

## The Nurse Was Happily Disappointed

by Walter Lewis Wilson, M.D.

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### **The Nurse Was Happily Disappointed**

IT WAS my privilege to hold a gospel service in a very old church in a very old city across the seas. It was an English service, and those who attended could understand quite well the message that was given. The gallery in this building extended out quite a way into the auditorium, so that it was rather difficult for the speaker to see clearly those who sat in the back seats under the gallery. I could see them dimly, but could not discern their faces.

My message centered around the thought that "this Man receiveth sinners and eateth with them." I sought to make it clear that the work of the Saviour was sufficient to make the sinner acceptable to God, and also to fit the sinner for fellowship with God.

As the meeting closed, I greeted a number of friends and started back to the door to leave for my hotel. An usher stepped up and said, "There is a lady in the back seat under the gallery who would like to speak with you." He then led me to a young woman who was sitting in the very back seat, weeping. I sat down beside her with my Bible and asked if I could be of any help to her.

"Yes, I believe you can help me," she said. "I am a nurse in the — Hospital near here. I saw by the advertisement in front of the Church that a physician was to speak, and I thought that perhaps I would learn something that would help me in my nursing work. A number of other nurses came with me. We were all disappointed when we found you were not to speak about medical things at all, and the other girls paid little attention. As soon as you finished preaching they all left.

"Your message touched me very deeply. I have not been what I should be, nor what I would like to be. Since leaving home and becoming a nurse, I have had little time to attend church, and, of course, after a while my desires for church life seemed to leave me. I have followed the others in worldliness of every kind, but have not been able to quiet my conscience about it. I would like to become a real Christian. Can you tell me how it may come about?"

"Nurse, do you believe the Bible?" I asked?

"Yes, but I do not know much about it. I know it is true, but I do not

understand it. I will be glad to have you help me to understand it."

"No doubt the reason you do not understand it," I replied, "is because you have not received the gift of eternal life. When you receive His own life and nature, then you will be able to understand His writings, and then you will know Him personally as your own Lord and Saviour."

I opened my Bible to I John 5:12, and read, "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."

"God has given you His Son, as we read in John 3:16, and now He desires that you take the Lord Jesus, and turn yourself, your soul, and your sins over to Him. As soon as you trust Him, He will give you the gift of eternal life. This is what He says, "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Are you ready to take God at His word, and receive the gift which He freely offers you?"

The thought of receiving Christ seemed to bewilder the nurse. I could see that her mind was not at all clear. She indicated plainly that she would like to do whatever she should do, but did not know how to go about it.

This difficulty led me to pursue a somewhat different line of reasoning. "Nurse," I said, "do you expect your patients to trust the doctor who has been called in on the case?"

"I certainly do," she replied. "They must believe in the doctor, or he cannot help them."

"Do your patients take the medicine the doctor gives without questioning, and just because they believe in the doctor?"

"Yes," she replied, "certainly that is the case. If they believe in the doctor they will take what he gives."

"That is quite right," I answered, "and so it is with the Lord Jesus. He is the great Physician of the soul. You will not call Him in on your case, unless you believe He is able and willing to handle your case successfully. If you do trust Him and take Him, then you will accept what He gives. He gives eternal life, redemption, forgiveness and full salvation. Will you just now take this great Physician and receive from His loving hands and heart the gift of these blessings I have just mentioned?"

"That seems to be too easy," she replied. "Surely there is more to salvation than that."

This statement led me to refer again to her nursing experience. "Nurse," I said, "what more does your patient do than to engage the doctor and take the medicine? Is that not enough for his recovery? Is that not all that is necessary in the treatment of the patient?"

"Yes, that is right, Doctor. It is just as simple as that, and we get rather put out with the patient if he reasons or argues or objects. I can see that quite clearly. I had not thought of salvation in that light. I can see that Christ is the Saviour, and that He does all the saving, while I just do the trusting. I will trust Him at once. I want Him to be my Saviour, and so I will take Him just now. My, what a relief it is to know that He does save and satisfy. Already I feel rested in my soul, because Christ is mine and I am His.

"Thank you so much, Doctor. How simple it is. I am so glad that you knew how to meet my arguments and answer my questions. I shall probably never see you again, but I want you to know I am going back to the hospital a Christian nurse, saved by the Lord Jesus.

May our loving Lord bless and use this message to every nurse who reads this story, and lead each one to trust the blessed Saviour.

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