

But let all understand, that any sin discovered to us by the Holy Ghost, if not confessed and forsaken, will not only shut out from the *highway of holiness*, but will also shut out of *heaven*. Again, clearly understand your relation to holiness. The process is simple. God's command is, "Be ye holy." Ask yourself the question in the presence of the heart-searching One, do I obey this command? If the Spirit does not bear witness to your obedience of this and kindred commands, but does bear witness to sins forgiven, then you are a proper subject for going on to perfection, not otherwise.

Will you, dear fellow-traveller to the skies, step with us into the promised land—

"The land of corn and wine and oil,
Favored by God's peculiar smile,
With every blessing blest."

First, will you agree with us, that this step may be taken *just now*? How satan opposes this proposition! How inbred sin arouses its opposition! What a ferment the enemies of the soul are thrown into by the bare mention of such vigorous thought, but regard not this inward tumult, look at the question steadily. God commands you to be holy now; if so he must have made it possible to obey that command now, else how can he judge the world? Then it is possible; for "with God all things are possible." Don't move on to another step till this one is taken clearly, unhesitatingly. If need be, lay down this article and examine God's word with prayer, until it is settled, till you can confidently say, I may take this step *now*. It is my blood-bought privilege.

Again, are you willing *now* to obey the command, "Be ye holy." Depend upon the Spirit's aid, in answering this question, and have firm faith that He guides you into truth. As a rule, we may assume that we are willing unless the Spirit discovers to us some positive form of unwillingness.

Now give—that is, consecrate—yourself to God for obedience to this command. You cannot make a conditional surrender. Our God is an absolute Sovereign, and requires unconditional submission to Himself. To encourage the soul here, remember God is love, and He promises to withhold no good thing from us. Where then is there room for fear in absolute surrender to Christ? If now the Holy Spirit does not show you any thing unyielded, you can assume that your part here is done. You have gone thus far, never look back. Be not feverishly anxious to question the genuineness of these acts. The progress made is solid, sure, for it is made in the presence of the Holy One, who is in a measure