

have been some other Word than the New Testament.

And after Paul preached the reception of the Holy Ghost at Ephesus, tarrying three months, and the "Word of the Lord" grew mightily, was this "Word of the Lord" that grew mightily the Bible? The Ephesians evidently thought books had their abuses, otherwise they would not have burned books to the value of fifty thousand pieces of silver on hearing the "Word of the Lord."

During this time what was the source of Christianity? Certainly not the New Testament. It had not then been written. Was the Holy Ghost given His rightful place then? He certainly is not given His rightful place now. Substitutes innumerable are invented, not the least ingenious of which is to make the Bible take His place as guide into all truth.

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TRUE HUMILITY.

How utterly incompetent is man, by any process of reason, to learn what humility is.

The humility of Christ's teaching is exactly the opposite of that which man, and especially an ecclesiastical man, grinds out from his formula.

In the following clipping notice how impotent is man, at his best, when not spiritual, to describe divine truth:

"Who is willing to take the lowest seat in the synagogue of religious organizations and services, and remain there until others uninfluenced say, take a higher place? How sweet it is to be first and to lead! Some persons assume extraordinary humility, but even in that they often show a desire to excel. They make themselves conspicuously humble, and, it is to be feared, proudly self-abased."

According to this view, Elijah transgressed the laws of humility when he gathered Ahab, his priests and following multitudes, on Mount Carmel. Jesus Christ, too, was sadly astray, since He did not wait to be called to the front, but deliberately took the place of a leader, and invited men to follow Him as disciples.

Of course the reply to this will be that they were exceptional cases, and were carrying out divine instructions. Just so, but then this admits that every one may carry out divine instructions in the face of apparent want of humility. Hence it follows that true humility is always present when we walk in the Spirit. Simply carrying out divine instructions is never incompatible with Christian humility.

Listen to a specimen of apostolic humility: "Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus?" "I have begotten you in the gospel." "Yet, by the grace of God, I laboured more abundantly than they all." Not wrong, say all, because Paul was led of the Spirit in so speaking. Then may all do likewise when led of the Spirit.

How foolish it is to avoid the foremost places in order to cultivate humility! How absurd to wait till others call us to the front, lest we forfeit the humility character! All such efforts after this grace are certain to end in absolute failure. Indeed one can only cultivate *voluntary* humility by such legalistic efforts, and such humility is the rankest hypocrisy.

Appealing to our personal experience, we have to say that we have been required to set at nought all these *pious* nostrums concerning humility, and rush to the front long before the process indicated in this extract would have secured such notoriety.

We remember how at our second camp-meeting, after the majority feeling had been voiced in a public prayer that another leader might be brought to the front, we declared publicly that in spite of our defects God would force them to accept us as the leader of this movement. What want of humility was here exhibited! But then, like Elijah, like Christ, we spoke as the voice of God, announcing things to come as taught by the Spirit, and God made good our utterance.

Now, we hesitate not to say that in spite of all contrary teachings, this act on our part was the very essence of true Christian humility, for by it we simply and only showed our loyalty to the Holy Spirit, and in that act took second place