

and partaken of; and if by obedience you ascend the spiral staircase, you shall come last of all to the observatory, whose windows look out on celestial scenes themselves, and through the cloudless atmosphere you shall get a glimpse of the face of God.

The speaker concluded amid a breathless silence, which was broken on his resuming his seat by a storm of applause, and the motion having been duly seconded by the Rev. H. G. Baldwin, B.A., was put and carried.

Then followed the third hymn on the programme,

Sing them over to me again,
Wonderful Words of Life.

after which the Rev. B. D. Thomas, D.D., rose to move the third resolution, speaking as follows:—

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—I want to set your minds at rest. At this late hour I am not going to make a speech. I had prepared one, as requested, but I am not going to deliver it. I shall doubtless have abundant opportunity for doing so in the future. It would be a very unwise thing, after the magnificent address to which we have just listened, to attempt anything more than the formal submission of the resolution placed in my hands. If a man wanted to sacrifice himself, there could not be a more favourable opportunity. I am reminded of a story told of Robert Hall. On a certain Saturday afternoon a conceited little minister, living in the neighbourhood of Bristol, obtruded himself somewhat officiously into his study, and then began profusely to apologize. Mr. Hall, with a pretty clear comprehension of the man's calibre, said, facetiously, "Do not apologize—do not apologize. Why, I had Sir James Macintosh here until three o'clock this morning, and his conversation actually carried me up to the third heaven. I am glad you have come, for you will soon compel me to feel that I am yet amongst the creeping things of earth." Now, I do not desire that any such remark should be made about myself. Truly, we have been lifted up to the third heaven, and I do not intend to facilitate your descent.

I have, sir, felt sometimes like apologizing for defending the Word of God. It seemed to me like painting the rose, or adding lustre to the glories of the morning. But to-night, as those solid arguments were advanced, and as those eloquent words were spoken, which have fallen from Dr. Pierson's lips, I have had no such feeling. It was an exhilaration which I shall not soon forget, to have so graphically disclosed the granite foundation upon which my faith in that blessed Word is established.

I believe in this book from Genesis to Revelation. I go with Dr. Pierson all the way. I don't blink at the story of Jonah. I have as much respect for Moses to-night as I had before the higher criticism touched him. I believe that if God gave us the book, that He gave it to us in its integrity. If a part of it is inspired, then all of it is inspired. He who bestowed upon us such a gift, knew how to preserve it from interpolation and errors that would destroy its value. I am thankful for the full and blessed confidence that most of us, I trust all of us here this evening, have in this book as the veritable Word of God. I can joyfully say with Luther, not only in respect to the doctrine of justification by faith, but in respect to the whole of the inspired record: "Herein I stand, I can do no other. So help me, God." I might be permitted to say that apart from the unwisdom of my indulging in a speech at this hour, that it is altogether unnecessary, as you will readily see, if you will bear in mind what you have been listening to, while I read the resolution:

"Unique in the position which it holds in the ever accumulating volume of the world's literature, impregnable to the persistent and strategic assaults of its enemies, imperial in its influence upon human life, the Bible is worthy of a super-eminent place in our appreciation and affection, and no effort should be lost to extend its benefits to every human being that lives."

I ask if Dr. Pierson has not thoroughly exhausted that resolution?