

taken only in a literal sense, humanity cannot understand. Do not take the first step in that direction my dear young friends. It is a dangerous path. We may not fully understand all the mysteries and miracles of His life. It is beyond the power of finite man to do it. But we must look to, and seek for to open up these mysteries. The same inspiration that wrote them and the written records of Jesus' life and works will be corroborated in our own experience. We must follow Jesus as He followed the Heavenly Father's holy will in His own soul. To that end He taught, that where He was there we might come to stand also. God is unchangeable. His promises endure forever. He is still the cleanser and purifier of the soul, and "though our sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow, though they be red like crimson they shall be as wool." We can no longer question these things. We need not waste time in speculating about them. But be our religion "Cease to do evil, learn to do well; seek judgment and relieve the oppressed." It is practical. "Come, let us reason together, saith the Lord." When we come and sit down in the presence of God and reason with Him, then all the mysteries will be explained, and we will see that they were designed for good. But our lives must be in the line of perfect obedience to our Heavenly Father.

We came here as we were wont to come on this day of the week, and found Jesus sitting on the well, and if we have seen Him in a new aspect and have heard something that we had never heard before, perhaps we will feel ourselves paid for coming. Often things that are hid from the wise are revealed to babes. The innocent little child often takes the mother and father by the hand and leads them up higher. "The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and a little child shall lead them." That is, the animal natures within us will be subdued to the tender leading of the Father's love.

Come, then, to the Father and to His Son, whom He not only *has* sent, but *is* sending unto us. We know that He lived and, what is more; that He *lives*. Permit the Holy

Spirit to take on flesh and dwell in our midst, assuming the control of the whole world in us, ruling and reigning in His kingdom, and God will be glorified in every soul that reads it in this way.

ELOQUENCE.

At the mention of it we recollect the illustrious names of the past, and with them associate those of the present. Men have always been charmed by the beauty of language and by the expression of truth. The character and culture of the race is improving, and there are communities which the mere adulation of an incipient orator will not satisfy, and by which the voluminous bombast of an harangue is smilingly tolerated rather than admired. That flattery once so common and so acceptable is now better understood, and it requires more of reality in this age of growing culture than it once did to form that impression which we term eloquence. It is a relative thing, depending largely upon the character and composition of the individual addressed. It enters the ear and the eye and the life, and sets vibrating those chords of the soul, which in the orator or poet, are already awakened. It is a touch of the soul, and from soul to soul must proceed.

Art, indeed, when nature becomes too rugged, may transform or polish, but it is not the essential power of eloquence. The foundation, the condition of eloquence is reality, truth, the soul in motion, and all art can do efficiently is to assist in rendering it intelligible. A man with a soul overflowing with devotion to the thing in hand, submissive to truth, noble in conceptions and lofty in aspiration is the man capable of leaving an impression on the attentive mind.

Art provides him with a vehicle proper in size, finish and speed to suit the volume, the beauty and the course of thought, but the soul must be the propelling force and reason the guide. Art alone is an imitation. Occasionally the stage furnishes fine imitation, and these are made best when the actor is said to "throw his whole soul" into his words and gestures. The impression formed, and which is so rarely