

Radio

and the

Spirit-filled Life

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By
Patt. J. Gentry



THE FIVE TUBE PORTABLE RADIO RECEIVER

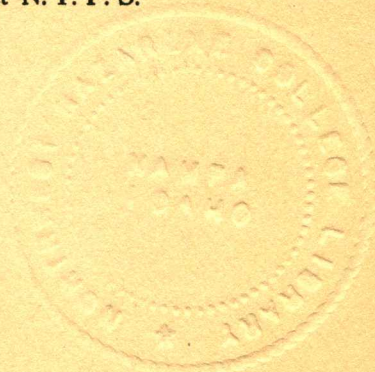
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Radio and the Spirit Filled Life

By

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TO THE MEMORY
Of
"One loved long since
And lost awhile,"
MY SISTER.

INTRODUCTION

The radio is one of the most wonderful of all our modern discoveries. It has revolutionized our methods of communication in the realm of news as well as in the intellectual world. New interest has been created in the field of true science. Comfort and pleasure have been advanced greatly in the world of art and music. Above all these has been the advance in safety for travelers in new and untried lands and especially for those who sail the stormy seas.

There are some mysteries connected with this branch of scientific investigation. Man may never be able to solve these mysteries any more than he may never find out all the hidden mysteries of light and life. But the usefulness and blessing of the radio is such an established fact that we may safely use it as an illustration of spiritual truth. In fact, we are warranted in doing this in the language of the Apostle Paul in Romans 1:20: "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." Thus we may reason from the things which are made to the

invisible things and more clearly understand the hidden mysteries of spiritual reality.

The mystery of the ages is now revealed through Jesus our Lord in the Gospels. While the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit is in the realm of the unseen yet as manifested in human experience it is none the less real. Man is spirit as well as matter and in his thinking must be lifted from materialistic conceptions into the spiritual conceptions of spiritual life.

It seems that my son, the author of this little book, has been given quite a clear understanding of the working of radio and has been able to use the facts to illustrate spiritual truth in Christian experience as we understand the gospel. He has carefully avoided technical terms which would confuse the reader in his effort to make clear the application of spiritual truth.

Radio has been used previously to illustrate communion in prayer, but the writer of these pages has gone a step further and has taken up the deeper spiritual experiences of heart purity and the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the work of sanctification.

The contents of this little book is the outgrowth of sermons preached on several occasions when he has taken his portable set into the pulpit and has used it to illustrate his message. It will be found readable and full of much interest to all, especially

the younger people who are believers. It holds attention throughout and is filled with spiritual inspiration and vision. The thoughts are put in clear, simple language for the benefit of all readers and we believe the message will prove a great spiritual uplift to all who read it.

JOHN W. GOODWIN.

PREFACE

These pages were born out of the deep conviction that the "spreading of scriptural holiness over these lands" is the flaming and indistinguishable torch of high and holy duty handed to us of the younger generation from the hands of those great warriors of the cross who have now passed into "the more excellent glory." The memory and written words of Wesley, Fletcher, Whitefield, Steele, Wood, and a score of others is a rich heritage to us in this twentieth century. One cannot read them over again without feeling a thrill of conviction that the glorious truth for which they fought like heroes amid the conflict must never, never die.

The writer, though only a boy, during the later years of the life of that "prince in Israel," Dr. P. F. Bresee, received a touch, a vision, an indefinable something from contact with his fiery ministry and holy personality which makes the mere mention of his name like a bugle call to battle. Nor would he forget the teaching and influence of such men of God as W. C. Wilson, C. J. Fowler, E. F. Walker, B. F. Haynes and W. W. Danner, whose memories the writer cherishes as sacred. These men had a distinctive, tremendously worth-while message.

How could any true man or set of men, having received the glorious banner of "holiness unto the Lord" from hands such as these, ever let it trail in the dust. They could not and they will not!

And then there are living men. They are in the forefront now. In our own denomination there are men who, after the passing of the first great line of leaders, were ready to face the obstacles, bear the heavy burdens, press the battle even more vigorously if possible, and no religious group in history has ever had an outstanding group of leaders of whom it could be more proud. They are men who amidst the smoke and din of the present conflict so exemplify the glorious truth for which we stand that we who are younger can feel it the privilege of all time to receive the torch from clean, holy, strong and true hands as theirs.

It is with this humble consciousness of great debt to the past and present to send forth this glorious gospel in the same measure as we have received it that the writer sends forth this little book. In the preparation of these pages he wishes to acknowledge the kindly and helpful criticisms of Prof. Lester F. Ketchum, Dr. H. Orton Wiley, Rev. J. W. Short, Prof. R. S. Williams and the writer's father, Dr. J. W. Goodwin. To my precious wife who has been a constant source of encouragement, advice and helpfulness, without whom these pages

would never have been completed in all likelihood, the reader will be in debt if aught of light or help is found here. And to the blessed Holy Spirit, above and over all, who is the divine illuminator of the Truth, and to Christ whose representative upon earth He is, be all the praise for any good found here.

THE AUTHOR.

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA.

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Radio and the Spirit Filled Life

CHAPTER I

WHY USE THE RADIO?

The object method of teaching truth while somewhat unique is by no means entirely new. It is as old as the Bible. Many of the Old Testament prophets taught the people by objects. Out of the many instances which might be cited you remember that Jeremiah once used a potter's vessel as a text for a sermon. He gathered the people before the city gate and showed them the vessel. Then he broke the vessel into many pieces so that it could not be restored and in a loud voice proclaimed that "after the same fashion God will rend Israel so that she cannot be restored again." That must have been a tremendously convincing sermon.

Not only was this method used by the prophets. If you will study carefully the sacrifices of the tabernacle and in fact the whole plan and the appointments of this unusual structure you will find them to be object lessons of the most striking and stately character. The blood sacrifices were sacred object lessons teaching the necessity of atonement through

the death of the coming Redeemer. And Moses was in reality the first

GREAT OBJECT TEACHER.

And Jesus, the greatest of all teachers, gives us the most impressive and most numerous examples of all. He used the simple objects of nature, the kernel of wheat, the birds, the wind, the mustard seed, the sheep, sowing and reaping, fishing, the fig tree and many others. He took incidents and illustrations from the daily life of the people around Him and hallowed them for all time by His use of them to teach deeper spiritual truths. He selected His objects from every possible source through which He could make more plain and simple the gospel of the Kingdom. Jesus did not consider this object method to be beneath His dignity, rather He sanctified it by His own divine usage.

I am sure that none of my readers, then, will think that I adopted this method just to be a pulpit sensation. Rather may they not realize that I am going back to our good Lord's method by means of which He gripped the attention of thousands and attracted them to the truth.

Reverently may we not even think that had Jesus lived in our own day He might have used the

MARVELOUS INSTRUMENTS

of modern invention and discovery, yes, possibly the radio, to teach the people those deeper spiritual

mysteries for the lack of the knowledge of which the church is lagging and the world is dying.

Being agreed that the object method has a strong basis in scripture, it may be my readers are curious to know how it happened that radio was selected as the object. One day as I sat listening to my radio, appreciative of its human value, there was born in my heart a prayer. I said, "Lord, such a wonderful thing is radio, it has meant so much already to the world and will mean so much in the future. Isn't there something deeper here than just the material blessing and boon to mankind? Lord, let me have something out of radio more than just the sweet music. Let me have a spiritual message for the people from this wonderful instrument."

I began to study the simple but fundamental principles of radio, for like the average person who operates one I had accepted performance without worrying too much about the "why" or the "how." And then as I kept my heart open to the Word, bit by bit the Spirit, who is the revealer of all truth, seemed to bring home the applications and the illustrations until my soul was filled with a new message of truth. But not a new truth. No, truth is as old as God. There is no such thing as "new truth." But this was the revelation of a blessed old truth made more plain through a new medium of illustration.

I hope that students of radio will not judge too harshly the incomplete and limited statements made necessary by the lack of space and time. Radio is a tremendously big subject. As I pen these words it is with the keen consciousness that I have left many times more unsaid and unexplained than can possibly be made clear in these few pages. Forgive the lack and tune your spiritual perception to receive the message the Spirit has for us in this great subject. My object has not been scientific or literary perfection, but rather the getting across to the people the great truth for the propagation of which God has raised us up. May the Spirit of truth assist each reader to get the deeper meaning and be "led into all truth," yea into the glorious experience of the Spirit-filled life itself if such is their need.

Spirit of wisdom,
Spirit of light,
Spirit of knowledge,
Showing the right;
Guide us and teach us
Fully to know,
All that in Jesus
God would bestow.

CHAPTER II

A NEW INVENTION AND AN OLD TRUTH

Ephesians 5:18: . . . *"Be filled with the Spirit."* John 4:24: *"God is a Spirit and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."* Acts 2:4: *"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost."*

Now I want to talk to you, heart to heart, about this greatest of all needs in the Church of Jesus Christ today—the Spirit-filled life.

But at the start I want to make clear that because I am using this little radio set to illustrate some things the Lord has put upon my heart, yet the radio is not the main thing in this message.

I know we are all enthusiastic in our appreciation of radio. Perhaps there has been no invention in the past one hundred years which has been so used for the good of the Church and the spread of the gospel. Personally I believe it may mean more to the Church than any invention since the time of Gutenberg and the printing press. It is reported that already one broadcasting station out of fifteen is being run by the churches. And one out of every ten stations broadcasts religious services. The

Church controls the press in no such large proportion.

You have sat as I have and listened to some of the stations I might mention and heard the sweet gospel songs and the blessed Word of God read and prayer made for the sick and needy. You have thought as I have of the sick and shut-in ones, the people in hospitals and institutions, of thousands of others who never darken the church door who are getting inspiration and comfort and truth. And you have said with me again and again—despite all the harm that is being done—yet realizing the great good being done—“Thank God for radio!”

But I want to use radio, especially the receiving instrument, in a different way than it is commonly used. I want to use it to teach a truth which I am convinced is the paramount need of the Christian Church today. And there is no object I know of which so wonderfully lends itself to the illustration of this truth as something which millions have in their own homes—the radio receiver. And the great truth and the great need to which I refer is the mighty baptism with the Holy Ghost and fire, cleansing, infilling, empowering believers to live and witness for their resurrected Lord.

Now radio as a popular invention has been with us only a few years. I suppose the very earliest date to which we might go to find the idea of com-

munication at all by means of electrical discharge would be to Morse in 1844 when he sent those now historic words flashing over the wires of his crude telegraph instrument, "Behold what God hath wrought." What would he think if he were alive today and could see the six or seven hundred broadcasting stations covering this country like a network and flashing out their messages at all hours!

Marconi, the "father of radio," is by no means an old man and broadcasting as we now know it is only a thing of yesterday. I can well remember our astonishment when friends wrote to us while we were in Japan in the early part of 1922 about receiving "programs" over their radio. We wrote back, "What do you mean by this radio? What is it?" That was only yesterday. Today programs are being received from Australia and being re-broadcast from New York to American audiences. And vice versa.

But while radio waves have been flashing out into the ether for only a few years, the Holy Spirit, the personal, divine embodiment of the God-head, has been in the world for nearly two thousand years. He came on the day of Pentecost and He has been here ever since as the representative of Jesus in this dispensation.

Now there are millions who do not realize this great fact. There are millions of sincere hearts no

doubt who could say with the company of old, "We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost." They are not conscious of His presence.

And there are now many radio waves passing through the walls of your room, through the furniture, through your own body and yet you are not conscious of them. Some one from a past century might sit there with you and deny the very existence of such a thing as radio or radio waves. But the lack of appreciation or even the very denial does not change the facts. Radio is here.

So the Spirit has been here nearly two thousand years. The world may not appreciate this, some may even deny it, as did the president of the infidel club in England two years ago who died twenty minutes after he made the statement at their annual banquet. Yet the Spirit is here. The world may not receive Him; Jesus said, speaking of the coming of the Holy Spirit, "whom the world cannot receive." And why not? Because their hearts are not in a condition to be a receiving instrument.

The Old Testament prophet Joel wrote under divine inspiration of His coming. "And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh . . . and also upon the servants and upon the handmaids will I pour out my Spirit." Jesus said, "I will not leave you comfort-

less, I will come unto you." How will He come? By the revelation of the Spirit. "I must go away," said Jesus, "but I will pray the Father and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever." Now the world cannot receive the Spirit of Truth, He is not for the world, for the worldly minded man cannot sense Him, but "He dwelleth with you and shall be in you."

JESUS' LAST MESSAGE

to that anxious company on Olivet was about this paramount need of His church. "Wait for the promise of the Father. . . . John truly baptized with water, but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." And after they were "all filled with the Holy Ghost" Peter stood up and lifted up his voice and cried, "This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel."

This is no "new truth." It is as old as the Bible and it is the teaching of Jesus and the apostles.

CHAPTER III

A PRESENT BLESSING AND A PRESENT MINISTRY

No one need be without the enjoyment of the blessings of radio today. It is one invention which has been put within the reach of the masses. There are some inventions which would require years, even a lifetime of saving and waiting to possess. A few dollars will bring at least some sort of radio into the home.

We need not tarry ten days or ten years to receive this promised gift of the Father. Some think because the disciples tarried ten days that so must we. But the disciples were there ten days without the Spirit because in the divine plan the Spirit was not yet to be shed abroad. His coming was upon that day because His coming fulfilled the meaning of that day. But ever since

THAT HAPPY PENTECOSTAL MORNING

the Holy Spirit has been here, a personal, all pervasive embodiment of divine power and presence ready to infill believers the moment they are ready to be filled.

Now the Holy Spirit is the third person of the adorable Trinity. And I want to point out to you

three, at least, of the phases of His ministry and operation in the world today.

First, the Spirit has come into the world to convict men of sin by the revelation of Jesus. St. Paul's experience shows this. On the road to Damascus, a proud Jew, a heart full of hate and murder, he was stricken from his horse by the convicting hand of the Holy Ghost who revealed Jesus to him until he heard the very voice of the Master and felt His very presence. The Holy Ghost made Jesus just as real as if He had been there in bodily presence.

I do not believe that it is our "harping" on this or that thing which convicts men of sin. Never! "When he is come *he* will convict the world of sin." We do not convict men, our preaching does not convict men only as it is of such character that the Spirit can use it. It is the Holy Spirit who convicts men of sin. But what is that sin of which He convicts? Read the following verse. "Because they believe not on me." This is the basis of the great convicting work of the Holy Spirit.

As Jesus is lifted up in the *lived life* of believers and the preached Word of His ministers the Holy Ghost reveals Him as the only sufficient Savior to black, wretched, sinful hearts which, under that mighty convicting hand, are stricken like Saul of old, see their lost and helpless condition and begin

to cry out for help and forgiveness. And it is only as Jesus is preached and lifted up that the Holy Spirit can truly convict hearts. That is what I mean by the Spirit's revelation of Jesus *to* us.

Another great work of the Spirit is after the struggle is over. We have gone to the foot of the Cross in tears and penitence and finally by child-like faith we have trusted all to our redeeming Savior. It may be at once, it may be hours later, as we walk on in faith trusting the Word wholly, there comes, refreshing as a summer breeze, upsurging like the mighty billows, assuring as the still small voice, the witness of the Spirit to our acceptance with God. "His Spirit

WITNESSES WITH OUR SPIRIT

that we are the children of God." Praise the Lord!

The Spirit witnesses before the throne when our surrender is complete, at once our deliverance is proclaimed there and the angels rejoice over a soul redeemed, and then quicker than thought He flashes to us on earth, in the truly trusting heart, that all is well between our souls and heaven. See 1 John 5:7, 8, 9, 10.

Is that all? No, thank God it is not. Not only did the Spirit reveal Jesus *to* Paul on that Damascus highway, gripping him with conviction and three days later opening his blind eyes, witnessing to his deliverance. But, said St. Paul,

"when it pleased the Father to reveal his Son *in* me." This is something different than the first revelation.

Down on the backside of the Arabian desert, alone with God and the Word, his renunciation complete, his heart ready, the blessed Holy Ghost came in and Jesus was revealed and enthroned *in* him, the spirit of holiness, the spirit of power, the mighty unseen One, the irresistible, indwelling Christ, sweeping him on and over every obstacle to carry the Christ message to the whole known world.

Down there in the solitudes of Arabia St. Paul became a

MIGHTY RELAY STATION

from which the power and glory of Christ was re-broadcast to the Jewish and Gentile world. That is what God wants to do for every believer. He wants to fill us with His Spirit and power and revelation in the knowledge of Christ until we will become relay stations from which He can re-broadcast His message of love. Shall we let Him?

Why, you might as well buy a fine radio set, take it home, put it in the best place in the parlor, invite your friends and neighbors in to enjoy it, but forget to provide the batteries or power which make possible the production of music; yes you might more reasonably do that than to rest simply in the first stage of converted life, trying outwardly

to exhibit Christ to your friends and to the world, while at the same time your soul is devoid of the Spirit's power and your Christian life is fruitless and unsatisfactory.

God demands a consistent moral life of believers but yet He wants something more than ornamental Christians. He wants men and women who will become dynamic centers from which He can re-broadcast His message to the world. Your radio may look the part, but unless it really works, unless it has the power within, it has missed the mark for which the builder intended it. And believers never fulfil the purpose for which Christ saved them until they are filled with the Spirit and made ready to go forth into the world and by life and lip preach the Gospel to every creature.

There is one other thought I would bring to you before I take up this little radio in detail. So often we hear people say, "But I don't understand the teaching. I would like this life but I cannot understand it."

Now I think you will agree with me that we do not have to understand the theory of radio, or even the underlying principles of its construction in order to enjoy it. There are no doubt many of my readers who understand this instrument better than I, but I am sure that none can enjoy the music we hear any more than I do. A few simple adjust-

ments which any child can be taught in two minutes are all that is necessary to operate it.

I thank God that the enjoyment of the Spirit-filled life is not impossible because you do not altogether understand the theology or the doctrine. Many would be on the outside today if that were true. Over in Isaiah 35 I read of the way of holiness made so plain that "a wayfaring man though a fool shall not err therein." A very simple explanation is all a truly hungry heart needs in order to secure this blessed experience. Using this little instrument to illustrate these simple truths I now want to explain briefly how you can possess your heart's desire.

CHAPTER IV

THE SECRET OF RECEPTION

Isaiah 35:8: *"And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein."*

Now let us look at this "little miracle" itself for that is what the little radio set has been called. The manufacturers say in advertising it that "it speaks for itself," but I want to try to make it speak for Jesus and tell you how you can enter this highway of holiness as the Spirit-filled life is so beautifully described by the prophet Isaiah. You will notice that it is not very large, only about twelve inches long, about ten inches high and about eight and one-half inches deep, and including everything, six batteries, five tubes, loud speaker and the circuit all inside this black case, it weighs only twenty-four pounds, so it can be carried around just like a portable typewriter.

First, let us notice this directional circuit tuned loop. When I take off the cover to open the radio you notice that inside the rim of the cover are

wound about twenty-five or thirty turns of fine wire, one end of which I plug into one side of the set and the other end into this other side. This connects the wires which we call a "loop aerial" with the circuit inside the set. Now this loop rests on a swivel on the top of the case and it can be turned in any direction.

Now, notice when we turn on the power, what a difference it makes in the volume as I twist the aerial one way or another. When it is pointing directly toward the broadcasting station which I am tuned in on, then that station comes in loud and clear but when I turn the loop away in some other direction our reception is spoiled.

This loop teaches me two great truths about the preparation needed to receive the baptism of the Spirit.

The very first thing a believer must do of course is to open up his heart to the truth, get ready to receive. There can be no reception here so long as this cover is closed and my loop is not hooked up.

So many dear Christians are not enjoying this blessed life today because they have allowed prejudice to keep their hearts closed. It may be that false or incorrect teaching of some minister in whom they trusted, has been the cause. It may be

that the inconsistent life of some professor of this great experience has kept their hearts closed. For they have said in their hearts, "If that is holiness, I do not want it." It may be their own failure to attain because they did not understand clearly just what they were seeking has discouraged them.

Dear friend, if you are such a one and are reading these lines I beg of you now to just throw aside everything. You may have failed, others even may have professed and have failed, but now open up your heart, get ready to receive. God has something for you I know. The blessed

SPIRIT IS HERE NOW

but just as the radio waves flash through this room and mean nothing to me, so long as the set is closed, so the Holy Spirit cannot operate to "lead you into all truth" until you get the spiritual "loop" of your heart wires ready, open your heart to receive. The company of disciples at Pentecost were ready, their hearts were

SPIRITUALLY RECEPTIVE

when suddenly there came from heaven a sound as of a rushing mighty wind and they were all filled. Praise God, you can be filled too.

Not only must your heart be open but your whole heart desire must be turned toward the sky. That is what I must do with this loop—if I turn it

aside and away from the station from which the message is now coming, I will spoil the clear reception.

Oh, your heart, your longing desire must all be turned toward God. You cannot turn aside toward self pleasures or self ideas or self ambitions. You must lose sight of all that is material and worldly. Turn from all other voices and influences and so center your heart desire upon this one goal, the reception of the Spirit, that all other things will drop out of sight and out of sound. Someone has said that when you want this blessing more than everything else you may receive it but when you desire it so earnestly that you don't want anything else, then you are sure to get it.

Can you pray with David of old, "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God"? Then you are drawing near. Those fishermen had forgotten their nets up there in the upper room. That tax collector was not thinking of bills and accounts. Those women had put aside the broom and the dishes and they so hungered for the "promise of the Father" until the other considerations of life for the time being were entirely forgotten. Many seekers at our altars never get even this far in their quest. Friends, it is a tremendous thing to seek the Holy Ghost.

Second, I want you to notice how completely

this set is insulated. This bakelite panel in front insulates the circuit from the body of the operator. It is insulated on the bottom. Every wire in the circuit if we look inside is covered and insulated. There is no possibility of leakage of power anywhere.

And so must it be with our lives. God will never pour His power into us so long as we are so tied to the world and worldly organizations and worldly friendships. I don't mean that we should be ascetics. We are to be "in the world and yet not of the world." Jesus never prayed that His disciples should be taken "out of the world," but rather "keep them from the evil."

Suppose you took your radio to have some new batteries put in it. And here were a lot of bare wires lying about. Do you suppose that dealer would put in those batteries and not say a word about it? A good dealer would probably say, "Pardon me, sir, but I would rather not put new batteries in there which will soon be wasted with all those bare wires about. Let me fix them first and then put in the batteries. Otherwise you will have some short circuits and a great deal of loss of power."

We wonder why we are hindered in our search for the blessing. It may be there is some short circuit of known sin covered up from the people but known to God and to us. Then the need is

not holiness but rather it is repentance and forgiveness. Many professed Christians suffering spiritual lapse and feeling condemnation have come seeking the Holy Spirit and upon confession and receiving the assurance of pardon they have identified their new feeling of happiness with the higher work of grace. And then they may have gone on professing to have the Holy Spirit in the deeper work when they were a long way from the blessed experience itself. Precious soul, be not deceived, be sure that all known sin is put away for the gift of the Holy Spirit is only for true believers who are completely done with the sin business.

It may be that the short circuit which is hindering the work of Jesus, the blessed Baptizer, is some secret heart idol. Some habit, some earthly love or friendship is revealed to us by the Spirit as a hindrance. Oh, how

FAITHFUL IS THE SPIRIT

if we will but heed His voice. He shows you some heart wires which are still in contact with earthly objects; over these God's power would be dissipated. It may be there is some heart wire in your spiritual circuit that does not belong in a well ordered Christian life.

Oh, let us insulate, consecrate, cut off the hindering thing, burn every bridge, break down every

idol, die to the last earthly tie, consider ourselves to be dead indeed unto sin but alive unto Christ, purify ourselves even as He is pure. Yes, let us get completely insulated.

As young people we will have to be careful of our associations if we want Pentecostal power. I knew a young man who was beautifully saved and wonderfully sanctified. He was thrown into contact with a fine young lady, beautiful and attractive from the worldly standpoint but unsaved. He began to give her his attentions. He thought he would win her to Christ. But she politely refused and put off the matter. He continued his associations. Did he win her? You know the outcome. He lost his own experience, later they were married and today she is still unsaved and his Christian life has been ruined. O young man, young woman, have you not read that the friendship of this world is enmity with God? Did you never hear that command, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers, for what fellowship hath light with darkness"?

Well, I remember a few years ago I decided to build a radio set myself. I know some of you have tried it too. I worked for weeks. I followed the chart and carefully soldered every wire. Tubes and batteries were finally all in place and the power turned on, but oh, such noises, such howling! I

tried it again and again but with the same results. Finally in desperation I took the whole thing to a radio technician. He gave one look, lifted just one wire and soldered it on the right place, turned on the power and my set worked beautifully!

Beloved, you may think that your heart is ready and you may even have tried professing, but oh, such noises and such howling! How it grates on the sensitive ears of the truly Spirit-filled! What is wrong? Just one little wire, one unholy ambition not surrendered, one little tie unbroken, one little failure to set everything apart in complete consecration to all His will, your sanctification on the human side not quite complete—it takes less to keep you out of this blessed life than you imagine.

Well, but one says, I don't know what is wrong. Then take your case to the heavenly Technician. Pray that the Holy Spirit will go to the very bottom of your heart and reveal your lack. He is the faithful guide, if you are sincere; He will lead you into all truth.

Third, I want you to notice the chart. When we unclasp this cover on the back and open it up we see not only the real inside of the radio, but posted here on the inside of the back cover is a

CHART OF DIRECTIONS.

It is very simple. Each wire is insulated in a dif-

ferent color and this chart shows where each one should go. Plain directions are given in simple language how to hook up everything and how to operate to get the best results. Any twelve-year-old boy could read this chart and understand how to get the results.

But, O my friends, if a radio manufacturer has been thoughtful enough to give simple directions for the operation of his instrument, do you think our heavenly Father has left His dear children in the dark as to how they may receive this divine endowment of power?

Thank God, He has not left us without light. Here is the chart. Here are the directions—the simple plain, blessed Word of God, containing all truth essential to our salvation in such simple language that a child can understand.

And one cannot humbly read this chart—this blessed Word of the Lord—but that the Holy Spirit will reveal the

GLORIOUS POSSIBILITY

of this Spirit-indwelt life.

The Old Testament announces the coming of the Messiah no more clearly than it does the coming of the Holy Spirit. Read the promises in Isaiah 44:3, 4, Ezekiel 36, Joel 2:28, 29, Zechariah 12:10. John Baptist saw it, Matthew 3:11, and

as he witnessed the Holy Spirit descending upon the Master in the form of a dove, Jesus was revealed to him as the Baptizer with the Holy Ghost.

Jesus constantly referred to the coming of the Holy Spirit and describes the effects of His coming upon believers in those beautiful words in the temple, John 7:38, 39: "He that believeth on me as the Scripture hath said, out of him shall flow rivers of living water (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive, for the Holy Ghost was not yet given, because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)."

Jesus not only commanded His disciples to wait for the promise of the Father (Acts 1:4) but He prayed in John 17:17, 19, 20 for the sanctification of all later believers who should believe on Him through their word, and that includes you and me for we are believers directly because of the written word of these early disciples. And then the Master sealed that prayer and that promise with His own precious life blood, for we read that "He suffered without the gate that He might sanctify the people with his own precious blood."

Then comes Luke, the physician, after Pentecost, with the clearest and most vivid historical account in all literature—the wonderful book of the Acts of the Apostles—which is the best textbook in the world on the subject of the baptism

with the Holy Spirit. For it not only tells how the early disciples (Acts 2) received the promise of the Father, but it describes how scores of other later believers received it and what happened after they received it. Then following the Acts comes the directions and explanations of the great human teacher of all time, who writing under the direct inspiration of the Holy Ghost, has given us the letter to the Romans, the greatest theological treatise in existence on the subject of sin and holiness, how to get rid of one and how to attain the other.

Yes, the chart is plain. Any man who will obey the commands of Jesus, follow the example of Acts, heed the directions of St. Paul, hide the Word in his heart, make it his guide by day and his lamp by night, will not go on long until in him will be answered that prayer of Jesus, "Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth."

Praise the Lord! I would rather be sanctified through the "truth" than to be sanctified by "feeling." Brother, if you follow the plain chart on that radio set the manufacturer has given his guarantee that it will give satisfaction or your money comes back. But our God has given His oath, [See Hebrews 6:17.] based on two immutable things, His omnipotence and His holiness, that though heaven and earth should pass away, His Word will never pass away and His promise to fill the hungerer

after righteousness with the Holy Ghost will be kept. "The promise is unto you and to your children and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." And that includes you, for every true believer is "called unto holiness." Praise God, it is a present promise and a present blessing for us all today.

CHAPTER V

MORE SECRETS OF RECEPTION

Now let us notice the fourth thing the radio receiver has to teach us. Here is the tuning control—this black dial on the front. This is a one-dial control and it is very sensitive, very finely calibrated they say. It controls those condenser plates within so that as you twist the dial one way or the other the plates expose greater or less degrees of metal surface to each other.

The principle of radio broadcasting may be very simply illustrated. Suppose you stood on the bank of a pond and a friend on the other side dropped a small stone in the water. You know the waves would go out in all directions on the surface of the water and would finally reach your side and would cause a chip to bob up and down as each wave struck it. Now if you had arranged a code of signals, using the stone as the sender and your chip as the receiver, you see you could set up communication. If the distance were great a larger stone causing more violent waves with longer intervals between could be used.

Now this is what the broadcasting station does,

only instead of waves in water, by means of electrical discharge in space or ether as we have called it, waves of electrons are sent vibrating out. Some stations will use more power and a longer wave, some stations less power and a shorter wave. And we are able to receive these vibrations by means of what we call sympathetic vibration.

Again let us illustrate from sound vibrations how we can receive electric vibrations.

Try this experiment. Tune a harp, mandolin or violin string to middle C with your piano. Hold your violin near the open piano and firmly strike middle C on the keyboard. Suddenly muffle it and put your ear close to the violin string which has been tuned exactly to it, and you will find it has begun to vibrate. This is what we call sympathetic vibration. Of course here the wave is begun by the piano string in the medium of the molecules of air. One molecule strikes another causing it to move, just like one croquet ball striking another, and so on and on until the violin string is struck and will begin to move at the same rate as the piano string. Such vibrations will travel through water or any other material substances as well as air.

But radio vibrations do not travel by means of material matter for indeed they will go right through houses and other material things. Sci-

entists in the past have called this immaterial medium "ether," but never having yet been able to demonstrate the existence of ether by any material sense, it is now rather more stylish to call this medium "space." Whatever it is it seems to so fill every nook and corner of the material world until a wood or stone building offers no more resistance to vibration waves traveling through it than a piece of chicken wire would offer to a wave passing over that pond of water.

We can comfort ourselves with the thought at any rate that the scientist accepts the fact of radio without understanding just how it covers the earth, and therefore has no fair right to regard the devout believer in a present personal God as weak minded just because we cannot wholly explain how He can be present everywhere at the same time. We do understand some of the ways He operates however, and some of the fundamental laws of spiritual life.

Sympathetic vibration in radio offers the very highest and most suggestive illustration and explanation I have found anywhere in life of how a human heart can come into communication with the infinite.

At one exact point the condenser plates in this radio can be so related by turning this tuning knob that our circuit is tuned to vibrate sympathetically with the wave length of that distant broadcasting

station. That same act of tuning into one station tends to counteract or shut out the signals which are coming on a shorter or longer wave length. Like the piano or violin string, you see, we are tuned to sympathetically respond to vibrations in space coming at only the one rate.

Now after this rather lengthy but very important explanation of fundamental principles I want to make the application. I cannot tell you here what the appreciation of this truth has meant to me. It has been revolutionary.

What tuning to wave length is to radio reception I believe true prayer is to

SPIRITUAL RECEPTION.

Here then, is a new definition of prayer. "Prayer is tuning in on heaven's broadcasting station." Prayer is not only an act, but at its climax, is an attitude, and it is only by prayer that we reach the attitude of perfect harmony with heaven's vibrations which makes it possible for us to receive the Spirit.

Now I feel that we are living in a world of spiritual vibrations. We are spiritual creatures. Spiritual waves are dashing upon our souls from every direction. Read 1 John, 4:1. There are many spiritual influences gone out into the world. But understand my use of the word "spiritual." These spirits are not all of God, says John. Yet they are

powerful. When we live close to the material, the sensual in our thinking, in our living, we seem to be best tuned to receive these vibrations, but as we rise into the spiritual order of things, and it is only by the practice of prayer that we can do it, we find these lower vibrations more and more "tuned out" and it becomes easier and easier to tune in waves of spiritual vibration from heaven itself.

Oh, in receiving the gift of the Spirit, we must have a burning desire, our soul passion must become directed toward heaven, our whole being must be insulated, consecrated, surrendered, obedient, but yet there is a climax of

SPIRITUAL EXERCISE.

I know there are those who teach that people can calmly sit in their seats and take the gift of the Spirit by dry faith. Some do it that way but what they get is pretty "dry," and most of them are never satisfied.

Let us never forget that that Pentecostal outpouring was preceded by a mighty Pentecostal prayermeeting. "They continued in prayer and supplication." That is why some of us are anxious to get seekers to open their mouths, to get earnest in prayer when seeking the Spirit.

Oh, beloved, you must tune your soul, tune out of the bogs of material distraction and the spiritual vibrations of the lower order, rise out of the human

plane into the spiritual order. We have seen precious souls do that. We have seen them pray up and up until you thought surely they had struck the plane where faith takes hold but then back they would sink, it may be some unsettled material question hindered them and dragged them back. Then on the altar of consecration it would go—and again up they would rise in the plane of prayer, and then, thank God, when all was settled, the world left behind, all other voices shut out, they found that place of perfect adjustment and harmony with heaven's vibration where the Spirit of God could be pleased to come in and fill them with His cleansing and power.

But before we reach the climax of faith and its beautiful illustration, I want you to note a fifth thing. That is these tubes, for here we have the very

HEART OF RADIO.

We could not enjoy our radio reception over our loud speakers had it not been for this wonderful invention of De Forrest. And they teach me something wonderful not only about the individual but also about the church which really wants a Pentecostal outpouring.

First I want to take one of these tubes and let it stand for an individual life. There are five tubes in this set. These first two are called radio fre-

quency for they pick up faint signals, too faint for the detector to catch, and make them louder. The third tube is a detector. The last two are audio frequency which amplify and increase the strength of the signals.

Now how does the tube detect these waves as they are tuned in to our circuit? We know that the vibration of these electrons which make the waves is too rapid to affect the diaphragm of an ordinary telephone receiver. Beside, these vibrations move forward and backward. The back and forth swings of the electrons follow each other so rapidly that we must have something which will stop one-half of each swing and only let the other half through. This will give us a series of forward pushes all in the same direction. And these one-direction pushes can be transformed so that they will set in motion the delicate diaphragm of a telephone receiver. Now galena crystal will let impulses through in only one direction, and so will the vacuum tube let the impulses through in only one direction—from filament to plate but not in the reverse. That explains how we can get electrical vibrations interpreted back into sound vibrations.

Now there are three essential parts in the tube. In the center is the filament. Now that part of the tube must be hot—yes, it must be on fire—it must have a stream of red-hot electrons passing

into and through it. Only when it is hot will it have that property or ability of emitting electrons which scientists call "thermionic emission." When the power from the A batteries here is turned on then the electrons begin to stream from the filament to this part in the very center called the plate. But this cold plate is surrounded by a wire netting called a "grid," through which every electron must pass before it can reach the plate. Now to this grid across which is flowing this steady stream of electrons come the waves of electrons, which we have been able to tune in to our circuit from some broadcasting station. Being weak they are made stronger by the steady stream of electrons coming from our batteries, only the forward swings of these waves from the air can pass through, and thus they pass on to the next tube where, riding upon and constantly modifying the constant stream of electrons they become strong enough to cause the diaphragm of the loud speaker to vibrate, which sets in motion the air molecules and produces sounds similar to those produced by the singer or speaker in the distant broadcasting station.

And then we remember that man is a tripartite or three fold being. Hear St. Paul, "I pray that your whole spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus

Christ" (1 Thes. 5:23). And before there can be the highest spiritual reception there must be the stream of divine fire sent into man's spirit, just as the power is sent into that filament, which may stand for man's spiritual nature. Fire, cleansing fire, purifying fire, symbolized by the tongues of fire which rested on the brows of the one hundred and twenty, must come first. Cold metallic wire is under a law which makes receptivity impossible. This must be abolished and fire streaming through that formerly cold filament sets up a new law—the law of thermionic emission—under which reception is possible.

The unsanctified believer is under the law of sin and death. This is St. Paul's great philosophy. Only the fires of the Holy Ghost can cleanse, do away with, destroy that cold negative principle or law of sin active in believers while at the same time a new law, "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus," makes the believer free from the law of sin and death. "Who shall deliver me from this old law," cries the believer. "I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord," exultantly answers St. Paul. Jesus, the great Baptizer with the Holy Ghost and fire, effects by that fiery baptism the destruction of the old and the institution of the new law of the Spirit of life. This is my conception of the deeper meaning of Matthew 3:11.

But the very name "vacuum" tube suggests to me the emphasis again upon the thought of complete separation and consecration, for it is not the property of that red-hot wire to emit electrons unless in a complete vacuum. Even man's body, for which the cold plate might stand, must be wholly given up to God. It must be presented "a living sacrifice" in entire surrender unto God and free from habits, actions or defilements displeasing to Him.

I believe sanctification goes even further than that. That sensitive grid, which stands for man's mind, or consciousness, upon which the impressions of the divine signals of which we are aware must fall—yes, our very thoughts, must be brought into captivity to Jesus Christ. And then the divine fires must fall, streaming through us until the last vestige unlike heaven or opposed to the operation of heaven's laws is all gone, and body, soul and spirit are all in perfect harmony with Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Sanctification has a human side, but there is a place where human efforts can go no further. We cannot do away with the law of sin in our members, but we can expose it to the fiery operation of the Holy Ghost. His cleansing power, the gift of the Father made possible through the sacrifice of

Christ, does away with the old and establishes the new law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus.

Now we are almost ready, but wait. There are individuals reading these pages whose hearts are hungry, yes—but there are whole churches needing such an outpouring. Whole churches crying, “Lord, send us an outpouring. Lord, send us a revival.” Beloved, you can have it! Listen!

Here are five tubes, there might be fifty or a hundred and twenty, let them stand for the individuals making up a church. Now listen! One tube out of harmony, one tube out of place, one tube out of working order can spoil the operation of the whole set! And one individual out of divine harmony in a church cannot stop but *can* hinder the broadcasting of the message from that church.

My set was not working so well a while ago. I took it to a technician. Dexterously he tapped one of the tubes. “Here is the trouble, I think,” said he, “this tube here is a little too soft to be a detector, let us exchange it with an amplifier.” We did so, and do you know

HARMONY WAS RESTORED

and reception was again perfect.

A church that really wants an outpouring may have to be willing to have some changes. Some of us at least must be willing to let the heavenly Technician lift us down out of our place of prom-

inence into the depths of humility. We will have to be willing to make any personal sacrifice, subordinate our own ideas and notions and get into the dust!

Oh, James and John had forgotten about their selfish ambitions. The others had forgiven Peter his cursing and denial. Brethren, some of us will have to learn to forgive and forget before the Holy Ghost will ever visit our part of the country. Amen. The disciples were willing to let God decide the ballots and votes. Are we? Praise God, they were all with one accord and in one place—and each in his right place—discord gone, bickerings gone, strife hushed, a holy unity and a holy quiet pervaded all, when suddenly like the sound of a rushing mighty wind from the clear skies above, came the blessed Holy Ghost and filled all the house, split into cloven tongues like as of fire, rested upon each disciple, melted into their breasts, and filled them—filled them with all the fulness of God.

Any church can have another Pentecost where every individual will pay that price. The trouble in many of our churches is that many of our people are not willing to go the full lengths and pay the full price, and when people have the light, in my candid judgment, it doesn't take many folks pull-

ing back on the traces to keep back the mighty revival God wants to give every church.

But it may be we have prayed. It may be you, precious seeking heart, feel you have gone as far as you can go. You know the Holy Spirit is in the world. You know that this is His dispensation. You know that He is ready and wants to fill you. And you are ready. Are you? Are you completely at the end of self? Are you done with all human striving? Are you wholly the Lord's? Well, what yet hinders?

Listen. Here is the power ready. Here are the A, B and C batteries. And it is as simple as that. They are waiting. The power is available. Here are the last two wires across which the current is to flow. All is in readiness. The loop is directed, the set insulated, directions all followed, tuning ready, prayer at the crisis of desire, tubes in place; body, soul and spirit all on the altar; the power available. I know it is for me, for this purpose the radio was made, and still

ALL IS SILENT;

no result and no message.

Ah! we have overlooked a little thing, but a final thing and a vital thing in reception. This part is very insignificant on this radio and it is often minimized in religion. But it is the biggest little thing I know anything about.

Down in this lower left hand corner to your left is the on and off filament switch. If I turn that over to the right the two wires are connected and the circuit is complete, the power goes through the tubes—and listen—I turn it on and here comes in the beautiful music.

“I’ve heard the sweet music,
The heavenly chord
From glory land over the sea;
A soul-thrilling message
From Jesus, my Lord.
And this is like heaven to me.”

What the on and off switch is to the radio, faith,

APPROPRIATING FAITH

yes “achieving faith,” is to the soul.

I read the other day that a message was sent half way around the world and an answer received to the question asked in less than two minutes by radio. Praise God, by spiritual radio, the moment you turn on the switch of faith you can hear from heaven in less time than it takes to tell it!

The question is, are you ready? Is all prepared? The Spirit is waiting, the power is at hand, the heavens are now bending low. O brother, sister, reach up and turn on the switch of faith. It is a simple act, a childlike act.

THIS LITTLE BOY

can do it. Cannot you? You can, you can do it now.

You say, "I don't want to take it just by faith." Well if you are ever sanctified you will be "sanctified by faith." This is the only way the fire will strike your soul. Only faith can touch the wires and release the power divine. And it will be the easiest thing you ever did when your heart is ready.

Is there such a thing as taking it by "dry faith"? There is positively no such thing as "dry" faith. Such faith is no faith. It is presumption.

Now if my tubes, or loop, or insulation or circuit is not ready, you see I can turn on this switch as much as I like and it does no good. The circuit is incomplete somewhere and the power cannot come through.

People do that way. They fail in their spiritual preparation and then take the blessing by dry "presumption" and of course get nothing.

But when hearts are ready living faith is as simple as breathing. You need not urge a heart that is wholly his Lord's to believe, believe. Faith will be a natural demand of the soul—as natural to that needy heart as trust in his father's care is to a loving child in need of help.

After committing my all to God, after being assured that my heart was in complete obedience to His will, after prayer had reached out to its human limit, believing and receiving this blessed anointing was the simplest, the easiest act I have

ever attempted. There was simply nothing else to do. I just reached up in childlike trust and turned the switch, and, praise be to God, the work was done and the blessed Holy Ghost flooded my being with purity and life and light and power and glory and love. Hallelujah!

But was that all? Is that the end? No, just the beginning end of radio, and just the beginning end of spiritual life. For you will notice the loud speaker here. It is only a little box about six inches square and a little horn type unit, but yet how clear and beautiful comes the music from that distant station.

We may not be very great or have much ability or even talents according to the world's judgment. Neither did those simple fishermen—but when the Holy Ghost came upon them despite all human limitations they could not but “speak forth the wonderful works of God.” Peter got a new tongue. Before Pentecost his tongue had lied on his Lord, afterward he spake the Word of God with such clearness and boldness in the language of his people that

THE MULTITUDES CRIED

“men and brethren, what must we do to be saved?”

Oh, when He is come He can take the tongue of the stammerer and make it sing. You will get a

"loud speaker" instead of a "soft pedal" on the subject of salvation.

Now the only way you can shut off this loud speaker is to put on the cover, and it is so constructed that in order to put on the cover you must turn off the switch. And the only time a Spirit-filled man stops testifying for his Lord is when faith stops working, the loop of his heart desire comes down and the cover goes on.

And don't forget it, when the loud speaker stops working and the testimony ceases, something has happened in the soul circuit of the holiness professor.

CHAPTER VI

HOW RECEPTION IS KEPT AND HOW IT IS LOST

I think the most remarkable thing about this little set is what I am to show you now. Most sets do not work this way and neither does it work this way with many professed Christians.

Here, resting on the stand stationary, we have tuned in and are hearing beautiful music from far away. But remember there is no aerial or ground, no batteries or wires outside this little box. Here at the top is a handle, so, with the music still playing, I can pick my radio up and carry it anywhere. We do that frequently at home. We carry it from one room to another. It works right on just the same, just as well in the kitchen as in the parlor. Take it into the sick room and it plays on. I have had it on water and it works just as well as on the land. I have had it away up in the mountains, miles from human habitation and it makes no difference. It has furnished sweet music in distant cities and lonely hotel rooms. It will work at night as well as the day. In other words it is

ABSOLUTELY PORTABLE

and you can take it with you wherever you go.

But, oh, beloved, better than the music of radio is the music of the orchestra of the skies in my soul. For when the Spirit comes in to dwell you can sing with the poet

“Oh, wondrous bliss, oh, joy sublime!
I’ve Jesus with me all the time.”

He witnesses His blessed presence when you are wracked on the bed of sickness as well as when you are in the bloom of health. On the ocean’s rolling billows, tossed by the storm, you have no fear for you know that Jesus is on board and

“If Jesus goes with me I’ll go
Anywhere.
’Tis heaven to me where e’er I may be
If He is there.”

And even though all friends and loved ones are gone and you are left alone, yet you are not lonely for He has said, “Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world,” and “I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.” And even the dark valley of death itself is lit up with the sunlight of His blessed presence. Such is the life of the truly Spirit-filled in whom Jesus is revealed.

Now can such an experience of God be kept living and real? There are many who have given up the whole teaching because they said they could not keep it. I believe we can keep clearly in the enjoyment of this wonderful life if we will con-

stantly keep the same conditions as we did when we entered.

You hear some say, "My experience is not so clear now as at the beginning." Well, are you keeping your heart open? Is all your desire still toward Jesus? We must be careful, you see, when we move this radio, about one thing, and that is that we keep the loop turned toward the broadcasting station. So many who have once enjoyed all His fulness have been

TURNED ASIDE

by the "deceitfulness of riches and the cares of this life." Preachers who have once flamed for God and souls are out here in beautiful California turned aside to real estate and money making. But the burning fires have died down and the Spirit has departed. One preacher turned aside and was permitted to make millions, but his soul is empty and lost and what will millions of paltry dollars mean amidst the flames of hell and the screams and wails of lost souls he might have brought to Christ had he been true and faithful to his call?

Ah, is that consecration just as complete as at the beginning? Have the once carefully insulated wires been tampered with? People wonder at their loss of power. You have heard preachers preach with the unction of the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; a year, two years, five years later

you heard them again but "the glory had departed." Oh, may God help us! What has happened? A little short-circuit somewhere.

Oh, to keep that consecration, that separation from the world, that insulation from the contacts of sin, just like it was down there at the altar of prayer five or ten or twenty years ago! Then the fires will still burn and the song birds of the skies will still sing.

You put that precious baby on the altar and said, "Lord, take him, he is Thine, for Thy service, for anything; Thou gavest him to us and we give him back to Thee." And then after a time sickness came and

GOD REACHED DOWN

His hand and said, I want to transplant this little bud to the garden above, he will glorify me better up here than down there in a world of sin. I want to take now what you gave me." Yes, I know, dear broken heart, just what that means. It is like pulling one's very heart out. It means everything in that dark hour of loss to keep the consecration intact and to have no "fight back," but be able to say from the depths, "Lord, not my will but thine be done. God's way is the best way." But if you do the dove of peace will come homing to your soul with a new message from heaven, "Fear not, my child, all is well." Bless His name!

And how about the Word? Are we still reading our chart and obeying it? Can we say with the Psalmist, "Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee"? Is the Word sweeter to us than honey in the honey comb and are we finding in the keeping of its precepts great reward?

If we are resting upon our emotions or feelings, then we are going down just as did poor Peter when he looked down at the waves. Feelings are such uncertain things. Oh, let us keep looking to Jesus and when He says, "Come," then step out on the promises day by day and walk over the waves of feeling, it may be disappointment, sorrow, heartache, sickness, and place our weary head like John of old upon the broad shoulders and within the everlasting arms of One who has never failed!

The precious Word was never so dear to me as these days. I cannot read it without frequently weeping—tears of joy and gratitude to our heavenly Father for the

WONDROUS REVELATION

of His truth and of His will. If we were sanctified at all we were sanctified through the truth—"Thy word is truth." And we will keep the blessed grace wherein we stand by keeping both feet upon this eternal rock of our salvation.

Are we following the directions still just as they were revealed at the beginning? "Well, I am

broader minded than I used to be." If that means casting aside some foolish idea or notion not found in the Word I have no objection. But you can "broaden out" from the essentials of God's truth, and you will lose the glory and presence of the blessed Spirit out of your heart.

How about our associations? "Come out from among them and be ye separate and touch not the unclean thing and I will be a Father unto you and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord God Almighty." Are we keeping that same holy isolation, that care in our social relationships, that freedom from habits of life displeasing to God that we gained at the beginning when we promised God to walk the holy way?

Are we, like the Bereans of old, searching the Scriptures daily? Are they our chief reading? As young people we will have to take care of our reading. Most of the literature of this age is unfit to be food for the mind. There is a little wheat among the chaff. But I find that I must balance my reading of even the best literature with an equal amount of reading the Word if the Spirit-filled life is to be kept clear and strong.

BUT MOST IMPORTANT

of all is the maintenance of the prayer life. I mean a constant tuning in to heaven's messages, a constant keeping of the prayer attitude. I firmly

believe that this is possible in the higher sense *only* to those who are indeed filled with the Spirit. For this reason.

Prayer is not the saying of fine words, not just begging for various selfish desires, not just repeating beautiful sentiments; true prayer is something deeper and richer. All that I have mentioned is prayer on the human plane, which is only the husk—but prayer in the spiritual plane in which the Spirit-filled life abides is prayer in the Spirit. It is prayer having the mind of the Spirit and ordered by the ministry of the Spirit. Indeed, “we know not what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered,” says St. Paul (Rom. 8:26). “Praying in the Spirit” is how Jude describes true prayer.

And if we are to maintain the spirit of prayer we must have a definite time and place for prayer. One says, “I am so busy these days that I pray on the run.” There is such a thing as doing just that. But if we do only that we shall be weak. And the Spirit’s power will be dissipated from our lives if we fail to put aside everything no matter how important things may seem and put the prayer time

FIRST!

Family devotions must be regarded in a household if the parents are to keep spiritual. Carlyle’s

father was a very godly man. And it is said that at times floods would endanger the farm. One day the messenger came hurriedly to warn the people to get to a place of safety, but Carlyle's father had the family about the family altar. He beckoned the messenger to kneel. Prayers were finished and afterward they rose and worked with a will and were able to save everything.

Oh, it is a struggle! The powers of darkness are all against you. The devil knows that here is the secret of spiritual power. And the enemy of our souls is in panic when he sees a saint upon his knees.

The secret closet of prayer, the lonely trysting place with our Lord, is the most vital point in the keeping of this life.

You know there are certain things I like to hear over the radio that I can just "tune in" to without stopping to look or think, but if I let it go for weeks I would soon forget. And if I should let my set stand in the corner and become all dust covered I would not only lose my skill in tuning but the batteries would get old after a time and the power weak.

Beloved, I fear that here, not through open sin, not through our conscious withdrawing of our consecration, but here, just through sheer neglect, carelessness, disuse, through letting other things,

even seemingly good things, crowd in and crowd out the best of all—our habitual and daily time of secret prayer—we have the commonest way of losing the Spirit-filled life.

It will take determination, spiritual fortitude, a keen realization of its absolute necessity, to keep the prayer time and to refuse to allow even pressing duties to turn us aside.

When the sentry, passing back and forth before the tent of that great general, "Chinese Gordon," would see the handkerchief displayed, then no courier could enter no matter how urgent his message, until the handkerchief was removed. General Gordon was having

SECRET AUDIENCE

with God and all else must wait.

Such a realization of the vital importance of prayer must possess us if we are to maintain its constant practice.

"Lord, what a change within us one short hour
Spent in Thy presence will prevail to make,
What heavy burdens from us take,
What parched grounds refresh as with a shower.
We kneel, and all around us seems to lower;
We rise, and all—the distant and the near—
Stands forth in sunny outline, brave and clear:
We kneel, how weak; we rise, how full of power.
Why therefore should we do ourselves the wrong
Or others—that we are not always strong?
That we are ever overborne with care,
That we should ever weak or heartless be,
Anxious or troubled, when with us is prayer,
And joy and strength and courage are with Thee."

CHAPTER VII

DANGER SIGNALS IN RECEPTION

I have noticed a peculiar hum or howl in my radio which I have learned to interpret as a danger signal. It is time to check the tubes and the batteries. I may be getting reception of some sort but suddenly some night it will cease entirely.

You may have sensed a spiritual atmosphere in churches like that. If so, it is high time for an old-fashioned revival. It is time to have the "tubes checked and tested." It is time to get the church upon her knees in a time of humble prayer and self-examination. Personally I believe an evangelistic meeting with good straight Bible preaching leading believers to freshly plumb their lives and hearts to the Word is a worth-while thing even if other results are not great. That is what a true "revival" means. It first touches believers.

Things are not moving quite so smoothly. We need to check up on ourselves. Tubes out of place somewhere. "Lord, is it I," should be the burden of our prayer. We must be willing to make any sacrifice to keep the "unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace." If division of opinion has come,

dear brother, gladly yield for if you will humble yourself for Jesus' sake it may be that God will think you worthy of even a larger place. Many have lost the sweet presence of the Spirit amidst the tension of some church trouble in which they failed to show the humble, yielding and forgiving spirit.

Fading is another danger signal. I have found that with improper aerial and too far away from the broadcasting station in the mountains that reception would be loud for a minute or so and then grow dimmer or fade. Of course fading is a phenomenon in radio not entirely understood yet, but in my case by experimentation I found that by laying out several hundred feet of insulated wire in one direction as a supplement to my loop I could keep stations which lay in that direction coming in strong and clear.

Spiritually we begin to suffer when faith begins to waver. Faith is as vital to maintaining the Spirit-filled life as the mainspring is to the watch. We may have come up against such hard situations that our present faith will not do, we will have to cry, "Lord, increase our faith." This little on and off switch is a little thing, and so faith may seem, but the minute you turn it wholly off you disconnect the circuit with the source of power—all reception is over.

So very vital is the atmosphere of faith to the soul. The just shall live, not by feeling or fancy, but "by faith." If the enemy can get you to "cast away your confidence which hath great recompense of reward," he will have removed the keystone from the arch of your experience and the

WHOLE STRUCTURE

will fall into ruin.

Listen to the Word. "If any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them that draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul" (Heb. 10:38, 39).

The Spirit-filled must maintain that present, living, appropriating faith in the face of all obstacles. We must believe on in patience, after having prayed through and after having done the will of God, that we may receive the promises fulfilled.

"Oh, for a faith that will not shrink
Though pressed by every foe,
That will not tremble on the brink
Of any earthly woe."

Nothing will so dampen the Spirit as to quench His witness through us. The primary purpose of Pentecost was to prepare the disciples to witness for their risen Lord. No doubt a lapse along the line of faith, prayer or obedience will occur first and then the witness will cease as a natural result.

A Spirit-filled man who has no witness, no upsurging desire to lift up Jesus, is a contradiction and an anomaly.

Nevertheless there are many sincere hearts who have been taught to remain in a religious atmosphere where their witness is not only unwelcome but sneered at and not allowed a place on the "modern" church program. I fear that some of them have habituated themselves to going into such a church atmosphere and keeping quiet until the

SPIRIT HAS BEEN QUENCHED

and grieved away and they have only a profession left.

If someone should put the cover on my radio and muffle the loud speaker and insist upon keeping it there I would not want to waste batteries on it very long. I do not believe God will continue His stream of holy power into a soul who lets his witness be dimmed or muffled by the hand of man. We read in the Acts that men tried to stop Peter and John from speaking in the Name and this was their answer: "Whether it be right in the sight of God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." And when they had let them go they went back to their little company, held another prayermeeting and the place

"was shaken and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost."

Beloved, they had been filled once but here was a

RE-FILLING

and one of the things we need to watch in this life is not to let the supply run low but have frequent fresh anointings and fresh outpourings of the Holy Ghost upon our hearts.

I notice I need to get new batteries for my radio from time to time, or get them recharged. And I believe profoundly in the necessity of frequent fresh and new infillings of divine power. Some may wonder why this is necessary if one is filled to capacity when he is sanctified wholly. But a normal experience is one of great subsequent growth. And as a Spirit-filled man prays and lives and witnesses and sacrifices and gives, his capacity will be enlarged and he will have need and room for fresh and additional infillings of the Spirit. This was true of the early disciples and it is true today. Beloved, how long since have we been really blessed, freshly anointed?

Well, after that fresh infilling in the prayer room the apostles were afraid of neither men nor devils. They not only "spoke the Word of God with boldness," but "with great power gave the

apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all."

O brother, if the devil or his representatives have been muffling your witness, if you have been in the stocks, you need to break loose, get a fresh anointing, and let the testimony roll. Yes

"Let the testimony roll,
Roll to every nation,
Witnessing from soul to soul
This immense salvation."

Radio reception is commonly spoiled by abuse of the set. While trying to get reception at too great a distance in the mountains I found that I had to use more power than the tubes were made to stand in order to get the volume, and it was not long until an annoying hum gave me the danger signal that all was not well.

Now it is possible to abuse the spiritual life. I do not mean that anyone can get too much of the Spirit in a well balanced spiritual life. There is no limit to spiritual life or progress. But there is a real danger of grieving the Spirit when we become one-sided and lay too much stress on this particular point or that.

I believe we abuse the spiritual life when we give all our time to the study of the Word and little or no time to prayer. Now the former is vital but it must be balanced with the latter. Or if we

emphasize prayer to the practical exclusion of the Word, then the enemy will be sure to deceive and sidetrack us. We may receive some messages still but they may not be of divine origin. The Holy Spirit operates only

IN HARMONY WITH THE WORD

and we must beware of revelations which come in prayer that cannot be absolutely plumbed with God's revealed truth.

And what shall we say of over-emphasis upon the witness or demonstration side? I would not for the world hurt a sincere soul, but here too is a danger and here too must a balance be kept. Little secret prayer, little study of the Word, with an undue stress upon outward demonstration will be sure to result in extremes which will grieve the Spirit, because they are not likely to be in the true manifestation of the Spirit, and may be entirely out of harmony with Bible commands. There is a time for the shout in the camp, there is time for the song of praise but without the balance wheel of the Word of God and prayer there is a very real danger of running into human enthusiasm and demonstrations in the flesh.

But that is not the greatest danger of all. As a people I believe we are keeping the balance there in a most marked way. Indifference, carelessness, resting upon the past, a letting down in spiritual

tone, here is where in conclusion I would wave the danger signal.

We have enjoyed the wonderful revival history of our movement. They have been great days. To have lived in the first quarter of this twentieth century is the privilege of all time. The great danger now is that we will be satisfied to rest on the laurels of the past. They say that the days of the great and glorious revivals are in the past. If we are not having the glorious revivals today that we have had then we need to go down before God in humility and prayer.

I appeal to every young man and woman who reads this little book. If we fail to maintain the sacrificial, fervent, "rough-rider" ways of the glorious past of this great movement, the day is coming when we will be old but we will have no such great days to look back upon. We cannot afford the careless dropping into disuse of the holy standards and practices of the fathers. The holy truth for the spreading of which we were raised up as a people must be published to the world. Oh, let us preach it, let us proclaim this Holy Ghost teaching from the housetop. Let us be urgent in getting other young men and women into this marvelous experience of perfect love. Let us maintain the spirit of separation from the world, its worldly organization and its sordid customs. Let us keep

our loyalty to Christ and the Bible intact. Let us keep the spirit of earnest and prevailing prayer and a burden for the salvation of the lost uppermost in our meetings. Let us continue to have the real outpouring of the shekinah glory upon our assemblies until our people are kept melted in unity and love. Let us continue through life and mouth, through the printed page and over the waves of ether, to lift up Jesus and the resurrection and proclaim the gift of the Holy Ghost.

The minute we let the standards drop along any of these lines we may drift along and feel we are doing pretty well but some sad day in an hour of stress and strain we will awake to realize like one of old, "And he wist not that the Lord had departed from him."

It is said that when the telegraph was first introduced into Japan that, after the lines had been completed and all had been in good working order for some time, one morning they opened the circuit but no message would go through. They sent a party of linemen out to search for the trouble and what did they find? An enormous spider, such as are quite common there, had woven its web in the night between the wires and the ground and the power was being short-circuited into the earth. Of course they broke it away and then all was well.

Oh, if the enemy has been amongst any of us

by night and the spider webs of disuse or indifference in holy things has been spun, our powers are gone. Oh, let us brush them away. Let us quickly get back to the old paths and then once more the Holy Ghost will be pleased to surge through us in His glory and power and might.

I do not say we can utterly lose the Spirit and not know it. Yet we can drift along a little careless here and a little less cautious there and while attending to other seemingly good things we lose the keen edge from our spiritual life and our spiritual reception is dimmed and blurred.

Years ago on a doomed ship on the Great Lakes among the company who took to the life boats was a mother who had wrapped her precious little babe in bundles of warm blankets and hurried into the life boat. A little while later she was landed safe ashore. But as the rescued ones were standing anxiously watching for the arrival of other survivors the tense silence was rent by an awful scream of anguish, "Oh, my baby, my baby!" What was wrong? Friends and sympathizers pressed near. "Oh, I have lost my baby, I have lost my baby!" Strange and almost unbelievable, but true, in the hustle and the hurry, the tiny little bundle of life had slipped out the ends of the blanket in some way and had found its grave in the watery deep, while the mother for some moments had gone on

holding an empty bundle unaware of what had really happened.

Dear reader, how is it today? Oh, have you once known His indwelling power and purity but in the hurry and rush of life, busy with other cares while neglectful of the better part, almost unconsciously the tender and easily grieved heavenly dove has taken His flight and today you are left with an aching void and an empty heart holding the empty profession of yesterday's blessing?

And now, Thou Searcher of hearts, grant us the conviction of the Spirit to each reader of this humble little book who needs it. Grant that each Spirit-indwelt one may exercise that watchcare which will help him to keep this tender and holy presence within his breast. And to that one who has never known the unspeakable joy of this life grant the gift of the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' precious Name we ask it. Amen.

