

May we not set our submission beside that of some saint whom we know intimately, and whose piety seems flawless, and see if we do not surrender as fully as he does? That course would be most unsafe. Such a soul may not be at hand. If we cannot know ourselves reliably, how can we hope to know another perfectly? There are modifying elements in every life that none but the All-wise can understand. Defects of early training, moral color-blindness—something that affects responsibility. Besides all that, we are distinctly told that this is a foolish practice. “Measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves with themselves, they are without understanding.”

Can we not find some infallible friend whose calm, slow eyes are forever bent on these tremendous problems—some pastor or teacher who will go through these matters with us, and show us if our consecration is defective?

This need of help from without has driven thousands to the Romish confessional. The hand that has been thrown resolutely upward to grasp Divine aid has lost all by resting in a poor, weak, human clasp.

This question must be settled, for upon it hangs eternal salvation. One cannot settle it for himself. He cannot trust any human friend. There must be *somebody* in this supreme hour of need to come to his help. Yet all understand that the Holy Spirit is the one only teacher of spiritual truth. To Him alone may we turn for help. Upon Him alone can we depend.

He is infinitely interested that we submit completely to the Lord. Every heart-throb of aspiration toward God has been prompted by Him. It is He who has held our attention to this point till, between His crowding and our resistance, we have felt as if we were between the upper and nether millstone. He alone is able to make us discern spiritual things. It is His office to reprove of sin and righteousness. Our Lord promised Him to us as an infallible Guide. “But the Comforter, even the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things.”

It is evidently God's plan that we shall not depend upon self-knowledge, nor upon human help, but alone upon the Holy Spirit; and it is a part of our submission to give up our way, and accept God's plan in this vital matter.

Let us fix it axiomatically in our minds: *The Holy Spirit always gives all needed help in every effort of the soul to seek God.* Let us not grieve Him by doubting this for an instant. He prompted, therefore He must help. If He helps—the Infinite and Eternal One—what more do I need?

While we depend upon Him, doing our little part as well as we know how, failure is impossible. Said an old Waterloo veteran: “All through the chances and changes of that tremendous day, I had not the least fear for the result, because we had a general who had never lost a battle.” While we are steadily loyal to the leadership of the Holy Spirit we can but succeed, and our consecration must be thorough and complete. When we are assured upon that point it is easy to trust God for full salvation.—*Christian Witness.*