

JESUS IS CALLING YOU TO HIMSELF

How to Surrender your Life to God

THIS IS YOUR GREAT NEED

PART ONE OF FOUR

IMPORTANCE OF SURRENDER

“To have the religion of Christ means that you have absolutely surrendered your all to God, and consented to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit moral power will be given you, and not only will you have your former intrusted talents for the service of God, but their efficiency will be greatly multiplied.

“The surrender of all our powers to God greatly simplifies the problem of life. It weakens and cuts short a thousand struggles with the passions of the natural heart. Religion is as a golden cord that binds the souls of both youth and aged to Christ. Through it the willing and obedient are brought safely through dark and intricate paths to the city of God.”—*Messages to Young People*, 30.

“The condition of eternal life is now just what it always has been,—just what it was in Paradise before the fall of our first parents,—perfect obedience to the law of God, perfect righteousness. If eternal life were granted on any condition short of this, then the happiness of the whole universe would be imperiled. The way would be open for sin, with all its train of woe and misery, to be immortalized.

“It was possible for Adam, before the fall, to form a righteous character by obedience to God’s law. But he failed to do this, and because of his sin our natures are fallen and we cannot make ourselves righteous. Since we are sinful, unholy, we cannot perfectly obey the holy law. We have no righteousness of our own with which to meet the claims of the law of God.

“But Christ has made a way of escape for us. He lived on earth amid trials and temptations such as we have to meet. He lived a sinless life. He died for us, and now He offers to take our sins and give us His righteousness. If you give yourself to Him, and accept Him as your Saviour, then, sinful as your life may have been,

for His sake you are accounted righteous. Christ’s character stands in place of your character, and you are accepted before God just as if you had not sinned.

“More than this, Christ changes the heart. He abides in your heart by faith. You are to maintain this connection with Christ by faith and the continual surrender of your will to Him; and so long as you do this, He will work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure. So you may say, ‘The life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.’ Galatians 2:20. So Jesus said to His disciples, ‘It is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.’ Matthew 10:20. Then with Christ working in you, you will manifest the same spirit and do the same good works—works of righteousness, obedience.”—*Steps to Christ*, 62-63.

“It is for you to yield up your will to the will of Jesus Christ; and as you do this, God will immediately take possession and work in you to will and to do of His good pleasure. Your whole nature will then be brought under the control of the Spirit of Christ, and even your thoughts will be subject to Him. You cannot control your impulses, your emotions, as you may desire; but you can control the will, and you can make an entire change in your life. By yielding up your will to Christ, your life will be hid with Christ in God and allied to the power which is above all principalities and powers. You will have strength from God that will hold you fast to His strength; and a new life, even the life of living faith, will be possible to you. But your will must co-operate with God’s will, not with the will of associates through whom Satan is constantly working to ensnare and destroy you.

“Will you not without delay place yourself in right relation to God? Will you not say, ‘I will give my will to Jesus, and I will do it now,’

and from this moment be wholly on the Lord's side? Disregard custom and the strong clamoring of appetite and passion. Give Satan no chance to say: 'You are a wretched hypocrite.' Close the door so that Satan will not thus accuse and dishearten you. **Say, 'I will believe, I do believe that God is my helper,' and you will find that you are triumphant in God.**

"By steadfastly keeping the will on the Lord's side, every emotion will be brought into captivity to the will of Jesus. You will then find your feet on solid rock. It will take, at times, every particle of will power which you possess; but it is God that is working for you, and you will come forth from the molding process a vessel unto honor.

"Talk faith. Keep on God's side of the line. Set not your foot on the enemy's side, and the Lord will be your helper. He will do for you that which it is not possible for you to do for yourself. The result will be that you will become 'like a cedar in Lebanon.' Your life will be noble, and your works will be wrought in God. There will be in you a power, an earnestness, and a simplicity that will make you a polished instrument in the hands of God."—*5 Testimonies, 514-515.*

"From the cross of Calvary, Christ calls for an unconditional surrender. He promised the young ruler that if he sold all that he had and gave it to the poor, and lifted His cross and followed Him, he should have treasure in heaven. **All we have should be consecrated to God.** The Majesty of heaven came to the world to die a sacrifice for the sins of man. And how cold and selfish is the human heart that can turn away from such incomparable love and set itself upon the vain things of this world.

"When selfishness is striving for the victory over you, bear in mind **One who left the glorious courts of heaven and laid aside the robes of royalty for your sakes, becoming poor that through His poverty you might be made rich.** Will you, then, disregard this great love and boundless mercy by refusing to be inconvenienced and to deny yourselves for His dear sake? Will you cling to the treasures of this life and neglect to aid in carrying forward the great work of truth?"—*4 Testimonies, 120.*

"In the parable the pearl is not represented as a gift. The merchantman bought it at the price of all that he had. Many question the mean-

ing of this, since Christ is represented in the Scriptures as a gift. **He is a gift, but only to those who give themselves, soul, body, and spirit, to Him without reserve.** We are to give ourselves to Christ, to live a life of willing obedience to all His requirements. All that we are, all the talents and capabilities we possess, are the Lord's, to be consecrated to His service. **When we thus give ourselves wholly to Him, Christ, with all the treasures of heaven, gives Himself to us.** We obtain the pearl of great price."—*Christ's Object Lessons, 116.*

"The surrender must be complete. Every weak, doubting, struggling soul who yields fully to the Lord is placed in direct touch with agencies that enable him to overcome. Heaven is near to him, and he has the support and help of angels of mercy in every time of trial and need."—*Acts of the Apostles, 299.*

"You are either wholly on the Lord's side or on the side of the enemy. 'He that is not with Me is against Me; and he that gathereth not with Me scattereth abroad.' **Some persons make their religious life a failure because they are always wavering and do not have determination. They are frequently convicted and come almost up to the point of surrendering all for God; but, failing to meet the point, they fall back again. While in this state the conscience is hardening** and becoming less and less susceptible to the impressions of the Spirit of God. His Spirit has warned, has convicted, and has been disregarded, until it is nearly grieved away. God will not be trifled with. He shows duty clearly, and if there is a neglect to follow the light, it becomes darkness.

"God bids you become a worker with Him in His vineyard. **Commence just where you are. Come to the cross and there renounce self, the world, and every idol. Take Jesus into your heart fully.** You are in a hard place to preserve consecration and to exert an influence which shall lead others from sin and pleasure and folly to the narrow way, cast up for the ransomed of the Lord to walk in.

"Make an entire surrender to God; yield up everything unreservedly, and thus seek for that peace which passes understanding. **You cannot draw nourishment from Christ unless you are in Him. If not in Him, you are a branch that is withered.** You do not feel your want of purity and

1 true holiness. You should feel an earnest desire
3 for the Holy Spirit and should pray earnestly to
3 obtain it. You cannot expect the blessing of God
4 without seeking for it. If you used the means
within your reach you would experience a growth
in grace and would rise to a higher life.”—*2 Testimonies*, 263.

“**Christ is denied in many ways.** We may deny Him by speaking contrary to truth, by speaking evil of others, by foolish talking or jesting, or by words that are idle. In these things we manifest but little shrewdness or wisdom. We make ourselves weak; our efforts are feeble to resist our great enemy, and we are conquered. ‘Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh,’ and through lack of watchfulness we confess that Christ is not in us.

“**Those who hesitate to devote themselves unreservedly to God make poor work of following Christ. They follow Him at so great a distance that half the time they do not really know whether they are following His footprints or the footsteps of their great enemy.** Why are we so slow to give up our interest in the things of this world and take Christ for our only portion? Why should we wish to keep the friendship of our Lord’s enemies, and follow their customs, and be led by their opinions? **There must be an entire, unreserved surrender to God, a forsaking and turning away from the love of the world and earthly things, or we cannot be Christ’s disciples.**

“The life and spirit of Christ is the only standard of excellence and perfection, and our only safe course is to follow His example. If we do this He will guide us by His counsel and afterward receive us to glory. We must strive diligently and be willing to suffer much in order to walk in the footsteps of our Redeemer. **God is willing to work for us, to give us of His free Spirit, if we will strive for it, live for it, believe for it;** and then we can walk in the light as He is in the light. We can feast upon His love and drink in of His rich fullness.”—*1 Testimonies*, 408-409.

“Will the Israel of God awake? **Will all who profess godliness seek to put away every wrong, to confess to God every secret sin, and afflict the soul before Him?** Will they, with great humility, investigate the motives of every action, and know that the eye of God reads all, searches out every hidden thing? **Let the work be thorough,**

the consecration to God entire. He calls for a full surrender of all that we have and are. Ministers and people need a new conversion, a transformation of the mind, without which we are not savors of life unto life, but of death unto death. Great privileges belong to the people of God. Great light has been given them, that they may attain to their high calling in Christ Jesus; yet they are not what God would have them to be and what He designs they shall be.”—*2 Testimonies*, 124.

“**If the life we live in this world is wholly for Christ, it is a life of daily surrender. He has the freewill service, and each soul is His own jewel . . .** If we can arouse the mind and heart to co-operate with the divine Worker, we shall, through the work they may accomplish, gain great victories. But self must be hidden; Christ must appear as the worker.

“**There must be an interchange of taking in and giving out, receiving and imparting. This links us up as laborers together with God.** This is the lifework of the Christian. He that will lose his life shall find it.”—*6 Testimonies*, 116.

“With the consecrated worker for God, in whatever place he may be, the Holy Spirit abides. The words spoken to the disciples are spoken also to us. The Comforter is ours as well as theirs. **The Spirit furnishes the strength that sustains striving, wrestling souls in every emergency, amidst the hatred of the world, and the realization of their own failures and mistakes.**

“**In sorrow and affliction, when the outlook seems dark and the future perplexing, and we feel helpless and alone,—these are the times when, in answer to the prayer of faith, the Holy Spirit brings comfort to the heart.**

“It is not a conclusive evidence that a man is a Christian because he manifests spiritual ecstasy under extraordinary circumstances. **Holiness is not rapture: it is an entire surrender of the will to God; it is living by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God; it is doing the will of our heavenly Father; it is trusting God in trial, in darkness as well as in the light; it is walking by faith and not by sight; it is relying on God with unquestioning confidence, and resting in His love.**”—*Acts of the Apostles*, 51.

“**A union with Christ by living faith is enduring; every other union must perish.** Christ first chose us, paying an infinite price for our redemption; and the true believer chooses Christ

as first, and last, and best in everything. But this union costs us something. It is a relation of utter dependence to be entered into by a proud being. **All who form this union must feel their need of the atoning blood of Christ. They must have a change of heart. They must submit their own will to the will of God. There will be a struggle with outward and internal obstacles. There must be a painful work of detachment, as well as a work of attachment.** Pride, selfishness, vanity, worldliness—sin in all its forms—must be overcome, if we would enter into a union with Christ. The reason why many find the Christian life so deplorably hard, why they are so fickle, so variable, is **they try to attach themselves to Christ without detaching themselves from these cherished idols . . .**

“Believers become one in Christ; but one branch cannot be sustained by another. The nourishment must be obtained through vital connection with the Vine. **We must feel our utter dependence on Christ. We must live by faith in the Son of God.** That is the meaning of the injunction, ‘Abide in Me.’ The life we live in the flesh is not to the will of men, not to please our Lord’s enemies, but to serve and honor Him who loved us, and gave Himself for us. **A mere assent to this union, while the affections are not detached from the world, its pleasures and its dissipations, only emboldens the heart in disobedience.**”—*5 Bible Commentary, 1143-1144.*

“**God calls for your affections, for your cheerful obedience and devotion to Him.** You now have a short time of probation, and you may improve this opportunity to make an unconditional surrender to God.

“**Obedience and submission to God’s requirements are the conditions given** by the inspired apostle by which we become children of God, members of the royal family. Every child and youth, every man and woman, has Jesus rescued by His own blood from the abyss of ruin to which Satan was compelling them to go.”—*3 Testimonies, 364-365.*

“**Let it be your aim to glorify God and attain His moral likeness. Invite the Spirit of God to mold your characters.** Now is your golden op-

portunity to wash your robes of character and make them white in the blood of the Lamb. I regard this as the turning point in the destiny of each of you. **Which will you choose, says Christ, Me or the world? God calls for an unconditional surrender of the heart and affections** to Him. If you love friends, brothers or sisters, father or mother, houses or lands, more than Me, says Christ, you are not worthy of Me. Religion lays the soul under the greatest obligation to her claims, to walk by her principles . . .

“When temptations surround you, and you cannot control the circumstances which expose you to them, then **you may claim the promise of God, and with confidence and conscious power exclaim: ‘I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.’** There is strength for you all in God. But you will never feel your need of that strength which alone is able to save you, unless you feel your weakness and sinfulness. **Jesus, your precious Saviour, now calls you to take your position firmly upon the platform of eternal truth.** If you suffer with Him, He will crown you with glory in His everlasting kingdom. If you are willing to sacrifice all for Him, then He will be your Saviour. But if you choose your own way you will follow on in darkness until it is too late to secure the eternal reward.”—*3 Testimonies, 45-46.*

“**God has given us the rule of conduct which every one of His servants must follow. It is obedience to His law, not merely a legal obedience, but an obedience which enters into the life,** and is exemplified in the character. God has set His own standard of character for all who would become subjects of His kingdom. **Only those who will become co-workers with Christ, only those who will say, Lord, all I have and all I am is Thine,** will be acknowledged as sons and daughters of God.

“All should consider what it means to desire heaven, and yet to turn away because of the conditions laid down. Think of what it means to say ‘No’ to Christ. The [rich young] ruler said, No, I cannot give You all. Do we say the same? The Saviour offers to share with us the work God has given us to do. He offers to use the means God has given us, to carry forward His work in the

How to Surrender your Life to God

**PART TWO
OF FOUR**

Continued from the preceding tract in this series

world. Only in this way can He save us . . .

“Nothing short of obedience can be accepted. Self-surrender is the substance of the teachings of Christ. Often it is presented and enjoined in language that seems authoritative, because there is no other way to save man than to cut away those things which, if entertained, will demoralize the whole being.”—*Desire of Ages*, 523.

“Until the heart is surrendered unconditionally to God, the human agent is not abiding in the True Vine, and cannot flourish in the Vine, and bear rich clusters of fruit. God will not make the slightest compromise with sin. If He could have done this, Christ need not have come to our world to suffer and die. **No conversion is genuine which does not change both the character and the conduct of those who accept the truth. The truth works by love, and purifies the soul.**”—*5 Bible Commentary*, 1144.

“The old nature, born of blood and the will of the flesh, cannot inherit the kingdom of God. The old ways, the hereditary tendencies, the former habits, must be given up; for grace is not inherited. **The new birth consists in having new motives, new tastes, new tendencies.** Those who are begotten unto a new life by the Holy Spirit, have become partakers of the divine nature, and in all their habits and practices they will give evidence of their relationship to Christ.

“When men who claim to be Christians retain all their natural defects of character and disposition, in what does their position differ from that of the worldling? They do not appreciate the truth as a sanctifier, a refiner. They have not been born again.”—*6 Bible Commentary*, 1101.

“There are many who have given themselves to Christ, yet who see no opportunity of doing a large work or making great sacrifices in His service. These may find comfort in the thought that **it is not necessarily the martyr’s self-surrender which is most acceptable to God;** it may not be the missionary who has daily faced danger and death that stands highest in heaven’s records. **The Christian who is such in his pri-**

vate life, in the daily surrender of self, in sincerity of purpose and purity of thought, in meekness under provocation, in faith and piety, in fidelity in that which is least, the one who in the home life represents the character of Christ—such a one may in the sight of God be more precious than even the world-renowned missionary or martyr.”—*Christ’s Object Lessons*, 403.

“No one can be a successful soul winner till he himself has settled the question of surrender to God. We are individually to put on the Lord Jesus Christ. To each one of us He must become wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. When our faith lays hold upon Christ as our personal Saviour, we shall place Him before others in a new light. And when the people behold Christ as He is, they will not wrangle over doctrines; they will flee to Him for pardon, purity, and eternal life.”—*Colporteur Ministry*, 49.

“Many . . . need themselves to learn in the school of Christ His meekness, His tender dealing with the erring, His compassion and love. Until they are melted over and the dross separated from the character they will work at cross purposes. I am deeply grieved in my heart for serious results which have followed unwise dealings, more serious than many are willing to admit to their own conscience or to God.

“Self is so large in many, ever striving for the mastery. There are those who profess to be followers of Jesus Christ who have never died to self. **They have never fallen on the rock and been broken. Until this shall be, they will live unto self, and if they die as they are, it is forever too late for their wrongs to be righted.** I love their souls. Jesus loves their souls and He will do a good work for them, if they will humble themselves under His mighty hand, repent and be converted, surrender every day to God. **It must be a constant, daily surrender.** We must be minute men and women, ever on guard over self, and watching to improve every opportunity to do good and only good for the souls for whom Christ has given His life to make them His own. When the human agents deal with these souls in a hard spirit they grieve the heart of Christ, and put Him

to open shame, for they misrepresent in their own character the character of Christ.”—*Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 284.

“He who would build up a strong, symmetrical character, he who would be a well-balanced Christian, must give all and do all for Christ; for the Redeemer will not accept divided service. Daily he must learn the meaning of self-surrender. He must study the Word of God, learning its meaning and obeying its precepts. Thus he may reach the standard of Christian excellence. **Day by day God works with him, perfecting the character that is to stand in the time of final test.** And day by day the believer is working out before men and angels a sublime experiment, showing what the gospel can do for fallen human beings.

“‘I count not myself to have apprehended,’ Paul wrote; ‘but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.’”—*Acts of the Apostles*, 483.

“Jesus now explained to His disciples that His own life of self-abnegation was an example of what theirs should be. Calling about Him, with the disciples, the people who had been lingering near, He said, ‘If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.’ The cross was associated with the power of Rome. It was the instrument of the most cruel and humiliating form of death . . .

“But Jesus bade His followers take up the cross and bear it after Him. To the disciples His words, though dimly comprehended, pointed to their submission to the most bitter humiliation,—submission even unto death for the sake of Christ. No more complete self-surrender could the Saviour’s words have pictured. But all this He had accepted for them. Jesus did not count heaven a place to be desired while we were lost. He left the heavenly courts for a life of reproach and insult, and a death of shame. He who was rich in heaven’s priceless treasure, became poor, that through His poverty we might be rich. **We are to follow in the path He trod.**

“Love for souls for whom Christ died means crucifixion of self. He who is a child of God should henceforth look upon himself as a link in the chain let down to save the world, one with Christ in His plan of mercy, going forth with Him to seek

and save the lost. **The Christian is ever to realize that he has consecrated himself to God, and that in character he is to reveal Christ to the world.** The self-sacrifice, the sympathy, the love, manifested in the life of Christ are to reappear in the life of the worker for God.”—*Desire of Ages*, 416-417.

“From the manger to the cross, the life of Jesus was a call to self-surrender, and to fellowship in suffering . . . Jesus came with the truth of heaven, and all who were listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit were drawn to Him. The worshipers of self belonged to Satan’s kingdom. **In their attitude toward Christ, all would show on which side they stood. And thus everyone passes judgment on himself.**

“In the day of final judgment, every lost soul will understand the nature of his own rejection of truth. The cross will be presented, and its real bearing will be seen by every mind that has been blinded by transgression. Before the vision of Calvary with its mysterious Victim, sinners will stand condemned. **Every lying excuse will be swept away. Human apostasy will appear in its heinous character. Men will see what their choice has been.** Every question of truth and error in the long-standing controversy will then have been made plain.”—*Desire of Ages*, 57-58.

AN APPEAL TO SURRENDER

“God does not force the will of His creatures. He cannot accept an homage that is not willingly and intelligently given. A mere forced submission would prevent all real development of mind or character; it would make man a mere automaton. Such is not the purpose of the Creator. He desires that man, the crowning work of His creative power, shall reach the highest possible development. He sets before us the height of blessing to which **He desires to bring us through His grace. He invites us to give ourselves to Him, that He may work His will in us. It remains for us to choose** whether we will be set free from the bondage of sin, to share the glorious liberty of the sons of God.”—*Steps to Christ*, 43-44.

“We must have less trust in what we ourselves can do, and more trust in what the Lord can do for and through us. You are not engaged in your own work; you are doing the work of God. **Surrender your will and way to Him. Make not a**

1 **single reserve, not a single compromise with**
3 **self. Know what it is to be free in Christ.**
5

“The mere hearing of sermons Sabbath after Sabbath, the reading of the Bible through and through, or the explanation of it verse by verse, will not benefit us or those who hear us, unless we bring the truths of the Bible into our individual experience. **The understanding, the will, the affections, must be yielded to the control of the Word of God. Then through the work of the Holy Spirit the precepts of the Word will become the principles of the life.**”—*Ministry of Healing, 513-514.*

“**Oh, how many lose the richest blessings that God has in store for them** in health and spiritual endowments! There are many souls who wrestle for special victories and special blessings that they may do some great thing. To this end they are always feeling that they must make an agonizing struggle in prayer and tears. **When these persons search the Scriptures with prayer to know the expressed will of God, and then do His will from the heart without one reservation or self-indulgence, they will find rest.** All the agonizing, all the tears and struggles, will not bring them the blessing they long for. **Self must be entirely surrendered. They must do the work that presents itself, appropriating the abundance of the grace of God which is promised to all who ask in faith.**

“‘If any man will come after Me,’ said Jesus, ‘let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.’ Luke 9:23. Let us follow the Saviour in His simplicity and self-denial. Let us lift up the Man of Calvary by word and by holy living. The Saviour comes very near to those who consecrate themselves to God. **If ever there was a time when we needed the working of the Spirit of God upon our hearts and lives, it is now. Let us lay hold of this divine power for strength to live a life of holiness and self-surrender.**”—9 *Testimonies, 165-166.*

“**You need a new conversion; you need to be sanctified through the truth and to become in spirit like a little child, meek and humble, relying wholly upon Christ** as your Redeemer. Your pride and independence are closing your heart to the blessed influences of the Spirit of God and rendering it as unimpressible as the hard-beaten highway. **You have yet to learn the great lesson of faith. When you surrender your-**

self entirely to God, when you fall all broken upon Jesus, you will be rewarded by a victory the joy of which you have never yet experienced.

“As you review the past with a clear vision, you will see that at the very time when life seemed to you only a perplexity and a burden, Jesus Himself was near you, seeking to lead you into the light. Your Father was by your side, bending over you with unutterable love, afflicting you for your good, as the refiner purifies the precious ore. **When you have thought yourself forsaken, He has been near you to comfort and sustain.** We seldom view Jesus as He is, and are never so ready to receive His help as He is to help us.

“**What a victory you will gain when you learn to follow the opening providences of God with a grateful heart and a determination to live with an eye single to His glory,** in sickness or health, in abundance or want. Self is alive and quivering at every touch. Self must be crucified before you can overcome in the name of Jesus and receive the reward of the faithful.”—4 *Testimonies, 220-221.*

“**That voice which has long been speaking to your heart, but to which you would not listen, comes to you distinct and clear, ‘Arise ye, and depart; for this is not your rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy you,** even with a sore destruction.’ Micah 2:10. Return to your Father’s house. He invites you, saying, **‘Return unto Me; for I have redeemed thee.’** ‘Come unto Me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.’ Isaiah 44:22; 55:3.

“**Do not listen to the enemy’s suggestion to stay away from Christ until you have made yourself better,** until you are good enough to come to God. If you wait until then you will never come. When Satan points to your filthy garments, repeat the promise of the Saviour, ‘Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.’ John 6:37. **Tell the enemy that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses from all sin.** Make the prayer of David your own: ‘Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.’ Psalm 51:7.”—*Prophets and Kings, 319-320.*

HOW TO SURRENDER

“**Many are inquiring, ‘How am I to make the surrender of myself to God?’** You desire to give yourself to Him, but you are weak in moral power, in slavery to doubt, and controlled by the habits

of your life of sin. **Your promises and resolutions are like ropes of sand. You cannot control your thoughts, your impulses, your affections.** The knowledge of your broken promises and forfeited pledges weakens your confidence in your own sincerity, and causes you to feel that God cannot accept you; but you need not despair.

“What you need to understand is the true force of the will. This is the governing power in the nature of man, the power of decision, or of choice. Everything depends on the right action of the will. The power of choice God has given to men; it is theirs to exercise. You cannot change your heart, you cannot of yourself give to God its affections; but **you can choose to serve Him. You can give Him your will;** He will then work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure. **Thus your whole nature will be brought under the control of the Spirit of Christ; your affections will be centered upon Him,** your thoughts will be in harmony with Him.”—*Steps to Christ, 47.*

“Desires for goodness and holiness are right as far as they go; but if you stop here, they will avail nothing. Many will be lost while hoping and desiring to be Christians. They do not come to the point of yielding the will to God. They do not now choose to be Christians.

“Through the right exercise of the will, an entire change may be made in your life. By yielding up your will to Christ, you ally yourself with the power that is above all principalities and powers. You will have strength from above to hold you steadfast, and thus through constant surrender to God you will be enabled to live the new life, even the life of faith.”—*Steps to Christ, 47-48.*

“You have confessed your sins, and in heart put them away. You have resolved to give yourself to God. **Now go to Him, and ask that He will wash away your sins and give you a new heart. Then believe that He does this** because He has promised. This is the lesson which Jesus taught while He was on earth, that the gift which God promises us, **we must believe we do receive, and it is ours.**”—*Steps to Christ, 49-50.*

“You cannot atone for your past sins; you can-

not change your heart and make yourself holy. But God promises to do all this for you through Christ. **You believe that promise. You confess your sins and give yourself to God. You will to serve Him. Just as surely as you do this, God will fulfill His word to you.** If you believe the promise,—believe that you are forgiven and cleansed,—God supplies the fact; you are made whole, just as Christ gave the paralytic power to walk when the man believed that he was healed. It is so if you believe it.

“Do not wait to feel that you are made whole, but say, ‘I believe it; it is so, not because I feel it, but because God has promised.’

“Jesus says, ‘What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.’ Mark 11:24. **There is a condition to this promise—that we pray according to the will of God.** But it is the will of God to cleanse us from sin, to make us His children, and to enable us to live a holy life. So **we may ask for these blessings, and believe that we receive them, and thank God that we have received them.** It is our privilege to go to Jesus and be cleansed, and to stand before the law without shame or remorse. ‘There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.’ Romans 8:1.

“Henceforth you are not your own; you are bought with a price. ‘Ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold . . . but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.’ 1 Peter 1:18, 19. **Through this simple act of believing God, the Holy Spirit has begotten a new life in your heart. You are as a child born into the family of God,** and He loves you as He loves His Son.

“Now that you have given yourself to Jesus, **do not draw back, do not take yourself away from Him,** but day by day say, ‘I am Christ’s; I have given myself to Him;’ and ask Him to give you His Spirit and keep you by His grace. **As it is by giving yourself to God, and believing Him, that you become His child, so you are to live in Him.** The apostle says, ‘As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him.’ Colossians 2:6.”—*Steps to Christ, 51-52.*

How to Surrender your Life to God

PART THREE
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“In giving ourselves to God, we must necessarily give up all that would separate us from Him. Hence the Saviour says, ‘Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be My disciple.’ Luke 14:33. **Whatever shall draw away the heart from God must be given up.** Mammon is the idol of many. The love of money, the desire for wealth, is the golden chain that binds them to Satan. Reputation and worldly honor are worshiped by another class. The life of selfish ease and freedom from responsibility is the idol of others. But these slavish bands must be broken. **We cannot be half the Lord’s and half the world’s. We are not God’s children unless we are such entirely.**”—*Steps to Christ, 44.*

“The only reason that we have not remission of sin is that **we have not acknowledged to Him whom we have wounded by our transgressions, whom we have pierced by our sins, that we are at fault, and in need of mercy.** The confession that is the outpouring of the inmost soul will find its way to the heart of infinite pity; for the Lord is nigh unto him that is of a broken heart, and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.”—*1 Selected Messages, 326.*

“We are to surrender our hearts to God, that He may renew and sanctify us, and fit us for His heavenly court. **We are not to wait for some special time, but today we are to give ourselves to Him,** refusing to be the servants of sin. **Do you imagine you can leave off sin a little at a time? Oh, leave the accursed thing at once!** Hate the things that Christ hates, love the things that Christ loves. Has He not by His death and suffering made provision for your cleansing from sin? **When we begin to realize that we are sinners, and fall on the Rock to be broken, the everlasting arms are placed about us, and we are brought close to the heart of Jesus.** Then we shall be charmed with His loveliness, and disgusted with our own righteousness. We need to come close to the foot of the cross. The more we humble ourselves there, the more exalted will God’s love appear. **The grace and righteousness of Christ will not avail for him who feels whole, for him who thinks he is reasonably good, who is contented with his own**

condition. There is no room for Christ in the heart of him who does not realize his need of divine light and aid.”—*1 Selected Messages, 327-328.*

“But shall we wait till we feel that we are cleansed? —No; Christ has promised that ‘if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness’ (1 John 1:9). You are proved of God through the Word of God. **You are not to wait for wonderful emotions before you believe that God has heard you, feeling is not to be your criterion,** for emotions are as changeable as the clouds. You must have something solid for the foundation of your faith. **The Word of the Lord is a word of infinite power, upon which you may rely.** And He has said, ‘Ask, and ye shall receive.’ Look to Calvary. Has not Jesus said that He is your advocate? Has He not said that if you ask anything in His name you shall receive? You are not to depend on your own goodness or good works. **You are to come depending upon the Sun of Righteousness,** believing that Christ has taken away your sins and imputed to you His righteousness.

“You are to come to God as a repenting sinner, through the name of Jesus, the divine Advocate, to a merciful, forgiving Father, **believing that He will do just as He has promised.** Let those who desire the blessing of God **knock, and wait at the throne of mercy, with firm assurance,** saying, ‘For Thou, O Lord, hast said, “For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth, and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.”’ **The Lord longs to have those who seek after God believe in Him who is able to do all things.**”—*1 Selected Messages, 328-329.*

“With the confession of the repenting, believing sinner, Christ mingles His own righteousness, that the prayer of fallen man may go up as fragrant incense before the Father, and the grace of God be imparted to the believing soul. **Jesus says to the trembling, repenting soul: ‘Let him take hold of My strength, that he may make peace with Me; and he shall make peace with Me’ (Isa. 27:5).**”—*1 Selected Messages, 329.*

“Will you let Him reason with you? Will you

commit to Him the keeping of your soul as unto a faithful Creator? Come then, and let us live in the light of His countenance, and pray, as did David, ‘Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow’ (Ps. 51:7). **By faith apply the blood of Christ to your heart, for that alone can make you whiter than snow.** But you say, ‘This surrender of all my idols will break my heart.’ This giving up of all for God is represented by your falling upon the Rock and being broken. **Then give up all for Him; for unless you are broken, you are worthless.**

“When you turn away from the broken cisterns that can hold no water, and in the name of Jesus your Advocate come directly to God, asking for the things you need, the righteousness of Christ will be revealed as your righteousness, the virtue of Christ as your virtue. You will then understand that **justification will come alone through faith in Christ**; for in Jesus is revealed the perfection of the character of God; in His life is manifested the outworking of the principles of holiness. **Through the atoning blood of Christ the sinner is set free from bondage and condemnation; through the perfection of the sinless Substitute and Surety, he may run in the race of humble obedience to all God’s commandments.** Without Christ he is under the condemnation of the law, always a sinner, but through faith in Christ he is made just before God.”—*1 Selected Messages, 330.*

“As you ask the Lord to help you, honor your Saviour by believing that you do receive His blessing. All power, all wisdom, are at our command. We have only to ask.

“Walk continually in the light of God. Meditate day and night upon His character. Then you will see His beauty and rejoice in His goodness. Your heart will glow with a sense of His love. You will be uplifted as if borne by everlasting arms. With the power and light that God imparts, you can comprehend more and accomplish more than you ever before deemed possible.”—*Ministry of Healing, 514.*

“Prayer and faith are closely allied, and they need to be studied together. In the prayer of faith there is a divine science; it is a science that everyone who would make his lifework a success must understand. Christ says, ‘What things soever ye desire, **when ye pray, believe that ye receive them,** and ye shall have them.’ Mark 11:24. He

makes it plain that **our asking must be according to God’s will**; we must ask for the things that He has promised, and whatever we receive must be used in doing His will. The conditions met, the promise is unequivocal.

“For the pardon of sin, for the Holy Spirit, for a Christlike temper, for wisdom and strength to do His work, for any gift He has promised, we may ask; then we are to believe that we receive, and return thanks to God that we have received.

“We need look for no outward evidence of the blessing. The gift is in the promise, and we may go about our work assured that what God has promised He is able to perform, and that the gift, which we already possess, will be realized when we need it most.

“To live thus by the word of God means the surrender to Him of the whole life. There will be felt a continual sense of need and dependence, a drawing out of the heart after God. Prayer is a necessity; for it is the life of the soul. Family prayer, public prayer, have their place; but it is secret communion with God that sustains the soul life.”—*Education, 257-258.*

“God calls upon all who would have everlasting life to copy the Pattern. Truth and righteousness are the first principles of the gospel, and the only principles that Christ will recognize in any human agent. **There must be heartfelt surrender of our will to God**; we must renounce all our own supposed merits, and look to the cross of Calvary. **This surrender to God involves effort on the part of the human agent to cooperate with the divine agencies**; the branch must abide in the vine.”—*2 Selected Messages, 212.*

“The transforming power of Christ’s grace molds the one who gives himself to God’s service. Imbued with the Spirit of the Redeemer, he is ready to deny self, ready to take up the cross, ready to make any sacrifice for the Master. No longer can he be indifferent to the souls perishing around him. He is lifted above self-serving. **He has been created anew in Christ, and self-serving has no place in his life.** He realizes that every part of his being belongs to Christ, who has redeemed him from the slavery of sin; that every moment of his future has been bought with the precious lifeblood of God’s only-begotten Son.”—*7 Testimonies, 9-10.*

“Skepticism and unbelief are not humility. **Implicit belief in Christ’s word is true humility,**

true self-surrender.”—*Desire of Ages*, 535.

RESULTS OF SURRENDERING

“The branch is to be grafted into the Vine, and to abide there, uniting itself to the Vine fiber by fiber, drawing its daily supply of sap and nourishment from the root and fatness of the Vine, until it becomes one with the parent stock. The sap that nourishes the Vine must nourish the branch and this will be evident in the life of him who is abiding in Christ; for **the joy of Christ will be fulfilled in him who walks not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.**

“Our professions are worthless unless we abide in Christ; for we cannot be living branches unless the vital qualities of the Vine abound in us. **In the genuine Christian the characteristics of his Master will appear,** and when we reflect the graces of Christ in our lives and characters, the Father loves us as He loves His Son.”—*5 Bible Commentary*, 1144.

“They could speak the name of Jesus with assurance; for was He not their Friend and Elder Brother? Brought into close communion with Christ, they sat with Him in heavenly places. With what burning language they clothed their ideas as they bore witness for Him! **Their hearts were surcharged with a benevolence so full, so deep, so far-reaching, that it impelled them to go to the ends of the earth, testifying to the power of Christ.** They were filled with an intense longing to carry forward the work He had begun. They realized the greatness of their debt to heaven and the responsibility of their work. Strengthened by the endowment of the Holy Spirit, they went forth filled with zeal to extend the triumphs of the cross. The Spirit animated them and spoke through them. **The peace of Christ shone from their faces. They had consecrated their lives to Him for service, and their very features bore evidence to the surrender they had made.**”—*Acts of the Apostles*, 46.

“Apart from divine power, no genuine reform can be effected. Human barriers against natural and cultivated tendencies are but as the sand-bank against the torrent. **Not until the life of Christ becomes a vitalizing power in our lives can we resist the temptations that assail us from within and from without.**

“Christ came to this world and lived the law of God, that man might have perfect mastery over the natural inclinations which corrupt the soul.

The Physician of soul and body, He gives victory over warring lusts. **He has provided every facility, that man may possess completeness of character.**

“When one surrenders to Christ, the mind is brought under the control of the law; but it is the royal law, which proclaims liberty to every captive. **By becoming one with Christ, man is made free. Subjection to the will of Christ means restoration to perfect manhood.**

“Obedience to God is liberty from the thralldom of sin, deliverance from human passion and impulse. **Man may stand conqueror of himself, conqueror of his own inclinations,** conqueror of principalities and powers, and of ‘the rulers of the darkness of this world,’ and of ‘spiritual wickedness in high places.’ Ephesians 6:12.”—*Ministry of Healing*, 131.

“When the soul surrenders itself to Christ, a new power takes possession of the new heart. A change is wrought which man can never accomplish for himself. It is a supernatural work, bringing a supernatural element into human nature. **The soul that is yielded to Christ becomes His own fortress,** which He holds in a revolted world, and He intends that no authority shall be known in it but His own. A soul thus kept in possession by the heavenly agencies is impregnable to the assaults of Satan. **But unless we do yield ourselves to the control of Christ, we shall be dominated by the wicked one. We must inevitably be under the control of the one or the other of the two great powers that are contending for the supremacy of the world.** It is not necessary for us deliberately to choose the service of the kingdom of darkness in order to come under its dominion. We have only to neglect to ally ourselves with the kingdom of light. If we do not co-operate with the heavenly agencies, Satan will take possession of the heart, and will make it his abiding place. **The only defense against evil is the indwelling of Christ in the heart through faith in His righteousness.** Unless we become vitally connected with God, we can never resist the unhallowed effects of self-love, self-indulgence, and temptation to sin. We may leave off many bad habits, for the time we may part company with Satan; but **without a vital connection with God, through the surrender of ourselves to Him moment by moment, we shall be overcome.** Without a personal acquaintance with Christ, and a continual communion, we are at

the mercy of the enemy, and shall do his bidding in the end.”—*Desire of Ages*, 324.

“A pearl of great price is offered to the youth. They may sell all and buy this pearl, or they may refuse it to their own infinite loss. **Heaven may be attained by all who will comply with the conditions laid down in the Word of God.** Our Redeemer was obedient unto death; He gave Himself an offering for sin. Ye are redeemed ‘with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish.’ ‘The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.’ Young friends, you may form earnest purposes in your own strength, you may flatter yourselves that you can pursue a straightforward course without yielding the heart to the controlling influence of the Spirit of God; but you are not thus made happy. Your restless spirit needs change and thirsts for pleasure in amusement and hilarity and the society of your young associates. You are hewing out to yourselves broken cisterns which contain no water. A deceptive power controls your mind and actions. **Happiness is to be found only in repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ;** for your heart is filled with rebellion; it breathes forth in your words. Your selfish prayers and religious forms may soothe the conscience, but they only increase your peril. Your nature is unrenewed.

“The precious blood of Jesus is the fountain prepared to cleanse the soul from the defilement of sin. When you determine to take Him as your friend, a new and enduring light will shine from the cross of Christ. **A true sense of the sacrifice and intercession of the dear Saviour will break the heart that has become hardened in sin; and love, thankfulness, and humility will come into the soul. The surrender of the heart to Jesus subdues the rebel into a penitent,** and then the language of the obedient soul is: ‘Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.’ This is the true religion of the Bible. Everything short of this is a deception.”—*4 Testimonies*, 625.

“While the wind is itself invisible, it produces effects that are seen and felt. So the work of the Spirit upon the soul will reveal itself in every act of him who has felt its saving power. **When the**

Spirit of God takes possession of the heart, it transforms the life. Sinful thoughts are put away, evil deeds are renounced; love, humility, and peace take the place of anger, envy, and strife. Joy takes the place of sadness, and the countenance reflects the light of heaven. No one sees the hand that lifts the burden, or beholds the light descend from the courts above. **The blessing comes when by faith the soul surrenders itself to God.** Then that power which no human eye can see creates a new being in the image of God.

“It is impossible for finite minds to comprehend the work of redemption. Its mystery exceeds human knowledge; yet he who passes from death to life realizes that it is a divine reality. **The beginning of redemption we may know here through a personal experience. Its results reach through the eternal ages.**”—*Desire of Ages*, 173.

“**The sacrifices which we must make in following Christ are only so many steps to return to the path of light, of peace and happiness.** Doubts and fears grow by indulgence, and the more they are indulged, the harder are they to overcome. **It is safe to let go every earthly support and take the hand of Him** who lifted up and saved the sinking disciple on the stormy sea.

“**God calls upon you to mingle the trusting simplicity of the child with the strength and maturity of the man.** He would have you develop the true gold of character, and through the merits of Christ you can do this. **My soul is burdened for those who do not feel their need of constant connection with heaven** in order to do the work devolving upon them as faithful sentinels for God.”—*4 Testimonies*, 558.

“**Those who pass through the experience of true conversion will realize, with keenness of perception, their responsibility to God to work out their own salvation with fear and trembling,** their responsibility to make complete their recovery from the leprosy of sin. Such an experience will lead them humbly and trustfully to place their dependence upon God.

“To have a consciousness that the eyes of the Lord are upon us and His ears open to hear our prayers is a satisfaction indeed. **To know that**

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we have a never-failing Friend in whom we can confide all the secrets of the soul is a privilege which words can never express.—*My Life Today*, 176.

“To Jesus, who emptied Himself for the salvation of lost humanity, the Holy Spirit was given without measure. **So it will be given to every follower of Christ when the whole heart is surrendered for His indwelling.** Our Lord Himself has given the command, ‘Be filled with the Spirit’ (Ephesians 5:18), and this command is also a promise of its fulfillment. It was the good pleasure of the Father that in Christ should ‘all the fullness dwell,’ and ‘in Him ye are made full.’ Colossians 1:19, R.V.; 2:10, R.V.”—*Mount of Blessing*, 21.

“If we surrender our lives to His service, we can never be placed in a position for which God has not made provision. Whatever may be our situation, we have a Guide to direct our way; whatever our perplexities, we have a sure Counselor; whatever our sorrow, bereavement, or loneliness, we have a sympathizing Friend. If in our ignorance we make missteps, Christ does not leave us. His voice, clear and distinct, is heard saying, ‘I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.’ John 14:6. ‘He shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper.’ Ps. 72:12.

“The Lord declares that He will be honored by those who draw nigh to Him, who faithfully do His service. ‘Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusteth in Thee.’ Isa. 26:3. The arm of Omnipotence is outstretched to lead us onward and still onward. **Go forward, the Lord says; I will send you help. It is for My name’s glory that you ask, and you shall receive.** I will be honored before those who are watching for your failure. They shall see My word triumph gloriously. ‘All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.’ Matt. 21:22.”—*Christ’s Object Lessons*, 173-174.

“You must not let anything rob your soul of peace, of restfulness, of the assurance that you are accepted just now. Appropriate every prom-

ise; all are yours on condition of your complying with the Lord’s prescribed terms. Entire surrender of your ways, which seem so very wise, and taking Christ’s ways, is the secret of perfect rest in His love.

“The soul consecrated to the service of Christ has a peace that the world cannot give or take away.”—*My Life Today*, 176.

“Christ desires by the fullness of His power so to strengthen His people that through them the whole world shall be encircled with an atmosphere of grace. When His people shall make a wholehearted surrender of themselves to God, this purpose will be accomplished.”—*7 Testimonies*, 148.

“God’s purpose is not merely to deliver from the suffering that is the inevitable result of sin, but to save from sin itself. The soul, corrupted and deformed, is to be purified, transformed, that it may be clothed in ‘the beauty of the Lord our God,’ ‘conformed to the image of His Son.’ ‘Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.’ Psalm 90:17; Romans 8:29; 1 Corinthians 2:9. **Eternity alone can reveal the glorious destiny to which man, restored to God’s image, may attain.**

“In order for us to reach this high ideal, that which causes the soul to stumble must be sacrificed. It is through the will that sin retains its hold upon us. The surrender of the will is represented as plucking out the eye or cutting off the hand. Often it seems to us that to surrender the will to God is to consent to go through life maimed or crippled. But it is better, says Christ, for self to be maimed, wounded, crippled, if thus you may enter into life. That which you look upon as disaster is the door to highest benefit.

“God is the fountain of life, and we can have life only as we are in communion with Him. **Separated from God, existence may be ours for a little time, but we do not possess life.** ‘She that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.’ 1 Timothy 5:6. **Only through the surrender of our will to God is it possible for Him to impart life to us.**”—*Mount of Blessing*, 61.

“When we are born from above, the same

mind will be in us that was in Jesus, the mind that led Him to humble Himself that we might be saved. **Then we shall not be seeking the highest place.** We shall desire to sit at the feet of Jesus, and learn of Him. We shall understand that the value of our work does not consist in making a show and noise in the world, and in being active and zealous in our own strength. **The value of our work is in proportion to the impartation of the Holy Spirit. Trust in God brings holier qualities of mind**, so that in patience we may possess our souls.

“The yoke is placed upon the oxen to aid them in drawing the load, to lighten the burden. So with the yoke of Christ. **When our will is swallowed up in the will of God, and we use His gifts to bless others, we shall find life’s burden light. He who walks in the way of God’s commandments is walking in company with Christ**, and in His love the heart is at rest. When Moses prayed, ‘Show me now Thy way, that I may know

Thee,’ the Lord answered him, **‘My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.’** And through the prophets the message was given, ‘Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.’ Ex. 33:13, 14; Jer. 6:16. And He says, ‘O that thou hadst hearkened to My commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea.’ Isa. 48:18.

“Those who take Christ at His word, and surrender their souls to His keeping, their lives to His ordering, will find peace and quietude. Nothing of the world can make them sad when Jesus makes them glad by His presence. **In perfect acquiescence there is perfect rest.** The Lord says, ‘Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee.’ Isa. 26:3. **Our lives may seem a tangle; but as we commit ourselves to the wise Master**

“In my dream a sentinel stood at the door of an important building, and asked every one who came for entrance, ‘Have ye received the Holy Ghost?’ A measuring-line was in his hand, and only very, very few were admitted into the building. ‘Your size as a human being is nothing,’ he said. ‘But **if you have reached the full stature of a man in Christ Jesus, according to the knowledge you have had**, you will receive an appointment to sit with Christ at the marriage supper of the Lamb; and through the eternal ages, you will never cease to learn of the blessings granted in the banquet prepared for you.

“**You may be tall and well-proportioned in self, but you cannot enter here.** None can enter who are grown-up children, carrying with them the disposition, the habits, and the characteristics which pertain to children. If you have nurtured suspicions, criticism, temper, self-dignity, you cannot be admitted; for you would spoil the feast. All who go in through this door have on the wedding garment, woven in the loom of heaven. Those who educate themselves to pick flaws in the characters of others, reveal a deformity that makes families unhappy, that turns souls from the truth to choose fables. Your leaven of distrust, your want of confidence, your power of accusing, closes against you the door of admittance. **Within this door nothing can enter that could possibly mar**

the happiness of the dwellers by marring their perfect trust in one another. You cannot join the happy family in the heavenly courts; for I have wiped all tears from their eyes. You can never see the King in His beauty if you are not yourself a representative of His character.

“**‘When you give up your own will, your own wisdom, and learn of Christ, you will find admittance into the kingdom of God. He requires entire, unreserved surrender.** Give up your life for Him to order, mold, and fashion. Take upon your neck His yoke. Submit to be led and taught by Him. Learn that **unless you become as a little child, you can never enter the kingdom of heaven.**

“Abiding in Christ is choosing only the disposition of Christ, so that His interests are identified with yours. **Abide in Him, to be and to do only what He wills.** These are the conditions of discipleship, and unless they are complied with, you can never find rest. Rest is in Christ; it cannot be as something apart from Him.

“**The moment His yoke is adjusted to your neck, that moment it is found easy;** then the heaviest spiritual labor can be performed, the heaviest burdens borne, because the Lord gives the strength and the power, and He gives gladness in doing the work.’”—*1 Selected Messages, 109-111.*

Worker, He will bring out the pattern of life and character that will be to His own glory.

And that character which expresses the glory—character—of Christ will be received into the Paradise of God. A renovated race shall walk with Him in white, for they are worthy.

“As through Jesus we enter into rest, heaven begins here. We respond to His invitation, Come, learn of Me, and in thus coming we begin the life eternal. Heaven is a ceaseless approaching to God through Christ. The longer we are in the heaven of bliss, the more and still more of glory will be opened to us; and the more we know of God, the more intense will be our happiness. As we walk with Jesus in this life, we may be filled with His love, satisfied with His presence. **All that human nature can bear, we may receive here. But what is this compared with the hereafter?** Therefore ‘are they before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple: and He that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.’ Rev. 7:15-17.”—*Desire of Ages*, 330-332.

FAILING TO SURRENDER

“Many who profess to be Christ’s followers have an anxious, troubled heart because they are afraid to trust themselves with God. They do not make a complete surrender to Him, for they shrink from the consequences that such a surrender may involve. Unless they do make this surrender they cannot find peace.”—*Ministry of Healing*, 480-481.

“He [Paul] had entreated them [the church at Corinth] to make an entire surrender to God; for **he knew that when the soul fails to make this surrender, then sin is not forsaken, the appetites and passions still strive for the mastery, and temptations confuse the conscience.**

“The surrender must be complete. Every weak, doubting, struggling soul who yields fully to the Lord is placed in direct touch with agencies that enable him to overcome. **Heaven is near to him, and he has the support and help of angels of mercy in every time of trial and need.**”—*Acts of the Apostles*, 299.

“Faithful Christian men and women should

have an intense interest to bring the convicted soul to a correct knowledge of righteousness in Christ Jesus. If any have allowed the desire for selfish indulgence to become supreme in their life, the faithful believers should watch for these souls as they that must give an account. They must not neglect the faithful, tender, loving instruction so essential to the young converts that there may be no halfhearted work. The very first experience should be right.

“Satan does not want anyone to see the necessity of an entire surrender to God. When the soul fails to make this surrender, sin is not forsaken; the appetites and passions are striving for the mastery; temptations confuse the conscience, so that true conversion does not take place. If all had a sense of the conflict which each soul must wage with satanic agencies that are seeking to ensnare, entice, and deceive, there would be much more diligent labor for those who are young in the faith.

“These souls, left to themselves, are often tempted and do not discern the evil of the temptation. Let them feel that it is their privilege to solicit counsel. **Let them seek the society of those who can help them. Through association with those who love and fear God they will receive strength.**

“Our conversation with these souls should be of a spiritual, encouraging character. The Lord marks the conflicts of every weak, doubting, struggling one, and He will help all who call upon Him.”—*6 Testimonies*, 92-93.

“There are many whose hearts are aching under a load of care because they seek to reach the world’s standard. They have chosen its service, accepted its perplexities, adopted its customs. Thus their character is marred, and their life made a weariness. In order to gratify ambition and worldly desires, they wound the conscience, and bring upon themselves an additional burden of remorse. **The continual worry is wearing out the life forces. Our Lord desires them to lay aside this yoke of bondage. He invites them to accept His yoke;** He says, ‘My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.’ He bids them seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and His promise is that all things needful to them for this life shall be added. **Worry is blind, and cannot discern the future; but Jesus sees the end from the beginning. In every difficulty He has His way prepared to bring relief. Our heav-**

only Father has a thousand ways to provide for us, of which we know nothing. Those who accept the one principle of making the service and honor of God supreme will find perplexities vanish, and a plain path before their feet.

“Learn of Me,” says Jesus; ‘for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest.’ **We are to enter the school of Christ, to learn from Him meekness and lowliness. Redemption is that process by which the soul is trained for heaven.** This training means a knowledge of Christ. It means emancipation from ideas, habits, and practices that have been gained in the school of the prince of darkness. The soul must be delivered from all that is opposed to loyalty to God.

“In the heart of Christ, where reigned perfect harmony with God, there was perfect peace. He was never elated by applause, nor dejected by censure or disappointment. Amid the greatest opposition and the most cruel treatment, He was still of good courage. But **many who profess to be His followers have an anxious, troubled heart, because they are afraid to trust themselves with God. They do not make a complete surrender to Him;** for they shrink from the consequences that such a surrender may involve. Unless they do make this surrender, they cannot find peace.”—*Desire of Ages*, 330.

CONCLUSION

“If you have given yourself to God, to do His work, you have no need to be anxious for tomorrow. He whose servant you are, knows the end from the beginning. The events of tomorrow, which are hidden from your view, are open to the eyes of Him who is omnipotent.

“When we take into our hands the management of things with which we have to do, and depend upon our own wisdom for success, we are taking a burden which God has not given us, and are trying to bear it without His aid. We are taking upon ourselves the responsibility that belongs to God, and thus are really putting ourselves in His place. We may well have anxiety and anticipate danger and loss, for it is certain to

befall us. **But when we really believe that God loves us and means to do us good we shall cease to worry about the future.** We shall trust God as a child trusts a loving parent. Then our troubles and torments will disappear, for our will is swallowed up in the will of God.

“Christ has given us no promise of help in bearing today the burdens of tomorrow. He has said, ‘My grace is sufficient for thee’ (2 Corinthians 12:9); but, like the manna given in the wilderness, **His grace is bestowed daily, for the day’s need.** Like the hosts of Israel in their pilgrim life, we may find morning by morning the bread of heaven for the day’s supply.

“One day alone is ours, and during this day we are to live for God. For this one day we are to place in the hand of Christ, in solemn service, all our purposes and plans, casting all our care upon Him, for He careth for us. ‘I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.’ ‘In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength.’ Jeremiah 29:11; Isaiah 30:15.

“If you will seek the Lord and be converted every day; if you will of your own spiritual choice be free and joyous in God; if with gladsome consent of heart to His gracious call you come wearing the yoke of Christ,—the yoke of obedience and service,—all your murmurings will be stilled, all your difficulties will be removed, all the perplexing problems that now confront you will be solved.”—*Mount of Blessing*, 100-101.

“Many are forfeiting the condition of acceptance with the Father. We need to examine closely the deed of trust wherewith we approach God. If we are disobedient, we bring to the Lord a note to be cashed when we have not fulfilled the conditions that would make it payable to us. We present to God His promises, and ask Him to fulfill them, when by doing He would dishonor His own name.”—*Christ’s Object Lessons*, 143.

**MAKE PHOTOCOPIES AND SHARE THIS STUDY
WITH FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES.
THERE ARE SO MANY WHO NEED THIS ENCOURAGEMENT.**