

be mutual confidence, mutual acquaintance, mutual love, and mutual interest. There is no clashing. Now, John says the Holy Ghost gave the believers such an experience. If ever a man lived in the earth who could live in the past, John could afford to do it. He was one of the illustrious three—seeing miracles no others could see; beholding the transfiguration, and the agony of the garden. He leaned on Jesus' breast; but he did not live on the past. He was living in daily intercourse with the skies, and his fellowship was more real than it had been when Christ was on earth. When Christ was on earth, they held on to Him by their eyes; but He went away they were tied to the throne by the Holy Ghost. They knew Christ no more after the flesh, but after the spirit. They had God's thoughts, and God's emotions, and God's affections. God was a person to them then. The visible person had disappeared, and the personality of Jesus came into their hearts.

You must have a person to have fellowship. You can't have fellowship with an abstraction. Hence the heathen clothe the various forces of nature with personalities. We can't have fellowship with the dictionary. Now, the Holy Ghost brings down to us a divine personality, and gives a fellowship more real than walking arm in arm with the visible Jesus. You may walk with some one and have your thoughts going contrary to his. But in the inward fellowship there is the intimate union of two persons produced by the Holy Ghost. Why, God the Father and God the Son would be as dead to us as the north star if it were not for the Holy Ghost.

The Plymouth Brethren talk a great deal of the finished work; and as soon as you believe in the finished work you are all right. But they confound redemption with salvation. Jesus finished His work, but He didn't finish yours. The Holy Ghost helps you to do your work, to repent and to believe. Now if you ignore this, your religion is no more than a sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal.

The Campbellites in Kentucky say, Believe in Christ, and be dipped, and you are as sure of heaven as a gunshot. You are as sure of hell as a gunshot if you have no change wrought in your heart. Your religion is not in a book. The Jews thought they had salvation because they had a Bible. But Jesus told them they must come to Him. Salvation is only accomplished when your personality is united with a divine personality. So this is a reality; not a theory. You may have prayer, and churches and theology,

but these are not religion. Lighthouses are not navigation. Navigation is a man who takes hold on compass and lighthouse, and quadrant and ship, and moves across the ocean.

When you can move with God, and talk with God, and think with God, and will with God, that's religion. So your Bibles may burn up, and the world may burn down, but you haven't lost your religion. People who have to live on revivals haven't got fully saved. What would Gabriel do if they never had a revival in heaven? Why, he'd go in for a million eternities, and just live in God, revival or no revival. Union with God, that's religion.

Take a man in a prison who is allowed the use of a telephone through which he can talk with his family and hear their voices. The world can't see anything going on, they only see the wire. Now, God has opened a telephonic communication with the prisoners of time, and we may talk with him. We must adapt ourselves to the instrument, and not put our heads where our ears ought to be; but if we do, we talk with God, and nobody hears it except ourselves. The Bible and its words are God's wires, and the Holy Ghost flashes along these wires God's blessed thoughts to our souls.

The uninitiated see the effect in the voice, the eye, the face, the action, and they think religion is in these; just as the boy thinks the cloud is shining, when it is really the pure, white light farther back. God operates on our person. This fellowship is a fellowship of the heart. Our minds are infinitely below God's mind, and so can't have any special fellowship with him. But our moral nature, when washed and made pure and clean, is just like God's moral nature. True, you have to carry the image of God under a great many disabilities, but a clean heart is like God, as a drop of water is like the ocean. If you had sense enough, you would act just like God. A pure heart acts like God would, if incarnate, and subject to all the same disabilities and environments. God always gives you what you ask for, and so much more. Why, when I was sanctified, it took me six months more I found out what a big thing I had on hand. No man can measure regeneration till he gets it, and it takes him some time after, generally. God's answers come in the spiritual nature, and so he always works beyond what you ask or think. There never lived a man on this earth who knew what ailed him when God's spirit began to act on him. You may take a piece of wax, and a piece of meat,