

But you ask, "How, then, can I get rid of this doubting?" I will tell you. Consecrate your power of believing to the Lord Jesus, just as you have consecrated all your other powers, and trust Him to keep you trusting. You have so absolutely yielded yourself up to the Lord to obey his voice, that you would not dare to disobey Him. Yield yourself up to Him now, to believe his word, in the same absolute and irrevocable way, and you will feel then that neither do you dare to doubt. Make your believing as inevitable and necessary a thing as your obedience is. You would obey God, I believe, even though you should die in the act. Believe Him also, even though the effort to believe should cost you your life. The conflict may be very severe, it may seem at times unendurable; but let your unchanging declaration be from henceforth, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him." When Satan comes with his suggestions of doubt, meet him with more positive assertions of your faith than ever you have made before. I say, when Satan comes, because all doubts are from him, and all discouragements also. The Holy Spirit never suggests a thought of doubt or discouragement to any soul. Never! Settle this matter once for all, and you will find the way wonderfully cleared.

Your doubts, then, are all from Satan, and you know he has been a liar from the beginning. Do not give heed to them therefore for a moment. Turn from them with horror, as you would from blasphemy. You cannot help their being suggested to you. You cannot help hearing the swearing of boys along the street, but you can help stopping to listen to it; and you can equally well help listening to these suggestions of doubt. A very good practical way to baffle Satan in this matter, is to go at once and confess somewhere or to some one, your faith that Jesus does save you now fully, and that his blood does cleanse you from all unrighteousness. Or if this is not possible, write it in a letter, or else confess it aloud to yourself and to God. Satan always flees when the precious blood of Christ is trusted in and confessed. But however you do it, of one thing make sure, that you never doubt again. According to your faith it shall be unto you; and while you are trusting Jesus to save you from sinning, and to make you pure in heart, He is absolutely pledged to do it. He cannot fail. "What things soever ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

I want to be very practical, because I am sure many a heart is going bowed down in secret from this fatal habit of doubting. Many of my readers could, I am convinced, testify to the truth of this. They know that their wavering faith is the cause of their wavering experience. One day they have believed that Jesus did indeed save them from sin and from sinning, and it has been so in their experience. But the next day they have looked at themselves, and have begun to doubt, and their experience has corresponded to their doubts. Let all this be past, and from henceforth start out on a path of unwavering, steady faith. Believe steadfastly, through everything, no matter what comes, just what you believed at first, upon your entering into this blessed life of entire trust. And never doubt it again. If the step of faith you took then, was to reckon yourself to be dead unto sin, continue thus to reckon, without wavering. If it was to believe that the blood of Jesus cleanseth you from all sin, go on believing this steadily and without any compromise. Or if it simply came to you as a faith that Jesus saved you fully, exercise that very same faith now, and keep exercising it continually without intermission. Or whatever it may have been, hold it steadfast, even unto the very end, for "We are made partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end," and there is no other way. Let nothing shake your faith. Should even sin unhappily overtake you, still you must not doubt. At once on the discovery of it take 1 John i. 9, and act on it, "If we confess