

The Romance of the Doctor's Visits

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GOD VISITED THE CIRCUS

Upon one occasion, it so happened that in the mail placed upon my desk there was a letter from a radio friend in southern Kansas which told a story of unusual interest. She said that her sister held a prominent position in one of the large circuses touring the country. Her habit was to mail to this sister regularly copies of my morning radio messages, and these had stirred her heart quite deeply. Several letters had passed back and forth between them about the subject of salvation and Christian living.

A recent letter which had been received by my radio friend from her sister contained a request. This particular circus was soon to play in Kansas City, and the request was that she might have an opportunity to see me for a personal conference concerning the need of her own soul. Of course my radio friend sent the request on to me at Kansas City, and I looked forward with pleasure and anticipation for this conference.

In due time, the circus came to the city to play for two days. On the second day, I went out about half-past one in the afternoon in search of this sister. Her husband was at the front door of the show and directed me to the place in the "big top" where I would find his wife.

"I am sure," he said, "you will receive a cordial welcome from her, for she has been looking forward to seeing you, and told me to send you in as soon as you came."

Thanking him, I soon found my way to where the woman was working. As soon as she saw me, her whole countenance changed. A deep sadness and sorrow were evident.

"I am so glad you have come," she said, extending her hand for a greeting. "My sister has been writing me of your messages and I would like so much to talk with you about my own need."

"When may I have that privilege?" I asked.

"As soon as the grand entry begins, I will be free," she replied, "and I will meet you out at the front door. Will you wait for me there?"

Assenting to this, I went out to the front of the show, and there waited for perhaps thirty minutes or more until she came.

We went over to one side of the marquee, where we could be more or less quiet and where she could tell me of her soul's interest. It seemed that several of the radio messages about the

meeting with GOD, the final judgment, GOD's wrath against sin, and the marks of the true Christian life, had all been used by the HOLY SPIRIT to reveal to her the need of a Saviour.

"Do you believe that the Lord JESUS came to save sinners, Mrs. O--? I asked. "You know about Him of course. Did GOD really send Him to save you? What is your attitude toward Him?"

She immediately replied: "I do not know; I wish I did. I know there is a Saviour, but I do not know how He saves sinners. I want to know; I want Him to save me."

Taking my Bible out of my pocket, I read to her John 5:24 -- "**Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my words, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation (judgment); but is passed from death unto life.**"

On one side of us, the side-show banners, partly lowered, were flapping in the wind. Just behind them the colored band in the side show was beating out a medley of noises and a din that lacked much of making real harmony. Behind us was the menagerie, and over to the left was the "big-top" with the band playing for the various acts. What a place for a soul to be saved! The people were coming and going. A group of about thirty men were pulling and tightening the ropes of the tent. The candy-butchers were offering their products here and there, and those on the concession stands directly in front of us were crying out their wares. And yet GOD came into that scene in a wonderful way. In the midst of all the noises, the PRINCE of Peace was bringing peace..

The Scripture which we read together seemed to greatly interest my friend. She looked on the page in order to read it for herself. We re-read it together, slowly and carefully. I called her attention to each word, showing her that the Lord JESUS Himself was speaking; that He was inviting her to believe His word, and asking her to believe that GOD sent Him to save her; that He was promising her that the moment she would accept Him and give herself to Him, that He would immediately give her everlasting life, blot out every sin-stain, and make her a child of GOD.

As she listened intently to the message and followed the verse through again and again, she suddenly turned and asked: "If I trust in JESUS CHRIST today, will that save me from going to the judgment, as this verse seems to indicate? If so, why will I not go to the judgment? I do not understand."

What a pleasure it was to explain to her that the moment she trusted the Lord JESUS, He would immediately blot out all the adverse record in Heaven, would write her name in the book of life, and would cleanse her from every sin-stain. Since no sins would be left, there would be nothing to go to the judgment for. I explained that CHRIST took the punishment for her at Calvary. We read together Isaiah 53:5, in which it is written: "**He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.**" Again we read in I Peter 3:18-- "**Christ also hath once suffered for sins, that he might bring us to God.**"

"That is quite clear to me now," she said. "I understand it and see how it is that He can save the one who trusts Him."

She then bowed her head quietly, and said: "Lord JESUS CHRIST, I receive you just now, and I know that you take me. I thank you for doing so much for me on the cross, and I will seek to live for you now that I have trusted you. Thank you, Lord JESUS."

As she looked up, I noticed that her cheeks were wet, but the peace of GOD could be seen in her countenance. She had found rest in trusting JESUS CHRIST. Have you found rest in Him? If not, trust Him today as she did.

A few days after this happy occasion, Mrs. O-- resigned from the circus, and with her husband, she entered a small business enterprise in an eastern city, where she became affiliated with a local group of Christians.
