

and no belief in the power of the Holy Spirit is it likely that God will bless us? Believe me, the vessel that God Himself uses must be very clean. It need not be of silver or gold; it may be only an earthen vessel. But it must be very clean, for our God is a jealous God. He will not drink out of the vessel which just now was at the lip of Satan or used by the world. O, how clean must we be who expect the Holy Spirit to make use of us? How careful we should be in our private life, as well as in our ordinary walk and conversation!

And next, since we depend wholly upon the Spirit, we shall be most anxious in all our work for Christ, for souls to use the word of God. Keep close to the truth, for the Holy Spirit's sword is the word of God. He won't use our own swords; He will only use this New Jerusalem blade of God's own fashioning, the inspired Word. "It is written." So spoke Christ; so the Holy Spirit teaches. "Thus saith the Lord." If that be our preaching, we preach that to which the Holy Ghost will always set His seal; but if you "think it out" and bring something of your invention, go, my good sir, go to the patent office and get letters of patent for your invention. The Holy Ghost cares nothing for it; He cares nothing about your original mind. Christ Jesus spake the word that His Father gave to Him. I would rather speak five words out of the Book than fifty thousand words of the philosopher, for "the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men." You cannot do work for Christ except by Christ and you cannot teach for Christ unless you teach Christ, and your work will have no blessing upon it unless it be God's word spoken to the sons of men through your mouth.

Again, we must avoid everything in our work that would grieve the Holy Spirit. I believe that in a place where that work of conversion goes on daily God is much more jealous than He is anywhere else. If He sees in a church, in the officers of the Church, in the work of the church, something unholy, and if He sees practices tolerated that are not in accordance with His pure mind, He might give His blessing to a church that was worse than this in many respects, but not to this church that has been already so highly favored. We may so act as to have the Holy Spirit. How are we to act? If you want the Holy Spirit to be freely with you and give you great blessing, you must in the power of the Spirit work where you are put, for the Holy Spirit took the prophet into a valley that was full of bones. If you want to save the slums, you must go into the slums. If you want to

save sinners who are broken down, you must be broken down yourself; at least you must get near to them in their brokenness of heart and sympathize with them. I believe that no man will command power over a people whom he does not understand. We must have more sympathy with sinners.

If the Holy Ghost is to be with us, we must speak in the power of faith. If Ezekiel had had no faith, he certainly would not have preached to dry bones, for it was a wretched congregation, and he certainly would not have preached to the wind. Who but a fool would? We must believe that the Holy Spirit is making use of the truth we speak for quickening the sons of men. We must speak and work in faith, or it will be in vain.

PERSECUTION AND BLOODSHED IN MEXICO.

The awful results of the teaching of Rome where she has the power, are seen in the following letter in the New York *Evangelist*, from Rev. Dr. Greene:—

"On the 28th of April, at 3 p. m., the Romanists of El Carro gathered in their church, to receive at the lips of their priest, according to a notice previously given, his sacred orders to kill all the Protestants of the place. The congregation dispersed and at the same time appeared in front of the church the priest's brother, ready to kill the first Protestant whom he should chance to meet.

It happened that a liberal, who occasionally attended our services, was then passing, whom the priest's brother approached and saluted, according to custom; then drew his pistol and fired two shots at him, inflicting wounds from which he cannot recover.

At once more than 500 Romanists, hearing the shots, rushed to the spot, and among them the priest, who addressed himself to the crowd, saying that he would be responsible for what any of them might do, and that it was necessary to kill that very day all the Protestants in the place. He then started through the streets, shouting "Death to the Protestants! I am not afraid of prison, even though they sentence me for ten years. Nor do I fear death; let them kill me. Death to all these heretics; let not one remain." But now the infuriated crowd had reached the wall, and at once made their way toward the house of Mr. Campes.

On the way they found Don Ramon Silva, one of our brethren, who seeing their purpose, commenced to fire upon them, and succeeded in checking their movements, and disconcerting them sufficiently to enable him to leap an adjoining fence and escape.