

away from Him. Settle this point first. Are you *willing* to give up all, and to follow his leading?

Perhaps you say, "I *am* willing. There is not a thing I would not and have not consecrated to Him. Yet that is not enough; and I see in the lives of others a something, a power over sin, a power for good, of which I have no experience."

Have you ever thanked God that you are thus willing? We ask much; do not let us forget the thanks for what we have received; and then, having given all up, take the provision which God has ordained to supply your daily, momentary wants. And is not that provision the *presence* of God within us?

Listen to what is told us of the abiding presence of the three Persons of the blessed Trinity.

"A Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever." "He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." (John xiv. 16, 17). "Yet a little while, and the world seeth Me no more; but ye see Me. I am in my Father, and ye in Me, and I in you" (John xiv. 19, 20). "My Father will love him, and *we* will come unto him, and make our abode with him" (John xiv. 23).

O poor, tired, unsatisfied soul, cannot this God, almighty, powerful, condescending, tender, cannot *He* satisfy you? Cannot such an one as *this* supply all you need?

When you have such a provision, why do you not use it? Him whom you have trusted to work in you to *will*, trust also to work in you to *do*; that is, simply to put the will into action.

Do you say, "Ah, that is faith. Faith is the gift of God, and I have not received that gift of faith. I must wait till it be given me." And yet, when some great trial or trouble has been laid upon you, have you not trusted God, and has He not brought you through safely? And do you think He who is so merciful, and Himself tells that "He knoweth our frame," and that He "remembers we are but dust," will He give us a large supply of faith for a large need, and will he withhold a small supply for a small need?

Will you look once more at the illustration above? There was a great supply of gold ready for the poor man's use, but he did not take it. Why do not

you take the "gift" that God has for you? Faith is the gift of God; but is not a gift a free thing? God does not say that faith is his gift because He will *not* give it to us; but He tells us that it is his gift that we may take it from his kind and gracious hand.

Well, then, there was also the *reason* why the man did not take his rich friend's money. He had a few poor little moneys of his own, and although he had left his own house, he was still trading with them.

Are you, perhaps, still trading with something of your own? Are you trading with your strong desires, with your little faith? Or have you brought your very unbelief, and poured it out on that heart, tender as a mother's to comfort, and yet the strength of Israel in war and battle, and left it there, refusing to look at it again, to think of it even, and taking in its place, not resolution, not even faith, but *God himself*.

You are willing; be *obedient*.

Unbelief and doubt is a great *sin*. It is not your misfortune; it is not a trial from God, but a sin; and we are just as wrong to parley with unbelief as if we were to parley with theiving or hatred. Put it right away. "Let God be true, and every man a liar."

How endless, how fathomless are the promises He has given us! They just meet our wants and desires, and are full of promise and hope; but are they also full of fulfilment?

So long as you look at yourself, at your unbelief, your want of faith, they will not be. So long as you look to God, to the One who *can* do all, they will be hourly and daily fulfilled in you and for you.

Do not be always thinking of what you cannot do; think instead of all that God can and will do for you and in you. He can do all that you find so impossible, all that Satan is longing, trying to stop you from doing. Very likely you will find it a mighty effort at first to look away from yourself, or, in other words, away from the impossibility of things; but trust the effort to God, and the blessed Holy Spirit will gently guide you even into "all truth," "into all things," and will glorify Jesus in your soul.

Oh be gentle and obedient, and God will "guide you with his eye!" Are