

the Lord requires. The one who walks in the Spirit fills the bill, in regard to water baptism, loving his enemies, doing alms, prays just enough, speaks to everybody he ought, fasts as often and as long as he ought, considers the birds and the lilies in the matter of food and clothing, does to others as he would have others do to him; in short, pleases God. Thus far we have confined ourselves largely to a consideration of the letter of the Lord Jesus' commandments. We have said nothing about Paul's injunctions, about the veiling of women, the necessity for woman keeping silence in the churches, non-wearing of gold, owing no man anything but love, and the Holy Ghost's guidance in direct antagonism to the word of the Apostle Paul in these things. We could readily point out where Paul, whose statement to the Corinthians is made to do duty in binding all men to observe the Lord's Supper, says to the Galatians that they are fallen from grace because they observe times and seasons, and to the Colossians that the handwriting of ordinances was blotted out and nailed to the cross—the Spirit guiding men, of course, in strict harmony with these directly antagonistic statements of the Apostle to the Gentiles.

It thus resolves itself down to this. Is the Holy Ghost the guide, or the Bible? The Lord Jesus said the Holy Ghost should be. Men insist upon the Bible usurping His functions. In the Lord Jesus Christ's time, He said, that "if any man cometh to Me and hateth not his father, mother, wife, children, brethren, sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple." Surely this teaching cannot mean that we must hate the Bible, hate the words of the Apostle Paul, aye, hate even the very words of the Lord Jesus if they stand in the way of the kingship of the Holy Ghost in this the Spirit's dispensation. Yes, it will pay to hate all these things that we may win Christ. It will pay in these respects, to seek first the kingdom of heaven and trust that the words of the Lord Jesus may be among the all things that shall be added thereto. It may also be the case that the God who-withholdeth no good thing may, with the Spirit's guidance,

add thereto something from Paul's experience, and may even leave the Spirit-guided Christian his Bible. What guidance had the 3,000 after Pentecost? One would almost think that 3,000 copies of a book called the New Testament, which was not then in existence, were distributed to the converts on that day. What word did those who were scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria preach? The New Testament was not then written. And when they of Samaria had received the Word—What word? And what word did the Apostles send Peter and John unto them to preach? The New Testament was not then written. They could not preach the New Testament as the guide. They prayed that they might "receive the Holy Ghost," and they "received the Holy Ghost," and the Church throughout all Judea, and Galilee, and Samaria, walking in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, was multiplied, and that without the New Testament.

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PERSECUTION.

"Blessed are ye when men shall persecute you," etc. Do you notice that it is only when you are a witness to full salvation that you are "persecuted?" They won't persecute you for being poor in spirit; they do not care how much you mourn; and they will not vex you even if you hunger and thirst after righteousness; but the minute you begin to testify to it, there is where the lightning strikes. Search the Bible, and you will find all through, instances corroborative of this fact. Jesus was crucified, not because He was holy, but because He testified that He was the Son of God. Persecution has always come on the point of testimony, and only on that point, for this is what hurts Satan's kingdom most and what glorifies God most.

If you are a witness to heart purity, as you must be, there will come just enough persecution to be a blessing, enough to season your daily bread.—*Rev. G. D. Watson, D.D.*

THE life of God in man has no second childhood, no declining period, but manhood in endless progression.—*Pomeroy.*