

The Romance of the Doctor's Visits

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A DARKENED HEART SURROUNDED BY LIGHT

Some years ago a great movement was inaugurated in this country and was termed "The Interchurch World Movement." Their headquarters were in the old Siegel-Cooper Building, New York, which was of unusual size and capable of accommodating a large army of workers.

As I was riding along in the subway, reading The New York Times, I noticed an article in which it was reported that the office of this company in the Siegel-Cooper Building was considering the purchase of tents to be used in the harvest fields of Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. In these tents religious meetings were to be held at night and social accommodations offered for other times.

Being interested in this movement, I went to the purchasing department to make inquiry about the situation. Here I was met by a young lady of about twenty-six years of age who expressed regret that the party that should be seen was out of the building. Since I could not come again that day, I suggested that I would return in about two days. She advised me that no doubt he would be glad to see me then.

The young woman was indeed quite pleasant and seemed greatly interested in the work she was doing, and was delightfully enthusiastic over the progress being made by the various departments in that huge institution. She asked me whether or not I was familiar with the operations of the various departments, and the results that were being obtained. Upon receiving a negative reply, she at once began to explain the workings of the art department, the map section, the social service plans, and other divisions of the enterprise. Addressing her, I said: "Do you suppose that this great army of people will be like Noah's carpenters?"

"I was not aware that Noah had any carpenters," she replied.

"Neither am I sure that he had them," I said, "but he must have had help in building that great ship, and it is quite certain that all of those helpers, except his own three sons, refused to go into the ark and were drowned. Do you think that these friends on the floor where you work, including yourself, might possibly be like those men? You and the others here are working earnestly to bring the Gospel and the way of salvation to millions of lost souls scattered throughout the world. Have these been saved who are doing this work, and have you been saved yourself?"

The young woman looked quite surprised, and in her astonishment, said, "Why no, I am sure I have never been saved, and I have not heard anyone among the hundreds on this floor say he was

saved. What do you mean by being saved?"

"To be saved," I assured her, "is to know that the Lord JESUS has put your sins away by His work at Calvary, has written your name in the Book of Life as one of His own children, and has given you the gift of eternal life which entitles you to a place in Heaven. Has this happened to you?"

"No, it has not," she answered; "I have never heard of it before."

"Do you not go to church?" she was asked.

"Yes, I am in a Sunday school class of twenty-four girls about my own age, but the teacher has never told us of this. I never heard it before. Is there anything more in the Bible like this story of Noah?"

Noting the honest heart and the deep interest of this young life, I took out my Bible and read to her Romans 10:1-3 -- **"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God."**

"You will see from this Scripture," I explained, "that there are two kinds of righteousness. One kind is called 'GOD's' and the other kind is called 'yours.' You have been striving evidently to make a righteousness by being good, going to church, keeping out of sinful practices, and in various ways endeavoring to live a good life."

Just at this point, a gentleman came and called for the young lady, so that it was necessary for me to say, "I will be back Wednesday to see the purchasing agent." During those intervening hours, I prayed earnestly that the gentleman would not be in when I returned, so that the conversation with the young lady might be resumed. Others were asked to pray also.

Wednesday morning, at ten o'clock, I again entered the great office on the fourth floor. The young lady was watching for me and hurried across the floor to meet me in the center of the room. "The gentleman you came to see is not in this morning. I am sorry, but he has been delayed. Really, sir, I am rather glad he is not here, for since our conversation last Monday, I have had no peace in my heart. My appetite has gone and I have been unable to sleep with comfort. I see that I am lost and on the outside of the door, and I do want you to tell me how to escape the terrible wrath of GOD which must come upon me for my sins."

Immediately I turned to John 5:24, and read, **"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation (judgment); but is passed from death unto life."**

"CHRIST is GOD's ark of safety for the sinner today. You may come to Him with your guilt and sin just as you are, and just now, here in this office, the Saviour will accept you, for that is His work. He loves to forgive. GOD has sent Him to save. He is waiting for you to present yourself to Him and thus prove that you believe in Him as the One whom GOD has sent to save you."

Thus I explained the passage.

"But will I be saved if I take CHRIST just now, and give myself to Him?"

Seeking wisdom, I turned to Acts 13:38-39 -- **"Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins; and by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses."**

"Here GOD Himself assures you that forgiveness of sins and justification are yours the moment you believe in CHRIST JESUS. Will you now take Him, believe in Him, and trust Him with your soul?"

Extending her hand to me, she said with tears, "Yes, I do believe in Him. I never saw it in that way before. I am glad that today I may enter into that Ark. I do enter in; I do trust CHRIST JESUS now."

The Lord enable each one who reads this story to do likewise and thus be safe from coming wrath.
