

of the Son, He taught the disciples concerning the mysteries of His nature and mission. He restored the law, moral and Mosaic, to normal spirituality and authority, and proclaimed God the model of moral character for the future. (Matt. v. 48.) He formed a religious community on a new basis, that of divine love from a pure heart. (John xiii. 34, 35; 1 Tim. i. 5.) This community He called the "kingdom of God." (Mark i. 15.) To make this holy kingdom possible to all men, the Son gave Himself a sacrifice for sin (John i. 29; Heb. ii. 9; Gal. xiv. 26; 1 John. ii. 2), and arose from the dead and ascended into Heaven. "to appear in the presence of God for us." (Heb. ix. 24.)

But to receive fully His teaching and enter into His kingdom the disciples of Christ lacked the spiritual aptitude. (John vi. 15, 60, 67.) He was God revealed to them; they must have God revealed in them. This is accomplished by the personal advent of the Holy Spirit into the world. Christ declared His own dispensation to be but temporary, and pledged His followers to the Holy Spirit whose dispensation should continue forever. (John xiv. 16; xvi. 7, 12, 13.)—*Divine Life*.

UNBROKEN ALLEGIANCE.

BY MRS. M. N. VAN BENSCHOTEN.

Two friends sat earnestly conversing. As the hours sped by a hushed and confidential air fell over them. Their hearts drew near each other as they talked of the Personality of Christ, and of the realness of communion with Him.

"But," said one, "I have prayed for twenty years, and never have I got beyond the walls of my room."

"Do you mean to say that you have never been conscious of a present, living Saviour?"

"I never have known or realized a personal Christ."

He was a Christian gentleman of good standing in the Church of God, and known for his uprightness, sincerity and candor.

"Have you never been in straits when you felt you must have help, when you must feel the grip of a mighty hand?" persisted his friend.

"I have been so situated and have gotten through—I am incredulous to anything more."

"Then what would you say to this: A lady, whom I know, was to address a large meeting. Sabbath morning came; the bells

were ringing and, as she came from her room into the parlor, where the pastor was waiting, "All ready?" he inquired. She was buttoning her glove, and, as she glanced up into his masterful face, and thought of the task before her, an overwhelming sense of weakness came over her, and, with an absent air, she replied, "In just a moment."

"She stepped back into her room and shut the door. She fell upon her knees and her great heart went out in one intense cry: "O Master, come quickly, come quickly!" No sobbing frightened child ever more really rushed to a mother's arms.

"Quicker than light she was enfolded, overshadowed, while penetrating, thrillingly came the quick response, "Lo, I—I am with thee!" Instantly He filled all her world. Assuring depths of peace and exquisite sweetness swept in—agitation, fear, weakness were gone. "O my Master!" she whispered, and arising quickly, with smiles and exceeding joy, she went out. "*All ready now*," she said. She had lost sight of herself, of the great audience, of the distinguished persons on the platform—she was conscious only of that wondrous Presence."

"What was that, my friend?"

The gentleman was silent for a moment, and then he said: "With all due respect, yet if I speak my thought, I should say it might be all fancy."

"It could not be. She is a practical woman, not given to fancy. She has felt the stern realities of life, but lives within speaking distance of the throne, and when she asks for bread, the King would not give her a stone."

"Well then," said the gentleman, "I think a person could live on one such manifestation as that for a lifetime." And his eyes grew misty, and his face melted and became soft and tender.

"The promise is to all, I will manifest myself unto Him."

"It must have a wondrous power over the life. How could one ever be untrue in his allegiance to such a Lord? I will own I have often been untrue."

"You have touched the secret," said his friend. "It is only with those who are true and loyal, ever and always, that the Master thus walks and talks, and to whom He grants the rare and choice 'indulgencies.' And it is a wonderful power—we would sooner die than grieve such a friend. It does not make fanciful, but holds us to a truer devotion. You remember in the Legend Beautiful when the vision of the Christ filled the cell of the holy monk, as the hour came and the