

taking away some of its gloom and adding thereto additional brightness.

The call is, then, to the reader to see to it that he at once puts on the garments of righteousness, or, if they are already his adornment, he should strive to have other individuals put them on also.

But hold, if he who professes to have them on, needs to be urged in this direction, it is a sure sign that his profession is scarcely true to facts.

Imagine an exhorter airing his gift on the six score who were filled with the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost! Did Paul waste time in exhorting the twelve Ephesian converts after they had received their Pentecost?

Such exhortations are manifestly addressed to those who are not fully panoplied for aggressive Christian warfare, and the whole meaning of the exhortation is exhausted in the apostolic advice, "Be filled with the Spirit."

This matter of exhortation should be intelligently considered, that we may return from loose generalities to definite aim. For if we succeed in getting a believer where the Pentecost-endued disciples were, then manifestly all exhortation to such Spirit-baptized disciples should be in the nature of exhortations to continuance in this blessed state. Any exhortations to such, that imply *criminal* lack on their part, or the urgent need of recovering lost ground, must, in the nature of the case, incriminate the Holy Spirit, or throw discredit on the words of Christ concerning the advantage of His presence. Therefore it follows that only such exhortations that refer to the need or desirability of retaining the Heavenly guest as an actual presence, are in order to such, *e.g.*, "Fight the good fight of faith," that is, having received the Holy Ghost by faith, continue in that faith which secures His continued presence. "Having done all to stand." "Continue in well doing." "Abide in Him."

.When this definite advice is acted on to the close of life, then, and only then, is possible the utterance on reviewing the past: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

But why, it may be asked by those

who know not of this experience as a continuous one, are exhortations to this class to be so confined? We answer that those who thus retain the Comforter always obey, that is, they "walk in the Spirit," are "led of the Spirit," and so fulfil the righteousness of the law, which is, among other things, "always abounding in the work of the Lord."

For their guide divine, having His eye on the whole field of battle, and knowing when and how to utilize his obedient ones to the utmost possible, cannot fail to place them every moment to the best advantage, for securing the objects of Christ's death.

The simple fact, then, that one retains the Holy Ghost in the Pentecostal sense, that is, walks in Him as the one living law in life, absolutely secures the best possible results in his life, toward the evangelization of the world. Hence, exhortations to increased activity, addressed to such, are superfluous.

Again, words of exhortation to those who have not received the Holy Ghost, to walk in Him, should be interpreted, chiefly along the line of urging them to harmonize in experience with the early Christians, as the stepping-stone to all possible usefulness.

It is admitted by all that if every professed Christian would to-day receive the divine gift, and henceforth walk in Him in continuous obedience, that all the glowing prophetic utterances concerning the glorious and the aggressive march of Christ's kingdom would be absolutely met, would be completely fulfilled. How absolute the inference then, that as each individual believer obtains and retains this Pentecostal experience, that the Church and world are from day to day being helped forward to the utmost limit of the possible, as far as his individual life work is concerned.

Therefore we press upon all who, having obtained the Pentecostal gift, have retained their divine guest, the apostolic advice, "As therefore ye received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him."

But to all others, we urge the apostolic question, "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" and follow it up with the more than exhortation, "Be filled with the Spirit."