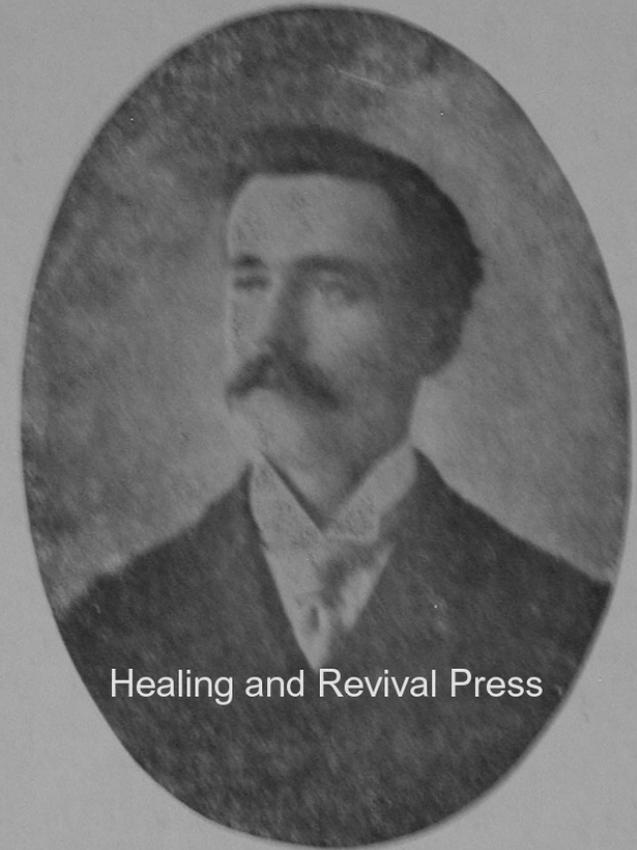


WITNESS

By

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"He being dead, yet speaketh," Heb. 11:4

While entering a pulpit in an Eastern state God distinctly spoke these words to us. "Divide the Body unto the 12 tribes." While we believe, and know that God does speak to us, giving us revelations, visions and dreams, yet the devil often comes as an angel of light with voices, revelations and visions, and we have made it a rule to believe, and receive only such as are in strict conformity with the Word of God, exalting, glorifying Him; not receiving any, however fair and beautiful, that would exalt man or the self-life. Knowing that this commission was in strict conformity with the Word of God, and the prayer of Jesus that has troubled the ear of God for 1900 years for fulfillment, we sought out the lesson to be found in dividing the body to the twelve tribes. (Judges 18. 19. 20 and 21 chapters; please read.) As in those days there was no king in Israel, so there seems to be no God in Zion today.. The Levite stands for Christ in the lesson, while the concubine stands for the Church, having left her father's house (the world) and gone to live with her Lord; she forsook him and went back to live with her father until onlookers could scarce tell, whether she was ever married or not. When her lord went down to speak kindly unto her, to seek her return, her father (the world) sought to retain him by flatteries, wining and feastings; but he would not stay, for his home was among the mountain peaks of Canaan and not upon those low plains of folly.

Taking His Church, the Lord proceeds with her to the higher plains of spiritual attainment, so that now in the last few years, there has been a mighty wave of spiritual power, forcing the Church into experimental salvation, holiness and healing. Yet the night drew on, holiness people failing to walk in the deeper truths, the

blood ceased to cleanse, they became narrow and sectarian; while many of them ran into raving fanaticism, declared they could no longer worship with this or that organization, declaring everything of an organized nature to be Babylon, they went forth to be gathered into some little mission in a store building around the corner in the suburbs of Babylon, and in a few years—when they thought their friends would no longer recognize it, brought out their Babylonish garment from its hiding place and began to wear it.

They became as sectarian and narrow in their little missions as they declare the churches to have been, while loudly proclaiming that God sets the members in the body as it pleases Him," they forget that God appoints over them apostles, pastors, teachers, etc.. (I Cor. 12:28.) until the holiness movements have either—refusing man teachers and leaders—run wildly into individualism, come-out-ism. (religious anarchy). Or else have blindly followed the leadership of some "goat," ascribing to them divine authority and infallibility, have exalted men to the place of God, rendering to them in their so-called revelations absolute obedience; following them far into the jungles of unscriptural teachings of man exaltation and wildest fanaticism.

Bible unity cannot be accomplished by being gathered into concentration camps, where unity seems to be established by the minority yielding to the majority in the interpretation of the Scriptures. Where crushing out all personal views and each one yielding to the standard view accepted as infallible (until some new light is received then they reject the former and accept the later) accepting the former as infallible, then rejecting and accepting the latter as infallible. Though

manifesting apparent unity they make themselves ridiculous. Thus by the willingness of all to yield to a unity of faith and practice and honoring the apostles, pastors, teachers, etc. of their own camp in their respective offices, they present a deceiveable imitation of the true church, denouncing all others as Anti-Christ who do not accept their teachers and leaders as infallible.

How much more beautiful was the apostolic Church whose unity of faith was marvelous, though its members were scattered through the then known world, yet who honored all God-sent apostles, pastors and workers from whatsoever quarter they might come. Some of the Apostles who had imbibed the narrowness with which some of our modern leaders are inoculated, said to the Master: "We found one casting out devils in Thy name and we forbade him because he followed not with us. Jesus said: Forbid him not, for he that is for us is not against us." (Luke 9:49.)

So in these chaotic times we shall reveal the spirit of perfect love and unity, by honoring every true Apostle, pastor, teacher and worker, of whatsoever name or order they may be—in their respective places; loving one another with pure hearts fervently, realizing that he that is for us is not against us.

For there is just such a happy medium to receive light and truth from whatsoever source it may come, not to displace our own light or experience, but to add to and illuminate it. Keeping our hearts free from all sectarianism, free to love every true child of God, and not to show a spirit of overbearing pride toward a weaker member who has not been able to comprehend the height and depth to which we have attained; to

love and honor those who have the rule over us in the Lord.

When the night came and the Levite was compelled to seek shelter in Gibeah, but no one asked him unto his house 'till an old gentleman who belonged to the same tribe as he did came and offered him shelter. The citizens demanded to see his guest.. To pacify them he put forth his daughter and the concubine. Their actions toward these was such as to produce death. In the morning when the Levite came forth, he found his concubine dead upon the steps, taking her home, he cut the body into twelve parts and divided it. unto the twelve tribes, which united them as one limb to wipe out this sin from Israel.

This, then, is the modern interpretation. The Gibeonites found their way into the body Of Israel through flatteries and deceptions and every time they backslid from God it was caused by these people. So in these modern times the Gibeonitish flatterers have taken hold of many full gospel movements, causing them to believe they are the only people, and all others must certainly come to their way of thinking or else be lost. But now the Lord Himself arranging and preparing His "Church all of gold," to lead thea forth, to the fore-ordained image of His Son, to the fullness of the stature of a man in Christ Jesus, The night came on and the Gibeonitish devils by their own individualism and for the gratification of their own sensual advancement, have so separated the Lord's children and abused the unity of the Body, the Church, and now when the Lord comes forth, hoping to find His church fresh and ready - for a successful day's journey. He finds instead His precious spouse is irresponsible, dead, and powerless on His doorsteps, unable to lift her head for the coming Redemption.

The Lord gave us this commission: "Divide the Body to the twelve tribes" that Israel might be gathered as one man, and though many declare it. can never be done, yet backed by the prayer of Jesus, we expect to see the time. When. baptized by the Holy Ghost into one Body, the gloriously redeemed Church, without spot or wrinkle, having the same mind, judgment, and speaking the same things, lead by the true Elijah, shall go forth with the everlasting gospel to preach to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. As there are counterfeiters of this unity and evangelization, we lift up our eyes to see God manifest the real.

The Lord made us to know that if we were to hold up the divided bleeding Body of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the various churches, societies: and gatherings, declaring unto them that thus has your narrow sectarian individualism and fanaticism destroyed my Lord's body, that in spite of the terrible struggle that will ensue, of the humiliation and self-abasement necessary to be accomplished of the giant Gibeonites that must be dethroned and dismantled of their usurped authority; the sectarian love for certain cities and locations and organizations that must be melted in the furnace of God's love: until we shall know that God is not a respecter of place or men, that neither in this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, but everywhere shall men worship Him in spirit and in truth.

God giving to every man liberally and up-braiding not.

Seeing this rent and torn body every true child of God will yield to the Infinite will, that he may answer the prayers of Jesus.

Unity is not to be accomplished by organization or non-organization. Unity by organization has been tried for 1900 years and failed. Unity by non-organization has been tried for several years and resulted in anarchy, or gathered together in small "cliques" with an unwritten creed and regulations which are often fraught with error and fanaticism.

Continuing our prayers and studies for unity, we found that He that who sanctifieth and they that are sanctified are all of one. (Hebrews 2:11)

This is true and will accomplish the desired end if it is followed; for if you continue in sanctification, walking in the light, going on into the heights of Canaan, driving out the enemies, taking the much land yet to be possessed; you will find the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, secure the establishment, fixing and settling in God, reaching entire sanctification of spirit, soul and body. While the inception of sanctifying grace brings you holiness and perfection you are commanded to go on into the maturity in perfection. Perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord. (2 Cor. 7:1.) In spite of our alertness imperceptibly false doctrines, creeds and errors have crept into our lives. The best of creeds are but the sawdust of men's opinions, stuffed in skins and feathers of truth to give them a pleasing and attractive appearance; to draw people into the support of an organized ecclesiasticism, or an individualistic propaganda.

We do not believe the Bible to teach, or that God ever intended Christians to be taxed for the support of high salaried preachers or the building up of any religious society with some scheming Charlatan at the head of it, but that the workman is worthy of his hire, and without having a stipulated salary every true minister called of God would receive exactly what he is

worth. This would cut out the modern user professional ministry. The Indian who got a dollar for six months' preaching answered when someone remarked to him that it was very poor pay, "True, but it was poorer preaching."

We believe that every Christian robs God when he does not give a tenth of his income to the full gospel, God called, consecrated ministry. The tenth was not intended for indigent relatives or other benevolent purposes, but was for the priesthood, who had no other employment: who did not only serve on Sabbath but continuously. If the ministry is our life work, we owe every moment as faithfully used in our calling, as diligent in the business of the Lord to make it a success as our brethren who follow a worldly calling.

Realizing that doctrines were the separating power among Christians today, and knowing that the true Bible doctrine would not separate God's people, and that the Holy Spirit would not teach two persons differently, it must be the man laws and false teaching that worked the havoc.

Every new teacher who comes up proclaiming unity, whether in an organized or an unorganized form, demands an acceptance of their creed or baptism before entrance can be obtained into what they term the true Church all of gold. God's sheep today, are as "having no shepherd" driven by the winds of doctrine, scared, bleating flocks on the mountains, knowing not whither to turn. Is it any wonder then when some wild-fire goat, animated by some false spirit, dashing through the herd, leaps over the precipice into fanaticism, that many of the sheep break away and follow.

We are so satisfied that the tender Shepherd, who knows His own, will leave the ninety and nine, search for until He finds every true soul, though lost in the mountains of error.

How precious it was to find that God truly had provided a remedy that could be freely used in any climate in any home, and yet bring every true child of God into absolute unity. A remedy that does not require the subscription to any creed, belief in the doctrines, or of the following of any leaders who claim infallibility. This remedy is the blood of Jesus Christ, source of all unity.

For as much as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things such as silver and gold from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers, but by the precious blood of Christ as a Lamb without blemish and without spot. (I Peter 1:18.) Basing our faith in the power of that blood to cleanse us from false doctrine, conversations, traditions of the fathers, we shall truly be brought into unity. Now the very thing that we hold to and teach with the greatest intensity, the seeming truth of which we have been persuaded to believe in by arguments and reasonings, coupled with some Scripture to hold it together, may be very erroneous indeed.. To be brought into Bible unity we must as certainly lay all our creeds, doctrines and teachings at Jesus' feet, asking Him to cleanse them through His blood take them all, as we did our life in consecration, when we sought His sanctifying power: and very many of the things you have held the dearest will pass from your life forever. When you in your home, wherever that may be, and I in mine seek and find the cleansing blood, purifying from all error and false teaching; it will bring us into unity, whether we ever see each

other in this world or not; but if we should meet we should find that the cleansing of the blood, and the Holy Ghost our Teacher has caused us indeed to see "eye to eye."

The reason why so many religious movements today are poverty-stricken, and others whose leaders have been taken up into the mountain, been shown the earth and received of the devil the promise of dominion and authority over all, for them and their followers, manifest such a show of prosperity because they are so freighted with error that the holy Spirit can not teach them or advance them along proper lines.

"Oh," says some one, "if the blood of Jesus Christ would cleanse one in this manner, would he not become an infallible teacher?"

Not necessarily, for not until we or our audience for us obtained an infallible faith in the blood to cleanse, will we become an infallible teacher.

Please read the 34th chapter of Isaiah: God's rebuke to the preachers of today, and the he-goats of these latter day movements, and how they do not heal the sick. God will take them into His own hand. This is now to be fulfilled.

Read all the marginal renderings in connection with that chapter.

This chapter has been written to clear your minds and point out the stepping-stones to the glorious redemption, when God indeed will set the Church in order for her final triumph.

Written in 1902.

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