

Holy Ghost
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forty years, I
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the Christian
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Jesus Christ.
Spirit." All
Word. Why
Dove," does

not recognize His abiding presence. It is always "Come," but "He *hath* given us the earnest of the Spirit." He is here now. There is not a Christian in this room who has not with him continually, the Holy Ghost. There is not a church on this earth that is worthy of the name, which has not the abiding presence of the Holy Ghost. Sometimes people are told that the "earnest" means a "pledge." If I give you a pledge, I am going to redeem it some time, and take it back. But the Holy Spirit is never going to be taken from us, in this world, or the world to come. An earnest was the jewelry which Abraham's servant gave to Rebecca, to win her heart for Isaac. He told her of Isaac's great wealth, and gave her as an earnest of it, some jewelry. If you will become His bride, here is a part of His possessions already here.

He is not going to take that away, but is going to give her more. The grapes that the spies carried from the land of Canaan were an earnest of what was to be found there; they were not given to be taken away again. To every Christian comes the earnest of what God is going to give him in the future. You must be always doubtful? No. Always, in a state of mind that will lead you to think that God will square accounts in the judgment day, and if He finds more good works than bad works, save you, but if He finds more bad works, than good, damn you? No; but forgetful never of the fact that God by His grace has wrought it all, and has given us the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

(6th.) "Therefore we are always confident." I thank Thee, O Lord. It is a cloudy day; we are downcast! Always confident. But I am suffering from nervous prostration! *Always confident.* But I have my doubts! *Always confident.* But I am passing through deep waters! *Always confident.* What, *always* confident? Yes, *always confident.* "Knowing that whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord." I love that word "knowing" in the Bible.

(7th.) "For we walk by faith, and not by sight."

(8th) We are confident, I say, and willing to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord."

We are all strangers and pilgrims here. Our homes as citizens are yonder. Some 100,000 Americans in Europe are like this. They can travel through Europe and enjoy the scenery, but their home is not there but in America. They are not going to entangle themselves with European politics, for their home is not there. Well, your home is not down here. You will be at home when you are absent from the body. The *you*, the soul, within you will not die when the body does. Don't forget that. It will be at home with the Lord. That makes home. If the husband ~~wants~~ his wife, his home is where she is. And so the child's home is where his parents are. If the doctrine be true that Christ is absorbed into the Deity, and we were to get to heaven,