

absolute indifference as to going or staying. I remember taking definite ground with Him that if He willed me to stay in England for five years I was perfectly willing. He satisfied me, and therefore whether in England or China I was content.

Having been brought into this state of mind, however, God soon made it clear to my mind that He had blessed me in soul for the Chinese. For two or three days I had a growing presentiment in my mind that He would have me go straight out to China, without taking any such series of meetings in England or America (to which place I had been specially invited) as I did before leaving for China the first time.

On Wednesday, October 19th, I was reading my ordinary portion for the day, I have marked out (in the Revised Version) the Old Testament so as to read it once through in a year. My portion for that day was Isaiah xlvii., xlviii., and xlix. chapters.

In Isaiah xlviii. 16, 17, I read this: "And now the Lord God hath sent me and His Spirit. I am the Lord thy God, which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go."

In Isaiah xlix. 5, 6, I read this: "And now saith the Lord that formed me from the womb to be His servant. * * * I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be My salvation unto the end of the earth."

It was this last verse by which the Lord had sent me out to China the first time. And I felt that the two "*nows*" indicated the fact that the time had come for me to go. The following is in my diary for October 19th.

"In the morning got a message from the Lord in Isaiah xlviii. xlix. chapters. that my time had come to go."

I went and told Mr. Taylor, and he suggested November 10th, as the outgoing brethren filled up the berths at the disposal of the C.I.M. in the preceding steamer.

Since then God has confirmed the word to me.

I understand that I am, on getting to China, not to go North, but to visit several stations in Southern and Western China in company with Mr. Orr Ewing, and, if possible, Mr. Walter Sloan, for the purpose of conference with the missionaries of those stations, and the mutual refreshment of the native Christians and ourselves. May I ask the earnest prayers of those among the

Lord's people who may read this paper that God may be glorified greatly in this coming service. For yourself, my reader, if you know not the blessing of a heart satisfied I do pray God that the Holy Spirit may so reveal the Lord Jesus Christ to your soul as the Fountain of living waters that—forsaking the broken cisterns where so many seek to slake their thirst—you may find in Him both *abundant* and *abiding* satisfaction.

REMARKS.

The foregoing article appeared in the January number of "China's Millions," a monthly issued by Rev. Hudson Taylor, and devoted to the interests of the China Inland Mission of which Mr. Taylor is the originator and manager. It is now printed in pamphlet form for further circulation. It shows how the truth concerning the Holy Spirit's supreme claims on the heart of the believer is being discovered and yielded to in our day, as never before. But in every case the discovery is made by those who gaze at truth with an eye undimmed by prejudice, an eye behind which is a soul that hungers intensely for God, and will not be satisfied with anything that is not Himself. Brother Smith whose experiences are here related sought the baptism of the Spirit "*for service*," that is, that he might be qualified for a special work that lay as he believed in the future before him, and he received. He will discover, if he remains obedient, that "*service*," means the whole outgoing of life, that Christ's promise of the Spirit show that he is to govern, guide strengthen, purify and illuminate the whole inwardness of the believer, and that, in all the moments of His being. Mr. Taylor says truly: "It is important to remember that the Holy Spirit works in many ways according to his own Sovereign will. We should all be filled with the Spirit but must not be looking for identical experiences, indeed must not be looking for experiences at all, but must do the next thing, counting on the promise of God. The result is sure, "He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." And we add what Mr. Taylor does not add, "But thus spake he of the Spirit which they that believed on him were to receive; because the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified."—John 7-38 39.

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