

DR. WILSON'S STORIES OF SOUL-WINNING

by

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CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX

THE DENTIST TOOK A CHANCE

Dr. Richards served as a dentist in a mid-western city, and built up a good practice. He was honest, and thorough in his work. He had a pleasing personality, made many friends, and became a deacon in the large church near his home.

One day, as he journeyed on his summer's vacation, he passed through Winona Lake, Indiana, because he had heard about that great Bible conference, and wanted to see what it was like. He had never been to a Bible conference, though he had read about them in the monthly magazine of his denomination. While at Winona Lake, he visited the book store and purchased a copy of *The Romance of a Doctor's Visits*, which is found in the Moody Colportage Library. As he read the book he found the story of a man whose condition of heart was quite like his own. The man was religious, had good standing in the community, was respected and honored as a man of the church. This man discovered that he obtained no peace in his heart from all his religious activities.

This story convinced the Doctor that he too needed something else besides religion. He was a successful dentist, he was well received in society, but somehow he had no peace in his heart, and no rest in his spirit. He felt the need of something more than just religious activity, and good character.

He decided to lock up his office and fly to Kansas City to see the one who wrote the book, and who had this interesting experience, about which he had read. He did so without first learning whether I would be at home and could be seen by him. Of course, the Holy Spirit is always guiding in the affairs of troubled hearts, and He knew that this seeker should not be disappointed.

I was at home, and received a telephone call from one of the downtown hotels to see if he could make an appointment with me that evening. We were just at supper at the time, and so I asked him to come at 7:30. He did so. He was a splendid young man about 35 years of age, and impressed me as one who was deeply in earnest, and not just a curiosity seeker.

We sat in the parlor, and he began the conversation by saying,

“I read in your book *The Romance of a Doctor’s Visits* about a man whose case is quite like my own. I am in good standing in the city where I live. I have a splendid dental practice, and I am a deacon in the church. I have a wife and two little children whose hearts are with me in my Christian activity. In spite of all of this, I know there is something wrong with me. I get nowhere in my Christian activity, and do not know for sure that I belong to the Lord. I flew over here hoping to find you, and I want you to tell me what you told that friend about which I read in your book.”

I answered him by saying, “Are you a lost dentist?”

He did not answer at once, but was thinking the thing through. Then he said, “I do not know whether I am or not. Certainly I do not have the thing that would make me satisfied with God, and give me the feeling of security.”

I asked him then if he knew any verse of Scripture that he could quote. He drew a little Testament out of his pocket, and without opening it said, “I learned a verse in Sunday school, and really I am ashamed to say it is the only verse I know.” He then quoted correctly John 3:16, **“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”**

I then reminded him that God sent the Lord Jesus to be the Saviour. He came to save from sin and to give the gift of righteousness, and then eventually bring us to God after being made fit for God’s presence.

He listened intently as I explained this truth to him, and then I said, “Doctor, do you realize that you are a lost man, and need Christ Jesus to save you?”

He answered, “That certainly is my condition. I had never heard that expression used, and at first was puzzled about it. Now I see that I need someone to put away my sins, and make me fit for heaven.”

This opened the door for the application of the gospel, so I asked him, “Is it not true that it takes two to make a gift, the one who gives, and the one who takes?”

“Yes,” he answered, “it is true.”

To this I replied, “The verse you quoted tells us that God gave His Son, and God is looking for a taker. To whom did God give His Son?”

My friend, the doctor, threw his head back on the big upholstered chair, and looking up to heaven said, “God, You gave Jesus Christ to me, and I am taking Him right now. I want you to know, God, that I am trusting your Son with my soul, and I know that He came to save me.”

The doctor at once entered into peace. His heart was at rest. He expressed his gratitude to God for the gift of His Son, and his gratitude to me for showing him the way.

The doctor returned to his hotel that night with a song in his heart. He and the Saviour had met together. The next morning he flew back to his home, told his wife and family about the Saviour he had found, and they had a time of rejoicing together. On Sunday, he arose in the church to tell the congregation of his experience with the living Saviour who had saved his soul and had given him the peace that passeth understanding.

A few days later the doctor phoned me by long distance phone to tell me the good news that three others in the church had found the Saviour through his testimony. He began to testify to his patients, and found that Christ Jesus was really a personal Lord in his life and a living Redeemer for his soul. Because I had told him in our conversation about the Holy Spirit, and his need of knowing that Gift also, he had trusted the Holy Spirit with his life and ministry. This made him outstanding in the community as a spiritual man.

Let us not be satisfied to go on living in the dark, or living a fruitless life. Christ Jesus saves the soul, and the Holy Spirit saves the life.

~ end of chapter 26 ~

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