be in the province of Chilo-li, not far from the capital—Pekin.

OUTBREATHINGS OF THE HEART FROM MISSIONARIES IN CHINA AND THE TIBETAN BORDER.

"O for a band of men *filled with the Holy Ghost* to come among us! It was my privilege and constant experience before I came to China to be closely associated with men who knew the Holy Ghost. . . . How often have I pleaded with God for a manifestation of His power among us."

"I trust you will not forget to ask that my eyes may be opened to see, and my heart to receive the full baptism of God's Spirit, I do long for all he has to bestow.

"Will you please pray for me and my wife that we may have the like feeling with the blessed Holy Spirit with the signs following. I feel like a dry stick and am only too conscious of barrenness and powerlessness in my work. Our Church is no better and for that I am to a very large extent responsible. Please pray earnestly that I may find mercy and be the means of leading others into the blessing."

"We need very much more than it is possible to say, more than anyone knows the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the *infilling* of the Holy Spirit, and the *power* which *He* alone can give to His servants. Won't you come to us and give us the benefit of your own rich experience and new found joy? Call it by what name you will it matters not, as long as the Holy Spirit is with the blessing, so long as *He* is the blessing."

"I write to ask for your prayers that my sight may be spared to me, and that I may continue to serve my Lord in China I feel deep longings for the Holy Spirit in my life; I feel cold and dead, my prayer is that *He* may be magnified in my body."

"The devil will always be as busy as possible, trying to hinder and discourage, those who are trying to get out of the old ruts of dead form into the living power of godliness, and I fear he had almost succeeded in my case, but for prayers and cheering letters from Pentecostal friends in various places, I fear I should have been completely lost in the slough of despond. Pray for me and the few who follow on with me to know the Lord in all His fullness here. Two of our Christians (Tibetan) have had visions and heard beautiful music in the spirit, but no sooner did this occur than Satan singled them out for both persecution and temptation."

HELP BY CORRESPONDENCE.—Any of God's dear children desiring advice and counsel concerning Divine Life for the body, and the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, are invited to correspond with :—"Evangeline," 32, Lambourn Road, Clapham, S.W.

Copies of this paper may be had gratis of CECIL POLHILL, 1, Sea View, Lower Largo, Fife, N.B., during August.