



Our Holiness Meetings are held here every
WEDNESDAY Night at 7.30.

Our Evangelistic Meetings are held here
every SUNDAY Night at 7.30,

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— A — Thrilling Touch.

A Personal Testimony.



By
ANTHONY H. L. LANG.

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A Thrilling Touch.



A PERSONAL TESTIMONY.

God has His best things for the few
Who dare to stand the test;
God has His second choice for those
Who will not have His best.

Give me, O Lord, Thy highest choice,
Let others take the rest;
Their good things have no choice for me,
For I have got Thy best.

At the earnest request of many of the Lords' children who have heard my experience of His Healing and Sanctifying power; and also because the Master has so graciously owned the story of my conversion, "Neither Sun nor Stars," to the salvation and blessing of many souls, I now most humbly send out another silent "messenger," "The Story of My Healing and Sanctification."

One shrinks to make known the sacred work of the Holy Spirit in one's inner life,

because it may appear to some to exalt the creature. But, blessed be God, He calls for **witnesses**, and even though, like Paul, who, when he witnessed before "Agrippa," was accounted "**mad**," we too, may be misunderstood; yet it is always a joy and a source of strength to humbly and reverently testify to the great things the Lord hath done for us.

I propose in this little booklet relating simply the Lord's dealings with me, in healing my body, and leading me out of an up and down, restless experience, into a blessed life of **Prayer** and "soul rest"—in other words, the "**Abundant Life**" that Jesus promised, or "**The Sanctified Life**" He prayed we should enjoy. John 10, 10; also John 17, 17-20.

The "**Doctrines**" of Holiness and Divine Healing have been dealt with by abler pens than mine, so I will content myself with simple experience in this booklet. (The teaching of Scripture on these great Truths have been carefully and prayerfully studied by writer for many years).

Some six years after my conversion (six blessed years, although filled with physical and temporal sufferings) we were living in a small town, taking part in all the usual work of a country church. Writer had

a class in the Sunday School, was leader of a Christian Endeavour, and conducted preaching services in the various churches. Many spoke of blessing and help received, and writer was happy and content.

A Special Week's Mission was arranged in our church. I was to take part, and here a painful confession must be made. I considered myself slighted in the place appointed in the Mission, and blankly refused to take part. The spirit shown at this juncture was just an outward manifestation of the evil which had been slumbering within unnoticed. The awakening was distressing, and was followed by days of further revelations of the utter depravity of the natural heart, where **Pride, Ambition, Love of Applause, &c., &c.**, were clearly seen. This was the beginning of deep and pungent conviction of my carnal state.

Just at this time a friend returned from the **Geelong Convention**, and began to tell us of the blessing that had come into his life. He told how many Christians had been convicted of having left their first love and had become prayerless and worldly, and had publicly been led to confess sins of omission

and commission, and had surrendered their lives fully to Christ.

This friend pleaded with our Minister that any of us who could spare the time should go to Geelong for the remaining two days of the Convention.

Our Minister, Rev. —, laughed at this, and said that it was folly, and that we could get all the blessing we needed where we were.

However, I treasured this friend's words in my heart, and shortly after this, in a most unforseen and wonderful way, was removed to Geelong to manage a business, and at the next Geelong Convention attended the whole of these precious meetings, hearing there, for the very first time, clear teaching on "**The Spirit-filled Life.**"

My health, which had been very poor, broke down altogether. I lost sleep, and became a wreck. I had suffered for years with a painful form of rheumatism, the pain being continuous and almost unbearable. The heart also was so weak that over and over again, during the hot weather, I have collapsed, and had to lie for hours, and sometimes days, practically helpless.

The smallest quantity of the plainest food caused intense distress. Doctors said my

digestive system was in an alarming condition. I lost weight and strength almost daily. I dared not enter a church or meeting of any kind. The strain of being amongst a large company seemed to overwhelm me. My brain seemed unable to bear even a few minutes listening to an address. I have had to hurriedly leave the building and **run** to keep myself from losing consciousness, and often have laid down in a right of way or anywhere out of sight.

God alone knows the horrors I have endured at these times.

The sleeplessness developed into chronic insomnia. Oh, the unutterable suffering I endured. Hundreds of times I have cried out at night, "Would to God it were morning," and at morning, "Would to God it were night."

The best doctors were consulted; medicines of every kind were ordered and greedily taken in the hope of regaining health, galvanic baths, massage, patent medicines, and almost every opiate in the Pharmacopœia were taken to try and induce sleep, but without the least benefit. I have taken 60 and 80 grains of a drug when only five or 10 grains were ordered by the physician. For months I never knew

what a night's sleep was. Looking back on those terrible eight years of mental anguish, I marvel that my reason did not give way.

When I was at my worst, and on the verge of despair, we received an invitation to attend a **Bible Reading** held in a friend's house. At first I refused, feeling too ill and dejected to go out; however, we went. The speaker's theme that night was mostly confined to talking about the "Old man," with references to the 7th Romans, "The body of sin and death." Incidentally, Divine Healing was mentioned. This was the first time I had heard anything on this subject. I eagerly drank in this new truth. I invited the Preacher to our home. He came, and during his sojourn with us of about three weeks, in conversation, prayer, and Bible study, I began to see light ahead, and have a great longing to know my Lord better.

After the first few days, this friend suggested that we rise at 5 a.m., and meet for prayer. In my weak and depressed state this seemed almost impossible, but I was in desperate straits, so, after a sleepless night, dragged myself out of bed, and we knelt in prayer. We read together the whole of the First Epistle of Peter. To my astonishment, when we arose from our knees

it was past 8 o'clock. We had been over three hours in the "secret presence of the Most High."

This was the beginning of a new and most blessed experience, proving Isaiah 40, 31: "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength," &c.

We continued each morning for about a week, from 5 to 8 a.m., in prayer. That one week taught me more of the joy and power of Prayer than all I had ever read or heard since I was first saved. I was anointed, according to James 5, 14, and prayer made for my healing. But now, although I still suffered as much as ever, I did not feel one tenth part as much longing for health of mind and body as I did for "Holiness," or "a clean heart." My terminology may have been all wrong, but my heart's longing was all right in God's sight. I could truly say with David in

Psalm 42, 1-3: "As the heart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God. My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?"

Psalm 63, 1: "O God, Thou art my God; early will I seek Thee; my soul thirsteth for Thee, my flesh longeth for Thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is."

Psalm 84, 2: "My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God."

This was my soul's cry. Yea, my flesh did cry out for God. It was Jesus my heart longed for—His presense, His love constantly known and enjoyed. I was not seeking **"Forgiveness of Sins."** I never doubted one moment in all my sickness that I was a "child of God," and "my sins were all blotted out," "all under the blood." But now I wanted deliverance from all the disquieting, distressing sense of uncleanness within.

I began searching the Scriptures on the subject of "Sanctification," "Holiness"—a life well pleasing to God. I bought, and hungrily read, all the books I could get on these themes. Night after night I have prayed and wept, and read all through the hours of the night. But now I seemed lifted above my fears and sufferings. The desire for the fullness of the Blessed Lord's presence and power, giving me victory over self and sin, seemed to consume every other thought.

Humbly and reverently I here say that the "Word of God" became my meat and drink day and night. I experienced what David meant when he said:

Psalm 119, 97: "O how love I Thy law, it is my meditation all the day"; also, 119:

Verse 103: "How sweet are Thy words unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth."

Verse 127: "Therefore I love Thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold."

Verse 147: "I prevented the dawning of the morning, and cried: I hoped in Thy word."

Verse 148: "Mine eyes prevent the night watches, that I might meditate in Thy word."

All these, and more, were actually a heart experience. Prayer became a joy; an intense longing to be constantly in the "secret place" gripped me. I looked hungrily at the clock, waiting for the hour when I could get alone with God: hours seemed like minutes when engaged in this sacred work.

Nearly two years passed like this: my health no better, but my inner man growing day by day, fed "upon the finest of the wheat."

When I was anointed for healing, I had a terrible struggle to wholly trust the Lord as my physician. I had so long depended on stimulants and drugs, that they seemed more necessary to me than my daily food. However, after a desperate battle with my fears, and no doubt with the enemy of God and man, Satan, God gave me the victory. I threw away all the drugs with the exception of "one." This was some "sulphonal powders" I used to take to give me a little sleep. For hours I wavered over this; but at last the Lord made it so clear that I must give up every prop, and trust **Him** only, that I threw away this last human help. I shall never forget the Heaven of Peace that then came into my heart—Jesus was so real, it was easy to trust just then.

My hunger and thirst for righteousness seemed to increase daily. At last I became desperate, and said, "Lord, if You don't give me rest and victory, I cannot live."

Charles Wesley's beautiful Hymn expressed my soul's desire:—

Thy sanctifying Spirit pour,
To quench my thirst and wash me clean;
Now, Father, let the gracious shower
Descend, and make me pure from sin.

Purge me from every sinful blot;
My idols all be cast aside;
Cleanse me from every evil thought,
From all the filth of self and pride.
Give me a new, a perfect heart,
From doubt, and fear, and sorrow free;
The mind which was in Christ impart,
And let my spirit cleave to Thee.
O take this heart of stone away!
(Thy rule it doth not, cannot own)
In me no longer let it stay;
O take away this heart of stone!
Cause me to walk in Christ my way,
And I Thy statutes shall fulfil,
In every point Thy law obey,
And perfectly perform Thy will.
Father, supply my every need;
Sustain the life Thyself hast given,
Call for the corn, the living bread,
The manna that comes down from heaven.
Show me how foul my heart hath been,
When all renew'd by grace I am;
When Thou hast emptied me of sin,
Show me the fulness of my shame.
Open my faith's interior eye,
Display Thy glory from above,
And all I am shall sink and die,
Lost in astonishment and love.
Confound, o'erpour me, with Thy grace;
I would be by myself abhorred;
(All might, all majesty, all praise,
All glory be to Christ my Lord!)
Now let me gain perfection's height,
Now let me into nothing fall!
Be less than nothing in my sight,
And feel that Christ 'is all in all.

I purchased a piece of parchment, and decided to write out "my surrender," spirit, soul, and body, to God. And slowly and

solemnly, on my knees, wrote in it the following dedication:—

“This day I make a new consecration of my all to Christ. Jesus, I now and forever give myself to Thee; my soul to be washed in Thy blood and saved in heaven at last; my whole body to be used for Thy glory; my mouth to speak for Thee at all times; my eyes to weep over lost sinners, or to be used for any purpose for Thy glory; my feet to carry me where Thou shalt wish me to go; my heart to be burdened for souls, or used for Thee anywhere; my intellect to be employed at all times for Thy cause and glory. I give to Thee my wife, my children, my property, all I have, and all that ever shall be mine. I will obey Thee in every known duty.”

Just at that moment I looked upward. I seemed to see right into the Eternal Home. I am convinced that the Blessed Lord gave me a glimpse of the Glory Land, and the Throne, and the

innumerable company of Angels and “just men made perfect.” The thought then seized me with a great joy, that I, a poor worm of the dust, saved by the precious Blood of Jesus Christ, was seen of the Great God of Heaven just as truly bowing at His Footstool of mercy as any of the Heavenly Host I had just seen in the spirit.

I forgot all about my “Consecration” just written, but there and then gave myself away to Him in full and glad surrender, and looked down at the open Bible, that was lying on the bed, open at the sixth chapter of Romans. I read from the first verse, and when I got to the sixth verse I could get no further—this verse was suddenly illuminated in my mind, my heart. Just as the Lord had spoken to me several years previously through His Word, so the Holy Spirit made these words to live in me at this moment. Rom. 6, and 6: “Knowing this that our ‘old man’ was crucified with Him that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.” At once I felt my longing heart was satisfied. I could take “God’s reckoning” as a blessed fact.

Romans 6, 11: “Likewise RECKON ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin but

alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord."

"'Tis better to walk by faith than 'sight,'
Better to reckon than feel,
For when we reckon on His word
He will surely make it real."

This was a second Faith look at Jesus on the Cross, this time not only bearing my past sins, but my old self-life. In other words, God looks upon us as having died with Jesus. At that moment I passed into a life of Faith and Joy and Peace in the Holy Ghost that seemed in some measure to tally with the experience of Bible teaching.

The one outstanding feature of this experience was a great overpowering love for the Lord Jesus Christ. For weeks after I could not mention His Blessed Name without tears, and a strange yet wonderful joy filling my whole being.

In this new and blessed experience I seemed to live above all my distressing mental and physical ailments. Avenues of service opened up on every hand. Ministers of the Gospel of the various denominations invited me to personal interviews; many asked me to

pray for them, that they too might enter this fuller life and Christian experience.

I must witness for the Glory of God, that in every meeting the Lord led me into souls were saved, and hundreds of believers were stirred to consecrate their lives to God and seek this sanctified "Spirit-filled life." On more than one occasion many persons in the congregation have cried out aloud for prayers; many have publicly stood up confessing sin in their lives—some black and terrible sins.

Men and women on many occasions came forward, asking prayer for healing of mind or body.

The Lord knows, I have refrained for years from writing these things, for fear "self" might be the motive. But now, "The Lord makes it plain, and I must obey." If Christians Science, Spiritism, and Theosophy followers are testifying to **Healing and Help** received through these **Satanic** agencies, surely a humble follower of "the Lamb," **The True Christ**, God of very God, should not be silent.

A few months passed by, and I seemed

to get weaker and weaker in body, and at last I suddenly seemed to lose the precious faith which I was exercising in Christ for healing. I became so ill that we sent for a doctor, but he was away from home. We sent for another, but he also was out, and would not return for some hours. This seemed to arouse me to the seriousness of the step I was taking. After trusting the Lord only, and being so graciously sustained and blessed, to now seek the arm of flesh, so we determined to seek the Lord again, and ask His forgiveness for this lapse.

Some hours passed, and I was in a terrible frame of mind, weak, sleepless, and distressed, because temporal matters were getting worse and worse, having to neglect my business, losing money every week, with insolvency staring us in the face. It seemed more than flesh and blood could endure. About 8 p.m. I felt overwhelmed, and burst into tears, and cried out, "Lord Jesus, when you were on earth you placed your hands on the poor leper. O Lord, I feel I am not worthy to ask so great a blessing, but I know

that if you would but touch me I should be healed." Matt. 8, 2, 3.

And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

And Jesus put forth *his* hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

I had hardly finished uttering these words when I felt **two hands** pressed upon my head, and my whole body seemed as if it was charged with electricity, or fire. It was painful, yet wonderfully sweet. I knew it was the Lord's answer to my agonising cry.

I tried to call my wife, who was in another room, but I could not speak. I then distinctly heard these words: "You cannot trust Me even now." I said, "Yes, Lord, I will trust you, living or dying."

I then felt that Jesus had truly taken my case in hand, and that He who in the days of His flesh went about healing all who were sick had again manifested His changeless

love and glorious character as Jehovah Ropheca: "The Lord thy Physician."

I fell into a sound sleep, and, for the first time for years, really had a peaceful, invigorating night's rest.

I did not recover robust health at once, but from that night began to improve, and shortly after commenced to hold meetings to tell others out of a full heart what the Blessed Lord had done for me. Here, beloved reader, I must beseech you to believe that all I say is for the glory of my Lord, and not any unholy desire to call attention to this unworthy weak vessel.

The news soon spread amongst God's people, and our home became too small to accommodate the seekers after Jesus. The sick in soul and body came. The Lord met many of them. Many serious cases of sickness were Divinely healed. We have had as many as 40 persons at our meetings at one time seeking prayer for healing. God has answered prayer for some who were "demented"; others, diagnosed as cancer, and to be operated on, but God healed without operation.

A Mrs. I——, a well known Christian worker, was to be operated on for cancer. All arrangements made with private hospital, doctors and nurses. A few days before she was to go into the hospital Mrs. I—— sent for me. Her husband did not believe in Divine Healing, but was anxious about his wife, so consented that she should be anointed and prayed for in obedience to James 5, 14. Prayer was answered. God healed her—no operation, no medical treatment. Mrs. I—— lived 15 years after this, many of these years spent as a missionary in Fiji, never suffering one day from the old complaint. She died of black water fever.

Another case, an elderly lady who had been for many years a nurse in hospital. This person was bed-ridden for 18 months. Doctors pronounced her case incurable; some disease of the right knee. This dear one was anointed and prayed for in the Name of Jesus

Christ. She took off all bandages, and arose and walked, and continued to move about with ease, praying and worshipping God. About twelve persons were present, mostly prominent well-known Christian workers. She remained perfectly healed.

Another case, a child twelve months old. The parents were Salvationists. This child was given a few hours to live. Three medical men(who are still practicing) were unanimous in their verdict—the child could not recover. I was sent for. After prayer, and heart confession of sin by the parent, the little one was anointed in the Name which is above every name. Immediately the eyes, which had fallen back, only showing the white part, looked intelligently at me, and from that moment the child began to recover. Within a week it was well on the way to normal health. A very large number of people visited this home

to see this child, knowing that it had been at death's door.

Another also, a middle-aged lady living in the Beach Forest. Almost bed-ridden, suffering with heart-disease, and pronounced incurable. With great difficulty this poor soul was sent by rail over 200 miles, carefully fixed up in rugs. She had to be carried into the train and carried out into a cab at the end of the journey, quite unable to walk. Within a month, after much prayer and Bible study on the subject of Life for the Body, she was anointed and prayed for, and returned home a well woman, praising and blessing God. Two members of her family were converted through this.

Another, A Presbyterian Minister suffering from diabetes, who had given up his pastorate, too ill to continue, travelled a very long journey to our home. He was anointed and prayed with. He returned to his ministerial work, preached for two years, and died

of another disease. He was well advanced in years.

We have had very many cases of mental trouble brought to us, and God has heard and answered prayer. Many of these dear ones are still alive and well.

Many cases, which were no doubt Demon possession, were completely delivered. We can mention particulars of one, who thought he had committed the unpardonable sin. This man was perfectly healed, and became a preacher in the Church of England, and led many souls to Christ.

Another case, a Mrs. T——, wife of a Salvationist. She was 22 years a semi-invalid, suffering with a serious spinal complaint; had various treatments all these years—Homeopath, Allopath, and Osteopath, etc.—with no permanent benefit. She was anointed and prayed with. Now, for more than two years this lady has had perfect health, and is constantly witnessing to Christ's Power and Love and willingness to heal.

Beloved reader, as my pen travels over the paper recording these tokens of the Lord's mercies, I feel almost unable to stop. I could go on telling of many, yea, very many more. But these must suffice at present. If the

Lord tarry, and He makes it plain that He would have me record more, I will gladly do so.

Why do I write this? Well, just to sum up briefly, I believe that we are living in wonderful yet terribly dangerous days, when Satan is working mightily with "Signs and lying wonders" through the "three spirits of devils," viz.: Spiritism, Christian Science, and Theosophy. Multitudes of men and women are leaving the churches and going over to these false cults. There is no doubt we are drifting into the last stage of "Laodicea," when our Lord said we would be "neither cold nor hot."

I think if my experience proves anything, it proves the **Power of Prayer, much prayer, unceasing prayer, "importunate prayer."** "We have not, because we ask not."

Just think of the many Bible examples of Importunate Prayer, both in the Old and New Testament.

Our Lord spoke about **Asking, Seeking, Knocking.** Then the importunate widow, the Syrophenician woman, &c., &c. All go to prove that "**Delayal**" is not "**Denial**." "If ye seek for Me, and search for Me, with all your heart, ye shall find Me," saith the Lord.

The lack of this whole-hearted, persevering, importunate praying may account for much of our failure in obtaining what the Lord has promised and wanting to bestow on His children.

Edward Payson once wrote: "Prayer is the first thing, the second thing, the third thing necessary for any Christian. Pray then, my dear brother, Pray, Pray, Pray."

Coleridge wrote: "The act of praying is the very highest energy of which the human mind is capable: praying, that is, with the total concentration of the faculties."

Rutherford wrote: "I urge upon you communion with Christ, a growing communion. There are curtains to be drawn aside in Christ that we never saw, and new foldings of love in Him. I despair that I shall ever win to the far end of that love, there are so many plies in it. Therefore dig deep, and sweat and labour and take pains for Him, and set by as much time in the day for Him as you can, He will be won in the labour."

Again hear, John Wesley: "Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but Sin, and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergymen or laymen:

such alone will shake the gates of hell. God does nothing but in answer to prayer."

William Wilberforce left this on record: "This perpetual hurry of business and company ruins me in soul if not in body. More solitude and earlier hours! I have been allotting habitually too little time to private devotions, meditation, Scripture reading, etc. Hence I am lean and cold and hard. I had better allot two hours or one hour and a half daily. Surely the experience of all good men confirms the proposition that without private devotions the soul will grow lean. But all may be done through prayer—almighty prayer. O then, pray, pray, pray."

Hearken to Canon Liddon: "The great masters and teachers in Christian doctrine have always found in prayer their highest source of illumination. The greatest practical resolves that have enriched and beautified human life have been arrived at in prayer."

Over sixteen years have passed since the Blessed Lord led me into this Canaan of rest and health. Alas alas, I cannot say I have been faithful all these years. A short period of this time, through circumstances which I cannot relate here, I lost this wonderful experience of the Lord's Presence and Sanctify-

ing and Healing Power. Oh, the darkness and distress and deep heart sorrow for having failed in the face of such wonderful light and grieving the Loving, Gentle, Holy Spirit. But, praise God, His compassions fail not, His mercies endure for ever. When in His great love He came back in power to this poor heart, I determined I would follow more faithfully every gleam of Light He vouchsafed to give.

Some few years ago He called me to follow in evangelistic work. I was not disobedient to the Heavenly Vision. I was then on the high-tide of prosperity. Never were our worldly prospects so bright. We could have gone on increasing in the things of this world. My dear wife and I decided to turn our back on all the things of time and sense and come out and preach the Blessed Gospel of the Grace of God, and trust the Lord wholly for our temporal support.

Praise God, He has been faithful. All our needs have been supplied. We have never been in debt.

Beloved readers, this is my humble testimony. If it should awaken in any dear heart a great longing to know Jesus Christ better in all His glorious attributes, and beget a

yearning to devote your redeemed powers to His most holy and glorious service, my heart will be deeply grateful.

Might I earnestly entreat you to prayerfully peruse the following:—

AN ACT OF APPROPRIATING FAITH.

Lord Jesus, Thou hast washed me in Thy most precious Blood; I am Thine.

I recognise Thy command, "Be filled with the Spirit."

I acknowledge that it would be for Thy Glory that I should be filled.

I come to Thee now in Thine own appointed way for the Filling.

I trust Thee for the clean heart, to save me from my sins, to guard me from stumbling.

I thank Thee that Thou doest it.

I surrender myself to Thee: I sanctify Thee in my heart as Lord; I crown Thee Lord of all.

By faith I receive from Thee the Fulness of the Spirit. I thank Thee for it; it is mine even now.

I believe that out of me this day, according to promise, rivers of living water will be flowing.

To me to live henceforth is Christ.

Let all those who read what is on this page sign it, and thus make the act their own.

"That we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."

Signature.....

If you can truly believe and sign this, only eternity will reveal the results.

It has been said that Christians are not living up to their Gospel privileges when they fail to claim God's promises, not only for spiritual but for temporal blessings, and also for the healing of the body. It is for the children of God to accept every portion of His Word, and to act thereupon with unwavering confidence, "that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ."

I do not wish to detract from the services of the medical profession. I only desire to witness that "Man's extremity is God's opportunity." The promises of God remain as a testimony to the truth of His Word, "All power is given unto Me in Heaven and on earth." Many a humble trusting child of God has learned in every known want for soul and

body that "According to thy faith be it unto thee," proclaim our Father's ear is ever open, so that there shall be "no want to them that seek the Lord."

With a truly grateful heart I praise God that to-day, although advancing in years, I feel stronger, and am able to do far more work with less fatigue than in any previous part of my Christian life. And this I attribute **only** and **altogether** because by His grace He has taught me in experience something of the meaning of the following words:—

I take the Promised Holy Ghost,
I take the Power of Pentecost,
To fill me to the uttermost,
"I take; He undertakes."

I take Him for this mortal frame,
I take my healing through His Name,
And all His risen life I claim,
"I take; He undertakes."

Beloved reader, I am including in this booklet some of "The exceeding great and precious promises" and teachings of the Holy Ghost on this blessed theme. Prayerfully read them, pray over them, and ponder them, on your knees.

No doubt many of God's dear children do not see eye to eye with me as regards this blessed truth. Yet I believe that very many of God's choicest Saints **have** and **are** proving the verity of it, to wit:

Rev. Andrew Murray,
Rev. A. B. Simpson,
Rev. S. D. Gordon,
Philip Mauro,
Dr. Cullis,
Dr. Boardman,
Pastor Blunhardt,
Pastor Stockmeyer,
and a host of others.

Most humbly and reverently would I add a prayer:—

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him: the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in th saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power to usward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power, which He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the

dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places. Ephesians 1, 17 to 20.

Yours in the Blessed Hope of our Lord's near return.

ANTHONY H. L. LANG.

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Melbourne.

This Booklet, "**A Thrilling Touch**," also Story of my Conversion, "**Neither Sun nor Stars**," can be obtained, price 2d. each, at Cole's Book Arcade, Bourke Street, Melbourne; The Christian Workers' Depot, 170 Elizabeth Street, Sydney; and A. H. Lang, 5 Harvey Street, Malvern, Melbourne, Victoria.

SPECIAL.—We pray for the SICK. Will be pleased to hear from you, and help you.

SOLOMON'S PRAYER.

2 Chron. vi., 28-30: "If there be dearth in the land, if there be pestilence, if there be blasting, or mildew, locusts, or caterpillars. If their enemies besiege them in the cities of their land; **whatsoever** sore, or **whatsoever** sickness there be; then what prayer or what supplication soever shall be made of **any man** of or all Thy people Israel, when every one shall know his own sore and his own grief, and shall spread forth his hands in this house; Then hear Thou from heaven Thy dwelling place and forgive."

THE LORD'S ANSWER TO SOLOMON'S PRAYER.

2 Chron. vii., 12-15: "And the Lord appeared to Solomon by night and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, * * * If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or **if I send pestilence** among My people; if My people **which are called by My name**, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Psalm ciii., 2-5: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: * * * who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; * * **so that** thy youth is renewed like the eagle's."

Proverbs ix., 11: "By Me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased."

Proverbs iv., 22: "For they (my words) are life unto those that find them, and **health to all their flesh.**"

Exodus xxiii., 25: "Ye shall serve the Lord thy God, * * * and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee."

Exodus xv., 26: "I will put none of these diseases upon thee, * * * for I am the Lord that healeth thee."

Psalm xci., 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 15, 16: "Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. Thou shalt not be afraid * * for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thee in all thy ways. I will deliver him and honor

him. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him My salvation."

Deut. vii., 15: "And the Lord will take away from thee all sickness."

Jeremiah xxxiii., 6: "I will bring it health and cure. I will cure them."

Deut. xxxii., 39: "I kill and I make alive; I wound, and I heal; neither is there any that can deliver out of My hand."

2 Kings xx., 5: "I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears, behold I will heal thee." (Also, Isaiah xxxviii., 5). (Hezekiah).

Psalms xxx., 2: "O Lord my God, I cried unto Thee, and Thou hast healed me."

Psalms cvii., 20: "He sent His word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions."

Isaiah liii., 5: "With His stripes we are healed." (Compare yerse 4 with Mathew viii., 17).

Matthew iv., 24: "And His fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto Him all sick people that were taken with diverse diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatic, and those that had the palsy; and He healed them." **All diseases.** Also Matthew xiv., 35, 36; Mark vi., 55, 56.

Matthew viii., 5-8, 13: "And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto Him a centurion, beseeching Him, and saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour." **Palsy.** Also Matthew ix., 2-8; Mark ii., 1-12; Luke v., 17-29; vii., 10.

Luke xiv., 2, 4: "And behold, there was a certain man before Him which had the dropsy. And He took him, and healed him, and let him go." **Dropsy.**

Matthew xii., 10, 13: "And behold, there was a man which had his hand withered. Then He said to the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other." **Paralysis.** Also Mark iii., 5; Luke vi., 10.

John iv., 46, 47, 50: "So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where He made the water wine. And there was a certain noble-

man, whose son was sick at Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judæa into Galilee, he went unto Him, and besought Him that He would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death. Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth."

Luke iv., 33-35: "And in the swnagogue there was a man, which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice, saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with Thee, Thou Jesus of Nazareth? art Thou come to destroy us? I know Thee who Thou art; the Holy One of God. And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the devil had thrown him in the midst, he came out of him, and hurt him not." **Demoniac.** Some cases like Insanity, and others like Epilepsy. Also Mark i., 25, 26; Matthew viii., 16; Mark v., 2-15; Matthew xvii., 14; Mark ix., 14; Luke viii., 27-35; ix., 37.

Matthew viii., 2, 3: "And behold, there came a leper and worshipped Him, saying, Lord, if Thou wilt, Thou canst make me clean. And Jesus put forth His hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And im-

mediately his leprosy was cleansed." **Leper.** Also Mark i., 40-44; Luke vi., 12-14.

Mark i., 30, 31: "But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell Him of her. And He came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them." **Fever.** Also Luke iv., 38; Matt. viii., 14, 15.

Matthew viii., 16, 17: "When the even was come, they brought unto Him many that were possessed with devils: and He cast out the spirits with His word, and healed **all that were sick**: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." **All diseases.** Also Mark i., 32; Luke iv., 40; Matt. ix., 35.

John v., 5, 8, 9: "And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years. Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk. And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the Sabbath." **Infirmity.**

Matthew xii., 22: "Then was brought unto Him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and He healed him inasmuch that

the blind and dumb both spake and saw." **Blind and dumb.**

Luke vii., 21: "And in that same hour He cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind He gave sight." **Plagues and blind.**

Luke viii., 41, 42, 51-53: "And, behold, there came a man named Jarius, and he was a ruler of the synagogue: and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought Him that he would come into his house: for he had one only daughter about twelve years of age, and she lay a dying. And when He came into the house, He suffered no man to go in, save Peter, and James, and John, and the father and the mother of the maiden. And all wept, and bewailed her: but He said, Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed Him to scorn, knowing that she was dead. And He put them all out, and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise. And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and He commanded to give her meat." **Dead raised to life.** Also Mark vi., 22; Matt. ix., 18; Luke vii., 12-15.

Matthew ix., 20-22: "And behold, a woman which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind Him and touched

the hem of His garment. For she said within herself, If I may but touch His garment I shall be whole. But Jesus turned Him about, and when He saw her, He said, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour." **Issue of blood.** Also Mark v., 25; Luke viii., 43.

Luke x., 9: "Heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you." **The seventy commissioned to heal the sick.**

Mark xvi., 17, 18: "And 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 serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." **Power of healing the sick promised to believers.**

Acts iii., 2, 6, 8, 9: "And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he leap-

ing up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. And all the people saw him walking and praising God." **Peter healing the sick.** Also, Acts ix., 33, 34.

Acts v., 14-16: "And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women. Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one." **Peter healing the sick.**

Acts viii., 5-8: "Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them; and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed. And there was great joy in that city." **Philip healing the sick.**

Acts ix., 17, 18: "And Ananias went his

way, and entered into the house; and putting his hand on him, said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptised." **Ananias restoring sight to the blind.**

Acts xiv., 8-10: "And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: the same heard Paul speak: who steadfastly beholding him, and, perceiving that he had faith to be healed, said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked." **Paul healing the sick.** Also Acts xxviii., 8, 9 (case of dysentery).

Acts ixv., 16-18: "And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: the same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days.

But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour." **Paul casting out devils.**

Acts xix., 11, 12: "And God wrought special miracles by the hand of Paul: so that from His body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs, or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them."

Acts xxviii., 3-6: "And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand. And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live. And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm. Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god."

James v., 14, 15: "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and

let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up, and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him."

SCRIPTURAL HOLINESS.

Selected.

The sinner, saved by grace, is called to a life of Holiness. In the cross and resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and in the coming of the Holy Ghost, full provision has been made not only for the salvation of men, but also for their sanctification while yet in the flesh. It is very important that we should not be satisfied with just finding peace with God, but also should be ambitious to partake in the highest grace God offers. Let us therefore search the Scriptures and see what is the grace that God offers to us, and calls us to enjoy.

To do this we need to be careful in two ways. In the first place let us not yield to doubt and unbelief. God offers to do a wonderful work in the soul, let us not be unbelieving and limit the Holy One of Israel. Many now cannot enter into the fulness of

the blessing of Christ because of their unbelief.

On the other hand, let us avoid fanaticism, which goes beyond the Word of God. Let us shun all unreality, and any testimony to a state of heart beyond what we have really experienced.

WHAT HOLINESS IS NOT.

Let us avoid mistaken ideas about the nature of holiness. For instance, holiness is not:—

(1) Absolute perfection. Adam and Eve had this before the Fall. They were perfect in soul, and perfect in mind, and perfect in body. They knew the will of God perfectly, and could perfectly carry it out. Since the Fall, all men have been degraded in soul and mind and judgment, and in body. God may cleanse the heart, but scars of sin's deadly wounds remain. So that we, while still in the body cannot serve God perfectly. All our deeds will come short of perfection and need the cleansing of the Blood of Christ.

(2) Holiness does not make a man free from temptation. Adam and Eve were tempted in their perfect condition. The angels in heaven were tempted, and some fell.

The Son of God was tempted when upon earth. Holiness does not bring freedom from temptation, but victory over it.

(3) Holiness is not sinless perfection, i.e., it does not make it impossible for a man to fall from grace. Satan fell from heaven, and Adam from Paradise. There is not a state of grace from which it is impossible to fall. Rather the dangers are greater, the more grace one has found. So let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

(4) Holiness does not mean that we shall make no mistakes in judgment. We shall still be very fallible, and liable to err and make mistakes.

(5) Holiness does not set one in such a state that there is nothing beyond, and no higher grace to be sought. Rather it means such cleansing of the heart from pride and unbelief that growth in grace becomes natural and easy.

WHAT HOLINESS IS.

What then does the Bible teach us that Holiness is? What is the "Salvation to the uttermost" that we may have? It is:

(1) A cleansing from all unrighteousness (1 John i., 9) and not merely a forgiveness of sins.

(2) A cleansing from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit (2 Cor. vii., 1).

(3) A death to sin and a newness of life (Rom. vi., 6).

These words express a real practical deliverance from sin in the heart and nature. They express far more than that God will help one to conquer sin. They mean a clean heart; that is, purity within and a healing of the sources of thought and motive within the heart.

It means also a receiving of the Holy Spirit to dwell in the heart. He will reveal Christ within, so that the man can testify that his life is "not I, but Christ."

EFFECTS OF THE BLESSING.

This will result in:

(1) Power to walk in God's statutes and to keep His judgments to do them (Ezek. xxxvi., 27), that is, power to obey God and to please Him (Romans viii., 4). It will be a life of rejoicing in God, of praying without ceasing, and in everything giving thanks.

(2) Heartfelt love to God (Deut. xxx., 6). All that was contrary to love is "circumcised" away, and the love of God is shed abroad in the heart.

(3) Consecrated love to men—after the

pattern of 1 Cor. xiii. This is the holiness that the world rightly looks for in one who professes holiness. It means that the possessor is not living for himself, but is devoting himself and all he has to the highest good of his neighbours.

HOW IT IS OBTAINED.

It will be readily acknowledged that this is a deeper experience than receiving pardon and peace, and that many who are without doubt born again, do not experience such purity.

This is a blessing received subsequent to the new birth. It is given "because ye are sons" (Gal. iv., 6), not at the time ye became sons. Sinners can receive salvation, but cannot receive the Holy Ghost (John xiv., 17). In the old parable of the children of Israel, men are saved out of Egypt, and subsequently cross the Jordan into the promised land.

Therefore we would ask every Christian, "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye belived?"

It is not the result of growth. We cannot grow out of the power of sin. It is God's free gift, given by His mighty creative power

("Create" Psalm li., 10). It has been fully purchased at the Cross, where Satan's power was broken. So we may receive by simple faith (Gal. iii., 14). The Holy Spirit witnesses it to us in the Word of God. By the use of the aorist tense in the Greek, He teaches us that it is to be instantaneous. (See for example "sanctify," 1 Thess. v., 23; "cleanse," 2 Cor. vii., 1; "mortify," Col. iii., 5; "dwell," Eph. iii., 17; all of which words express, in the original, instantaneous action and effect).

Therefore holiness may be received by faith here and now. And that is the beginning of true healthy growth in grace. The branch has been grafted into the vine, and henceforth the sap flows into it continuously, causing it to grow and increasingly bear fruit. From henceforward the Christian "perfects holiness in the fear of the Lord." His faith grows, and his love towards others abounds. He goes on from the spiritual condition of being a "child" to being a spiritual "young man," and beyond that, to all the maturity of being a spiritual "father." He will be changed into the image of Christ from glory to glory.