

The hem of the garment is nothing. If all persons healed had touched the hem of his garment it might have meant something special, but it simply means that coming to Christ is everything and that the outward means and manner by which we come are nothing. Brethren the hem of the garment is Christ, and coming to Christ is touching the hem of his garment, and the hem of the garment is close to us. You may be dying—there is no need to take the sacrament. Christ is there. A poor man in my neighborhood was dying and his friends said let us send for some minister. Oh, said the good man, it is late at night, don't disturb anybody—I have Jesus close to me. He had the hem of the garment. You may be far away on the sea or on some lone island—far from the church going bell—near no place of worship, no congregation, no ministry, no outward sacraments, blessed as these things are, and thankful as we ought to be to God for them. But there is the hem of the garment. There may be no human creature to speak a word of sympathy, but there is Christ, and O brethren, let us rejoice that there is the hem of his garment where there is Christ. There is the unity of the church. There is the blessed bond that binds us together. Let us come to and cleave to Christ. Oh, is there any one here that is like that woman? Do you feel diseased, weary with sin, sore and sad? Are you timid? Would you like to be saved, but are you afraid of being noticed? We wont demand that in these early stages you should tell what is going on in your mind. It might be well if you were to tell some confidential friend—some good, kind minister; or it need not be a minister—some one else who deserves your confidence and will sympathize with you. But if there is no one, and sometimes we like to speak least to those who are nearest in earthly relationship—come in the crowd. His eye is upon you. Don't you think he saw this poor woman all the while? Would she have got to him without? Was he not assisting her—making it easy for her, comforting and cheering her. Oh, he would not have allowed any one to prevent her coming to Him. He was helping her all the time. And he is helping you. His eye is upon you. Every one of you that has a sin begotten spirit, push through the crowd, Jesus is helping you. Come right up to Him. Lay hold on the hem of His garment. Cry, "God be merciful to me a sinner. O Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world, have mercy upon me a sinner." He never did reject any one. You shall be saved; you shall be healed, and then you will be willing to confess Him, to tell of His love, to invite others to do so too, and you will follow Him whithersoever He goeth. Which may God in His mercy grant.—Amen.