

WESLEYAN HERITAGE Library

Holiness Writers

GOD'S TRIPLE LEADERSHIP

By

William Baxter Godbey

“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord” Heb 12:14

Spreading Scriptural Holiness to the World

Wesleyan Heritage Publications
© 1998

GOD'S TRIPLE LEADERSHIP

By
William Baxter Godbey

Pentecostal Mission Publishing Company
Nashville, Tennessee

This Digital Edition
Edited by DVM

GOD'S TRIPLE LEADERSHIP

By
William Baxter Godbey

INTRODUCTION

This is really the colossal conundrum of all ages and nations. Man has been pronounced by philosophers the religious animal. When I traveled around the world I was constantly flooded with this realization, finding the heathen so much more religious than the people in Christian lands, really meeting no exceptions, as all seemed profoundly religious. When I stood up preaching I could see their gods and put my hand on them ad libitum. However, they all deny that they worship those idols of wood and stone, but tell us they are mere souvenirs of the God who rides upon the storm and tosses worlds from his creative fiat. If you think they do not believe in God you will be mistaken every time, and if you so talk to them they will laugh at you for your ignorance appertaining to their condition. Neither have I ever found a person in Christian lands who did not believe in God. I have often conversed with men of pronounced infidelity, and never yet found one who did not believe in God. Bob Ingersoll, the most celebrated infidel of this continent, was quite a theologian, and wrote not a few religious books. While he utterly repudiated the Bible, he constantly avowed his belief in the God of nature. The same has been true of the noted infidel writers in all ages. They devoted much time to the subject of religion, repudiating the Bible but recognizing and avowing their adoration of the God of nature.

"The untutored savage in his primeval wilds
Sees God in the clouds and hears Him in the winds;
Whose soul, proud science never taught to stray;
Far as the solar walk, the milky way."

Even the fratricidal Cain, the first man ever born in the world, who vindicated his diabolical progeny by killing his innocent brother, was an exceedingly religious man, far excelling Abel in the splendor and magnitude of his sacrifice, but unfortunately made it to the God of nature, who cannot pardon a rebel, instead of the God of grace, in whom there is plenteous redemption, pardoning mercy and redeeming love superabounding eternally.

There is not a soul in hell who did not aspire to and fondly expect a home in heaven. How shall we solve the problem of this appalling wreckage? As the bottomless pit is simply the lugubrious rendezvous of perished hopes and withered aspirations, immortal souls innumerable as the sands upon the seashore, every one having recognized the God that made him, and responsive to the innate impulses of his immortal spirit, really aspired to the transcendent achievement of endless bliss. From the intuitions of childhood reading the handwritings of the Almighty in glittering stars, silvery moons, golden suns, terrific thunderbolts, howling storms, blooming flowers, falling leaves, mournful funeral processions and gaping graves, all the impressive scenery of childhood writing on the memory ineffaceable lessons, all pointing to a glorious immortality. Now hear the wail of disappointed hopes and withered aspirations:

"When young, life's journey I began;
The glittering prospects charmed my eyes.
I saw along the extended plain
Joy after joy successive rise.

"But soon I found 'twas all a dream.
And learned the fond pursuit to shun;
Where few can reach their purposed aim
And thousands daily are undone. . ."

Could you pay a visit into the regions of irretrievable woe, and meet your acquaintances (as we all have many whom once we loved, and for whom we fervently prayed, but despite all labor and hope, fortune's wheel turned against them, in an evil hour Satan's lasso tightened on them and never relaxed), they would all tell us how unutterable their surprise when they read their doom in lurid capitals on hell's dark wall, and how they have never recovered from the shock superinduced by the fall of the hell-trap, which was only reciprocated by the mournful wail of a soul irretrievably lost. Reader, I have but one motive in writing this book, and that is to lend an humble, helping hand to make your calling and election sure.

GOD'S TRIPLE LEADERSHIP

By

William Baxter Godbey

Chapter 1 GOD'S PROVIDENCE

Man is a trinity (in that respect like God) consisting of spirit, soul and body. The human spirit (the man himself, as the mind and body are his enduements) consists of the conscience, the will and the affections. The conscience alone survived the fall, serving ever afterward as God's telephone through which He speaks to the immortal spirit. If the conscience had gone down in the fall, there would have been no more hope for man than a devil. O, how unutterably fortunate for us that the conscience survived the fall! Conscience is the medium of cognition, as through it God speaks to the human spirit. Here we see how the sinner crosses the deadline and seals his doom in endless woe. This is his awful fate when he sins recklessly, outrageously and definitely against light and knowledge to such an extent that God says to his spirit, "Come away; let him alone; he is joined to his idols; let him believe a lie and be damned." A murderer in London who made his living by selling dead bodies to the surgeons for post-mortem examinations made his awful confession under the gallows. To that city of seven million medical students resort from the ends of the earth, as a diploma from the world's metropolis insures a passport into a lucrative practice which will bring a princely fortune. In anatomical study human bodies for dissection and study are absolutely indispensable. It is difficult to procure them because nobody is willing for a member of his family to be used in this way. This man made his living by furnishing, periodically, the dead bodies needed in the prosecution of their anatomical studies. When he could not otherwise procure them, he killed them. Under the gallows he stated that the first one he killed shocked him so that he almost died. In case of the second the shock was not so great. It became less and less, till it evanesced altogether, and he confessed he murdered people without remorse. It was his business, and he made his living in that way. You see how he outraged his conscience and destroyed its availability in the capacity of a telephone. In this way multiplied millions hush the voice of conscience amid the whirlwind of passion and pleasure, tread down the angel of mercy in a quagmire of dissipation, till her monitory voice, growing weaker and weaker, evanesces in the awful silence of that spiritual death out of which there is no resurrection.

(a) While the conscience is the medium of conviction, the will which is the king of humanity is the medium of conversion. In the case of the sinner the devil has his will, which is the ship's rudder, and he steers him straight on his hellward-bound way. In conversion an awful battle is fought by the Holy Ghost with the devil, in which the former triumphs, wresting the will out of the hands of Satan and turning it over to God. Therefore every Christian says "yes" to God all the time, and no to the devil incessantly. One "no" to God and "yes" to the devil means spiritual death and impending damnation. While every Christian, however weak, says "yes" to God all the time, and "no" to the devil unceasingly, yet he frequently obeys God with an inward conflict. While he says "yes" to God all the time, there are voices in him which do no say "yes" to God, e.g., pride, vanity, lust, passion, temper, selfishness, self-love, ambition, avarice, self-seeking, politics, sectarianism, envy, jealousy, revenge, animosity, and in anything and everything which is out of God's harmony and sweet will, says "no" to God. Thus while conversion settles the will question and puts you where you say "yes"

to God and "no" to Satan all the time, yet voices anon multitudinously in you not only fail to say "yes" to God, and even dare to say "no" to God and "yes" to the devil. These inward enemies all abide in the deep subterranean chambers of the carnal affections and need the blood and fire of sanctification to expurgate and consume them utterly and eternally, thus giving you full salvation and putting you where not only you say "yes" to God, but everything in you rings out an incessant "yes" to God, let it cost what it may.

I preached fifteen years under a woe, feeling woe is unto me if I preach not the Gospel. I said "yes" to God all the time, but there were things in me that did not always say "yes," but frequently they said "no." The truth of the matter is, my ambition was Napoleonic and my vanity was colossal. Multitudinous evil inclinations, predilections, proclivities and leanings were in my way and giving me awful trouble. I hated these evil companions and longed to get rid of them, but did not know how to make the utter abandonment to God, put all under the blood and receive the victory by faith (1 John 5:4). "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." Forty years ago the Lord baptized me with fire, inspiring my faith to commit all to the cleansing blood and consuming all of these evil leanings and proclivities and actually putting me where not only I said "yes" to God and "no" to the devil, but everything in me shouted out unconditional "yes" to God and the solid, irrevocable and eternal "no" to Satan, thus putting all of my enemies on the outside and filling me with the blessed Holy Spirit, who crowned Jesus on the throne of my heart, King of kings and Lord of lords.

(b) It so happened, when the great secession took place in dear old Dixieland, Kentucky, my native and resident State, never seceded from the Union, but remained loyal throughout the war, true to the Stars and Stripes, and always ready to respond to the call of President Lincoln for soldiers, responding heroically, "Yes, we are coming, Father Abraham, three hundred thousand more." Thus history shows up Kentucky a loyal State through the memorable quadrennium, while her Southern Sisters fought under the Stars and Bars for the establishment of the Confederacy. While this was true of the State government, it is equally true that she had multiplied thousands of secessionists within her borders, whose hearts were with the Confederacy, whither multitudes of them fled, fought, bled and died. Eventually the sword settled forever the problem of the Confederacy, restoring the great South back to the Union. While in that historic allusion the Confederate States represent rebellion, and the loyal States, which stood by the Union throughout, symbolize holiness, Kentucky typifies the mixed experience. The Governor and his cabinet representing the State were loyal to the Union, saying "yes" to the President and the authorities all the time, and standing side by side with New York, Ohio and all the old free States, maintaining her unimpeachable loyalty to the Union. Meanwhile the sword of the government eventually destroyed all the disloyal elements, so that now, along with the great South, not only does she say "yes" to the government, but everything in her borders responds an unequivocal affirmative.

Thus we find converted people saying "yes" to God all the time and "no" to Satan. Meanwhile the old man of sin is conquered and bound so that he cannot break out into open rebellion and actual transgression, yet his sympathies are with his father the devil, and he is an Achan in the camp, liable at any time to lead off a rebellion and actually break up loyalty and turn you over to the enemy; hence you see in the trinity of humanity the conscience having survived the fall, even in the sinner, is on God's side, and serves as His telephone through which He reaches the immortal spirit with

convicting truth; meanwhile the will, which is the man himself, is in the hands of Satan till wrested from him by the Holy Ghost in the great battle of regeneration, in which, turned over to God, it ever afterward says "yes" to God incessantly, and "no" to Satan. But all this time, deep down in the subterranean region of the affections, inclinations, predilections and proclivities, abide unholy passions, lust, tempers and leanings which do not say "yes" to God. They constitute a veritable volcano, liable at any time to break forth into an eruption and bury all the environments in a burning sea, which is the Bible hell. Verily they constitute a powder magazine, into which the devil is doing his best to shoot Greek fire and blow the environments into smithereens.

Therefore it is not enough to be truly born from above, so revolutionizing us that we say "yes" to God and "no" to the devil all the time; but entire sanctification is indispensable whose normal work is that radical transformation which makes everything in us, from the crown of the head to the soles of the feet, say "yes" to God, and the bells of heaven, night and day, from top to toe, ring heavenly chimes, "sanctified wholly."

Whereas, in verification of the philosophic maxim we may truly say, with the sages of all ages, that man is the "religious animal," innately recognizing God as revealed in everything he sees and hears and feels, and intuitively trembles at the thunder's roar, the lightning's flash, the sweep of the hurricane, the desolation of the cyclone, the presence of death and the anticipations of judgment and eternity. Meanwhile he realizes intuitively a solemn awe as he contemplates the momentous issues which confront him on all sides with a stern and irreversible reality of living, dying and standing before the great white throne and giving an account of his stewardship. The normal trend of all these momentous incentives is to arouse fear, superinduce conviction, ring in their ears the alarm bells of death, judgment and eternity, giving the wicked an awful panorama of a bottomless hell, a topless heaven, and everlasting doom. Pursuant to these awakenings profound emotions arise gigantic resolutions spring up, heroic determinations to make this probationary journey a real and glorious success are stalwartly enunciated and entered upon every one settling the matter in his own mind: "Despite every difficulty at present and in the future confronting me, I will run this race through and gain the heavenly highlands, where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are forever at rest. Truly the matter is settled; I must fight this battle through to victory. Others may gain heaven, but I must, absolutely without defalcation, prosecute this war against the world, the flesh and the devil, and in the glorious finale stand on the mount of victory and forever sing and shout my troubles over."

(c) Now hear the voice of Jesus (Luke 13 ch.), responsive to the interrogation, "Lord, are the saved people few?" He responds in the affirmative. "Broad is the road that leads to death, And thousands walk together there; But wisdom shows a narrow path, With here and there a traveler."

Oh! how contrasted with the popular enthusiasm that rings in the heart, "You may look for me, for I'll be there." We know Jesus makes no mistake, therefore the matter is eternally settled, involving the alarming conclusion that the saved are few. Then why this tremendous and alarming wreckage? One thing we know, and that is, that it is sheer gratuity from the simple fact that our wonderful Savior has actually redeemed us all by His precious blood, and His omnipotent grace is ready to panoply every one of us for the conflict and gird us for the race, so that failure is utterly and eternally out of the question. Then why this appalling wreckage? The multitudes traveling the broad road to hell and on the king's highway that leads up to heaven only here and there a traveler.

We find the solution of this colossal conundrum in the fact of man's dependency, and the absolute essentiality of superintendency and leadership. Meanwhile Satan the fallen archangel, the irreconcilable enemy of God and humanity, is so much wiser and stronger than any or even all of the human race combined, that an effort on the part of any man or woman alone to stand against him, sooner or later means certain defeat, because he always aims at nothing less than the damnation of every soul. While in this life we are all on probation, i.e., stand our trial and building character for heaven or hell.

N.B. — Remember, character is what you are, and a momentous reality every time; meanwhile reputation is what people say you are; therefore it has no substantial reality, for the *Ipse Dixit* is as liable to be false as true. Satan bluffs people out of their souls, so intimidating them that they will not consecrate their reputation, which is nothing but a shadow without a scintilla of substantial reality. When you have lost your reputation you have lost nothing; but when you lose your character that is your self and means that the devil has you in his black grapple and hell will soon devour you.

This problem of leadership, the subject of this book, settles the whole matter. If God leads you, you are even now saved, and if true to His leadership, forever will be.

(d) Pursuant to the trinity of humanity, consisting of spirit, soul and body, the divine leadership touches us in these great salient entities. Even our bodies are included in the glorious redemption, consequently they are to be transfigured, i.e., divested of materiality and transformed into spiritual entities, destitute of weight and forever independent of mortal food and eternally triumphant over the possibilities of dissolution and decay, thus to shine, shout and bloom in immortal youth forever. Now my body must be true to the divine leadership, i.e., to God's providence, which gave me this body with its constitution of two hundred and eight bones, five hundred muscles and a thousand nerves, truly denominated a harp with a thousand strings, which God has tuned, and He alone can keep it in tune and He alone can play on it to our happiness and His glory. Paul said: "I subjugate my body and keep it under, lest having preached the Gospel to others, I become a castaway." Here we see he managed his body like any other animal which God gave him to be used for His glory. Hence I am to live hygienically, i.e., in harmony with the laws of health. That is the reason why I take neither breakfast nor supper, but the dinner only, and a light lunch after preaching at night, serving my weary nerves and tired brain as a sleep-inducer. I frequently buy my own food and thus board myself, and have no trouble to live throughout this continent on one dollar a week, patronizing the baker, the dairy and fruit stand, taking no hot drinks. In the Old World, where every dollar buys twice as much to eat or wear as in America, of course I live on fifty cents per week, with every convenience. I do not stint myself, but live on the best, thus conserving my body to the interest of God's kingdom.

The Lord is our wonderful Healer, His axiomatic promise ringing throughout His Word, "As your faith is, so be it unto you" (Matt. 9 :29), as true in its application to the body as the soul. I traveled around the world without seasickness. The five days we sailed on the China Sea all on board were sick because the storm was on us all the time. I think it is because upon embarkation I always ask the Lord to save me from seasickness.

Not only is He the Healer and Savior of the body, but He is the custodian of the same, leading it whither He will. When He wanted Abraham to go far away to the land of Canaan through primeval forests, crossing great rivers and rugged mountains, He did not tell him where He was going to lead him. So when Abraham was loading his camels and bidding his friends a final adieu, and all clamorous to know whither he was going, he could not tell them, because he did not know. The result was they believed him crazy. Every true Christian is by faith a child of Abraham (Rom. 4:1), walking in his steps (v. 13).

N.B. — God put my body in Pentecostal Bible School, Nashville, Tenn., at this time, and is using me to preach, teach and dictate books for people to read. I would rather be here than in heaven, as my time in my Lord's vineyard is so short and I will soon have all eternity in heaven. Fifty-five years ago, responsive to the call of God, I began to preach to the Ethiopian slaves. I have been at it ever since, crossing this continent immemorially and three times traveling and preaching in Europe, Asia and Africa, especially helping the missionaries evangelize the poor heathen.

In this wonderful triple leadership you must let God have your entire being, spirit, mind and body. If you are true to His triple leadership and so continue you are as sure of heaven as if you were in it.

Do not think you must wait until God leads you to Africa India or China to preach the Gospel and do your utmost to save souls Your field of labor is precisely where you are, perfectly submissive to God to use you and lead you whither He will. A man in Texas said to me: "Brother Godbey, I feel called to preach but I have a wife and five little children dependent on me for their support and I want you to pray the Lord to give me faith to trust Him to take care of them so I can be free and go and preach." I responded: "I will pray on the other side that He will lay them on your heart so heavily that you will heroically take care of them." Then he says: "How can I obey my call to preach?" I respond: "Where do you work?" He says: "In the cotton. I plow during the cropping season, then in the harvest, the gin and factory." "Do you not have a heap of company?" "O, yes; a host of colored people work with me." Then I respond: "Do not neglect your call to preach, but preach to them in the field, gin, factory and everywhere, and when you get conviction on a soul, fall on your knees and pray him through and shout with him." "But," he says, "the boss will dock me." "Now," says I, "you tell him to charge all the time you lose in that way to W. B. Godbey, Perryville, Ky., and send me his account and I will pay it." The truth is, that brother was in the field of labor where God had put him, and the same providence had given him the wife and children; therefore, he, like everybody else, had nothing to do but be true to, God. Rest assured He will use you right where you are, and give you a crown that will never fade away. Pastor Sanford, at Shiloh, Me., proclaimed a fast, and even extended it to infants. forcing his own little boy, only two years old, to abstain from food and drink two days and nights. The second night he actually called for water seventy times, and he would not permit them to give him a drop. Do you not see how he violated the providence of God which had given that child a constitution dependent on food and drink for the maintenance of life? It is a wonder he did not die.

GOD'S TRIPLE LEADERSHIP

By

William Baxter Godbey

Chapter 2 GOD'S WORD

Heb 4:12, "The Word of God is living and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword, interpenetrating unto the dividing of soul and spirit of the joints and the marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart, and through it all things are naked and laid open to the eyes of Him in whose presence is the Word to us."

In this wonderful Scripture the Word of God is certified to have the divine life; "quick" in the E.V. is *zoom*, from *zaoō*, to live. Hence it means alive, i.e., having the very life of God, who alone is life, intrinsic and essential, and imparts it to everything in the universe which possesses vitality, thus life and light are original in God alone, and in all others only as radiated and transmitted from Him. This is a momentous truth, magnifying the word infinitesimally, because it is fraught with divine life.

(e) Matt. 4:4. Jesus told the devil, amid his temptations, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out from the mouth of God." Hence you see we need every word that God has even spoken, and we cannot leave out a single one without detriment, as God certifies that we are to live in this way. The body can live on bread and water all right, but man is not a body, but an immortal spirit, like God, and must have soul food. It is a great mistake on the part of God's people to read anything but the Bible, and good books elucidating it, and thus serving as Bible teachers. This life is too short for us to waste any of it. We absolutely need it all to run the race, fight the battle, and do the work which God has given us. In view of its infinite value, since it is not only our soul food but actually has soul life, even the life of God, O how we should appreciate it, and avail ourselves of every opportunity to take it in appropriate it, feast on it, utilize it, and dispense it to others.

The indifferent depreciation of God's Word is painfully illustrated by the contentment of the people with King James' translation, which is known to abound in error, much having slipped through the fingers of transcribers and utterly evanesced away and much which is not the Word having been interpolated into the text, mostly by enthusiastic transcribers for good motives, in order to help out the Scripture, but some passages on which dangerous errors are propagated evidently having been interpolated by bad men actuated by evil motives. The most of the errors in King James' translation were in the Greek, and consequently the translators were not to blame except those they interpolated, which were not many. It is only a wonder that many more did not find their way into the Bible, when we consider that the Greek manuscripts which they had John Wesley, Dr. Clark, Martin Luther and their contemporaries used (and it was the first one I used) had come through the dark ages a thousand years, during which not one man in a thousand and one woman in twenty thousand could read or write. Therefore it is a wonder that much more error did not find its way into the blessed Book.

N.B. — All this time God had miraculously preserved His Word, safe in a monastery of St. Katherine, built on Mt. Sinai in the second century to commemorate the giving of the law, and in 1859 miraculously revealed it to Dr. Tischendorf, of Germany, after he had diligently hunted forty years in the Bible lands for everything that could throw light on the precious Word. I graduated from college that very year and heard of the wonderful discovery, and in the providence of God procured the first book made from the parchment roll and was reading it throughout the whole country to the infinite edification of the saints, when they eventually constrained me to translate it into plain English, which is now girdling the globe, and the best preachers pronouncing it worth its weight in gold.

Reader, I hope you will heed this information, procure the pure Word of the Lord, translated into pure English, as so very few are competent to read the Greek independently, which is the happy privilege of your humble servant, who uses nothing else. This is so important, because the most of the errors in doctrine are founded on these interpolations and superinduced by the omissions from the precious Word on the part of translators.

(f) The popular superstition which holds to King James is really astounding. When I was preaching in Seattle, Wash., a preacher got up in the congregation and warned the people against me as a deceiver. When I asked him to tell them in what I was deceiving them, he said I was changing the Bible. I apologized by stating that he was mistaken, for I was just giving them the truth as God had revealed it in the inspired originals, Hebrew and Greek. Then he responded: "The Holy Ghost tells me that the English is the original." It is really astounding how many people, like that preacher, look upon King James' translation as the original.

A Methodist preacher said: "Go away with your Greek; I want nothing but the English. it was good enough for Paul and it perfectly satisfies me," thus revealing his ignorance of the fact that Paul never heard an English word in all his life, and if he had, he would have known nothing about it, as at that time there was no such a language in the world. After several centuries it originated from the union of two barbaric dialects, used by the Angles and Saxons.

When I was preaching in one of the first Holiness churches ever organized in the movement, on Sunday morning, to a crowded audience, some of the good, sanctified people fell on their knees and cried aloud to God to "have mercy on the preacher and make him afraid to change the Bible." I stopped and waited till they wound up their prayers, and then proceeded with my elucidations of God's precious truth as if nothing had transpired. The blessed Author helped me, so the whole congregation saw I was right, not excepting those who had prayed for me, who, after I wound up, came to me with apologies for their prayers. These I refused to accept, at the same time thanking them and asking them to thus continue to intercede with God in my behalf, assuring them that, even though they made mistakes and prayed wrong, that God, knowing their sincerity, would answer right.

Frequently my brethren in the ministry have advised me not to expose the errors in the English Bible, lest I make infidels. This is a great mistake. God is jealous for His truth, and wants it proclaimed in its purity to all the world. The Roman Catholic motto, which has dominated the ages and pursuant to which the Pope has burnt his millions, "*Ignorantia Mater, pietatus est*" (ignorance is the mother of piety), i.e., if you want people to be truly religious, keep them ignorant, was hatched

in hell. While it is a dismal relict of dark-age superstition, current when not one man in a thousand, nor one woman in twenty thousand, could read or write, and really belongs to paganized Catholicism, you would be astonished to find its current prevalence among the Protestants this day. A sister told me she was afraid for her son to hear me preach, lest he would reject the Bible and become an infidel, because he had said to her that if he had to give up any of it he would let it all go. I told her if she pandered to his puerile caprices she would ruin him. Because there is a lot of cheat, cockle and sundry trash in the wheat, shall we throw it all away and have no bread? Common sense says "No, we will sift out all the impurities and eat the wheat." Shall the children of this world be wiser in their generation than the children of light? God forbid. If we do not walk in all the light He gives us, we cannot be justified. The *vox populi* rings out "King James was good enough for our fathers and mothers, and it is all we need." Look out, lest Satan drop his black lasso around your neck and drag you into hell.

N.B. — we cannot be saved in the light of our fathers and mothers. They are in heaven because they walked in all the light God gave them. The same is true of all heathen. That beautiful Scripture, 1 John 1:7, "If we walk in the light . . . the blood cleanses from all sin," applies to every soul that ever did or ever will live on the earth Pagans, Mohammedans, Jews and Christians.

(g) Matt. 25 :31-46 gives us the final judgment of the heathen. The word *ethnee*, translated nations, literally means Gentiles, Pagans, or heathen. Here you see the Judge separates the multitude, putting the sheep on the right and the goats on the left. Then He says to the former, "Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you before the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and ye fed me, thirsty and you gave me drink, naked and you clothed me, sick and in prison and you ministered unto me." Then they respond, "Lord, when saw we thee hungry and fed thee, thirsty and gave thee drink?" . . . Then He responds, "Inasmuch as ye did these things to the least of my brethren, ye did them unto me."

Then He says to the goats on the left, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into eternal fire, prepared for the devil and his angels; because I was hungry and you gave me no food, thirsty and you gave me no drink, naked and you clothed me not, sick and in prison and you ministered not unto me." Then they respond, "Lord when saw we thee hungry . . . and ministered not unto thee?" Then He responds, "Inasmuch as ye did not these things to the least of my brethren, you did them not unto me. These shall go away into eternal punishment, and the righteous into eternal life."

The inspired record denominates these heathen; i.e., the multitudes who had never heard the Gospel, currently denominated pagans and heathen, and constitute the majority of the world's population this day. You see by their responses that they never had known Him historically; yet, you see the two distinct classes, the righteous on the right and the wicked on the left; the former sweeping into heaven with shouts of victory and the latter sinking into hell with hideous howls and lugubrious wails. You must not think that our wonderful saving Christ is confined to the written Word. That is a silly Campbellitish heresy. Christ is none other than the eternal God, omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent.

John 1:9: "He is the true light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." He is identical with the Jehovah of the Old Testament, who created all things, spoke to the patriarchs,

delivered Israel from bondage and led them through the wilderness. When they asked John the Baptist, "Art thou the Christ?" he responded, "No, I am the voice of one roaring in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord and make his paths straight." This quotation from Isaiah has Jehovah. Hence you see the identity of the Old Testament Jehovah and the New Testament Christ. Paul's testimony (1 Cor. 10:11), "They tempted Christ in the wilderness and were destroyed by serpents," perfectly corroborates that of John the Baptist, as the Pentateuch tells us they "tempted Jehovah."

(h) Acts 16:6-7 positively reveals the identity of Christ and the Holy Ghost, as you see (v. 6) Paul was forbidden by the Holy Ghost to preach in Asia, and the seventh says "the Spirit of Jesus" would not permit Him to go into Bythinia, a country in Asia; not a final prohibition, as he often afterward returned to his native land preaching the gospel; but the interdiction was temporary, because God, in His mercy, wanted him at, that time to carry the Gospel into Europe, so glorious for us because we are all Europeans. If God had sent him to the East instead of the West, the conclusion follows that we might now be in the darkness which wraps the Orient, and the Indians, Chinese and Japanese where we are.

From the above Scriptures you clearly see the identity of Jesus and the Holy Ghost, who is His Spirit, and has always been in the world, even moving upon the waters before the dry and appeared (Gen. 1 ch.). You see the beautiful light shining out from the preceding judgment scene, revelatory of universal human destiny. None of those people had ever become acquainted with the historic Christ; yet His light, through the Holy Spirit, had shone on all of them, and those denominated the sheep were the good people who walked in all the light they had, and you see they all went up to heaven with a shout, while the recusants, denominated the goats, closed their eyes to the light of righteousness, peace and love, and lived for themselves alone, like the multitudes of every age, blind to what does not glisten and deaf to what does not jingle, living like hogs and dogs, for self alone, as if they had no soul to save, heaven to gain, nor hell to shun. These same two classes confront us whithersoever we go upon the face of the whole earth, the one living for self alone and the other delighted, going about doing good. Hence you see the hackneyed *vox populi*, "It was good enough for our fathers and mothers, and it is good enough for us," is as destitute of truth as it is of sense.

My preaching father chewed and smoked tobacco. My shouting Methodist mother was a smoker, and not only encouraged me, but ordered me to chew tobacco, because our foolish neighbors said, "Make that little runt chew tobacco and it will start him to growing, for my Jim," said Jennie Langdon, "was a runt like your Will, till I made him chew tobacco, and now he is growing like a Durham calf." That was the only instance in which I remember my disobedience to my mother. I said, "Mother, I can take the flogging, but not that old filthy tobacco. Suppose I were to use tobacco now, do you not know the devil would get me, because I would sin against light and knowledge and at once fall under condemnation?" I know my father and mother are in heaven. They walked in all the light they had. On the tobacco problem none of us had a solitary ray. The people all raised it and used it, preachers setting the example, and thereby enhancing their influence among the people for their salvation. Now, all intelligent people know that it is injurious to soul, mind and body. In the military academy at West Point, N.Y., where our brightest boys selected by the government are educated and thus prepared to command our armies on the battlefield, with no religious conviction, the use of tobacco is positively prohibited, as the very destiny of our nation depends on the intellectual and gymnastical development of our young men.

(i) The discovery of the pure, unadulterated Scriptures, as revealed by the Holy Ghost, and written by the inspired apostles, miraculously preserved by the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, safe in that venerable monastery on Mt. Sinai, through the long roll of the dark ages, while schools were suspended and dismal midnight wrapped the whole world, and, as a normal consequence, much error found its way into the precious word, you could not now write off the Bible without letting a lot of it slip through your fingers and get lost and getting in many statements which you mistook for Scripture. There is not a person on the earth today who could transcribe the Bible free from error, both by addition and subtraction, to save his life. I am simply astonished that the Bible escaped with so little adulteration. Yet in the New Testament alone two thousand errors have come down to us. Why does not everybody shout over the privilege of getting rid of them all?

Fifty years have rolled away since God revealed that manuscript, unadulterated from the Apostolic age, thus bridging the long chasm of time's midnight, Satan's millennium, those dreary thousand years during which not one man in a thousand nor one woman in twenty thousand could read or write, and carrying us back into the bright blaze of the apostolic age. When God's prophet was gazing on those old parchments, so venerable that no mortal eye could discern the scratch of a pen, and so brittle that any effort to decipher them would have torn them into smithereens and ruined them forever. Thus the precious truth of God was locked tight till the world's dreary night passed away. The attention of Tischendorf was especially focalized on a very large manuscript, meanwhile he was praying fervently to God for help, as he could have no idea what it was, whether the Bible or some other book. The answer rings in his ears, "That is My Word." Then he proceeds with an effort to purchase it from the monks, who are always jealous of relics and reluctant to part with them. They utterly refused to sell it, but you have heard the maxim, "Every man has his price," consequently he bids up till their cupidity yields; they sell it out.

To the honor of King William of Germany, who defrayed all the expenses of Tischendorf those forty years, amounting to a princely fortune, as he often had gangs of men hired, digging in the ruins of ancient cities, hunting everything that could throw light on the precious Word. Then the man of God throws his arms around it and returns to Germany, after an absence of forty years, commits it to the chemists, who subject it to their powerful alkaline solutions, whose normal effect was to limber it up, as it was a great roll of sheepskins, elegantly dressed, superscribed and rolled up. Another effect of the chemicals was to bring out the old writings which had been utterly illegible many centuries. Now it is all unrolled and spread out, and behold! it is a complete copy of the New Testament, dating far back into the apostolic age. Like old Simeon who waited in the temple the coming of the Lord till a hundred years old, when they brought him the infant Jesus to dedicate Him, and throwing his withered arms around him, he dies of joy; thus this venerable man of God, having spent forty years hunting everything that could throw light on the Bible, now seeing his most sanguine hopes fully realized, is too happy to live, so he dies of joy. The wonderful news of this greatest modern discovery swept this continent like a cyclone. In the providence of God I procured from Germany the first book made from the parchment roll, and was reading it in all my peregrinations, to the infinite delight and edification of God's people, when the inspiration seemed to settle on all that I should translate it, to which I reluctantly submitted, and did that hard work for Christ's sake alone.

(j) Instead of the correct translation making infidels, as some superstitiously claim, it is the very opposite, as the contradictions in the E.V. actually conduce to infidelity; e.g., Gal. 6:2 commands us, "Bear ye one another's burdens," and the same paragraph says, "Let each one bear his own burden," involving a flat contradiction. The correct translation is not only free from contradiction, but replete with lessons to the whole world. V. 2, "Bear ye one another's burdens," is correct, the Greek *baree* simply meaning burdens of every kind. O, what an earthly paradise this world would be if that commandment were diligently obeyed! And responsive to the same, every man, woman and child would do their best to help and encourage every human being. It would simply bring heaven down to supersede the cold selfishness which gives countless millions a prelude of hell. Burden, in v. 5, is *phortion*, and means responsibility, thus cogently enforcing the preceding commandment to help and do good to everybody, thus adumbrating the coming judgment scene when every tub shall stand on its own bottom and every one give an account of his stewardship. While most of the interpolations have been inserted by good people for good motives, in order to strengthen the blessed Word, some have been interpolated, evidently, by bad men, actuated by evil motives; e.g., the last verse of John, 7 ch., and the first eleven verses of ch. 8, giving the account of the adulterous woman, were doubtlessly inserted by a corrupt clergy, after the apostasy of the Church, as an apology for sin. Before I knew anything about these interpolations, my suspicions were aroused by the response of our Savior, "I do not condemn thee," when I knew so well that He does condemn adulterers and all other sinners. John had long been playing on his golden harp before this paragraph ever found its way into his Gospel, which I have as he wrote it, and nothing of this incident in it. Leave it out and you will see the connection is beautiful and all right. The last twelve verses in Mark's Gospel, setting forth handling snakes, drinking poison, and speaking with other tongues as the variable signs of *bona fide* saving faith and the indwelling of the Holy Ghost, has opened a flood-gate for illimitable fanaticism, terribly detrimental to the cause of God. I have been with snake-preachers who demanded handling the rattlers as a test of your experience. A dear brother in Oklahoma, in obedience to their ministry, took up a snake, which bit him and killed him. When I was in India Brother Norton told me that when preaching on the streets of Bombay, thirty-three years ago, a Brahman priest came into the crowd carrying a New Testament and challenged him to prove his book, proposing to join him and do his best to bring others with him, as he actually represented two hundred and seven millions belonging to the Hindu churches. Opening his book and reading from the last chapter of Mark, he said to him: "Now I'll furnish the poison and you have nothing to do but drink it with impunity in verification of this Scripture, and we will all join you." Of course he had to back out, awfully to the detriment of the cause, the people seeing their priest had downed him, and he had failed to prove his Book, which they regarded as demonstrative proof that his religion was not true. The same thing occurred with me, when I was twenty-four years old, and undertook to refute an infidel who was preaching to a crowd in the public room of a hotel, when he drew on me a New Testament, challenging me to prove it, and proposing in that case to turn Christian and do his best to take his crowd with him. Reading that Scripture; he observed: "As we would not find a snake in this mid-winter so as to test the matter in that way, we will all cross the street to that drug store (in full view) and I will buy the arsenic for twenty-five cents and you will have nothing to do but drink it, which you can well afford to do, in order to save my soul and my congregation who are ready to fall down penitents at your feet." Of course I backed down and slipped away, amid a tremendous roar of laughter at my expense, those rough, wicked men exceedingly amused to see the young preacher downed by the old infidel. Of course the cause of God suffered

serious damage in that case. Doubtless many of that audience, and, of course, the preacher, who was about fifty years old, are now in hell.

In the same connection are mentioned "speaking with tongues" as signs of genuine discipleship confirmed by the gift of the Holy Ghost. Of course we recognize tongues, i.e., languages, as one of the nine gifts of the Holy Ghost; but the view that it is the only evidence of His reception leads to fanaticism. It is our privilege to receive all the nine gifts, and that of tongues no more confirmatory of the indwelling Holy Ghost than any other one of the nine. Jesus warns us against seeking after signs in the awful castigation: "A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign, but no sign shall be given except that of the prophet Jonah." Instead of a sign we are to have the thing signified, i.e., the Holy Ghost Himself, who always tells His own story, directly witnessing to His presence, thus forever precluding the necessity of signs.

GOD'S TRIPLE LEADERSHIP

By

William Baxter Godbey

Chapter 3 THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Ghost is none other than very and eternal God, Author of His work, and Creator of all worlds, there must and will, in every case, be perfect harmony at these three great salient points, i. e., the Spirit, the Word and Providence. It will be easy to detect all disharmony which in every case is confirmation of the counterfeit and the spurious. God commands us, in John, chapter 4, "Try the spirits and see if they speak as the oracles of God," recognizing disharmony as confirmation of counterfeit and falsification. If you are really honest before God, you will find the detection really easier than you have anticipated.

Dowie and Sanford were both at one time flaming Holiness evangelists, wielding a potent influence for good. At the same time, the one at Chicago and the other at Shiloh, they both proclaimed their Elijahhood, contesting each other and each one certifying that the Holy Ghost told him so. Now, read Matt. 17 ch., Mk. 9, and Luke 9 chs., and a number of other Scriptures, all certifying that John the Baptist was Elijah to come, so vividly predicted by Malachi in his last chapter: "Behold, the day cometh that shall burn as an oven, and all the gay, and all the proud, and all they that do wickedly shall be stubble, and it shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, and shall leave neither root nor branch; but unto you that fear my name will the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings, and you shall tread down the wicked; they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet, in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts. Behold I will send Elijah, the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord, and he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the children to the fathers, lest I come and smite the land with a curse." As God had not spoken to Israel through a living prophet in four hundred years after Malachi, till the rise of John the Baptist, verily the greatest prophet the world had ever seen, he proved a veritable sunburst on the nation, by his unprecedented oratorical power, actually emptying the cities and populating the wilderness with teeming multitudes, pouring out from "dewy morn till dusky eve," that they might hang with breathless silence on the eloquent lips of the wonderful hermit prophet. They not only swept to the conclusion that he was the Christ, but with paradoxical unanimity falling on their knees amid the burning sand, commingled their penitential tears till the whole country shook beneath the tread of a cyclone revival, unprecedented in the history of the world. You know that is the very thing to melt down whole families, superinducing heart-broken confessions, either to other, thus as He says, "Turning the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of the children to the fathers." You see how the righteous followed Jesus and the wicked went down in the awful Jewish tribulation, A.D. 66-73, which denationalized and expatriated them out of the country, stern Roman law making it a penalty of death for a Jew to be found in all the Holy Land, or in any other country traveling with his face in that direction. Where it says in the last verse of the Bible, "Smite the earth with a curse," it simply means the land of Canaan, which verily received that awful retribution in the Jewish tribulation which lasted seven years.

(k) Now see the dilemma in which Dowie and Sanford were both simultaneously caught, each one heroically claiming the Elijahhood which John the Baptist had received and carried away the crown with him to heaven, and had actually worn it eighteen hundred years; meanwhile John Dowie and Sanford were contesting their claims to it, paradoxically each one certifying that the Holy Ghost told him he was verily the Elijah to come. The solution is plain and easy. A Satanic myrmidon was playing the Holy Ghost on each one of those good men. Sanford ordered all his people to get immersed in midwinter, cutting the ice a foot thick, assuring them that the Holy Ghost had given the order, whereas the most of them had been immersed before. I have this from Brother Harriman, of Tacoma, Wash., a Baptist preacher who was with him at that time, and certainly would not write anything against immersion. These are not the only cases in which our dear Holiness people have been deceived and led astray by evil spirits playing the Holy Ghost on them.

Even last Sunday a young man in this Bible School sought an interview with me in the interest of his soul, as he was in deep trouble. Meanwhile, as I conversed and prayed with him in my room, I became thoroughly convinced that he was really troubled with a myrmidon playing the Holy Ghost on him. He told me the Holy Ghost had forcibly and indefatigably impressed him that he ought to go and voluntarily perform the most servile and odious menial bondage, i.e., carrying slop and all sorts of filth, thus undergoing penance as a righteous retribution for delinquencies in duties which he had shirked, and even added that he should expose himself to the endurance of scenes involving vulgarities and obscenities as a righteous retribution. He said that the Holy Ghost was not only impressing and urging, but even precipitating him to courses of this kind, which had already involved him in trouble. Some people thus annoyed by his humiliating servitude had ordered him to keep away on penalty of arrest. You know The Holy Ghost suggests nothing foolish, obscene nor vulgar. Therefore the case is perfectly self-demonstrative in favor of the conclusion that he has become the victim of an evil spirit playing the Holy Ghost on him. 2 Cor. 7:1: "Therefore let us cleanse ourselves from all the filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." You see here the Holy Ghost commands us to cleanse ourselves from all things obscene, vulgar, degrading and foolish.

I am satisfied Preacher Bush, in Seattle, who told my congregation that I was a deceiver because I did not preach all the errors in King James' translation, at the same time certifying that the Holy Ghost told him the English Bible was the original, whereas there was no such language till several centuries after the Bible was finished, was a sincere, good, humble man. I found him a faithful and efficient street preacher, doing a work which is so much needed in that city with the most growth in the world, into which thousands of reprobates from the ends of the earth are pouring. While I did not doubt his piety, I was forced to the conclusion that he was deluded by an evil spirit passing himself for the Holy Ghost. Such an attitude involves a person in imminent peril.

A robber, disguised as a guide, who is so important while one journeys through mountains and deserts, falls in with me, rendering himself exceedingly bland, affable, sociable, kind and clever. He does his best to win my confidence, rendering himself exceedingly helpful and accommodating, even to servility. But he is actuated by evil motives, and is determined never to leave me till he effects my ruin. O, how we need that beautiful gift of the immortal nine, catalogued in 1 Cor. 12-14 chs., denominated "discernment of spirits" — God's defensive armor against the encroachment of Satanic myrmidons, dressed up as angels of light. The devils and demons. from great, fallen Lucifer down

to the smallest imp, have all once been angels, who unfortunately (Lu. 6) lost their first estate and became demons. Consequently they all know how to play the angel.

(l) They all delight to live in a human spirit, incarnated in a mortal body, as in that case they enjoy ample opportunities to prepare their victim for hell, which is the grand end in view. Verily, Satan is the great counterfeiter, and so smart that even the elect are in great danger of capture by his adroit lasso. You see the fortune-telling girl (Acts 17 ch.) who continued to follow Paul and his comrades day after day, crying out, "These men are the servants of the most high God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." Thus the demon in that girl was actually preaching the truth, as they do when it will accomplish their purpose of seduction and abduction more successfully than a lie. Yet Paul, enjoying discernment of spirits, knew that he was the devil, and in the name of Jesus cast him out, which wound up the career of the fortuneteller, as this demon, who was older than Adam would be if still living on the earth, and had been here before the nations were born, had so much knowledge, superior to mortals, that he could really tell many things, striking the people with surprise and startling interest. You see when he was cast out of the girl, her cogitative acumen, intellectual power, spiritual brilliancy, magnetizing eloquence and burning pathos evanesced away and they found her utterly blank and comparatively dumb and insipid, worth no more than the common rural lassie. Consequently she was utterly incompetent to wield influence, electrify the people, and bring in the money as hitherto.

At the present the Holiness movement is awfully, unprecedently infested with demons and devils, all doing their utmost to play the Holy Ghost on the people, and thus delude them, serving adroitly in the capacity of side-trackers, derailers, ditchers, stranders and wreckers.

(m) Hence the pre-eminent importance of this book which expounds God's triple leadership, the only possible guarantee against the demoniacal myriads who throng the air, all adepts in the art of counterfeiting the Holy Ghost. The reason why they so successfully fool the people is because they unhesitatingly and outrightly say, "I am the Holy Ghost"; but this audacious effrontery ought to defeat their enterprise, and would if the people all knew the Word as we should, because Jesus tells us positively (John 14 ch.) that "when the Holy Ghost comes he will not speak of himself, but of Christ." The wonderful manifestation of evil spirits now ranks prominently among the signs of our Lord's near approach, thus reminding us of their copious manifestations, during His first advent, when they everywhere met Him, spoke out confessing Him till He suppressed them, as He did not want Satan's myrmidons to serve as His preachers. The Bible Schools springing up throughout the land, like mushrooms in the night, are the most hopeful phase of the movement, as it is thus crystallizing in the most substantial developments, thus promising fruitage superabounding ad infinitum. As these Bible Schools are not only teaching the precious Word, but establishing our experiences on the indefragable Gibraltar, against which the ocean storms with the accumulated impetuosity of thirty-five hundred miles, break in vain.

N.B. — The Word of the Lord is the line and plummet according to which we build the walls of Jerusalem, so substantial as forever to bid defiance to hell's battering-ram. It is astounding and lamentable to see Holiness people rush away after human leaders, irreconcilably contradictory to the Word of God.

(n) The apocrophic prophet appealing to the backslidden Church of Ephesus says: "I have this against thee, thou hast left thy first love, therefore repent and do thy first work over again or I will come and take away thy candlestick out of its place, unless you repent; but in this I commend you, because you hate the teaching of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate." Much inquiry has prevailed in reference to who these Nicolaitans were. The word is a Greek compound from *Nicaoo*, to conquer, *laos*, the people, therefore it means human leaders, and we see the Church even at that early day was awfully infected by them, so that God even said that he hated them. That is the great trouble with the Holiness people today, rent, torn, lacerated and smashed by human leaders. Rom. 16:17-18 gives an awful warning against them: Mark those who cause division and stumbling contrary to the teaching you have learned, and depart from them, because such are not serving the Lord Christ. — their own stomach, and by their beautiful speeches and eulogies they are deceiving the hearts of the innocent; not simple, as the E.V. has it. Three hundred years ago simple, from the Latin simplex, meant pure; now it means foolish, idiotic. The Holiness people are not simpletons, foolish nor idiotic, but the wisest in the world. The Greek in this passage, *akakon*, from *alpha*, not, *kakos*, evil. Therefore it means people free from evil, and is pertinently translated the innocent. Hence you see the great danger incident to the best Holiness people, as they are liable to be led astray by the beautiful speeches and eulogies of these aspirants to human leadership. We frankly confess that the Holy Ghost has his leaders, but they never aspire to prominence, but they are buried in the straw of humiliation, hidden in the dust of self-abnegation, so they are not recognized; yet the hand of God is on them and the Holy Ghost uses them in the leadership of Israel.

The Bible says Moses was the meekest man in all the world, but the reason why he told God, when he commanded him to go and preach to Pharaoh, the king of the world, that He would have to excuse him because he had a slow tongue. Nobody else would have said that he had a slow, stammering tongue, as he was the greatest intellectualist and scholar of the world; but his humility, perfected by the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire he then received at the burning bush sanctifying him for the great responsibility of leading the most important nation the world ever saw, used of God to lead the nations and honored with the progenitorship of the world's Redeemer. When he had a chance for the greatest honor possible to reach a human being in this world, to become a second Abraham, the progenitor, when God was about to exterminate all Israel because during the forty days of the abiding on the mountain while He gave the law they went into idolatry, returning to the revelries of the Egyptians around the golden calf and said to Moses, "I will make of thee a great nation, who will do my will in the earth." Then Moses cast himself into the breach between God and apostate Israel, actually becoming their scapegoat to carry away their sins, in order that they might live. From these Scriptures we see that temporal things are the chief desideratum of these human leaders.

(o) Christ is our only leader, the Holy Ghost our only guide, and the precious Word our only authority. The baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire forever saves us from human leaders unless we grieve away the Holy Ghost and thus forfeit it. Truly it puts us where we see Jesus only. It burns up all of our griefs, humiliating us down at the feet of Jesus like little Samuel whom God called to the prophetic office at the early age of six years, and he responded, "Speak, Lord, thy servant heareth." The Bible nowhere commands us to follow the Holy Ghost, but constantly appeals to us, "Seek ye the Lord while He may yet be found, and call upon him while he is near; let the wicked man forsake

his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord with all his heart and unto our God who will abundantly pardon."

Jesus constantly said, "Follow thou me." How strange people will follow fallible leaders when they know they are liable to get wrong and plunge into ruin, leading their followers after them, when it is their glorious privilege to follow the infallible Leader. Many make the great mistake of following the Holy Ghost, who is not our Leader, but our Guide. His work is to give us a constant revelation of Christ and keep up heroically moving on His tracts. He reveals Him to the sinner without and shining down on him with a brightness eclipsing the meridian sun in his splendor, thus radiating a glory which no soul can resist, but as in case of persecuting Saul, it transforms the vile sinner into an humble disciple. Again, in the great second work, He reveals Jesus to the Christian in the capacity of omnipotent Sanctifier, when He actually baptizes him with the Holy Ghost and fire, burning up lodgery, sectarianism, politics, tobacco and all of the narcotics, destroying artificial appetites and forever saving us from the fashions of the world. Whereas in regeneration the Holy Ghost reveals Jesus without shining down on the benighted, debauched soul, substituting day for night. In sanctification He reveals Jesus sitting on the throne of the heart, crowned, sceptred and reigning without a rival in the soul and life. Thus the office of the Holy Ghost is not only to keep the pilgrim's eye constantly on the infallible leader, but to hold him by the hand and give him all the help he needs to walk in His footprints.

(p) The reason why we have so much wreckage is because people make the mistake of following the Holy Ghost instead of Jesus, and in that case an evil spirit, robed as an angel of light, walks right in and says, "Come ahead, I am the Holy Ghost." This should be our warning, as the Holy Ghost never calls His own name, but that of Jesus. While it is the fond device of Satan and his myrmidons to counterfeit the Holy Ghost and deceive the people and so to follow them, instead of the Lord it is a consolatory fact that Satan and his myrmidons cannot possibly counterfeit Jesus, from the simple fact that they have no incarnation. Jesus has lived in this world clothed in mortal flesh, traveling from the cradle to the sepulcher, and thus showing all of us how to live in every stage of life.

The fact that the Holy Ghost has no incarnation renders it possible for the devils and demons who are simply spiritual entities, destitute of incarnation and, consequently, competent to counterfeit the Holy Ghost, which is their great climacteric device. Therefore you see the wonderful triple leadership of the Lord, i.e., the Holy Spirit, leading the human spirit; the Word leading the intellect, and Providence the body; meanwhile the eyes on Jesus, in whose footprints we tread, so wonderfully fortified by the Biblical history of His life. (See my Life of Jesus and His Apostles, and also my Footprints of Jesus, which ought to be in every home, for every member of the family thoroughly to study and verify in their lives.)

Many good, sincere Holiness people get wrecked in an effort to seek and follow the Holy Ghost, as in that case an evil spirit can counterfeit the Holy Ghost, play off on the seeker, deceive and lead him off into fanaticism. The thing to do is to deny ourselves of everything out of harmony with God's perfect law and His sweet will, utterly abandon to Him and sink away into His divinity, lost in Jesus, your eye on Him and never deflecting from Him and in Him finding all the fulness of the God head bodily (Col. 2:8), taking Him for everything so that you are complete in Him; "being circumcised with the circumcision made without hands," i.e., sanctified wholly by the excision and eradication

of carnality, the old man of sin, by "putting off the sin of carnality" in the circumcision of Christ, i.e., the circumcision which Christ gives you; "be buried with him in baptism, in which you are raised by the faith of the Son of God, who raised up Christ from the dead."

Here you see the baptism which Jesus gives with the Holy Ghost and fire is the omnipotent agent, the seraph of God's kingdom, who circumcises the heart by crucifying the old man, i.e., the hereditary depravity. Here we see baptism and circumcision in grammatical and logical apposition either to other, incontrovertibly confirming the synonym. In this beautiful description of our sanctification by the baptism which Jesus gives with the Holy Ghost and fire, it says that it superinduces the putting off of the sin of carnality, i.e., the old man. The word translated putting off is *apkdusci*, a triple compound from *duo*, which means to put on, as a garment; *de*, to take off; and *apo*, away from. Hence the wonderful force of this Pauline triple Greek compound, setting forth the heroic conception of old Adam of which sinners were as a garment, taken off and slipped away to the next station beyond the North Pole, whence he can never come back.

Now, reader, rest assured, if you are true to the Divine Leadership, the Holy Spirit leading your spirit, the Bible leading your immortal intellect and God's providence your body, you are as sure of heaven as if you were now in it. Beware of every spirit who is not in perfect harmony with the Word and Providence. Rest assured he is a hellish myrmidon, playing the Holy Ghost on you. While walking in the footprints of Jesus, the Holy Ghost is always leading you by the hand, and encircling you in His arms, and feeding you on His precious Word, which is the bread of heaven and water of life.

Now to the dear Holiness people throughout the whole world, representing every nationality, race, sect and color, this book, with its fifty-five predecessors, is prayerfully and lovingly dedicated by the author.