

my heart had found its rest, and every want was satisfied. Not a thought entered my mind for the time, nor for months thereafter, that deep down in my soul yet another want was lying all unseen and unknown. Yet so it was. How it came to view, and came to be met by a new application of the old principle, remains to be told.

The Lord, by His own beautiful chain of providences, brought me from what was then our western border, exceedingly rude, into a school of the prophets in Ohio, on the hills overlooking the Queen City, where comparatively high cultivation prevailed. Here I found myself amongst some threescore sons of the prophets, not one of whom seemed to have got beyond the lesson of forgiveness. One, and only one, I found who had heard about the rest of the heart in Jesus for purification, and was praying for it; but he was blind as Bartimeus as to the way.

As I mingled with this interesting company of young men—brought together from the east and west, the north and the south, all of them soon to go back again to their own kindred, and then to be scattered abroad as ambassadors of our Lord Jesus Christ, some of them in farthest lands—my heart swelled with the thought of what they would accomplish if they only knew the secret of purity, and could go out in the fullness of the blessing of the Gospel. But how could this ever come pass? Who should set it before them, so that they should see it as a reality within reach? O how my insufficiency came out to my view! Yet who else was there to do it? My early efforts in this direction were not attended with flattering success, and I was brought under the pressure of two great desires in reference to the one great object. One was for wisdom to know how to speak and act, so as to win my way for the truth into the hearts of the students; and the other was for the power of God to carry home the truth to their hearts, and bring them to the acceptance of the secret rest of heart in Jesus for purification from sin.

These desires grew upon me from day to day, in consequence of the growing difficulties in the way. Whilst some of the students were inclined to look at the subject and inquire into it, and, like the more noble Bereans, search the Scriptures

to see whether these things were so: others were more than willing to set aside any such pressure as the admission of the possible truth of this matter would bring upon them to solve the question, and at once they rejected it, and began to whisper suspicions of heresy; and as my aspirations were not overcome by the increasing difficulties, my sense of the necessity for Divine wisdom and power was deepened, and my yearnings of heart greatly increased.

Meanwhile, the Lord interposed in such a way as to glorify His holy name. As the enemy could not be easily taken in front, He took them as were by ambush. There was one thing in which we could all agree, the desirableness of a genuine revival of religion; and the Lord moved the heart of the veteran President of the Seminary, whom we all loved and admired, to commence preaching with a special view to this end. The students entered heartily into his views, and soon there was a general movement in this direction. The earnestness was real and growing, yet the results did not meet expectation. True, there were not many in the community around us who were not already converted; and therefore the field, though open, was not large. Yet even the few hopefully within reach seemed to escape every arrow and remain unmoved under every appeal.

My own heart was so oppressed with the twofold desire already mentioned, that I gave up eating anything but the plainest food. The example of Daniel incited me to this, and like him, I "ate no pleasant bread for three whole weeks," and gave myself up to prayer the while. The example of Solomon in asking wisdom of God was a great encouragement to me to seek wisdom at the hands of God; for I reasoned that if God not only gave him what he asked, but was so well pleased with him for asking it as to give him riches, honor, and a length of days besides, He would not withhold wisdom from me. Then, too, I saw very clearly that the power of God, necessary to overcome the prejudices in the way and give free course to the truth of full salvation, would, if granted, so glorify His name there, and so prepare the young men to glorify him elsewhere, in days to come, that I felt strong confidence to plead for it, and wait on the Lord until it should come.