

The Fellowship  
of the Spirit



EASTER TO PENTECOST  
1947

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DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELISM  
FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

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## *Foreword*

### **The Meaning of Pentecost for Today**

Was Pentecost the birthday of the Christian Church? When did the Church begin? "On the night of the Nativity," someone answers, "when the Head of the Church lay as a little child in his mother's arms, held close to her believing heart." "No," is another answer, "but when at his baptism the voice of God set the seal of God on the mission of his Son, for, as John the Baptist bore witness, 'I beheld the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven and it abode upon him, and I knew him not, but he that sent me to baptize in water, he said unto me, Upon whomsoever thou shalt see the Spirit descending and abiding upon him, the same is he that baptizeth in the Holy Spirit. And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.'"

"No," a third answers, "the Church began when Jesus called his first disciples and they left all and followed him." "Not then," a fourth answers, "but later, when the meaning of following became clear to the disciples and they realized who it was they were following, and Simon Peter made his great confession." "No," says still another, "it was in the Upper Room when the Lord's Supper was instituted and Judas went out and the New Commandment was given." "Not so," still another replies, "if that had been all, there would have been no Christian Church. The Church began with the Resurrection. Easter was its birthday."

Yes, these were all beginnings, but their consummation was on Pentecost when the

promise of the Holy Spirit was fulfilled. If then, Pentecost may truthfully be taken as the day when the Church, under her Risen and Ascended Lord, receiving the power of the Spirit, began her distinctive life and work, what were some of her birth marks?

1. The first was *unity*. "When the day of Pentecost was fully come they were all with one accord in one place." The Christian Church began at the very goal which we are seeking to attain. The disciples were of one accord and so small a body was able to be all together. At one place, in one house. What was their common accord and what was the nature of their unity? The answer is clear. Their common accord was their full acceptance of the Lordship of Christ and the subjection, or in better words, the elevation of their mind to the mind of Christ. And their unity was not a spiritual unity only. It was that indeed, and would have been no unity at all otherwise. But it was also a visible, perceptible, bodily union, presenting the evidence of the reality of an organic society, with an identical domicile, — one mind, one accord, one place. It must be so on the occasion of a birth.

What the Church was in this respect on this first day we seek to become again today. No confusion of words must be allowed to obscure or to reduce the original Christian idea and experience. What this was, the New Testament makes unmistakably clear. Our Lord speaks: "A New Commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; As I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." "I pray that they all may be one, as thou Father, art in me and I in thee, that they also may be

in us." And Paul speaks, "By one Spirit are we all baptized into one body . . . and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." "We being many are one body in Christ and every one members one of another." And John speaks: "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and everyone that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him." And Peter, who was spokesman for the Church on Pentecost, speaks to it still: "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently." These were the marks with which the Church was born. She was meant to bear her birthmarks to her earthly end and beyond.

2. To this little Church in its unity, in accordance with Jesus' promise, the Holy Spirit came. He came as *Light*, "Like as a fire." Christ had come to be the light of the world. (John 8:12) and to cast fire on the earth (Luke 12:49.) So as light and fire his Spirit came. He came as *Power*; as Jesus had promised, "Ye shall receive power when the Holy Spirit is come upon you." (Acts 1:8.) This in the most vivid way was clearly Peter's experience. A few days before, a servant girl's curiosity had intimidated him and he had denied Christ and feared to walk with him to Calvary, or to be seen near the cross. Another and different Simon had to bear the Savior's burden. But now by the coming of the Holy Spirit Peter is a new man; afraid of nothing, neither of Jewish authorities nor of Rome, nor of any mob. (Acts 4:7-13.) To him, as to Paul, God gave the Spirit, "not of fear but of power and of love and of a sound mind." (II Tim. 1:7.) The Holy Spirit came as *Memory*. This was one of the major purposes of his

coming. "The Spirit of Truth which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:" (John 15:26) "And ye also shall bear witness." And so it was. By the Holy Spirit "with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection;" (Acts 4:33) and of what they had heard Jesus say and had seen him do. This is the Spirit's perpetual function. "The Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." (John 14:26.) And the Spirit came not as *Light* and *Power* and *Memory* only but also as *Preparation* of the Church for her world mission in accordance with the Lord's last recorded words to his disciples; "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8.)

3. Accordingly, the first manifestation of the coming of the Spirit was a great outburst of what today we call evangelism. "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak. . ." (Acts 2:4) and what they spoke was "the wonderful works of God." (Acts 2:11.) And Peter as chief spokesman poured forth the story of Christ and his death and resurrection and called those who heard him to immediate decision, with an immediate and amazing response. When opposition and hostility developed, Peter and his associates were not coerced. The high priest's servant girl had silenced Peter once but not the high priest himself nor all the Sanhedrin could silence him now. The new Spirit was a Spirit of tireless and unfearing evangelism. "And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy

to suffer shame for his name. And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." (Acts 5:41, 42.) And when Stephen's martyrdom scattered the Church "they that were scattered abroad, went everywhere preaching the word." (Acts 8:4.)

4. And what was the word which the Spirit of Pentecost gave the Church to preach? It was the word of the *truth* of the Gospel (Col. 1:5), the word of *faith*, (Rom. 10:8), the word of reconciliation (II Cor. 5:19), the word of *life* (I John 1:1), the word of *Christ*. (Col. 3:16.) In one word it was Christ. Christ was the word, and the word which the early Church preached was Christ (II Cor. 4:5; Col. 1:28), and pre-eminently Christ crucified (I Cor. 1:23) and risen; not crucified only, but risen. (I Cor. 15:14.) The Resurrection was the dominant note in Peter's Pentecost sermon: "Whom God raised up," as David had foretold (Acts 2:24, 27), who "spoke of the Resurrection of Christ." (Acts 2:31.) It was the dominant note of all the life and preaching that sprang from Pentecost. (Acts 3:15, 26; 4:2, 10; 5:30; 10:40; 13:30, 33, 34; 17:18, 31; 23:6; 24:15, 21.) And our preaching today, if it would be true to Pentecost, must be the preaching of Christ and the Resurrection. The message of Christianity will recover the evangelism and the evangelicalism of Pentecost when it is reconstructed around the central Person and principle of the Risen Christ and Living Lord.

5. There were two other significant notes of Pentecost: *community* and *universalism*. (a) The symbol of the Spirit, a tongue of fire "sat upon each of them and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit." (Acts. 2:3, 4.) There were no degrees of consecration or

privilege. Every disciple entered into the great experience and shared in the evangelistic mission. "The office of teaching and preaching the gospel," wrote a notable minister of the Church of England, Frederick Myers, belongs, "not to the clergy only, but to every member of the Church, for a dispensation of the gospel is committed to every Christian and woe unto him if he preach not the gospel." The command to evangelize the world was not given by our Lord to apostles only or to those by whom the apostles might be claimed centuries later to have commissioned for such work. "Every disciple," as Dr. A. J. Gordon used to say, "was an evangelist." Every member of the Church of Pentecost felt the joy and power of the Spirit and had part in the evangelistic mission of the Church. Here were full community of life and duty, and for a season at least there was a glad and just community of possessions, of which at first, though not for long (II Thess. 3:10), no one took unworthy advantage: (Acts 2:44, 45.)

6. The universalism of the Gospel was stamped on the Pentecost experience. The Spirit came to equip the Church to bear her witness to the nations, to the uttermost part of the earth. (Luke 24:48, 49; Acts 1:8.) And lo, there were in Jerusalem that very day "men from every nation under heaven." (Acts 2:4.) And forthwith, ere long, the Church went forth into all the world. And as she went the Lord went with her, according to his promise: "Go ye and make disciples of all the nations and lo, I am with you alway." The Lord and his Spirit were with a moving Church at the beginning, and today the Church that would know the presence and power of the Spirit of Pentecost must accept and undertake her mission.

Monday, April 7

## 1. The Love of the Spirit

*I beseech you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ, and by the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me. Romans 15:30.*

"The love of God" and "the love of Christ" are familiar phrases occurring often in the New Testament and filling a large place in Christian life and thought. But "the love of the Spirit" is a phrase which occurs only once. Yet surely it belongs with the two others. But what is its meaning? Does it refer to the Holy Spirit's love, or to our love of the Holy Spirit, or to the love of our fellow men which the Holy Spirit produces in us? "The love of God" may mean God's love for us, or our love for God, or God's love in us making us love others. And so also "the love of Christ." Is not "the love of the Spirit" to be interpreted in the same rich way? It means the Holy Spirit's love of us. What but such love could make him willing to make his abode in us, enduring our unworthiness and impurity and patiently working his transformation in us? It means our love of the Spirit, our preference for the Spirit as against the flesh, our wrestling against all "spiritual wickedness," our desiring "spiritual gifts." And it means that love in human relations which is the fruit of the Spirit. There can be no separating of the Holy Spirit from love, or love from the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is the medium and channel of love, of God's love of man, of man's love of God, or man's love of man.

"Spirit of God, descend upon my heart  
And make me love thee as I ought to love."

Tuesday, April 8

## 2. The Promise of the Spirit

*The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you.* John 14:26.

The Gospels record three distinct appearances of our Lord to his disciples after the four or five appearances of Easter Day (John 20: 24, 29; 21: 1-24; Matt. 28: 16, 20; I Cor. 15: 16). But in addition, in the fifty days between the Easter Passover and Pentecost, Luke tells us that "Jesus showed himself alive to his disciples by many proofs, appearing unto them by the space of forty days and speaking the things concerning the Kingdom of God." When they asked him whether it was his purpose to restore the Kingdom of Israel he answered: "It is not for you to know the times or seasons . . . but ye shall receive power when the Holy Spirit is come upon you and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had said these things, as they were looking, he was taken up. Then returned they all to Jerusalem." And there they awaited the fulfilling of the Promise which came on Pentecost.

The Christian imagination may not venture to reconstruct the conversations of these fifty days of which the Holy Spirit has left no record. We must be content to meditate day by day on some aspect of the mission of the Spirit of Pentecost.

**Let Us Pray:** O Lord, may the Holy Spirit fulfill to us during these fifty days and always, his mission of remembrance. Amen.

*Wednesday, April 9*

### 3. The Bidding of the Spirit

*And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. Revelation 22:17a.*

These are the two great evangelists, the Holy Spirit and the Church. It is the Spirit who prompts the speech. On Pentecost the disciples were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke "as the Spirit gave them utterance." It was the Spirit which made their speech effective. Stephen's adversaries were not able to withstand "the wisdom and the spirit by which he spoke." It was the Spirit who sent Philip to preach to the Ethiopian eunuch and who took Peter on his evangelistic errand to Caesarea to the house of Cornelius and who validated Peter's words there. It was the Spirit who directed Paul's missionary evangelism and made it effective and fruitful. And the Church is the Spirit's agent in evangelism. "The Spirit and the bride say, Come." This is the summons and the invitation of the Church. "Come and see," said Philip to Nathaniel. The true invitation of the Church is not "Come and see what the Lord hath done to my soul," but "Come and see the Lord." Our message is not our experience of Christ. It is Christ. The Church's offer to men is to come and look at Christ, to hear what Christ has to say, to let Christ do what he, and he alone, can do. Come!

Let Us Pray: O Lord, we come to thee afresh, to find each time we come new treasure that we had never known before and to be inspired afresh to go forth with thy Spirit to say to all men, Come. Amen.

Thursday, April 10

#### 4. Receiving the Spirit

*And Paul said unto them, Did ye receive the Holy Spirit when he believed? . . . Nay, we did not so much as hear whether there is a Holy Spirit. Acts 19:2.*

This was at Ephesus on the occasion of Paul's second visit to the city. He found there some "certain disciples" who had never heard of the Holy Spirit. They are called disciples though they had not been "baptized unto the name of the Lord Jesus." Then Paul "laid his hands upon them and the Holy Spirit came on them." Very like many modern Christians to whom the idea of the Holy Spirit is a strange and unknown idea. Either they have never heard of him or he has no reality for them, or they think of any personal relation to the Holy Spirit as something special, belonging to some separate class — to the Christians of long ago or to a priesthood or ordained ministry. But as Bishop Lightfoot wrote, "The Kingdom of Christ has no sacerdotal system. It interposes no sacrificial tribe or class between God and man by whose intercession alone God is reconciled and man forgiven. Each individual member holds personal communion with the Divine Head. To him immediately he is responsible and from him directly he obtains pardon and draws strength." The Spirit was given to the whole body of believers, and to each believer.

Let Us Pray: Open the eyes of our faith, O God, and our hearts, that we, too, may know this Spirit, who having come once on Pentecost came again at Ephesus, that he may come once more, now on us. In His name. Amen.

*Friday, April 11*

## 5. A thirst for the Spirit

*Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink. He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, from within him shall flow rivers of living water. John 7:37, 38.*

This was the Feast of the Tabernacles. One of the chief features of the Feast was the procession each day for seven days from the Temple to the Pool of Siloam, the people bearing vessels which they filled with water at the pool. Returning they poured out the water as a libation in the Temple. On the eighth and great day the procession went out as before, but on this day they returned with their vessels empty, signifying that they were waiting for that of which the water of Siloam had been the symbol. To the earnest worshippers among them who longed for the reality, Jesus spoke, and John interprets for us His words: "This spake he of the Spirit which they that believed on him were to receive: for the Spirit was not yet given; because Jesus was not yet glorified." Does not John's explanation reach beyond the chronological fact that Pentecost could only follow Christ's return to the glory which he had with the Father? Does it not bear fully and directly upon our need today for that which Pentecost supplied? We want the Spirit of God, his peace, his power. Then let Christ be glorified by us and in us.

Let Us Pray: O Spirit of God, be thou the fulfiller of the conditions of thy fulfillment in us, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

*Saturday, April 12*

## 6. Spirit and Body

*Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which you have from God? . . .  
Glorify God therefore in your body.* I Cor. 6:19, 20.

In the early part of the nineteenth century the most popular preacher in London was Edward Irving. He had come to London from Scotland with the conviction that it was his mission to reach the "upper classes" and for some time in carrying out this mission he met with amazing success. Before long, however, there began to appear strange demonstrations which Irving and his followers believed were manifestations of the supernatural and after bitter experiences the great ministry ended in disaster, not wholly through Irving's fault. During the height of the demonstrations on one occasion a voice was heard from under one of the galleries exclaiming, "I want a body." The voice could not be traced to any individual and Irving's people believed that it was the voice of the Holy Spirit calling for a human body to dwell in. Whatever we may think of the incident in Irving's Chapel, the plain Christian truth is that the Holy Spirit is now and always "wanting a body." In every Christian's body he would make his abode, as in the Church which is Christ's body.

Let Us Pray: Spirit of God, enter in today to our bodies and our spirits. Take full possession, and expel all that is unworthy and evil and wrong in us and in human society, and make us a temple holy unto God. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Sunday, April 13

## 7. The Spirit of Purity

*Be thou an example to them that believe, in word, in manner of life, in love, in faith, in purity.* I Timothy 4:12.

The Spirit of God is a Spirit of Truth and Purity; of Truth in speech and Purity in thought and life. "It was my concern from day to day," wrote John Woolman in his *Journal*, "to say neither more nor less than what the Spirit of Truth opened in me, being jealous over myself lest I should say anything to make my testimony look agreeable to that mind in people which is not in full obedience to the Cross of Christ." And the gates of thought and life are like the City of God, pure as gold. The Spirit of purity is their guardian and nothing that he has not cleansed can go in thereat. John Bunyan wrote of these gates in *Grace Abounding*. "For as much as the passage was wonderful narrow, even so narrow that I could not but with great difficulty enter in thereat, it showed me that none could enter into life, but those who were in downright earnest, and unless also they left this wicked world behind them, for there was only room for Body and Soul but not for Body and Soul and Sin."

Let Us Pray:

"Spirit of purity and grace  
Our weakness pitying see:  
O make our hearts thy dwelling place  
And worthier thee." Amen.

Monday, April 14

## 8. The Revealing Spirit

*When he, the Spirit of truth is come, he shall guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak from himself; but what things soever he shall hear, these shall he speak: . . . He shall glorify me: for he shall take of mine and shall declare it unto you. John 16:13, 14.*

There is a story of a French peasant in the Department of Ars who was accustomed once every day to lay aside his work and in his old blue smock and his wooden sabots to go to the Cathedral for a quiet time and then return to his work. When asked what he did during his visit to the Cathedral he replied, "I look at Jesus and Jesus looks at me." It is the mission of the Holy Spirit to help such looking as this. His function, as Jesus told his disciples, would be, when he was come, to remind them of Jesus himself and to bring to their remembrance all that he had said to them. Paul rejoiced that God in his goodness had revealed Christ in him and to him, and it was the revealing, the unveiling, the beholding of Christ that was the "joy of loving hearts" in the early church and has been their joy always. And this revealing, this looking at Christ and being looked at by Christ, was and is the work of the Spirit. He removes the veils and shows us the Face.

Let Us Pray: O Spirit of God, reveal Christ to us and in us. Help us to look at him and to remember that he is looking at us and that he would fain see in us what we see in him. We ask it in his name. Amen.

Tuesday, April 15

## 9. The Temple of the Spirit

*"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. I Cor. 3:16, 17.*

A generation ago in a popular novel named *Queed* two of the engaging characters were an ex-prize fighter named Klinker and a little doctor who was Klinker's friend. One day Klinker asked his friend, "Doc, do you know what is the finest verse in Scripture? No? Well, I'll tell you. 'He spake of the temple of his body,' A dandy, ain't it? Do you know what I would do if I was a preacher? I'd go down to the corner of Third and Main Streets next Sunday afternoon where them blackguards get together and I'd preach them a sermon from that text, 'He spake of the temple of his body.' "

This is the New Testament conception of the body. Body and Soul are not enemies. They are allies. The body is the soul's home, the Spirit's temple. All the soul's language is made up of bodily metaphors. The body furnishes the soul with its materials for reflection. It constitutes the soul's channel of communication with other souls. It furnishes the soul with its instruments of action and its means of worship. "A Christian life," says Miss Houselander in *The War is the Passion*, "is a sacramental life; it is not a life lived only in the mind, only by the soul." In our bodies Christ dwells and toils.

Let Us Pray: O Spirit of God, make us fit temples. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Wednesday, April 16

## 10. Flesh vs. Spirit

*The flesh lusteth against the Spirit and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are contrary one to the other.*  
Galatians 5:17.

The great antithesis of the New Testament is not between Body and Soul but between Flesh and Spirit. Flesh and Spirit are irreconcilable enemies. The word *flesh* has indeed its innocent significance. "To abide in the flesh" is Paul's phrase for continued life here on earth, and he uses the word to describe that which is according to the ordinary course of nature. But in its moral significance, in the quaint language of Cruden's Concordance, "where the word *flesh* is applied to men unregenerated it signifies the whole corruption and depravity of our nature, raging and reigning both in the understanding and will. But in those places of Scripture where *flesh* is attributed to persons that are converted and is set in opposition to the Spirit, it signifies the remainder of natural corruption, even so much of that vicious quality of sin, as is still unmortified in regenerated persons." And this is the soul's warfare and battleground.

"Never, O Christ, — so stay me from  
relenting, —

Shall there be truce betwixt my flesh  
and soul."

Let Us Pray: Help us, O God, by thy Spirit possessing and inspiring our spirit, to see the reality and inevitability of this conflict, and once for all to yield the guidance, control and direction of our lives to thee, by whom we may have victory over the flesh and in whom we may have rest and peace. Amen.

*Thursday, April 17*

## 11. The Humility of the Spirit

*Learn of me: for I am meek and lowly in heart. Mat-  
thew 11:29.*

The Highest stooped in the Incarnation to the humblest place. He did not, however, need humbling as a discipline and a place of safety as we need it and as the New Testament constantly reminds us of our need — the need of a meek and quiet spirit: of a humble-minded spirit. Here in this spirit the Holy Spirit provides for us a refuge of encouragement and peace. "Our moods of humiliation," wrote an anonymous author, "to a minister having a bad time," "are not our most dangerous moods. The days of brilliant triumph are the days when our feet are set in slippery places. . . . It is wonderful how many failures on the part of its advocates the gospel has survived. He who works with poor human instruments does not see such a gulf between our best and worst as we see. He who can use us at all can use our blunders and confusions." In all ages God's Spirit has used lowly and humble instruments, times and occasions which men would not have chosen. The Bible warnings are against the spirit of pride and its appeal is for the spirit of humility. "Yea all of you gird yourselves with humility to serve one another; for God resisteth the proud but giveth grace to the humble."

Let Us Pray: Admit us, O God, into thy school of patience and humility and make us like him who though he was on an equality with God became the servant of man. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday, April 18

## 12. The Spirit of Truth

*When the Spirit of truth, is come, he shall guide you into all the truth. John 16:13.*

The Spirit of God does this for us in all of life. Wherever men are seeking for the truth and wherever they find it, it is the Holy Spirit, whether they know it or not, who is guiding them. And preëminently the Spirit does this for us through the Bible. He is forever revealing new things that we had not seen before. This is the nature of the Bible and it is the function of the Spirit. As Dr. Otto Piper says, "If the Bible simply confirms what you thought you knew already, if it does not change your outlook and constantly overthrow your favorite theories, you may be quite certain that you have not apprehended its revelatory character. . . . The Holy Spirit is not a destructive principle, but as a life-giver he is certainly opposed to stagnation and complacency." "I rejoice at thy word," says the Psalmist, "as one that findeth great spoil." The Holy Spirit is our guide unto this spoil. Under his leading we make great discoveries and go not only from strength to strength, but also from truth to truth, not leaving the old strength or the old truth behind but carrying them with us. Here is a living guide until death and unto life.

Let Us Pray: O Spirit of truth and light, deliver us from error and darkness and lead us forth into larger places and fuller life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Saturday, April 19*

### 13. The Mind of the Spirit

*The mind of the Spirit.* Romans 8:27.

Christianity is a matter of the will and the heart. But it is also a matter of the mind. "Have this mind in you which was also in Christ Jesus." The norm and law of the Christian life for Paul was "the mind of Christ." And the mind of Christ is the mind of the Spirit. And what is this mind? "The mind of the Spirit is life and peace." It is lowliness and humility like Christ's, who though he was on an equality with God counted not that equality a prize to be jealously retained but "emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient even unto death, even the death of the Cross." It is obedience, it is fellowship and unity, it is courage and power and love and self-control.

How can we get this mind? Well, the word *mind* has various senses. We use it as equivalent to *will*, as in the phrase, "They had a mind to work." And we use it in the sense of *taste* as in "they mind earthly things." And we use it in the sense of *thought*. In all three senses it is under our control. Therefore Paul can bid us to have it. We do not need to wait upon someone else for it. We can have it whenever we will. Our thoughts, tastes and wills are ours. Why? To make them Christ's by the help of the Spirit.

Let Us Pray: Help us, O Holy Spirit, to be reminded of Christ and to be like Christ, for his sake. Amen.

*Sunday, April 20*

## 14. Spiritlikeness

*Even if a man be overtaken in any trespass, ye who are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of gentleness. Galatians 6:1.*

Just as the love of the Spirit needs to be associated with the love of God and the love of Christ, so Godliness and Christlikeness imply also the idea of Holy Spirit likeness. "Ye who are spiritual," says Paul. Godly, Christian, Spiritual, are the three character words. What thought about the Christian life is more natural and necessary? Christians are those in whom the Spirit dwells, who are under transformation by the Spirit, who live in the communion of the Holy Spirit.

What then is the nature and business of the Holy Spirit in which we ought to be like him? Note three things: The Spirit remembers and reminds us of Christ. The Spirit testifies of Christ. The Spirit glorifies Christ and not himself. And what are the marks of Spirit likeness? Paul gives us the answer: "Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control." These are the characteristics of those who would be like the Holy Spirit. Whether or not the Epistle to the Hebrews was written by Paul it expresses his mind: "Follow after peace with all men," says the writer of that Epistle, "and the holiness without which no man can see the Lord."

**Let Us Pray:** Our Father, help us to worship thee in Spirit and walk in the ways of the Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Monday, April 21*

## 15. Liberty *From* and Liberty *To*

*Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. II Corinthians 3:17.*

Paul is referring, no doubt, to freedom from bondage to the Old Testament ceremonial law, but his conception of liberty was not negative. It was "the glorious liberty of the children of God."

And what is this liberty? It is liberty *from* and it is liberty *to*. It is freedom from fear of men and of events, from the inner division and strife, from selfishness and ignorance as to right and duty, from dread of the future, from the bondage of sin and evil habit, from tyranny of state and society.

But, as J. H. Randall, Jr. has said, "Freedom is not general but specific and determinant: it is release from one kind of bondage, the better to assume the yoke of another. Freedom and obligation are both correlative and plural and each is at once a freedom from this and a submission to that. Knowledge itself is both an emancipation and an exchange of bondage: it frees us from the slavery of ignorance for the service of the conditions and responsibilities of knowing."

Paul knew the meaning of true liberty, both "liberty from" and "liberty to." "The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus made me free from the law of sin and death," and he went on, "Ye are not in the flesh but in the Spirit," the living liberty of the living Spirit.

Let Us Pray: O Spirit of Liberty, strike off all our chains and set us free, through Christ. Amen.

Tuesday, April 22

## 16. The Triune Spirit

*The Lord is the Spirit.* II Corinthians 3:17.

Paul and John were not troubled as we are with the theological problem of the Trinity. The Trinity in the Divine Unity and the Unity of the Divine Trinity were clear and simple truths to them. Had they not known in their own experience, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, each and one? God was in Christ and Christ was in God. The Lord was the Spirit and the Spirit was the Lord. John uses the same word for Christ which Christ had used for the Holy Spirit. (I John 2:1, John 10:5, 16.)

"The Lord is the Spirit." When he communicates himself he communicates the Spirit, and when the Spirit communicates himself he communicates Christ. "It is clear from Romans 8:9, 10 that the expressions 'the Spirit of God being in men,' 'the Spirit of Christ being in men,' and 'Christ being in men' signify the same thing. At the root of this variety of interpretation lies the truth that 'the Lord is *the* Spirit.' The connection shows that this proposition declares Christ the Lord to be the Spirit so far as Christ's being and working in us is concerned. The Spirit in us is Christ in us, and Christ in us is the Spirit in us." (Bible Commentary.)

All this was clear to our Lord. The first words in his first sermon in the synagogue of his home town were: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me." All Three were one in him.

Let Us Pray: O Lord, the Spirit, rest also upon us and abide in us, thou blessed Christ. Amen.

Wednesday, April 23

## 17. The Fruit of the Spirit

*The works of the flesh . . . the fruit of the Spirit.*  
Galatians 5:19-23.

Paul names fifteen evil things, and adds "and such like," as the works of the flesh, and nine things as the fruit of the Spirit. The first list represents the demoralization of the individual and of society. No man of reason and decency and goodwill could approve such practices as sensuality, idolatry, contention and excess. Whatever produces such results must be evil. Paul calls it here and elsewhere "the flesh." He does not mean by this "the body." "The flesh" is not physical. It is the spirit turned to base and unholy ways, and its works are deadly.

Over against the works of the flesh Paul sets the fruit of the Spirit. Could there be a greater contrast evidencing the iniquity of evil and its consequences, and the blessing of the fruitage of the Spirit? The dominance of the Spirit must mean for the individual and for society peace and prosperity and gladness. It is sufficient proof of the moral downfall of human nature that it prefers, so tragically as it does, the flesh and its works.

Why "works" in the plural in one case and "fruit" in the singular the other? Chrysostom remarks that what is bad comes from ourselves alone but the good not from ourselves only but from God. His Holy Spirit bears fruit in us. Our bad wills work evil. And the good is unitary and the evil multiple.

Let Us Pray: Spirit of God, be fruitful in me, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday, April 24

## 18. The Spirit of Denial

*No man can say, Jesus is Lord, but in the Holy Spirit.*  
I Corinthians 12:3. *Every spirit that confesseth not Jesus is not of God: and this is the spirit of the anti-christ.* I John 4:3.

These are plain and straightforward words. The affirmation of the Lordship of Christ is an affirmation of the Holy Spirit. No man can make it, says Paul, "but in the Holy Spirit." And John holds the same view. The confession of the Incarnation is a declaration of the Spirit of God. The denial of Jesus is the repudiation of the witness of God's Spirit. It is the spirit not of Christ but of antichrist. Unbelieving, in the view of Paul and John, is no light matter. It is the rejection of the testimony and authority of the Holy Spirit whose mission in the world is to bring men to Christ and to plant Christ in men, and who is always and ever seeking to fulfill this mission in every man. "When the Holy Spirit is come," Jesus told his disciples in the Upper Room, "he will convict the world in respect of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they believe not on me." If the world is not convinced and does not believe, it is not the fault of the Holy Spirit. It is the fault of the human spirit which is shut against the Holy Spirit. And this is no light matter, not to be offset and discounted by human culture, education, civilization or aught else.

Let Us Pray: We rejoice, O Lord, to confess thee to be our Lord, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of God, who for us men and our salvation came down from heaven. Amen.

Friday, April 25

## 19. The Witness of the Spirit

*The Spirit himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are children of God.* Romans 8:16.

The Holy Spirit is the witness of God. Like Jesus he speaks of that which he knows and bears witness of that which he has seen. And as in the case of our Lord, his testimony is not accepted by the world, but it is accepted by those whose hearts and minds are open to receive it, and who are confirmed by it in their faith, that God is their Father. It is God's Spirit who assumes that we, too, are his and in his love and care. "The Spirit himself beareth witness with our spirit that we are children of God."

"The witness of the Spirit," said Wesley, "is a consciousness of our being received in and by the Spirit of adoption, the tempers mentioned in the Word of God as belonging to his adopted children — a loving heart toward God and toward all mankind; hanging with childish confidence on God our Father; desiring nothing but him, casting all our care on him."

Even so, but our reliance is not upon our subjective consciousness but on the objective witness of the Holy Spirit. We have from the lips of Jesus and on the pages of the New Testament the assurance that the Holy Spirit is here and that it is his witness and not our experience on which we rely.

Let Us Pray: We thank thee, O God, that thou are greater than our heart and knowest all things, and we put our trust in thee and thy Spirit, through Christ. Amen.

Saturday, April 26

## 20. Reflecting the Spirit

*We all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory. II Corinthians 3:18.*

The marginal reading for "beholding" is "reflecting". The Greek word may mean either. Paul may be saying, "We behold the glory of Christ in the gospel as in a mirror from which it is reflected", or "We Christians reflect the glory of Christ as in a mirror." In either case the result is that we are transformed into his likeness. For the glory of Christ is the character of Christ. We look at this in the Gospels and as we study it there we feel the shame of all that is un-Christlike and the beauty of all Christlikeness.

And as Christians thus "behold" and "reflect", the Holy Spirit does his work of transformation,

"One prayed in vain to paint the vision  
blest

That shone upon his heart by night and day,  
But homely duties in his dwelling pressed  
And hungry hearts that would not turn  
away,

And cares that still his eager hands bade  
stay.

The canvas never knew the pictured face.  
But year by year while yet the vision  
shone

An angel near him wondering bent to trace  
On his own life the Master's image grown  
And unto men made known."

Let Us Pray: O transforming Spirit, work this miracle in us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

*Sunday, April 27*

## 21. The Spirit Speaketh in You

*It is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father that speaketh in you. Matthew 10:20.*

Jesus was reassuring his disciples with regard to difficult situations in which they would find themselves. "When they deliver you up," he told the twelve, "be not anxious how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that hour what you shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father that speaketh in you."

It is not in such emergency situations only that our speech should be under control of the Holy Spirit. It is our ordinary conversation that needs to be brought under his control. "Let your speech be always with grace," wrote Paul to the Colossians.

Mr. Gladstone called Sir Thomas Acland, the father of Dr. Henry Acland, "the finest gentleman in the West of England." And the son who was one of England's greatest physicians, walked in the ways and character of his father. Of them both it was said that "their conversation was a liberal education ranging over a wide extent of subjects filled with a large experience of men and things, lightened up with an original play of fancy, and above all, keeping the listener almost unconsciously in that high and pure atmosphere of an elevated mind in which all things are seen on the upper side." Is such conversation a lost art? Of father and son it was true that they spoke as the Spirit of their Father would have them speak.

Let Us Pray: Help us, Spirit of God, to glorify thee in our tongues. Amen.

Monday, April 28

## 22. The Nature of the Spirit

*A Spirit hath not flesh and bones as ye behold me having.* Luke 24:39.

It is interesting to see how consistently in the Bible the Holy Spirit is spoken of without any use of bodily metaphors. Such metaphors are used constantly with regard to the two other persons of the Holy Trinity. "God is a Spirit," as Jesus said to the woman of Samaria, but the Bible writers speak of God's face, his eyes, his mouth, his ears, his hands, his heart. And of the Risen and Ascended Jesus the same sort of language is used — his head, his breast, his hair, his eyes, his feet, his hands, his mouth.

All this, of course, is figure of speech. One can only speak of God in human language. We can neither think nor speak of what we have not seen save with language borrowed from what we have seen. But the significant thing is that of the Holy Spirit who also is a Person, these physical metaphors are not used, or if used they apply not to his person but to his functions. — "The Spirit fell." "Filled with the Holy Spirit." "Born of the Spirit." So our Lord spoke of the spirit-nature of the Spirit: "The wind bloweth where it will and thou hearest the voice thereof, but knoweth not whence it cometh and whither it goeth. so is every one that is born of the Spirit."

Let Us Pray: We see thee not, O Spirit of God. We hear thee not. Yet thou art the Light of all our seeing. We live because thou art the Life of God within us. Amen.

*Tuesday, April 29*

### 23. The Power of the Spirit

*The power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13.*

The presence of the Holy Spirit was a promise of power, for the Holy Spirit was and is a Spirit of power. "Ye shall receive power," said Jesus, "when the Holy Spirit is come upon you." The promises were fulfilled. Peter's power on Pentecost was, as he declared, the power of the Spirit; and in his sermon in Cornelius' house Peter associated the two great conceptions of the Holy Spirit and power in the life of Jesus himself. With Paul also, the source and secret of power were in the Holy Spirit. "Christ wrought through me the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Holy Spirit." "My speech and my preaching were not in persuasive words of man's wisdom but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power." And to Timothy, who perhaps was of a timid spirit, Paul wrote, "God gave us not a Spirit of fearfulness, but of power."

And, with deepest significance, the New Testament associates the power of the Holy Spirit and the power of the Resurrection. "Jesus," writes Paul, "was declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead."

Let us desist from seeking power through organization, advertising, money or aught else, and find it where alone it is to be found.

**Let Us Pray:** Give us grace, O God, to believe thy word, "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit." Amen.

Wednesday, April 30

## 24. The Sharpness of the Spirit

*Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God.*  
I John 4:2.

The two aspects of the Holy Spirit on which the New Testament lays the greatest stress are Truth and Power. Our Lord's promise of the Spirit was of "the Spirit of truth." And the truth with which the Spirit is charged, and to which it is his mission to bear witness, is the truth of the divinity of our Lord. "Every Spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God," says John. And he added, "Who is he that overcometh the world but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God. It is the Spirit that beareth witness because the Spirit is the Truth." The gentle and loving John is very positive and outspoken about this veracious witness of the Spirit to the significance of Christ. "I have not written unto you because you know not the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth. Who is the liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, even he that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: he that confesseth the Son hath the Father also." This is hard doctrine for our day, with its lazy tolerance and its dislike of the sharp edge of truth.

Let Us Pray: Behold, O Lord, thou desirest truth in the inward parts and in the hidden part thou wilt make me to know wisdom.  
Amen.

Thursday, May 1

## 25. The Riches of the Spirit

*We speak not in words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Spirit teacheth. I Corinthians 2:13. I will give thee hidden riches of secret places. Isaiah 45:3. I will give to eat of the hidden manna. Revelation 2:17.*

So Thomas Fuller wrote in: *Good Thoughts for Bad Times*: "Lord this morning I read a chapter of the Bible and therein observed a memorable passage whereof I never took note before. Why now and no sooner did I see it? Formerly my eyes were as open, and the letters were as legible. Is there not a thin veil over thy word which is more rarefied by reading and at last wholly worn away? . . . I see the oil of thy word will never leave increasing whilst any bring an empty barrel. The Old Testament will still be a New Testament to him who comes with a fresh desire for information. How fruitful are the seeming barren places of Scripture! Bad ploughmen make balks of such ground. Wheresoever the surface of God's word does not laugh and sing with corn, there the heart thereof within is merry with mines, affording, where not plain matter, hidden mysteries." Under the touch of the Spirit, words that otherwise were words only turn to life.

Let Us Pray: Lord of Light, open our eyes to see the wondrous things out of thy law, and the treasures of wisdom and knowledge that are hidden in thee. Reveal to us the unsearchable riches of Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.

Friday, May 2

## 26. The Bridge of the Spirit

*Thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble. Isaiah 57:15.*

"Humility" is a word whose root is the "ground". To be humble is to get under, where the power of lifting is greatest. So Christ came to get beneath man to raise him from death to life. This was his Spirit. This is the Holy Spirit. In the life of Louis Agassiz there is a children's story which is also a parable of this spirit. "One winter day when about seven years of age he was skating with his little brother, August, two years younger than himself, on the lake near his home, and proposed to August that they should skate across the lake to join their father who had driven around the shore of the lake to the fair at the town of Morat. When the boys did not come home at the expected hour their mother made inquiries and learned with deep anxiety of their errand. The lake was not less than two miles across and she was by no means sure that the ice was safe. She hurried to an upper window with a spy glass to see if she could discover them anywhere. At the moment she caught sight of them, already far on their journey, Louis had laid himself down across a fissure in the ice, thus making a bridge for his little brother, who was creeping over his back."

Let Us Pray: O Bridge of God, our Incarnate Lord and Savior, may thy Spirit make us like thee. Amen.

*Saturday, May 3*

## 27. Witnessing in the Spirit

*When the Holy Spirit is come upon you, ye shall be my witnesses. Acts 1:8.*

Who? "Evangelism," says a leaflet of the New Life Movement, "is not something the average Christian can hire a specialist to do for him. Our Lord never intended that. He made the winning of others to him a joy and a duty that every follower of his should share. The misconception that evangelism is a matter for experts has robbed many church members of their Christian birth-right, and it has distorted their understanding of the very word 'evangelism'."

"Moreover, it will not work — especially not in the present scene. The spectacular revival, to which the unchurched flocked in numbers to hear a colorful preacher, has passed out of the American scene with the chautauqua and the literary society. Evangelistic preaching has never lost its power or importance. But without a vast amount of personal work by the members, the unchurched will never come within sound of the preacher's voice."

The progress of Christianity at the beginning was due to the faithfulness of the great body of the Christians in their witness bearing. It was not apostles and preachers and teachers only who preached Christ. Every Christian was meant to be, and is meant to be today, an evangelist by word and by life.

Let Us Pray: Freely we have received from thee, Spirit of God, freely may we give. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Sunday, May 4

## 28. Patient in Spirit

*The patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit. Ecclesiastes 7:8. Though Jehovah is high yet hath he respect unto the lowly. Psalm 138:6.*

“I confess,” said Tertullian, “before God My Lord, that I venture rashly enough, if not shamelessly, to write concerning patience, for the practice of which I am altogether unfit, as a man in whom there is no good thing; whereas it is fitting that they who attempt to set forth and commend anything should first themselves be found in the practice of that thing, and should direct the energy of their admonitions by the authority of their own conduct, so that their word need not blush for their deficient deeds. And I wish that blushing could bring its own remedy, so that the shame of not showing forth in ourselves that which we go about to advise for others, might school us into showing it forth; were it not that the greatness of some good things, as well as of evils, so overbears our powers that the grace of the Divine Spirit can alone work in us with the comprehension and performance of it. For that which is the most good is in God’s hands and no other than he who possesses, dispenses to each as he will.”

Let Us Pray: Holy Spirit, Spirit of him who was meek and lowly, who when he was reviled, reviled not again, when he suffered threatened not, teach us his patience, his long suffering, his humility. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be in us all. Amen.

*Monday, May 5*

## 29. God is a Spirit

*Jesus spoke of the Spirit which they that believed on him were to receive. John 7:39.*

The Fourth Gospel is preëminently the Gospel of the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist bare witness, saying, "I have beheld the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven and it abode upon him." To Nicodemus Jesus said, "Except one be born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter the Kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." To the woman of Samaria, "God is a Spirit and they that worship him, must worship him in Spirit and in truth." At the feast of tabernacles he offered a living water by which John says he meant the Holy Spirit. To his disciples in the Upper Room on the night of his betrayal he made his repeated promises: "The Father shall give you the Spirit of Truth." "The Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things." "When the Spirit of truth is come he shall guide you into all the truth; for he shall not speak of himself; but what things soever he shall hear, these shall he speak: and he shall declare it unto you." And lastly, to the disciples on the evening of Easter Day, "Peace be unto you: as the Father hath sent me, even so send I you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said unto them, "Receive ye the Holy Spirit."

**Let Us Pray:** O faithful Lord, whose promises fail not, breathe thou on us, that we too may receive and be filled. Amen.

Tuesday, May 6

### 30. The Secrets of the Spirit

*The Spirit of truth shall glorify me.* John 16:13, 14.

Fifty years ago a devoted Christian layman, James H. McConkey, wrote a little book entitled: *The Threefold Secret of the Holy Spirit*. The three secrets were:

1. The Secret of his Incoming: Union with Christ.
2. The Secret of his Fullness: Yielding to Christ.
3. The Secret of his Constant Manifestation: Abiding in Christ.

The author invited those who read his little book to join in this act of consecration:

"I believe Jesus Christ is dwelling in me by his Spirit, because God's word says so.

"I believe he is seeking to work out his purpose through me.

"I realize that my life must be yielded to him in order that he may accomplish his purpose.

"I hear his call to me, 'I beseech you to present your body a living sacrifice to God.'

"I now heed that call.

"This day I definitely consecrate my life to the Lord Jesus to trust, obey and serve him as best I know while life shall last. And I pray that he may enable me henceforth to live such a life of faith, love and devotion to him down here as I will wish to have lived when I see him face to face."

Let Us Pray:

"Consecrate me now to thy service Lord  
By the power of grace divine." Amen.

*Wednesday, May 7*

### 31. The Guidance of the Spirit

*The Spirit of truth shall guide you.* John 16:13.

George Müller of Bristol, was a man who unquestionably walked in the divine guidance. And he has left us his rules.

"1. I seek at the beginning to get my heart into such a state that it has no will of its own in regard to a given matter. Nine-tenths of the trouble with people is just here. When one is truly in this state, it is usually but a little way to the knowledge of what his will is.

"2. Having done this, I do not leave the result to feeling or simple impression. If I do so, I make myself liable to great delusions.

"3. I seek the will of the Spirit of God through, or in connection with, the Word of God. The Spirit and the Word must be combined. If I look to the Spirit alone without the Word, I lay myself open to great delusions also. If the Holy Ghost guides us at all, he will do it according to the Scriptures and not contrary to them.

"4. Next I take into account providential circumstances. These often plainly indicate God's will in connection with his Word and Spirit.

"5. I ask God in prayer to reveal his will to me aright."

George Müller bore witness that "in trivial matters and in transactions involving most important issues" he "found this method always effective."

Let Us Pray: Help us, O Spirit of Truth, to yield ourselves to thy guidance. Amen.

Thursday, May 8

## 32. The Only Good Leadership

*Led by the Spirit of God.* Romans 8:14.

The New Testament discredits all human leadership. The English word "leader" occurs only once in the King James Version and then in an unworthy significance, when Jesus says of the Pharisees, "Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch." And the true Greek word for "leader" occurs only once and is applied by our Lord to himself alone: "Be ye not called Rabbi: for one is your leader, and all ye are brethren." Every reference to human leadership is to unworthy, untrustworthy leadership, especially at Jesus' trial and in the Epistles. On the other hand, every reference to good leadership relates to the Trinity. "The goodness of God leads to repentance." Jesus was ever leading men to good. And the Holy Spirit is the great leader. "As many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God."

Where is there, or where has there ever been, any safe human leadership? Witness the plight of the whole world today.

But was not Paul a real leader? Yes, says Schweitzer, but only to abdicate his leadership: "Paul leads us out upon the path of true redemption and hands us over prisoners to Christ."

Let Us Pray: "Lead kindly light, amid the encircling gloom, Lead thou us on." Amen.

Friday, May 9

### 33. Following the Spirit

*The Spirit saith expressly that in later times some shall fall away from the faith. I Timothy 4:1. Until the Spirit be poured upon us from on high. . . Then justice shall dwell in the wilderness: and righteousness shall abide in the fruitful field. And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness, quietness and confidence forever. Isaiah 32:15-17.*

These great words have doubtless many fulfilments. They have one fulfilment surely in our own time. These are just such grievous times as Paul describes (II Tim. 3:1-5), when men are without the control of the One Controller. But this is also the day of the Spirit who leads men willing to be led into "righteousness and peace and gentleness and confidence forever."

The central issue is simply whether men will turn from or turn to the One only adequate Teacher and Lord, to whom the Spirit is now as ever bearing his witness.

Field Marshal Smuts said this in his speech on February 25, 1942, at the Centennial of the Dutch Reformed Church at Potschefstroom in the Transvaal: "The world has no need of a new order or a new plan, but only the honest and courageous application of the historical Christian idea. Our Christian civilization is based on eternal order, an endless plan in the message of Christ . . . The Man of Galilee is, and remains, our one and only leader. And the Church as the carrier of this message should follow him alone."

Let Us Pray: Lead on, O King Eternal, the day of march has come. Amen.

Saturday, May 10

### 34. The Marks of the Spirit

*If we live by the Spirit, by the Spirit let us also walk.*  
Galatians 5:25.

"By the Spirit." This is the comfort of the Christian life. We are not left alone. We do not live by ourselves. We live by the Spirit. By the Spirit we are led. We are strengthened with might by God's spirit. It is by the Spirit that we know that Christ abides in us. We have access to the Father by the Spirit. The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. We are sanctified by the Holy Spirit. There is One who is always working for us and in us and with us and by whom we live and walk.

"I can do all things in him that strengtheneth me," says Paul. He is speaking of Christ, but Christ and the Spirit are one in this. We are "strengthened with power through the Spirit of God in the inward man." We fulfil our trusts through the Holy Spirit dwelling in us.

Once again, what are the marks or characteristics of this Spirit by whom we are to live and to walk? Life, Rom. 8:2,11; Truth, John 14:17; 16:13; Hope, Rom. 15:13; Prayer, Rom. 8:26; Power, II Tim. 1:7; Holiness, Rom. 1:4; Righteousness, Eph. 5:9; Love, Col. 1:8; II Cor. 6:6. These are the true marks, the stigmata, of the Holy Spirit.

Let Us Pray: May these things, O Spirit of God, be in us and abound that they make us to be not idle or unfruitful unto the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Sunday, May 11*

### 35. The Spirit's Kingdom

*The Kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.*  
Romans 14:17.

"The Kingdom of God" is one of the great phrases of the New Testament. It is used with a rich flexibility of meaning. Sometimes it refers to an order already present and sometimes to an order yet to come; as a kingdom now possessed or as a kingdom for whose possession men must wait. Sometimes it refers to a visible kingdom, sometimes to an invisible; sometimes to a kingdom within the soul, sometimes to an objective kingdom realized in human relations.

Paul does not often use the phrase and when he does it is usually in the sense of a spiritual kingdom. The kingdom, he says, is not in word; it is not meat and drink; it is not a matter of flesh and blood; it is a kingdom of the Spirit. "It is," says Lange, "the heavenly sphere of life, in which God's word and Spirit govern. 'The kingdom of God,' says Jesus, 'is within you.' Its essence lies not in things external, but in the inward graces of the spiritual life." And yet the graces which Paul mentions have all of them an outward and social expression. Righteousness is a principle of conduct toward others. Peace is not only an inward concord; it is also a law of human relationships. And joy is the gladness of the Holy Spirit.

Let Us Pray: These are the days the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in them, through Christ. Amen.

Monday, May 12

### 36. The Restraint of the Spirit

*They assayed to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit suffered them not. Acts 16:7.*

The guidance of the Holy Spirit is often a negative guidance, indicated to us by closed doors. We are feeling our way, following what seems to us to be the right course. This is our duty. God's care for us does not dispense us of all care for ourselves. It is God who is working in us and for us, but at the same time we are working out our own salvation with desperate earnestness, with fear and trembling. Paul had wholly surrendered his will to Christ but that meant not less but more use of every faculty and power in Christ's service. "The citizens of the Holy City," said Augustine, "who live after God, fear and are ambitious." So Paul drove hard toward the goals he believed to be right with all the power of his mind and will, but sensitive at the same time to every prompting and also every warning and restraining of the Spirit. He had his definite missionary plan and he was in motion in carrying it out. The Holy Spirit could easily guide a moving man, but who can guide a man who is stationary? As Robert Wilder used to say in calling for missionary volunteers: "Let us steam out on the main track of the world's greatest need. If God wants us on a side track he can switch us, but God cannot switch a motionless engine."

Let Us Pray: O God, grant us strong and determined wills to be yielded to thy will, in the spirit of Christ. Amen.

*Tuesday, May 13*

### 37. Grieving the Spirit

*And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God in whom you were sealed unto the day of redemption. Ephesians 4:30.*

"The juxtaposition shows," says an old commentary, "that it will be by lying, wrath, dishonesty and corrupt conversation that he will be grieved, and these are the vices that have a tendency to dissolve the spiritual society, the Church, within which he dwells. There is no more difficulty in conceiving the thought of the indwelling Spirit being grieved by such sins on the part of members of the body, than of the sins and miseries of men raising the feelings of anger and compassion in the Father."

"At the time of their adoption," says the same old commentary on this passage, "they were sealed in the sacrifice of baptism, and then they received the earnest of the Spirit, which it was God's purpose that they should retain and receive in ever-increasing abundance up to the day of final redemption or deliverance. Yet though it was God's purpose that there should be this advance in the Christian life from the day of baptism to the day of resurrection, we were warned that the Spirit, though once given, may be resisted, grieved, quenched, so as to depart from men."

The Christian is one who has been sealed. "See," says Theophylact, "that ye break not the seal."

Let Us Pray: O Faithful Spirit, make us also faithful, steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the life and work and joy of our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Wednesday, May 14

### 38. The Dimensions of the Spirit

*For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named, that he would grant you according to the riches of his glory, that ye may be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inward man. Ephesians 3:14-16.*

In these verses and those which follow Paul tells the Ephesian Christians of his seven-fold prayer for them. 1. That God would make them worthy of himself, "according to the riches of his glory." Their need was great but the wealth of God was greater. 2. That they might be strengthened in the inward man by the only influence that could penetrate thither — the Holy Spirit. The expression "the inward man" is used three times in the New Testament. 3. That Christ may dwell in their hearts, not by sense but by faith in the fact. Christ is in us. 4. That they might be dominated by love, for love is another name for the ordinary working of the Holy Spirit in the heart of man, and where God's spirit is, there is love. 5. That they might experience the reality and fulness of the fellowship, "the communion of the saints;" 6. and thus to know, as separately they never could know, the depth and dimension of the surpassing and transcendent love of Christ. 7. That they "might be filled unto all the fulness of God." What more could be asked in prayer?

Let Us Pray: Now unto Him who is able to do what we cannot, and more than we can think, be the glory and from him the grace. Amen.

*Thursday, May 15 {Ascension Day}*

### 39. The Ascension and the Spirit

*Being therefore by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he hath poured forth this, which ye see and hear.*  
Acts 2:33.

The Church of the New Testament made much of the Ascension. At least a dozen times in the Gospels, the Acts and the Epistles, Jesus is spoken of as seen standing or sitting at the right hand of God. Paul says it is "the man Christ Jesus" who is our mediator, and the writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews rejoices that we have with God in heaven One who shared our human lot and carried our human experience unto the heart of God.

We affirm our faith in the Ascension of Christ in the confession which we call the Apostles' Creed, but the Church of today thinks inadequately of the Ascension and its meaning, and especially of its relation to the gift of the Holy Spirit. For if in the beginning, the Holy Spirit, as John says (John 7:39), could not be given until Jesus was glorified, can we expect the Spirit to be given to us today until Jesus has ascended to his rightful place in our personal lives and in human society?

Let Us Pray: O Christ, who hast been exalted to the Father, be exalted in us, casting out all evil from us, and pouring out upon us the fulness of thy Holy Spirit. Amen.

Friday, May 16

## 40. The Judgment of the Spirit

*When the Holy Spirit is come, he will convict the work in respect of sin, of righteousness and judgment: of sin, because they believe not on me; of righteousness, because I go to the Father, and ye behold me no more; of judgment, because the prince of this world hath been judged.* John 16:8-11.

Here are depths under depths and heights over heights. "The idea of *conviction*," says Westcott, "is complex. It involves the conception of authoritative examination, of unquestionable proof, of decisive judgment, of punitive power."

The conviction of the Spirit in respect of sin declares unbelief in Christ to be sin. The religious indifferentism of the modern world does not like this conviction and repudiates it, but that does not alter the conviction of the Spirit.

And the Spirit is equally unflinching with regard to righteousness. "The Spirit is life because of righteousness." "The Kingdom of God is righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." "We through the Spirit by faith wait for the hope of righteousness." The Spirit is not sentiment. He is justice and righteousness and truth.

"Because I go unto the Father." Why so? Because in the life now "closed by the return to the Father, there was a complete exhibition of righteousness in relation to God and man . . . This revelation once given was final."

Let Us Pray: O Righteous Father, may thy Spirit of righteousness be alike our conviction and our strength, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Saturday, May 17*

## 41. Proving the Spirit

*Beloved, believe not every spirit, but prove the spirits, whether they are of God; . . . Every spirit that confesseth not Jesus is not of God: and this is the spirit of the antichrist.* I John 4:1, 3.

There is a Holy Spirit of truth and purity. And there is an Evil Spirit of falsehood and uncleanness. And the Holy Spirit is at enmity with the Evil Spirit. Jesus again and again dealt with the "unclean spirit" (Mark 9:25) and the "unclean demon" (Luke 4:23). In one dramatic passage he speaks of the evil spirits as plural. What was meant to be a temple became a slum of evil spirits. That is man's choice — temple or slum.

This is the great issue of human life — the life and death struggle between the good spirit and the evil. "For our wrestling," says Paul, "is not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual hosts." (Eph. 6:12)

Once again today, as in those days, we realize that it is Personal Evil against which we must fight. As Dr. Adolph Keller wrote out of the midst of the Hitler horror: "We are coming back to the first Christian conception of the world. The world is not plastic material to be easily molded by Christian influence. There is a hostile demonic element. The Church has to fight stubbornly against principalities and powers for its faith and liberty, for the conversion of peoples and the spread of the gospel."

**Let Us Pray:** O Thou great Man of War, help us by thy Spirit to fight the good fight against the Evil One. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Sunday, May 18

## 42. The Unity of the Spirit

*Give diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Ephesians 4:3.*

If one were asked to name the central principles of the great religions of the world in a single word for each, the answer would not be difficult. Confucius was once asked for such a word and answered: "Reciprocity." Mohammedanism does not call itself by the name of its founder; its word is "Islam" or "surrender". In Hinduism the word would be "Karma" or "fate." In Buddhism "Nirvana" meaning, as some hold, "endless peace," or as others, "extinction." And in Christianity the central word surely is "unity."

First of all there is the unity of God. "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one." (Deut. 6:4). "What commandment is the first of all? Jesus answered, 'Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.'" (Mark 12:29). "God is one." (Gal. 3:20).

And there is one Spirit and all who are of that Spirit and in that Spirit are one. "There is one body and one Spirit, even as ye also were called in one hope of your calling."

Let Us Pray: Almighty God, who has built thy Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone, grant that by the operation of thy Holy Spirit, all Christians may be so joined together in the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace, that they may be a holy temple, acceptable unto thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Gelasian.)

Monday, May 19

### 43. Health Through the Spirit

*If the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwelleth in you, he that raised up Christ Jesus from the dead shall give life also to your mortal bodies through his Spirit that dwelleth in you. Romans 8:11.*

To be spiritually-minded, says Paul, is life. To be spiritually-bodied is life also. Indeed, Paul makes as much of the Spirit and the body as he does of the Spirit and the mind. The New Testament knows nothing of that contempt for the body which found expression in Manichaeism and the ascetic practices of the medieval Church. The only apparent exception is I Cor. 9:27: "I buffet my body and bring it into bondage." Over against this is Paul's constant teaching: "The body is for the Lord and the Lord for the body." "Christ is the Savior of the body." He deprecates any severity to the body. He prays for the Thessalonian Christians: "May your spirit and soul and body be preserved entire without blame, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." The incarnation of our Lord was just a mortal body indwelt by God through the Spirit. And "we have been sanctified by the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

Most of us are afraid of this bold, free doctrine of life and therefore of health and strength for our bodies through the Holy Spirit.

Let Us Pray: Grant us, O Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tuesday, May 20

#### 44. The Fellowship of the Spirit

*If there is any fellowship of the Spirit.* Philippians 2:1.

Was Paul in any doubt about it? If there was one thing about which he was sure it was that there was such a fellowship. This was the very essence of the Gospel, to Paul and to John. "Our fellowship is with the Father," writes John. And he adds, "and with his Son, Jesus Christ." And Paul writes, "God is faithful, through whom ye were called into the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord." The form of the Apostolic benediction ends with the words, "the communion of the Holy Spirit." The same language is used in Paul's account of the Lord's Supper, a "communion of the blood and body of Christ."

And this was what the Christian Church was when it began. It was not an institution, or an organization. It was a *fellowship* — a company of disciples, men and women gathered together around the central figure of the Savior and so forming a band of friends and brothers.

The fellowship of the Spirit in Christ wiped out racial and social distinctions, bound men to the furtherance of the Gospel by word and life, to loving human service and to the comradeship of Christ's sufferings.

Let Us Pray: Grant that thy Church, O God, may not ask whether there be a fellowship of the Spirit but may so obey Christ's new Commandment that the world may know that thou didst send him. Amen.

Wednesday, May 21

## 45. Praying in the Spirit.

*Building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. Jude: 20, 21.*

"When ye pray," said Jesus, "say, Our Father." But Paul says that it is by the Spirit that we "cry, Father." If no man can call Jesus Lord but by the Holy Spirit how otherwise can any man call God Father? Just as we owe our Bible and its interpretation to the Holy Spirit, so we owe to him the power and peace of prayer. The Spirit prays in us. The Spirit himself prays for us. "The Spirit helpeth our infirmity: for we know not how to pray as we ought; but the Spirit himself maketh intercession for us."

We pray with the Spirit. "I will pray with the Spirit," says Paul. He means with his own spirit but it is the Holy Spirit who works in our spirit and "bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God."

And not only does the Holy Spirit pray in us and for us and with us, but we pray in him. "With all prayer and supplication praying at all seasons in the Spirit and watching thereunto in all perseverance and supplication for all the saints," says Paul, "and on my behalf." And so Jude with all his counsel to us to do our part, realizes that we can do all this only by prayer in the Holy Spirit.

Let Us Pray: In thee, O God, we live and move and have our being and in thy Holy Spirit we abide in thy love and pray, saying, "Father, our Father." Amen.

Thursday, May 22

## 46. The Spirit in the Prophets

*No prophecy ever came by the will of man; but men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit. II Peter 1:21.*

Peter<sup>s</sup> is speaking of the Old Testament Scriptures. "The words of the prophets," he held, "were no mere human exposition, no endeavor on man's part to point to a solution of the difficulties which beset men's minds in this life. The prophets were moved by a Spirit beyond themselves, and spoke things deeper than they themselves understood." This is true of the highest human literature. The Archer brothers' Introduction to their translation of Ibsen's "Peer Gynt" says, "Peer Gynt takes its place, as we hold, on the summits of literature precisely because it means so much more than the poet consciously intended. Is not this one of the characteristics of the masterpiece: that everyone can read in it his own secret?" If this is true of our human books, how much more true of the things spoken from God by the Holy Spirit. The prophets felt this and searched for the meanings hidden beyond them in the messages with which they were charged.

We owe our Bible to the Holy Spirit — the Old Testament and the New, so that we do not err in interpreting Paul's word: "The sword of the Spirit is the word of God," as referring to the written as well as the spoken Gospel. The Holy Spirit is the great writer on life.

Let Us Pray: Make us, O God, living epistles of Christ, written not with ink, but with thy Spirit, to the glory of Christ. Amen.

*Friday, May 23*

## 47. The Covenant of the Spirit

*And behold, I send forth the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city, until ye be clothed with power from on high. Luke 24:49.*

The Holy Spirit is a promise fulfilled and the pledge of the promise of the full redemption which is the purpose of God. By him the Church is to grow "unto a holy temple in the Lord for a habitation of God in the Spirit." The grand new covenant of promise is revealed by the Spirit.

In an old New England church on a recent Sunday morning the whole congregation rose to repeat and renew the Christian Covenant of this church:

"I do now avouch Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to be my covenant God, and I promise, so far as God by his grace shall assist me, to live a life of holy obedience to all God's commands and a careful attendance on all God's Gospel ordinances and institutions.

"I do likewise submit myself to the discipline of his Church, and engage to a faithful watch over my brethren in the Lord, according to the rules and regulations pointed out in God's word.

"And I promise that my visible conduct shall be regulated in such manner, as shall be most for the glory of God, the honor and interest of religion, and the everlasting welfare of my own precious and immortal soul."

**Let Us Pray:** O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we avouch thee to be our covenant God and as thou hast promised thyself to us we promise ourselves to thee. Amen.

Saturday, May 24

## 48. The Spirit and the Churches

*He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith to the churches. Revelation 2:7.*

To the church at Ephesus: "I have this against thee, that thou didst leave thy first love. Remember therefore, whence thou art fallen, and repent."

To the church in Smyrna: "Fear not the things which thou art to suffer. Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life."

To the church in Perganum: "Repent or else I come to thee quickly."

To the church in Thyatira: "That which ye have, hold fast till I come."

To the church in Sardis: "Be thou watchful and establish the things that remain. . . . If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come as a thief and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee."

To the church in Philadelphia: "Because thou didst keep the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of trial . . . I come quickly: hold fast that which thou hast, that no one take thy crown."

To the church in Laodicea: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him, and he with me."

So the Spirit spoke once in warning. So he speaks today.

Let Us Pray: O Spirit of God, open our ears to hear what thou art saying to the Church today and that which we hear help us to obey, through the help of our Savior, Christ. Amen.

*Whitsunday, May 25 {Pentecost}*

## 49. The Descent of the Spirit

“And when the day of Pentecost was now come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound as of the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them tongues, parting asunder, like as of fire; and it sat upon each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. . . . And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; and they sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all, according as any man had need. And day by day, continuing steadfastly with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread at home, they took their food with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to them day by day those that were saved.” (Acts 2:1-4, 43-47.)

Let Us Pray: O God, who didst send thy Holy Spirit to enkindle the zeal of Christ's followers, waiting in Jerusalem for his promised gift, we beseech thee to pour out the same inspiration on thy people now, on the Church of Jesus throughout the world. Revive the power of the Gospel in our hearts, that it may be to us a sacred trust for the blessing of mankind, through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. (Book of Common Worship *Adap.*)

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March 24, 1947

ONE LEXINGTON AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

Dear Robert Speer -

You were kind  
to send me your "Fellowships  
of the Spirit", and I shall  
enjoy using it - The "Three  
Minutes a Day" I am reading  
again each day this year  
with just as much enjoyment  
and inspiration as it was  
in the past before. I hope  
you know what your writing  
and your speaking thro'  
the years have meant  
to your hosts of friends.

Give Emma my love  
- I hope she will be coming  
into town before long.  
We all want to see her.

Sincerely and  
affectionately,  
Merrill Finley

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH U. S. A.

SYNOD OF MISSOURI

REV. RALPH A. WAGGONER, D.D., EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
1122 WEST 7TH STREET TELEPHONE 2075

SEDALIA, MISSOURI

March 24, 1947.

Dear Doctor Speer:-

Our communications have crossed in the mail. I sent you a little note yesterday morning, also a small package, and this morning your booklet "The Fellowship of the Spirit" arrived. Thank you for the booklet. It is an answer to my prayers.

I have formed a Prayer Group over our Synod in which there are 106 people enrolled - 80 of them laymen. No organization, and no one knows the names but myself. These have covenanted with me to pray each day that the New Life Movement, with all its attending implications, may be a success in our Synod. The response of the laymen to join this group has really been wonderful. I try to write each one a note and send them a piece of literature about every ten days. They have promised to pray daily with me till Pentecost, May 25th. I've been searching for something to send to each one at Eastertime and now comes your little booklet which fills my desire. In this same mail I am ordering 150 of them from the Federal Council of Churches. Thank you for this remembrance to me.

May I ask a favor? At a recent meeting in Kansas City a Dr. Copeland of Texas quoted a poem he heard you repeat. I understand it is in one of your books but I haven't been able to find it. As I recall it starts "I stood at the end of the road" then the author reflects about all that is behind him and how he may influence all that is before him. If you have a copy of the poem or can tell me the author I'd be very pleased.

Always with every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

*affectionately* 

Ralph A. Waggoner.

413 West 46th St.,  
New York 19. N.Y.,  
25-3-47

Dear Dr. Speer:

How very grateful  
I am to you for  
sending me your  
booklet "The Fellow-  
ship of the Spirit." I  
have already gone  
through the prayers  
as I shall do again

many times during  
the Easter season.  
I have thought so often  
of the manner of our  
bodies being the Temple  
of God's Holy Spirit  
and your booklet  
will deepen that  
sense of awe and  
wonder, which can  
never be too great.

Your secretary's ship  
in the Board has been  
so nearly co-terminous

with my service in  
the Mission that some-  
how I feel as if you  
represented to me the  
Board and all it stands  
for from the human  
side, more than any  
other of its many  
members, and it always  
gives me a thrill of  
great pleasure when  
you call me by name  
(mine own memory for  
combining names and  
faces is amazingly  
lacking!) so I appreciate it  
greatly when another can

remember and use the knowledge!)

May God spare you for many more years of service. As Dr. Governor suggests in his booklet "Life Begins at Seventy" - may you be conscious of richly increased opportunities and power for service in one way and another.

May Num. 6:24-26 be fulfilled for you and yours. Yours in the joy of Christian fellowship.

Emma Morva

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March 26, 1947

Dear Robert:

The following is a paragraph from a letter from Mr. Edward Crane of the Burlington, Vermont, FREE PRESS -

"I have a high regard for Dr. Speer whom I met during my college days and who made a strong impression on me. I have followed his career with interest ever since and I know that this series of devotional readings will be worthwhile."

He will use "The Fellowship of the Spirit", printing a devotion each day from Easter to Pentecost.

Yours cordially,

*Jesse M.*  
Executive Secretary

JMB:FHB

W.S.

FORTY-FIVE NORTHVIEW AVENUE  
UPPER MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY

March 26<sup>th</sup> 1947.

Dear Robert Spear: It was good to see the old familiar hand-writing on something coming in the mail, and still better to see it on your devotional booklet, and it will be best to follow your thought from Easter to Pentecost, as to the helpfulness of which I feel altogether assured in these latter days of "Lent." I shall hope to enjoy these meditations with my dear Margaret, though in somewhat different circumstances from those anticipated at Christmas time, when we looked forward to her birthday on Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> as a day for rejoicing; and

Then, on that very day, she suffered a "stroke" which her doctor thought might mean her earthly end. She has not left the bedroom floor since that time, but has gradually recovered so much strength and balance that her doctor makes much more cheerful prognosis. She is now moving about with only the help of a cane. Through it all she has kept wonderfully cheerful and hopeful, though such limitation must be especially trying to one naturally as energetic as she.

It has been hard for me to have both of my boys absent in China, or "commuting" between the U. S. A. & China, in the above circumstances; yet a joy to have both so definitely useful. Am wondering if your Margaret expects to return to China. She also is "definitely useful" on either side of the world.

I do not find it easy to keep from  
envying you your ability to continue  
your life work so vigorously toward the  
"four score year" age; but I certainly  
congratulate you as well as the Chris-  
tian world to which you have ministered  
so long and so helpfully, - not to men-  
tion your ministry to the "heathen world."  
My own efforts toward the making of  
"a better world" have been slowed down  
rather unexpectedly. After the loss of  
my right eye through strain of reading  
Chinese book-proof, my left eye served  
me wonderfully well for more than twenty  
years, but is recently going back on me,  
so that I have hardly one-fourth of normal  
vision and have to "watch my step" very  
closely. A second hernia which my  
doctor thinks it perilous to treat radically,

at my age, also limits me, so that I do not venture out after dark unless accompanied. My memory also plays me many tricks; so that I dare not accept invitations to preach or make speeches. However, I do believe our Lord has made some use of my life, and can calmly await His planning for the rest of my days.

Hoping that He may continue to use and to bless you and Mrs. Speer,

Affectionately yours,

Courtenay H. Ferris

P.S. Jeannette McMillan has been cared for most unselfishly by members of our Church here. She now seems to be failing very rapidly and is "longing to go".

# Presbyterian Sunday School Missions

REV. "DICK" FERRELL

E. 937 - 17th Ave  
SPOKANE 10, WASHINGTON

3-31-47.

Robert E. Speer  
Rockledge  
Lakeville, Conn.

My Dear Dr. Speer =

Permit me to thank you for  
the little Book, The Fellowship of the Spirit I am  
reading it with great interest. And the Chapter 13  
The Mind of Spirit is Excellent for it reveals to me  
the sinfulness of my own heart.

May God richly bless the Book to draw  
Many Closer to our risen Lord.

We often think of you Dr. Speer & the  
good time we had at Camp Diamond.

With continued good wishes to you  
and yours. I am ever your friend.

Dick Ferrell

1130 A North Main St.  
Tulsa Okla

Mar. 31<sup>st</sup> 1947

Dear Dr. Speer: -

Many thanks for  
the booklet you sent, - The Fellowship  
of the Spirit - and your remembrance  
of us. Both are much appreciated.

We are victims of "reconstruction"  
which accounts for the a in our  
present address. The house we have  
occupied since 1934 was sold, the  
landlord, no doubt, wishing to take  
advantage of the present high prices,  
& has been made over. We are cramped  
for room, our present "apartment" being  
our former second storey bedrooms but  
fortunately having a porch at the back  
(now stacked with everything from trunks

to carpet tracks! - including a refrigerator -  
However we are hoping some more desirable  
place will be obtainable before long -

A letter today from the Board says that  
funds for the new year may show a deficit,  
gifts to the Restoration Fund taking the  
place in many churches of the regular  
foreign mission budget - And yet  
never was there more need of missionaries  
in all the fields -

Please give my love to Mrs Spear,  
and again thanking you,

Sincerely yours

Lavinia McRallstone



Dear Robert

Thank you for the meditations  
you prepared for the days after Easter.

It is good to see your familiar  
handwriting on the cover.

We wish we lived near enough  
to see each other more often.

Our best love goes to all of  
you

As always  
Gilbert

Yorktown Heights  
April 5, 1947

1732 Miffline Street  
Huntingdon  
7 April, 1949

Dear Miss McMortrie,

I received a blessing from your valuable Easter greeting this morning, and I thank you for it. I think one has to avoid falling into a sort of let-down attitude after experiencing the exhilaration of the Easter season, and surely nothing could be more effective for avoiding such a reaction than to read this booklet "The Fellowship of the Spirit" by Dr. Speer. As I read through it I realized what a treat is in store for Marion and me at our morning worship during April & May. I was particularly impressed by what Dr. Speer has to say about the "Mind of the Spirit", his meditation for 19 April. These meditations are full of insight and are expressed with that clarity of which Dr. Speer is a master.

Marion is now visiting her family in Chester County but when she returns home, she will be glad for the blessing these Meditations

provide for one.

On this morning's mail I received also a letter from my sister-in-law at Mt. Vernon, N.Y., and she inquired about you. She says, "Speaking of Huntingdon, how is Miss McMurtrie? Mother would love so dearly to see her." Mrs. Foster keeps well. She and Nana plan to drive over to Stony Brook School at Stony Brook, Long Island, on Saturday, to call on G.

I trust you are well, Miss McMurtrie. It is heartening to see evidences of spring, isn't it?

With thanks and kind regards,

Sincerely yours

S. Earl Dubbel

April 9th-1947

MRS. J. G. BASINGER  
529 EAST 85TH STREET  
NEW YORK 28, NEW YORK  
TELEPHONE RE 7 2861

*Sandra has  
copies of  
this letter*

Emma dear, you are so sweet and good to me, and so thoughtful of the things that I love to have. "the Fellowship of the Spirit" could not be more welcomed. I still read my Five Minutes a day, and lately several of your husbands prayers have been such a comfort. In fact you both ~~are~~ great comforts to me and unending sources of strength. It is a wonderful thing- just really knowing you! God bless you!

We had a very quiet peaceful Ester. Nance went to church, but I had my services here. The large crowds bewilder me- and the early services are too much for me- but it was a blessed day never-the-less.

Anna Orth called up Sunday evening. Marcie did not seem as well, and Sue seemed more interested in out side things, and had even written a note to Marcie. Earlier she refused to read any letter from me, fearing I would tell her distressing things of my sisters death- but last week she wondered why I had not written, so I will try again! It is very sad.

Dr Speer would be amused to see my gardening on the window sills! I am trying to start some seed, as I could not get things that I wanted last year. Mrs Burns writes that she will come back to us this summer, and Calvin Senior has been engaged to cut the grass this year, so we should be comparatively comfortable. WE HOPE to begin trying week ends by the middle of May, and will see how my back stands it.

I am so glad to see that the Coffins are safely

back. They must have much of interest to tell. If you think of it, remember me to them.

I am cooking dinner and writing at once, but things now seem ready, so I must stop.

Once more, many thanks to the Speers, and very dear love-

Nan.

Christine had tea with me last week, and seemed so very well and normal and happy.

CHEESMAN A. HERRICK  
6733 EMLEN STREET  
PHILADELPHIA 19, PA.

April 9, 1947.

Dear Robert: -

Thank you for another of your helpful devotional books. The title is most happy. There can be no true church union except through "The Fellowship of the Spirit." I fear that some projected church unions have not realized this.

I had a most beautiful letter from Dr. Brown at his 90<sup>th</sup>. What an example! I have entered on my "Third Fortieth." Blessings on you!

Yours "In the Fellowship of the Spirit,"  
Cheesman

SMC

SAMUEL MCCREA CAVERT  
297 FOURTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

OFFICE OF  
THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE  
CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA

April 9, 1947

Dear Dr. Speer:

Your little booklet "The Fellowship of the Spirit" seems to me to fill a very important place in the devotional life of the church. You have done beautiful work in the daily meditations and the foreword on "The Meaning of Pentecost for Today" is especially valuable. I hope and believe that the little booklet will have a very wide distribution and be a blessing.

With constant regards, I remain

Faithfully yours,

*Samuel McCrea Cavert*

Samuel McCrea Cavert  
General Secretary

Dr. Robert E. Speer  
Lakeville, Conn.

SMC/D

Fourth Presbyterian Church  
Chicago

Apr 10 '47

CHURCH OFFICE  
123 E. CHESTNUT STREET  
SUPERIOR 3450

Dear Dr. Peck: Thank you very much for  
sending me the devotional guide. We will  
follow it in our home.

We have had a good year in  
our work - deep and broad.

I hope and pray that you are  
well and glad of heart. I quoted your story  
in Easter about Grant and Mother - from "Men  
& the Unbroken Heart"

Ever affectionately  
Ray Anderson

MRS. CLELAND B. MCAFEE  
735 WASHINGTON STREET  
WELLESLEY 81, MASS.

April 10  
1947.

My dear Mr. Speer:

Thank you so  
much for sending  
me "The Fellowship of  
the Spirit" just  
yesterday I saw it  
published in a list -  
and thought I would  
send for it. and so  
I am so grateful  
and only to have it.

but to have it from  
you. I need it!  
I have just been  
thru, the experience  
with Ruth - in few  
months' death, after  
months of great  
suffering - It was a  
blessing - I have  
release for him -  
and Ruth is taking  
the experience courage-  
ously - My love to you  
with gratitude for  
the book - and the word  
of Christ! Ever truly yours  
Daniel B. Magee

Berrybrook,  
Orange, Virginia,  
April 11<sup>th</sup> 1947

Dear Robert: -

Mrs. Meack and I appreciate your kind thought in sending us your The Fellowships of the Spirit. We shall enjoy it together, as she sews and patches and I sit by and read. We are just finishing the reading of Dorley Fulton's Now is the Time.

I had noticed, in our Church papers, that you had been delivering lectures on this timely theme. We were expecting its appearance in print, intending to secure it when issued. We thank you for your anticipation of our desire.

Have you weathered well this exceedingly hard weather? So many Northern families have come into our neighborhood: Ober, Morquis, Kemper, Augustus, DuPonts, etc., who, being unable to live without their hard weather, have brought it with them. Snowed snow-covered for two months with eight snowfalls, one eighteen inches deep, is not Northern's way in Old Virginia. We were shut-in for eight weeks, until Easter weekend brought sunshine and welcomed family guests. We are hoping you had an open Dixie winter in reverse.

My congratulations on the brave, strong way in which you carry your years. You also have my envy, as I succumb to time. Please commend Mrs. Meack and me to Mrs. Speer. With our affection for yourself, gratefully yours,  
Edward Meack

NEXT DAY HILL

Eaglewood.

Dear Rob. -

Thank You very  
much for your  
booklet "The Fellowship  
of the Spirit" which  
came today. I am  
happy to have it and  
from your hand.  
I am just back

from a lovely  
holiday in Mexico.  
The little house that  
Dwight and I made  
over in Cuernavaca  
is a haven of peace  
— and flowers,  
overflow the patios.

Love to you and  
Emma —  
Betty.

April 11<sup>th</sup> - '47.

Dear Dr. Speer:

2889 Van Nuys Road (2)  
Pasadena 10, Calif.  
April 14, 1947.

Many thanks for the copy of "The Fellowship of the Spirit", which has just come. I know we will find it very stimulating and helpful.

I trust you and your family are all in good health, and I know you have much to make life enjoyable.

Your old friend (78+),  
J. E. Drumaker.

A. Edwin Keigwin

April 14, 1947

Dear Robert:

I thank you for my personally inscribed copy of your Easter to Pentecost devotional readings. I shall meet you daily in "The Fellowship of the Spirit" at our family worship, following breakfast.

Just to see your handwriting is a joy, since it indicates that you are in good health. "Same here", thank God!

In November I rented a house in the Grove Park section of Asheville (52 Edgemont Road) to June first. I have made but one trip back to New York, to celebrate Christmas with our dear people at West End. The owner has been in the U.S. Consular Service since the Spanish War and the house is full of treasures gathered by him from the ends of the world, where he has been stationed from time to time. I sleep on a high posted hand carved bed built for a Near East king; the best bed of my sleeping life.

Remember me most warmly to Mrs. Speer

Affectionately

*Albert*

Dr. Robert E. Speer

Mr Sydney Hutchins  
575 Hancock St.  
Brooklyn 33, New York

April 14, 1947

Rev. Robert C. Sheers D.D.

To a man of God, greetings to him  
and all of his. I received The Fellowship  
of the Spirit. Easter to Pentecost 1947  
for which I thank you so much. It is read  
at the table in the evening, before dinner.

But the five minutes a day is my favorite.  
It is spiritual, Educational Inspirational.  
and when finished, you can start over  
again, from the beginning. Such a book  
can only be got up by a person who is ins-  
pired by God. This Book, I read a page  
before starting out in the am. Possibly  
around 5 am. Except when I am off.  
I meet your friend the Chaplain Rev.  
Wheeler. As they say about the English-  
man. he is a fool but not a chap.

Wednesday April 16, 47. I will be 70 years.  
I can not write, speak or utter the  
thoughts of my esteemed friend, which  
he had penned through the years,  
but such as I have read of them, had  
can assure you been very helpful to me.  
I met a very sweet young lady some  
time ago she is a Barnard College  
graduate, and a worker in a Lutheran  
Church. And she informed me, she  
had procured a copy of 5 minutes a day.  
Very few of the ministers I see nowadays  
that in the past I used to greet. But  
fond memories of them linger with me.  
You have injected many beautiful poems in  
your writings, But I like Long fellow's  
Ode of life and Mr Frank Mason north  
hymn. Where cross the gourd ways of life  
I fear thy voice Oh! Son of man. With  
best wishes from Mrs Hutchins & love to you  
and yours. Sincerely, Sydney C. Hutchins.

2884 San Pargual St.,  
Paradise 10 - Calif.,  
April 15 - 1947.

My dear Dr. Speer:-

Yesterday I was made very happy by the receipt of the booklet "The Fellowship of the Spirit." I need its precious message - I yearn for that closer fellowship - that clearer insight with which the Holy Spirit makes our way - a path of Light. I thank God that you have again given a message that will strengthen and uplift many followers of our blessed Lord Jesus; I shall pray that it may fulfill a special mission in the Church now and in days to come.

Thank you for remembering me with a copy. With warm regards to Mrs. Speer and yourself,  
Faithfully Yours - Martha B. Hunter

EDWIN CARLYLE LOBENSTINE  
1148 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK 28, N. Y.

TEL. ATWATER 9-1489

April 15, 1945-

Dear Robert:

Susan joins me in sending thanks for "The Fellowship of the Spirit" covering the period from Easter to Pentecost. It was good of you to include us in the list of those to whom you sent copies. It should help bind us together in this greatest of all fellowships. It would be difficult to find a time where such fellowship was more needed than it is today.

With affectionate greetings to you and  
Mrs. Speer

As ever sincerely  
Ed Lobenstein

325 Live Oak Ave.,  
Daytona Beach,  
Florida  
Apr. 16, 1947.

Robert E. Speer, D.D.,  
Rockledge  
Lakewood  
Connecticut,

Dear Dr. Speer:  
We want to thank you  
for sending us your  
booklet, The Fellowship  
of the Spirit, which we  
are using in daily de-  
votions. Mrs. Funk for-  
merly of Hamadan and  
now living in Ft. Lauderdale  
is visiting us and we  
enjoy talking over old  
times.

We are living quietly  
at Olds Hall where about  
sixty retired Christian  
workers are living.

We miss seeing our  
Persian missionaries  
who come home on  
furlough but we see  
a number of our friends  
from the North who come  
to Florida for a part of the  
winter.

I have the opportunity  
now of reading some of the  
books I was not able  
to read in Persia.

With very best wishes  
for you and Mrs. Speer  
from us both,

Very sincerely yours,  
Chas. R. Pittman

611 WEST GRAND VIEW AVENUE  
SIERRA MADRE, CALIF.

April 16th, 1947.

Robert E. Spear  
"Rockledge"  
Lakeville, Conn.

Dear Dr Spear:

We received the copy of 'The Fellowship of the Spirit' you so kindly sent us and have been reading it with joy. I recall the very inspiring messages you gave us in Manila in 1915 during our annual meeting and you have lost nothing of your fine spirit and vision yet. I am confident that though retired from the active work in the Foreign Mission Board Rooms, you are still as active as ever in other ways.

Mrs Hall and I keep well and we are both doing what we can to further the work of the kingdom in Westminster Church in Pasadena. I have just completed my ninth year as parish visitor for the church and find the work profitable for all. We see Dr and Mrs Hibbard and Mr and Mrs Brown quite frequently as they are at the Monte Vista Grove Homes about three miles from us. Dr Hibbard has recently been a bit indisposed but nothing serious I hope. We also see Mr and Mrs McAnlis and yesterday he went to San Pedro to meet Mr and Mrs Bell returning from the Islands. We hope to see them tomorrow.

Mrs Hall joins me in extending our warm regards to Mrs Spear and we trust you are both enjoying good health.

Sincerely,

*Handwritten signature*

Long Beach, 17. April 1947

Dr Robert E. Speer,

Luxville Conn.

My Dear Robert:

I heartily thank for the  
precious letter book which came on the 14<sup>th</sup>.  
We are most heartily glad to receive it  
and are reading it daily -

I wish that I might tell you how  
deeply I appreciate this gift - of your own  
precious thoughts and prayers. -

I have been in bed for days and days  
and am still there.

Forgive that scrawl -  
I am almost blind and can not  
write properly - My love to you

Ever yours in the Fellowship of the  
Spirit -  
James W McKean.

773 Neil Ave.,  
Columbus 8, Ohio.

April 19, 1947.

Dear Dr. Speer, —

Thank you so much for the little book, "The Fellowship of the Spirit." I am enjoying it & using it day by day. It is aptly named & the fellowship of the Spirit is, in a very real sense, the basis of religion to me.

I asked one of our missionaries once to preach a sermon on the Holy Spirit, but he said he did not know enough about it — I was just then deep in Griffith-Thomas' "The Holy Spirit of God," so the reply this mature missionary made surprised me.

But I am thoroughly enjoying your book. I had a lovely visit with

my sister & her son in Puerto Rico. My nephew is Medical Director of the Episcopal Hospital - St. Luke's in Tampa.

The winter climate is delightful & I enjoy the journey to & from the island. I've become an enthusiast over flying; it is so clean & fast.

My kind regards to you - Mrs. Speer.

Sincerely

Ottora M. Forne

N.B. I have been in the school where your grand-daughter has gone; it is in the edge of a mountain village, a lovely spot indeed. But I hope she will find her way to our school & the Junior College, too.

Miss Bailey, the principal at "A.S.G." is a very fine person.

Ottora

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND MINISTERIAL RELIEF

WADE H. BOGGS, *Executive Secretary*

410 Urban Building

LOUISVILLE 2, KY.

HENRY H. SWEETS  
*Consultant*

WM. H. HOPPER  
*Treasurer*

April 21, 1947

Dr. Robert E. Speer  
"Rockledge"  
Lakeville, Connecticut

Dear Robert:

I appreciate so much your thoughtful kindness in sending me a copy of your messages "The Fellowship of The Spirit". These have proved of wonderful help to me and I am sure they are going to be used of God in a large way throughout the Church.

I always thank God for the inspiration and help I have received from you during these many years. You will never know what this has meant to me.

All of us in Louisville appreciate so fully the wonderful help you brought us in those two weeks of meetings. There have been many visible results and all of us received spiritual guidance and strength because of the presence of you and Mrs. Speer with us.

I wish so much our paths might cross more frequently. There are many things which I would like to talk with you about.

With kindest regards, I am

Your sincere friend

*Henry H. Sweets*

115 Hudson Ave.,  
Red Bank, N. J.  
Apr. 22<sup>d</sup>, 1947.

Dear Dr. Speer,

It was kind of you  
to send me your devotional  
booklet, which I deeply appreciate.  
Thank you so much.

I was disappointed  
to learn that "Lucia against the Storm",  
(1944) by Post Wheeler, is out of print;  
for I had hoped to send it to you.  
If you can find it in some library,  
I think you would enjoy reading it,  
if you have not already done so.  
With kind regards, Yours sincerely, Mary Lovett

2336 Ash Street  
Denver, Colorado  
April 23, 1947

Dear Dr. Speer:

Very many thanks for the copy of the "Fellowship of the Spirit", which I am enjoying day by day, and also for the little booklet, "Five Minutes a Day".

I am enclosing a copy of our June program, with the thought that it might be of interest to you and Mrs. Speer. Please notice that Dr. Leiper of the Federal Council of Churches is to be with us. He will add much to our program. You will find a number of your friends on our faculty list.

You will be pleased to know that our daughter, Esther Roberts, and her children are well and busy with home and church and school duties. Katharine, who is as tall as her mother now, is just finishing her first year at Greeley, and Albert enters Junior High next fall. Both the children are a great joy to us. Their little home is only a few blocks from us and not far from our church (Montview Boulevard).

Dr. Barrett left our church in fine and united condition. Our new minister, who comes in the early fall, is Dr. Miller of Lincoln, Nebraska. He and his wife will be a great help to our young people.

Please remember our June conference in your prayers.

With kindest regards to you and to Mrs. Speer, I am

Yours cordially,

*Lydia H. Reed*  
Mrs. Albert A. Reed

LHR:C

Pasadena, Calif. April 24, 1947

Dr. Robt. Speer,  
Lutherette Bar.

My dear Dr. Speer; -

It was very good of you to include me in the list of those to whom you sent the "Fellowship of the Spirit." I have begun reading it and know that I shall get much good from it.

I am living very happily in this beautiful California. During my 38 years in Latin America I have felt that I was making any real sacrifice were in missing the wonderful sermons from our American preachers & the lectures that abound here.

Pasadena is rather choice in this respect. It is said that we older ones live on memories. However true this may be, do find pleasure and satisfaction in remembering my work in Mex. & Guat.

It is also gratifying to meet so many  
of my former pupils here & find  
them true to its Christ-principle.  
Many of them are active in the  
service. I also keep in touch  
with many of those who are  
still in their homelands.

The Mexican work here is not  
as well attended to as we would  
wish, yet there are many faith-  
ful workers. The young people  
are very different from our  
girls & boys that were brought up  
in our Mission schools. I find  
that they have lost much of the  
fine things, such as obedience &  
courtesy and take on some  
of the vices of the American youth.

Thank you, Dr. Spier, again for  
the booklet. May you have many  
more years of usefulness.

Very Sincerely yours

Mary F. Turner.

Clarence, N.Y.,  
April 27, 1947.

Dear Dr. Speer:

Thank you sincerely for the copy of "The Fellowship of the Spirit" which you so kindly sent me. I am enjoying the daily readings and find them very helpful. Thank you, too, for the message from you and Mrs. Speer. It "warms the heart" to be remembered by old friends.

I am sending affectionate greetings to you and Mrs. Speer.

I hope that you are both well, and that you will have a pleasant summer. I am planning to spend a part of the summer with William and his family in their country home near Doylestown, Pa.

Sincerely yours,

Dora T. Lee.

214 Redman Ave  
Haddonfield, N.J.  
April 28, 1947

Dr. Robert E. Spier  
Lakeville, Conn.

Dear Dr. Spier,

On returning home from my sojourn in the South where I had been spending the cold months for several years because of a heart condition, I received your booklet "The Fellowship of the Spirit" for which I thank you sincerely. My heart trouble, coronary thrombosis, began seven years ago about a week after the death of my wife.

One of the books I read during my stay in Florida this year was your "Finality of Jesus Christ" which I enjoyed very much.

Two of my sons are pastors in the Southern Presbyterian Church one in Tenn., the other in Va.

The youngest in the family  
lost his life in Germany. He  
was a navigator on a flying  
fortress. There were in the  
war, one a Lt. Commander in the  
Navy, and one a Capt. in the  
Army.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

C. S. Riden

Seven Gables  
Bartlesville, Oklahoma

April 14, 1947.

Dear Dr. Spear: -

Mr. McClintock and I  
wish to express our sincere thanks  
for the Spiritual Fellowship written by you. I have  
read the first meditations and am  
now reading daily with my other

books for devotion, the daily lesson.

It is very timely, that you have written this book. For some time it has come to me, that the days between Easter and Pentecost should be important days in the devotional life of a Christian.

Thank you again and with most cordial greetings to Mrs. Spear

and your self-

Very sincerely yours,

(Nov. 11. 11.) Mabel Case McClintock.

MRS. JAMES LEEDS MANNING

16 GRAMERCY PARK

7124-47  
NEW YORK 3

Forthwell  
P.O. Box 13

Dear Mr. Manning -

276

I am finding the lessons  
and meditations on the Spirit - in  
daily devotions most helpful and  
comforting. I noticed that the one  
for April 22 - has references that  
do not apply - and I thought - that -  
I would call your attention to it -  
It is in the first - part - the second from  
the Bible @ one is correct. Once before  
I found such -

guidance and the prayers of  
God's people.

I hope that you are  
enjoying your retirement and  
that you and Mrs. Speer  
are well. Soon your garden  
will claim your attention,  
won't it?

With kind regards,

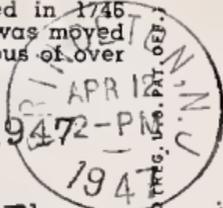
Sincerely yours,

Susie A. Pinder

Feb. 26, 1947

Princeton University was founded in 1746 as the College of New Jersey, and was moved to Princeton in 1756. It has a campus of over 900 acres.

April 12, 1947



POST CARD

Dr. Robert E. Speer ,  
"Oakledge",  
Lakeville,  
Connecticut.

Many thanks for "The Fellowship of the Spirit", used with profit in morning devotions .  
Glad you are coming for Summer Institute again .  
Yours as ever ,

*W. H. J.*

LYNN H. BOYER, JR., WILDWOOD, N. J.

GENUINE CURTEICH-CHICAGO "C.Y. COLORTONE" POST CARD TRIG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

Dr. Robert C. Speer

Thank you, doctor, for the  
"Fellowship of the Spirit" with-  
your autograph. I have  
ordered 200 for our church  
Conway Adams

May 4

Dear Mrs. Speer,

Arthur and I are following the devotional readings to our help.

Our work here is with a small group - no one of us is getting younger! Our ages cause some of the activities to change. - Families moving in and out

affect our organized work most.

Our own home has experienced the greatest change. The daughter married, living in Charlotte, North Carolina. Her husband - Rev. James B. Ficklen - is a pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church. So the Christmas time, the Easter time demands their attention on their field. No family gathering here! Our son, Bill, is in Edinburgh. New College. digging for a doctor's degree. So no boy home for two years at least. One needs to be fortified for the experiences such as these. The fifties and sixties of our life span bring new adjustments for us to work out, don't they?

I trust yours are well and happy in their respective positions -

To Pat, to Joan, to Fiona, to Dor,  
to Margaret, - give our love.  
We did enjoy them.

Have a lovely spring and  
summer to you both -

Arthur and I thank  
you for remembering  
us with this devotional  
book - It's being used  
each evening in our  
home Sincerely,  
Elva James

209 N. Portland Ave.  
Ventnor, N. J.

May 14, 1947

Dear Dr. Speer,

William and I thank you for your present of your "Fellowship of the Spirit." I have greatly enjoyed reading it day by day. I hope it has had a very wide circulation. Even earnest Christian people - many of them - seem to be quite ignorant of the N. T. teaching about the Holy Spirit. And even some Spirit filled men are unable to explain it to others.

I remember when a student in Seminary attending a series of addresses by J. Wilbur Chapman on the Holy Spirit. Very evidently he had the filling of the Spirit. But he left us puzzled on the subject. Then I got hold of McCouke's "Three-Fold Secret of the Holy Spirit" which you mention on Tuesday, May 6th. I think you recommended it to me.

In any case this little book helped me to understand the N. T. teaching on the subject of the Holy Spirit. I am sorry the book is out of print.

We were all terribly stunned by the death of Phil M. Douzel. In years gone by he and I travelled together a good deal. I have always felt that medico-evangelistic itineration - the doctor and the evangelist working together in the most needy places - comes closer to following Christ than anything else I know of.

I was not surprised to learn of the death of J. M. Stead of Taraman, Persia. It was, I think, too bad that work could not have been carried on inside the Mission. But I could not. I voted against it because it seemed to me impossible. But really he did a great work. Wherever I have travelled in Persia I have met Mr Stead's boys and girls. Most of them earnest Christians, many of them born Mohammedans. Two men have led as many Moslems to Christ as he did. In baptizing the children he often changed their names and

3  
So they were not known as converts from Islam. I  
remember one remarkably fine woman in Kazan who  
had seen me in the Stead home in 1919. Her name  
was Bertha. She had married an Assyrian. "Everyone  
thinks I am an Assyrian" she said to me. "But I  
am not. My father's name was Mohammad Ali, my  
mother died. My aunt took me to Mr. Stead. But  
because I married an Assyrian people think I am  
of the same race as my husband." She is only one  
of many.

Lillian has been ill for over a month but is well  
again. She joins me in the best of good wishes  
for Mrs. Speer and yourself.

Most sincerely yours,

Harry Schuler



Gift

New York  
May 27<sup>th</sup> '47

Dear Dr. Speer: Last Sunday when I came to the end of your helpful and glowing little book "The Fellowship of the Spirit", I laid it down with deep thankfulness and joy. So I want to tell you how grateful I feel for the spiritual guidance you have given over those meaningful fifty days. I remember an occasion, a long time ago, though I don't

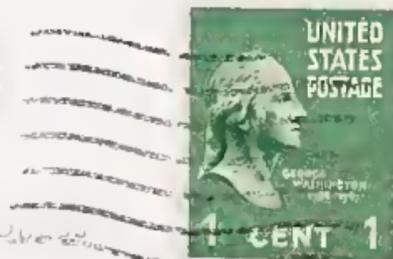
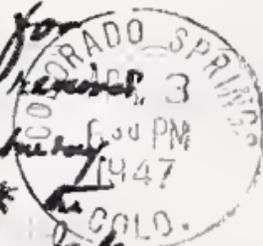
recall when it was you were speaking,  
you drew from your pocket a small  
much-used Testament and holding  
it high you said, in tones I have  
never forgotten, "It is all here, all Truth,  
all he held to know has <sup>we</sup> been given  
to each man no matter how far his  
learning may seem to carry him, must  
forever turn again to the Truth as contained  
in this little book." I don't say that there  
has been any fact here - I am sure they  
have been much better - but the meaning  
is the same. They came just at a  
time when I needed such assurance -  
Now again, I am in your debt.

As I advance in age, everything falls  
away in importance, & left to know  
Him, our divine Lord & Master - Father,  
Son & Holy Spirit. I hope the lessons  
you prepared have ~~been~~ been widely  
used & that they have brought the  
same inspiration & blessing to many  
souls as they have to mine -

Sincerely yours,  
Elizabeth P. Luce  
(Mrs. Henry Winthrop Luce)

(No reply necessary)

Dear Robert: My loving thanks for  
"The Fellowship of the Spirit," just received.  
It will refresh me as I travel east tomorrow.  
Had a blend time in Montanan with the  
Crow Indians. Joy Yellowtail, Jack  
Covers-up, Kathleen Little Owl, and  
Donald Deernosa, were among them. You  
and Emma will remember my Rochester  
work, April 20-27. I love it for both.  
John



Dr Robert E. Spear  
Rockledge  
Lakeville  
Conn.

Apr. 27/47

LETTERS MAILED IN HOTEL ENVELOPES, IF NOT DELIVERED, WILL BE SENT TO THE DEAD LETTER OFFICE  
UNLESS THE WRITER GIVES A RETURN ADDRESS

IF NOT DELIVERED IN \_\_\_\_\_ DAYS RETURN TO

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



613 CATHEDRAL STREET  
BALTIMORE 1, MARYLAND

Dear Dr. Speer,

Thank you very much for  
the little booklet. We are using it daily  
at our time together on the mountain top - and  
it brings us helpful messages -

We hope that you & Mrs. Speer are both well -  
& enjoying the miracle of the returning  
Spring -

Again thanking you -

We are - the Murdocks

April 13 -

2217 Jules St. St. Joseph 35 Mo  
April 15. 1947

Dear Dr. Speer:-

Easter brought to me many gifts of flowers, cards, letters, but nothing came to me more valued and appreciated than your, "Fellowship of the Spirit," daily uplifts for April and May. I sincerely thank you for sending a copy to me. It links me to Siam too. I am now receiving precious letters from many of my girls there. I wish I could share these letters with you! Many of them show a deepness - a concentration to our Lord's service, that fills me with humility and thanksgiving.

May I suggest that you send several copies of your book to N. S. Tardt Pradipasema, one of our outstanding Christian women in Siam and she would share them with other Christian women. She would receive them if sent in her name, direct our Presbyterian Mission. Bangkok Siam

Trusting that your health is good and that the handicaps of age are staying from you so that you can fill the many opportunities for service that come to you for the glory of our Lord.

Yours friend

Edna C. Cole.

Hampton House  
28 EAST 70TH STREET  
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

JS

Dear Mr. Speer:-

BUTTERFIELD 8-2700

June 8, 1947

Your grand, little volume, "Five Minutes a Day," helps me every morning at devotion. You are a highly sensitized person and may have sensed our gratitude to you; but another word of thanks will relieve my spirit & not offend yours. The wide range of my need is answered by the broad scope of sentiment, emotion & purpose in your unmatched selection & groupings.

The 89 column in the Princeton Weekly tells of your many activities. Keep Well!

Warmest wishes to you & Mrs. Speer.

Devotedly Yours,

George Scott

Emma Harris SENT

Kear Jafar	JOS B. only ✓
Staley.	COB Bear ✓
Ken Phillips ✓	McCullen ok
R V Samson	Ken Robinson ✓
Ann Clara ✓	Miss Harris ✓
P. J. Price ✓	St. Schind
Wm French	Carverick.
Martha Tenley ✓	Van Ricker
J. B. Warner	C. J. Barrett
Edw. Hughes	Wm Hart
W. Johnson	Grant
Godwin	Ray Anderson
Cam White	Ken Horne
R. A. Cogswell ✓	Ken Cherry ✓
Edwin Lyon ✓	Zwerner
Ann Reed ✓	Keizner
K. P. ✓	Mrs. Lutz
Miss	Ed. Meach
Wanda	Carl Reed
Ellen Blake ✓	Mrs. Warron
Harold Pearson	Arthur Warron
W. B. Wilson	Ed. Lohman
Wick Turner ✓	R. T. De
Mrs. Gidding	Wm. Turner
Joan Fisher ✓	" Becken
Jessie Duff	Wm. G. Galt
Ken Dalton	J. S. Brunker
	Ken Ed. Hunter

R. S. Babson

C. H. Babson

Wm. W. Cleveland

J. H. Brewster

J. H. Green

C. P. Leavitt

Educational Secretary.

Edw. M. Lunt

Schuler

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J. W. Thayer

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Wm. W. S. Lee

Wm. G. Johnson

C. A. Clark

Wm. E. Cole

Bitler

HKT/w V. J. Freeman

Wm. S. H. Wray

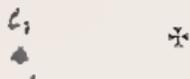
Wm. Chester  
~~Co. Adair~~  
~~Co. Clark~~  
~~Wing~~  
J. S. Green  
P. S. Price.  
C. C. Clarke.  
C. H. Hoops.  
Crawston.  
G. H. Camp.  
Hugh Kerr.  
~~Roger Campbell~~  
~~W. B. Adams~~  
John Nelson.  
St. Deats.  
Wm. Baker.  
D. B. Reid  
D. M. P. Smith  
J. S. Thomas  
G. H. H. H.  
Wing

Beard.  
B. H. H.  
~~John Campbell~~  
Wm. Cole  
Crooks  
~~C. S. Deane~~  
Wm. Thomas  
J. H. H. H.  
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~~Wm. H. H. H.~~  
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C. H. H. H.  
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J. H. H. H.  
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Wm. H. H. H.  
R. C. H. H. H.  
~~Wm. H. H. H.~~

ROCKLEDGE  
LAKEVILLE, CONNECTICUT

THIS night, this hut, all secrets hold.  
Come quickening cup or chastening rod!  
My soul is justly overbold  
Since Christ has brothered us in God.

Father John J. Burke, C.S.P.



IN the faith that the Incarnation, with its mystery, its  
glory and its reality, holds the answer to all our human  
needs and problems, we send you our Christmas greetings.

*Nineteen Hundred and Thirty Eight  
The Year of Our Lord,*

Emma Bailey Speer  
Robert E. Speer

Dear dear Emma & Rob - the Fellowship  
of the Spirit <sup>arrived</sup> to bless the days  
ahead - inscribed by RES, my  
gratitude goes to him & to you both  
just for being - I have been thinking  
back over the years to the autumn  
of 1899 when I first heard RES  
at Vassar - helped the YWCA  
take care of his visit - a proud  
privilege! and then Student  
Conferences - how I remember the  
Gospel of John summer - & then  
the memorable 1901 meeting  
RES going to Camp Diamond -

What you two have meant to  
me is woven into the whole  
web of my life. -- Love and  
Thanks rising from my heart as  
I think of you both.

Truly

Love

Edgewood Cordes

Maundy Thursday 1947

Dear Dr. Speer:

Rarely has anything given me so much joy as the coming of your beautiful book of devotions. So like you to remember me. Sister Rose and I are finding so much to cheer us in reading the daily message and praying the daily prayer. What a year! the coming of our dearly loved Yamaki - messenger of Reconciliation from

Japan to alienated America,  
the measures taken at  
Geneva toward securing  
continuous world Peace,  
now the frightful desola-  
tion in Texas, the old  
silly tendency in the  
Holy Land, (and every-  
where) to see only the fight-  
ing way to gain what is  
wanted. Well, God has his  
mysteries of grace and there  
are happy surprises before  
us. Sister Rose joins me in  
thanks and in love to you  
and Mrs. Speer.

Elizabeth Milliken