

STRANGE EXPERIENCES OF THE DOCTOR

by

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CHAPTER EIGHT

“I MUST COMPLAIN TO THE LORD JESUS”

A prominent church worker brought a group of seventeen young people to a Bible Conference in one of our northern cities. This was a State Convention for young people, and the presidents of those societies throughout the State, as well as sponsors of young people's groups, attended and brought delegations with them.

The Conference grounds were located on the edge of a beautiful lake and the visitors were housed in cottages, and tepees in different parts of the grounds. Most of the girls in the group of which I speak were already saved. Two or three were not saved, but came along to the meeting in order that they might become Christians.

Mrs. Burke, the teacher to whom I refer, had been quite a faithful and efficient leader, so that the Christians in her group were found to be very intelligent in their knowledge of the Word and of the One who wrote it. She was herself quite an attentive student at all of the services, and was found sitting on the front seat ready to make notes on all of the messages.

It happened that on a Saturday morning the subject of the message was “How to find the Gospel in the Old Testament.” Mrs. Burke during that service sat on the front seat to my right. The first Gospel picture which we observed was the story of Cain and Abel. The second one was the story of the Passover Lamb and salvation through the blood that was shed. I had only spoken a few minutes about that aspect of the Gospel when I observed that my good friend Mrs. Burke had turned with her back toward me, her hands on the back of the bench on which she was sitting and her face buried in her hands. I could not see her face, for her back was toward me, but I could see that she was convulsed with grief and her body was trembling with sorrow.

This was a great surprise to me, for she had exhibited such a beautiful spirit in the meetings and had seemed to be enjoying all the messages, and was also able to understand them. I continued to preach, taking the story of Jonah and the whale, together with the story of Ruth who returned with Naomi. I spoke briefly about the various offerings in Leviticus and how they, too, were pictures of Christ and His saving work at Calvary.

Mrs. Burke paid no further attention to my message, being overcome with some sorrow that evidently had taken hold of her after the service began.

At the close of the message I called for confessions on the part of the young people, and a great many arose to confess their acceptance of and their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. Fifty or sixty thus publicly accepted the Lord Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

This, of course, took a great deal of time, and all this while my friend, Mrs. Burke, was overcome with her grief.

Having closed the service, I stepped over to the bench where she was sitting, sat down beside her and said, "What is the matter, my friend? What has hurt your heart so greatly this morning? Why are you grieving as you do?"

She lifted her head and with her face covered with tears said, "I do not believe that I am a Christian at all. I am afraid that I have never come under the blood nor met the Saviour. I believe I am just a big hypocrite, pretending to be what I am not and trying to teach others a lesson that I have not learned in my own heart."

I was shocked at this statement, for all of us at the Conference had felt that this woman was an outstanding and devoted Christian.

I immediately looked to the Holy Spirit for words of wisdom in handling her strange case. After praying quietly for a moment I said, "Mrs. Burke, I certainly am surprised at the Lord Jesus for the way He has treated you. He has neglected you, evidently, and I must complain to Him right away about it. I don't think it is right for Him to overlook you as He has done. It is wrong for Him to omit you from His great work of salvation."

She looked at me in great surprise and said, "Why, Dr. Wilson, you must not complain to the Lord Jesus. There is nothing wrong with Him. Everything He does is just right. Why do you say you want to complain to Him?"

I replied, "Because, Mrs. Burke, Christ has evidently completely ignored you in His great work at Calvary, and forgotten to shed His blood for you or to die for you or to make any provision for your sins. I say again that this is utterly wrong and manifestly unfair to you. He should have known that there was no way for you to be saved except by His work. He should also have known that there was no other Saviour that could do anything at all for your salvation. It seems to me it was most careless of Him to deliberately leave you out when He included so many millions of others."

By this time the tears had ceased flowing and amazement filled her countenance. She could not understand at all my attitude. She again said to me, and most firmly, "Dr. Wilson, you must not complain to the Lord Jesus. I say again He never has done anything wrong. Everything that Christ does is right and it is well done. I have no complaint to make against Him. The fault is entirely with me."

“My sister,” I said, “do you save yourself or does the Lord Jesus save all by Himself because of the work at Calvary?” She immediately replied, “Christ Jesus does the saving. I do not do it. He saves all by Himself. All we have to do is believe Him and trust Him.”

“That is right,” I said, “and again I repeat that the Lord Jesus has been most unkind and unrighteous in the way He seems to have omitted you from the saving effects of His work. God the Father is also unkind and unjust because He laid the sins of many others on Christ and yet He must have forgotten you or He deliberately omitted you and did not place your sins on the Lord Jesus; or else it was an oversight and He failed to do it because He forgot. In either event I shall certainly kneel at once and complain because you are the sufferer, and I feel He should know about it.”

At this point I kneeled on the floor beside her and said, “Lord Jesus, I want to come and tell You about the misfortune Mrs. Burke has received at Your hands.”

This is as far as I got in my prayer for she stopped me immediately and said, “Dr. Wilson, you must not say that! I think it is terrible to tell God anything like that, and besides that, it isn’t so.”

Looking up with apparent astonishment I exclaimed, “What isn’t so, Mrs. Burke? Weren’t you omitted? Did God not forget you?”

“Certainly not,” she said very forcibly, “of course, He did not mistreat me or overlook me.”

“Oh, is that so?” I replied. “Do you mean to tell me that the Lord Jesus really included you and that when God punished Him, He was punished for you?”

This question brought the light back in her eyes again from whence it had departed that morning. She burst into tears and laughter at the same moment.

“How sorry I am,” she said, “of course He included me and blotted out my sins. Oh, how very sorry I am to have doubted that He meant me, when He did it.”

Then she bowed her head and poured out her soul to her Lord Jesus saying, “Lord Jesus, I must have hurt Your heart terribly when I felt that I was not included in Your call and in Your sweet provision for my soul. Do forgive me for questioning Your kindness. I know You died for me. I know You loved me. I know the Father loved me. I know the Father laid my sins on You and You blotted them out. Oh, I am so sorry that I should have doubted Your blessed Word. Do forgive me.”

Here again we see how peace is a child of faith. She had been looking at her feelings, her experiences, and many other things about her own life, and had taken her eyes off Calvary. She had forgotten His blessed “Word,” and had been looking at her doubts and fears.

Beloved friend, let me remind you again that **“faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God”** (Romans 10. 17).

Do not question the love of your Lord. Trust Him with your whole soul and take your place by faith under the shelter of the Cross and under the Shadow of the living Christ upon the Throne.

“The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin” (I John 1:7).

Trust your soul and yourself and your sins to the living Lord Jesus for **“He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him”** (Hebrews 7. 25).

~ end of chapter 8 ~

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