

former. The spirit of expectation in our ordinary worship is not fostered as it should be. Self-denial is in very many below the true standard. The meekness and gentleness of the Christian spirit should be more fully expressed in the outward appearance than they are. Greater boldness as witnesses for Jesus, would be far better than so much fear of, and conformity to, the world. And, by the way, our worship should be more seasoned than it is with responses. Outspoken responses are Scriptural and profitable. We do not always make most headway in a calm. Divine worship will bear a storm of "Amen!"—"Hallelujah!"—"Praise the Lord!" Of course, these, like singing, should be uttered with the spirit, and with the understanding also.

Earnest Christianity is a felt want in the churches. O ye who are in earnest, flag not in your zeal! God will not forsake such; and He will use you to inspire the halting and quicken the dead.

"Wolfe, where'er he fought,
Put so much of heart into his act,
That his example had a magnet force,
And all were swift to follow whom all loved."

This earnest Christianity is realized when we open our hearts by faith to be filled with the Spirit. I once knew a man who was good to keep order near the door during revival services, but he was very weak, and almost useless, notwithstanding his peculiar zeal. As in his case, so in all others. Earnestness in some secondary matter is of no avail. We must place our own body, soul, and life before God, and ask for the "Refining fire." Along with this consecration and prayer we must trust in Christ for a full salvation—not merely trust that He saves, but that He saves to the uttermost. Just here, according unto our faith, it is done unto us. "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe ye receive *them*, and ye shall have *them*." It may not be amiss to point out the way to earnest Christian life; but I fancy that more fall short through a want of earnest personal effort, than through a want of knowledge. Last Conference, while on the way from a meeting relating to holiness, in company with a good brother, he spake about as follows: "It seems to me to be a matter of sweet personal experience. I got real hungry for a fullness; and in drawing near to God, in private, *He filled me*. And I believe it is just a personal matter—a personal experience when we really draw near to God for it." It seems to me that this is looking for the higher life in the right way. To such a seeker the fullness sought results in the fullness found.

The earnest Christianity needed is that which is *constant* rather than *occasional*. And, thanks be to God, we may be "Steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord"—"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you: yea, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." I do rejoice to see God's people at the fountain drinking. But, oh! how much our power and influence for good is multiplied if we live earnest Christians, *until* called up to the church above! An earnest Christian life speaks for Jesus everywhere. It is a recognized power in the