

The Higher Life : How Attained.

Observe, our entire consecration brings us, so to speak, on believing ground ; that is to say, when, without any hesitation or reservation, or limitation, we yield submission to the Divine Will,—when we have the witness of our own spirit to the entirety of our surrender (because the Divine Spirit never witnesses to what our spirit can attest), then we come where God can fulfil His will, which is “even our sanctification.”

Now, at this point, where, enlightened respecting privilege, we hunger and thirst after righteousness ; aye, where we yield ourselves to give, go, do, dare, sacrifice, suffer, or die for the sake of the Lord Jesus,—still unsanctified, we rest ourselves, our faith, our all, upon Jesus, upon the truth, the power, the blood, the mediation of Jesus (we know of no other foundation for faith than the work and worthiness of the Infinite Christ), and while our faith rests there, the Holy Ghost, who is distinctively the Sanctifier, usually comes with the truth of the Lord Jesus (“Sanctify them through Thy truth.” “Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you”), and so applies this in our consciousness, as that we feel, know, and enjoy is verity, power and preciousness as never before, and are able to say, moment by moment,

“’Tis done ! Thon dost this moment save,
With full salvation bless ;
Redemption through Thy blood I have,
And spotless love and peace.”

This is not done once for all and for ever. The blessed Holy Ghost does not sanctify any soul for a day, or an hour, or even a minute together, but only during the passing moment. The holiest and best man, speaking according to his consciousness, which is necessarily confined to the passing moment, would say, “Thy blood cleanseth” (observe, it is in the present tense.) Another moment is given, and it cleanseth. Another moment, and applied by the indwelling Spirit, it cleanseth ; and so it cleanseth moment by moment.