

others obtained the blessing of holiness under his preaching, whilst he was still a seeker of that blessing; and many instances of a like character have occurred in the history of Christianity, so that facts are directly opposed to the law enunciated in the above clipping.

There remains, however, the question as to the possibility of the gift of the Holy Ghost, after the Pentecostal manner, being propagated by those who do not walk in the Spirit. Concerning this thing we, ourselves, know of no *facts* as yet upon which to base an opinion, and therefore must, perforce, relegate it to the land of speculation, in the meantime.

Nevertheless, admitting all that is implied by the facts here alluded to as to the possibility of the unspiritual being able to spread spiritual experiences, it does not follow that the law above enunciated is not a positive law in Christianity: for a law is no less a law even when there are exceptions thereto. And, indeed, such has been our observation concerning this rule as to cause us to emphasize it as a well-established one in the realm of grace.

Hence it follows that he who would propagate the experiences of our religion should always, as the first step thereto, secure them as a personal possession. Indeed, so essential is this step that he should not hesitate to sacrifice much time and effort at this point, if required.

But the most practical thought at this point is that each individual should look upon this course as necessary for *himself simply and alone*. If, however, others are willing to join him in the quest so much the better, provided always no side issues be allowed.

In an article in a former number we took the position that if mere aspiration after spiritual blessings were eliminated from the prayers of pulpit and pew, it would be better for the Church and the world. So now we maintain, that, like day-dreaming, it is weakening to the energies of the individual, and should be laid aside altogether. He who dreams of being rich and he who prays for spiritual riches without determining to secure what is prayed for, are alike the dupes

of their own imagination, and always come back to the realities of life soured and out of temper with their surroundings. But he who gives continued, patient thought and energy to secure either, not only escapes this belittling strife with circumstances, but is on the high road of success in either case.

In Scripture, as in the world, the adage is true, "the diligent hand maketh rich," and just as certain as earthly prizes are secured by the plodding worker, so he only that *strives* enters into the *kingdom*, and the rest of faith, as a prize, is won by him only who *labors to enter in*.

It is only the hypocrite who desires to spread Christian experiences without himself being a partaker, hence to all others our subject commends itself as a direct incentive to the attainment of spiritual blessing. Seek to enter in that you may enable others to obtain like precious faith.

But, asks one, should we not continue to strive to propagate spiritual experiences even while seeking ourselves? We reply, that whoever asks such questions evidently has not taken, as yet, the place of a *true* seeker. Our Lord's command is, "Seek *first* the kingdom of God and His righteousness." Personally, we have to say that it was when we *literally* complied with this injunction that we found. When, for days, there was no thought of, or attention to, aught else, with the understanding that those days would be prolonged indefinitely, even till the question at issue was *settled* one way or another, then it was that every promise was fulfilled to us in Gospel measure. And that is the set time of God to favor any and all who seek to be furnished as laborers in His vineyard, and no other can be the set time; all other efforts simply and only enervate and put further and further away from the apparent seeker what he in words may be seeking.

A SISTER said, "I am thankful for as much of the love of God as I enjoy in my heart, but I do not love God as I once did." I replied, "What a pity! Sister, if you should say that of your husband, it would nearly kill him."—*Bishop Taylor*.