

REMINDER

Volume XVII

September 18, 2011

Number 37



Andrew Murray
1828-1917

THE PRAYER LIFE

by Andrew Murray

If conscience is to do its work, and the contrite heart is to feel its misery, it is necessary that each individual should mention his sin by name. The confession must be severely personal. In a meeting of ministers there is probably no single sin which each one of us ought to acknowledge with deeper shame - 'Guilty, verily guilty' - than the sin of prayerlessness.

What is it, then, that makes prayerlessness such a great sin? At first it is looked upon merely as a weakness. There is so much talk about lack of time and all sorts of distractions that the deep guilt of the situation is not recognized. Let it be our honest desire that, for the future, the sin of prayerlessness may be to us truly sinful.

Consider -

1. What a Reproach it Is to God

There is the holy and most glorious God who invites us to come to him, to hold converse with him, to ask from him such things as we need, and to experience what a blessing there is in fellowship with him. He has created him we might find our highest glory and salvation.

What use do we make of this heavenly privilege? How many there are who take only five minutes for prayer! They say that they have no time and that the heart desire for prayer is lacking; they do not know how to spend half an hour with God! It is not that they absolutely do not pray; they pray every day - but they have no joy in prayer, as a token of communion with God which shows that God is everything to them.

If a friend comes to visit them, they have time, they make time, even at the cost of sacrifice, for the sake of enjoying converse with him. Yes, they have time for everything that really interests them, but no time to practise fellowship with God and delight themselves in him! They find time for a creature who can be of service to them; but day after day, month after month passes, and there is no time to spend one hour with God.

Do not our hearts begin to acknowledge what a dishonour, what a despite of God this is, that I dare to say I cannot find time for fellowship with him? If this sin begins to appear plain to us, shall we not with deep shame cry out: 'Woe is me, for I am undone, O God; be merciful to me, and forgive this awful sin of prayerlessness.' Consider further -

2. It Is the Cause of a Deficient Spiritual Life -

It is a proof that, for the most part, our life is still under the power of 'the flesh'. Prayer is the pulse of life; by it the doctor can tell what is the condition of the heart. The sin of prayerlessness is a proof for the ordinary Christian or minister that the life of God in the soul is in deadly sickness and weakness.

Much is said and many complaints are made about the feebleness of the Church to fulfill her calling, to exercise an influence over her members, to deliver them from the power of the world, and to bring them to a life of holy consecration to God. Much is also spoken about her indifference to the millions of heathen whom Christ entrusted to her that she might make known to them his love and salvation. What is the reason that many thousands of Christian workers in the world have not a greater influence? Nothing save this - the prayerlessness of their service. In the midst of all their zeal in the study and in the work of the Church, of all their faithfulness in preaching and conversation with the people, they lack that ceaseless prayer which has attached to it the sure promise of the Spirit and the power from on high. It is nothing but the sin of prayerlessness which is the cause of the lack of a powerful spiritual life!

- more next week



Dr. John R. Rice
1895-1980

The Sevenfold Sin of Not Winning Souls

by the late Dr. John R. Rice
(continued from 09/04/11)

IV. The Sin Of Not Abiding In Christ

Those who do not win souls are guilty of not abiding in Christ. You say, "That sounds like we are not even good Christians." You're catching on! Christians who do not win souls are not abiding in Christ.

In John 15 Jesus said, "*Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*"—Vss. 4,5.

But you say you thought the fruit He was talking about is the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance. Bringing forth fruit is one thing; the Christian graces the Holy Spirit produces in you are another matter.

You may brush the old cow and spray some fly powder on her, but the fruit of the cow is either a calf or milk. The Bible speaks of the fruit of the womb—a woman's baby. Proverbs 11:30 says, "*The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life.*" A tree? You mean the fruit of a peach tree is another peach tree? Don't you mean the fruit of the peach tree is a peach? No. Plant the peach and you get another peach tree. The fruit of a Christian is another Christian, and the fruit of the soul winner is another soul winner. The Great Commission is not only to get one saved but to get him baptized and to tell him to do what Jesus told us to do. So if you don't bear fruit, you are not abiding in Christ.

There are a lot of false teachings about abiding in Christ—consecration, sanctification, baptized of the Holy Ghost, entered into the rest of God. "Oh, I have found in Him the key for life. I've had a testing experience." A lot of people have been brainwashed. Nobody is sanctified or consecrated who doesn't do what God wants him to do about soul winning. Any so-called Keswick experience that doesn't make you a soul winner is a fake. If you don't win souls, you're not a good Christian and you are not abiding in Christ. If you were, you would bring forth much fruit.

In a Toronto revival, we had back-to-back services to accommodate the crowds. After a service where fifteen adults had come to Christ, we had a brief intermission. A man came up to me and said, "Brother Rice, have you been baptized with the Holy Ghost?"

"If you mean some holy anointing enabling me to win souls, then, thank God, yes."

He said, "I didn't mean that.

I meant, have you talked in tongues?"

I said, "Why didn't you say what you meant?"

"Well, I meant where you just let go. Something comes on you, and you just feel light as a feather. You don't know what you are saying, but you feel so good."

I said, "If I can get enough sinners to come down the aisle; keep people out of Hell; see drunkards made sober, harlots made pure, convicts made into decent citizens and homes reunited, I'll be happier than if I felt light as a feather with electricity coming in my head and going out my fingers and toes. I was talking in the English tongue tonight. Do you think everyone could understand me?"

"Well, yes."

I said, "If I have a message from God and everybody understands English, what is wrong with preaching in English? Now let me ask you one. Did you ever win a soul?"

He said, "I've witnessed to them."

I said, "Did you ever win a soul?"

"I've prayed for them"

I said, "Quit dodging. Did you ever get your Bible out and show a man he is a sinner and show him how to be saved and get him to trust Jesus and start out to live for Him? Did you or not?"

"I guess I never did."

"Then don't you ever again pretend you have something better than some man who preaches the Bible, who weeps over sinners and who in God's mercy is being used to win souls."

I'm tired of these deeper-life conferences. The pastor of a church that for years has had only a handful attending, mainly children, wanted me to run several articles in the SWORD OF THE LORD on the deeper life. I wrote that every time we put something in the paper about soul winning, we're teaching about the deepest life there is. D. L. Moody and R. A. Torrey and Billy Sunday had the deeper life. You can tell, because they bore fruit.

The deeper life is keeping people out of Hell. That is what brings eternal rewards and causes rejoicing and hand clapping and bell ringing and singing the "Hallelujah Chorus" up in Heaven. If you don't win souls, then you are not abiding in Christ.

- more next week

DEREK QUINNELLY'S ADDRESS -



*All of our members are encouraged to write Derek Quinnelly, who is in Basic Training right now in the National Guard. Letters, pictures, newspaper clippings, etc., are allowed, but **NO** food or drink :*

Pvt Quinnelly, Derek L.
1 Plt., A Company, 1st Bn, 13th Inf Regt
193rd BDE
Building 11000 Dixie Road
Fort Jackson, SC 29207-5020

Eternal Security of the Believer

by the late Dr. Harry A. Ironside

(continued from 09/04/11)

We're continuing our discussions of common questions raised by people who object to the Bible doctrine of Eternal Security:

❑ **Question 14: II Peter 3:17 -**

What of II Peter 3:17? - ***“Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye how these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.”***

We come back to what we were speaking of a few minutes ago. There is always a possibility of a real Christian falling, and we need to be warned again and again. How many we have known who at one time had a bright Christian testimony but fell? They were not watchful, they were not prayerful, and they stumbled and fell. Does that mean they are lost? No, not if really born again. If born again, they have received eternal life; and if people thus fall, that is where the restoring work of the Spirit of God comes in. David fell in a most terrible way but he says, ***“He restoreth my soul”***; and sometimes in restoring His people's souls, God has to put them through very bitter experiences. He loves them too much to let them be happy when away from Him.

❑ **Question 15 – II Timothy 2:18 -**

Explain this passage. ***“Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some” (II Timothy 2:18)***. A writer says, “We see here the possibility of having our faith overthrown.”

That's not what Paul is talking about. He is speaking of the faith. Again you must make the distinction. Our faith is that by which we believe. We believe God; that is faith. But we believe the truth that God has revealed to us, and that truth is the faith, and that is what has been overthrown in the mind of the professed believer in this instance. That is the same thing that you get in I Timothy 5:15: ***“For some are already turned aside after Satan.”*** Some real Christians do that, but what a blessed thing to know the Lord goes after them and never gives them up.

❑ **Question 16: Hebrews 2:1 -**

May we not let the things of God slip away from us? ***“Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip” (Hebrews 2:1)***, or, in other words, ***“Lest at any time we should drift away from them.”***

This is the same warning again. You have listened to precious ministry from men of God who have preached the Word to you. You have had such instruction as many never have had. You will be terribly guilty if you drift away from it. You need to ***“continue in the things which you have learned.”*** But if we were all to lose our salvation every time we drifted into some erroneous thing, how serious it would be! Is there anyone here who has never done a little bit of drifting?

If sin will separate me from Christ, how much sin? How can I ever be sure how much sin? Is there a Christian here who has

not sinned today? Is it not a fact that every one of us sins in thought, or word, or in deed, probably every day of our lives? Is there ever a night that you can kneel before God and say, “Lord, I thank You that I have not sinned in thought or word or deed today?” I am sure no honest Christian can say that. How far do you have to sin in order to break the link that binds you to Christ? You never could be sure that you are saved from one day to another and you would not leave any room for the restoring work of God if your salvation depended upon your personal faithfulness.

❑ **Question 17: Revelation 2:10 -**

What about such a Scripture as this? ***“Be thou faithful unto death and I, will give thee a crown of life?” (Revelation 2:10)***. How can you say that a man is saved for eternity when the Lord says you must be faithful to the end?

A crown of life is not salvation; it is reward. There are five crowns: the incorruptible crown for faithfully running the course; the crown of rejoicing for winning souls; the crown of righteousness for those who love His appearing; the crown of life for those who suffer for Christ; the crown of glory for those who feed the sheep and lambs of Christ's flock. I might lose all of those crowns and yet not lose my salvation. The Word says, ***“If any man's work shall be burned. . . he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire” (I Corinthians 3:15)*** But I do not want to be saved that way. I want to win the crown of life. ***“Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”***

❑ **Question 18: Hebrews 10:37-39 -**

Explain ***Hebrews 10:37-39: “For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry. . . If any man draw back, My soul shall have no pleasure in him.”***

Look at the next verse, ***“But we (who? real Christians) are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.”*** If a person has believed to the saving of the soul, there is no danger of his “drawing back unto perdition.” It is a terrible thing to be intellectually convinced and stop there.

❑ **Question 19: Revelation 3:15-16 -**

Now I am referred to Revelation 3:15-16, where the Lord, speaking to the church at Laodicea, says, ***“I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of My mouth.”***

Is this an individual who has once been saved and is so no longer? The Lord is talking to a church. Did you ever see a church like the one at Laodicea, a church neither hot nor cold, one where you could not tell whether it was for Christ or against Him? And then the Lord says to that church, “Because you are just lukewarm--there is profession--but you are neither hot or cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. I won't own you as a church at all.” That does not say that there may not be individuals in the church who are children of God, just as in the church at Ephesus. He said to them, “If you do not repent, I will remove your

candlestick.” A candle, you know, is to give light.

Every time I go downtown I pass a church that D. L. Moody used to belong to. It was an evangelistic center in the city in his day, but today it is a very center of modernism and the gospel is never preached there. Every time I look at it I think of the time Moody was there and it stood firmly for the truth, and I say, “Their candlestick is removed.” There may be some true Christians in that church, some of the dear old people who were in it years ago, and maybe their membership is still there. It does not say that they are not Christians because the church as such has lost its witness for Christ.

❑ **Question 20: I Peter 4:18 -**

Here is a verse I am surprised to find used to prove the “falling away” doctrine. **“If the righteous scarcely be saved where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?” (I Peter 4:18).**

What has that to do with the question? What is Peter saying? **“The time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?” (I Peter 4:17).** I suppose that God’s children have faults. I know they have to be judged for their faults by the Father in correction, and God will deal very solemnly and seriously with them about their failures. There would be no need of judgment if they were all perfect Christians, but if God heals with His own people in this way and if the righteous be saved through difficulty, “Where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?” That has nothing to do with the question of whether the Christian is saved for eternity or not.

❑ **Question 21: John 15:1-6 -**

John 15:1-6 is the next passage questioned. **“I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.”**

This chapter is not discussing the question of eternal life but of fruit bearing. There are a great many believers who bear very little fruit for God, but all bear some fruit for Him. There are many people in the vine (and the vine speaks of profession here on earth) who bear no fruit for Him and will eventually be cut out altogether when Jesus comes. There will be no place with Him because there is no union with Him. There are no natural branches in the living vine. We are grafted in by faith. I do not know much about grafting, but I do know that it is one thing to put a graft in, and it is another thing for a graft to strike. It is one thing for a person to be outwardly linked with Him and quite another for that person to have life in Christ. What is the test that proves whether he is really in the vine? The test is if he bears

fruit. All who have life bear some fruit for God. If there is no fruit, you can be sure there is no life, no real union with Christ.

❑ **Question 22: Unconfessed Sin -**

Will any Christian who passes away with unconfessed sin have an opportunity to make things right after death? Is the judgment seat of Christ the time when all misunderstandings and discords among Christians will be made right?

It is questionable if any Christian ever died who did not have some unconfessed sin to his record. While sin might be confessed in a general way, who of us has ever definitely confessed all his sins? But the precious blood of Christ answers for every sin a believer has ever committed. At the judgment seat of Christ, the Lord will go over the entire life since regeneration, giving His mind about every thing, and the believer will then for the first time see each detail in the light of God’s infinite holiness. Everything there will be dealt with so that the believer’s failures will never be referred to again for all eternity.

❑ **Question 23: The Book of Life -**

Is there any difference between the book of life and the Lamb’s book of life?

Yes, the book of life is the book of the living. It is the record too, of profession. From this book names may be blotted out. The Lamb’s book of life is the record of the eternal purpose of God. Names inscribed there are written from the foundation of the world. In other words, one book speaks of responsibility, the other of pure grace.

No Christian will ever have his name blotted out of the Lamb’s book of life, for all such have eternal life - which is forfeitable and everlasting. ■



Henry Allan Ironside, one of the last century’s greatest preachers, was born in Toronto, Canada, on October 14, 1876. He lived his life by faith; his needs at crucial moments were met in the most remarkable ways.

Though his classes stopped with grammar school, his fondness for reading and an incredibly retentive memory put learning to use. His scholarship was well recognized in academic circles with Wheaton College awarding an honorary Litt.D. in 1930 and Bob Jones University an honorary D.D. in 1942. Dr. Ironside was also appointed to the boards of numerous Bible institutes, seminaries, and Christian organizations.

Dr. Ironside lived to preach and he did so widely throughout the United States and abroad. E. Schuyler English, in his biography of Ironside, revealed that during 1948, the year Ironside was 72, and in spite of failing eyesight, he “gave 569 addresses, besides participating in many other ways.” In his eighteen years at Chicago’s Moody Memorial Church, his only pastorate, every Sunday but two had at least one profession of faith in Christ.

H. A. Ironside went to be with the Lord on January 15, 1951. Throughout his ministry, he authored expositions on 51 books of the Bible and through the great clarity of his messages led hundreds of thousands, worldwide, to a knowledge of God’s Word. His words are as fresh and meaningful today as when first preached.

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Mary Byars
 Cradle Roll 2: Larry Byars
 6:30 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Janet Bridges
 Cradle Roll 2: Shirley White
 Wed. Evening Service ---- Cradle Roll 1: Shirley White
 Cradle Roll 2: Kayla Avey

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of September 18, 2011

Sunday School ----- 22
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 36
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 29
 Wed. Eve., 09/14/11 Service ----- 22

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE8..

Week of September 11, 2010

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,160.00
 Insurance Fund ----- \$ 11.00
Total Received for Week of 09/11/11: \$ 1,177.00

**Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed
 to operate the church EACH WEEK,
 as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00**

INSURANCE FUND REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER:

Monthly Requirement ----- \$ 273.08
 Amount Received during September thusfar ----- \$ 11.00
Amount still needed by Oct. 5, 2011: - \$ 262.08

LISTEN TO -



ABIDINGRADIO.COM

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. **Admit that you are a sinner.**
2. **Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.**
3. **Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.**
4. **You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).**
5. **By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.**

Please Remember To Be Faithful to Give!



As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go **up**. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start **today - OK?** Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
 Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
 Dickie Eberle ----- Greeter, Custodian
 Larry Mathews, Caryn Quinnelly, Todd W. White ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars, Brian & Charity Crawford,
 Dwayne English, Lou & Vicki Martin, Don Diehl ----- Outreach
 Flowers ----- Hannah and Shirley White