

An illustration also comes to us in this manner. Free grants of land were given out by the government years ago on purpose to get the country settled. The land was a free grant, but there was a condition on which it was granted, namely, that the person should go and live on it. Just so this great gift of salvation, consisting of pardon and purity, is for us to live on or in. But as the children of Israel, even when they reached the promised land, had to fight for it and rout the enemies; and as the farmer has to clear and cultivate his land, so we have to work and watch, fight and pray, though it is not now so much the fight with sin as the fight of faith. "For this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

Was there ever but one Pentecost? We read of but one, for then the Holy Spirit came to abide and to continue the teaching of Jesus, who said "He shall not speak of himself, He shall glorify me, he shall take of mine and shall show it unto you." So it is clear we have not done with Jesus Christ, as we have heard some say, because we are in the Spirit's dispensation. Christ said, "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world." Yet as thousands have received the Atonement through the one atoning sacrifice of Christ, so thousands of Christians have received their Pentecost since the Holy Ghost was ushered into the world to abide, though he certainly has been in the world ever since the creation, but in a different manner of operation.

There are some persons we have met who think they are not sinners because they pay every body their own and hurt no one, they are not immoral. These say they have no sin, and deceive themselves, "for if we say we have not sinned we make God a liar, and His word is not in us." For He says, "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." But our Lord came to put away sin by the sacrifice of His own body, and to destroy the works of the devil, and the Apostle says "My little children, these things write I unto you, THAT YE SIN NOT," yet leaves a way of escape "And 'If,' (we should note the If,) any man sin we have an Advocate." There are many things that some count sinful that are not so, and many things really sinful that are not looked upon as such. We need to learn the difference between Sin and Temptation. Many sincere Christians are sorely troubled on this point. Well that is one point on which the Holy Spirit when admitted into the heart to dwell and reign will clear up. I give an extract that expresses my own views and experience.

AUGUSTINE'S OUTLINE OF TEMPTATION.

"1. A thought. 2. An imagination. 3. A delight. 4. An assent. These are the four stages.

You can stop the process between the second and third stages, but this only with difficulty. The time to stop is between the first and second stages. The first stage comes, it is no sin, it is only temptation, (mark that) but if you let it go to the next stage, if you go to meet it and play with it for two seconds, the chances are one hundred to one that you are going over the precipice, the only thing to do is to project some other picture in its place."

We would say stop in time, project the picture of an offended God and an unhappy soul, which would surely be the outcome of yielding to temptation.

The Spirit of God is a swift witness and he warns in time if we listen