

did not come to hear a sermon; I never did like sermons, they are always dry." Others will say, "I came to hear the singing; to hear Mr. McGranahan sing." I am glad you came; I hope God will bless the hymns sung. Some will say, "I came to hear the choir." I am glad you came, if that was your motive. A young man at one of my meetings said, "I did not come to hear a sermon or singing, but because I was told it was a strange sight to see 11,000 empty chairs. He was bound to get in first. When the doors were opened he ran as fast as he could to the front, turned round and looked at the empty chairs. I was glad he came, because after he saw the crowd coming in and that the people were eager to get seats he thought he would stay and see what was going on. He was blessed that night, and he told this story at the converts' meeting. And now you brethren are here. I am glad of it, and I hope before this meeting is over you will join those who are going to seek for Jesus. This brings me to my second text, "Seek the Lord while he may be found, Call upon Him while He is near." These words are to be found in the Prophecies of Isaiah, chap. lv. It does not say "Seek happiness," but "Seek the Lord." A good many men think they are seeking the Lord when they are really seeking for everything else. Many a man is seeking for feeling, and finds he is on the wrong ground. You want to have a personal interview with the Son of God. If you seek Him with all your heart you will find Him. I have heard men say that they have sought Him for months and had not found Him. I doubt it. A man in Scotland said he had been seeking the Lord for forty years and had not found Him. He was hard of conviction. Do you think it takes forty years or forty hours for the Saviour and a sinner to get together? No. The scriptures say that when we search for Christ He will come into our hearts. I awakened a man once by telling him that I knew the date when he would be converted. The man said I was a prophet. I replied, "It will be when you search for Christ with all your heart." I believe we are living in days of half-heartedness and carelessness, and it is because men do not seek the Kingdom with all their hearts that we have not more conversions. A good many people are seeking after God with their intellect. You cannot find Him in that way. It is a matter of revelation not investigation. You must search for Him with all your heart, and then He will be found. Spurgeon says that men do not need new heads but new hearts. You have not got to go up to bring Him down, for He is right here in His Word. You will find Him this night within these walls if you will seek for Him with all your heart. Search for God as you do for things you are fond of. If I told you I lost a valuable diamond just where I am standing, and I would give \$10,000 to the man who found it, I would not give much for this meeting and the rest of the sermon. Your thoughts would be full of diamonds. Young men down there struggling with poverty would seek to seize the opportunity to get ten thousand dollars and bid farewell to poverty. There would not be policemen enough in the city to keep the crowd away from the platform. You would not be in a hurry to get home. Your wives could come and search for you, and your mothers also. You would not care for public opinion. Is eternal life not worth more than \$10,000? If you can get it by searching for it, you should commence doing so earnestly. When a man loses his health he will go round the world to prolong his life a few years. There is not a soul here to-night whom Christ is not willing and anxious to save. He will never have any more power than He has at this

moment, and if you are not saved it will be your own fault. I would like to put this question to this audience: Do you believe the Lord can be found here to-night? Is it true He can be found? (Cries of "Yes.") Then this is the time to seek Him; is it not? Call ye upon Him while he is near. Is He here to-night? This is the time to call. This is the place in which we should seek Him. I have often thought that if I could picture Christ's love I would preach but that one sermon; but I cannot do it. There is nothing a man values so much as his life. He will give up everything for his life; that life in this world, so full of pain and sorrow, heart pangs and heart breaks; this world full of disappointments and farewells; there is not a city without its cemeteries or a town or village without its burying place. Some one has represented the inhabitants of this world as a solemn funeral procession bearing away its dead. One day we hear something about a friend, the next day he has gone, never to return. But there is a city the foundation of which is God. There is no death there; no sighing, no sorrow. Is not eternal life a wonderful thing? You can find it by seeking it. Christ may be sought to-night. We now come to the third text, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." You will notice this is a command. Some people have the mistaken idea that the commands are in the Old Testament. The command is seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. If the Son of God should come back to-night and speak before this audience He would not change the text. He uttered it in the Sermon on the Mount. Men reverse the order and say, get wealth, position, and get settled in life and then seek the Kingdom of God. When a man places the Kingdom of Heaven first he is in harmony with heaven, and then he will have God's blessing and can ask it. Suppose there should be a commotion around the door, and a stranger should push his way through the crowd and walk up the aisle, and it was whispered through the crowd that the Prophet Elijah had returned, you would want me to stop. You have not got Elijah here, but you have the Word just as if he were to speak it to-night. It says, "How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God follow Him; if Baal, then follow him." What this nation needs is not more preaching, but men to call the nation to a decision—What will ye do with Christ? I like a candid opponent much better than one who is trying to be on both sides. When Pilate raised that question repeat—Jesus, it had to be decided; and the crowd said, "Let him be crucified." The nation made its choice. Now you are called upon to decide. The God of this world and the God of the Bible can never be served by the same heart. There must be a choice made. Mark Anthony yoked two lions in the same yoke and drove them through the streets of Rome; but you cannot yoke up the Lion of the Tribe of Judah and the Lion of Hell. Will you take to-night the God of your father and mother and of their Bible, or serve the Devil. Every time the gospel is preached you are obliged to decide one way or the other. A young man once told me an extraordinary story. On leaving home his mother gave him a bible, on the fly-leaf of which was written the words, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven." He went from town to town seeking work. At length he found it. Then he went to church, not because he specially wished, but from force of habit. After attending a little while the minister preached from the text, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven, and all these things shall be added unto you." He said to himself that it was his mother's text. He thought "I wonder if