

A Cure for Troubled Hearts

by Dr. Walter L. Wilson

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me"
(John 14:1).

I wonder how many of us have our hearts so fixed that they can't be troubled with financial loss, or physical suffering, or domestic troubles, or the death of loved ones! Have you so fixed your heart upon the Lord that it cannot be troubled? Are you a "trouble-proof" Christian?

God's people are not like other folks. The saints of God should not be afraid of evil tidings, "Let not your heart be troubled." In the fourteenth chapter of John, our Lord gives us six ways of keeping the heart from being troubled. Six prescriptions or remedies are found in that chapter for a troubled heart.

The main one is this, "In my Father's house are many mansions"—"mansions" inside of a "house." "If it were not so, I would have told you." Heaven is a place, not a condition. "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again." Ask yourself, beloved, what effect these words have on your heart.

I called up my sweetheart the other night by long-distance telephone, and she asked, "When are you coming home, lover?"

"I'll arrive Saturday morning on the regular train, dear," I told her.

"I'll be there waiting for you, beloved," she assured me.

There are 100,000 other women in Kansas City, but none of them said that they would be waiting for me. Do you know why? Because I do not mean anything to them.

If He means anything to you, this lovely Lord who says, "I am coming," you will surely say, "Hurry up, I am waiting for You! I would like to see You! Hurry up! What train are You coming on? Will it be in the morning?"

"It may be at morn, when the day is awaking,
When sunlight thro' darkness and shadow is breaking,
That Jesus will come in the fullness of glory,
To receive from the world 'His own.'"

Does that stir your heart? Do you care? Are you interested in His coming? I am sure that there will be no crowd at the depot to see me when I go home, but there will be one lovely lady waiting there. There will be lots of men coming along, large and small, and nice looking ones, too, but she will not be looking for any of them; she will be looking for this little fellow—she will be watching for the man to whom she belongs.

Are you watching for the Man to whom you belong? Are you married to Him? Do you really belong to Him? He is coming back again. "If I go," He said. His coming back is conditioned upon Him going. "If I go . . . I will come again." I wonder how those words affect your heart! Would you like to see His face? Is there a longing in your soul to see Him as He is? Do you like to say, "Come, Lord Jesus!" Do you want to see Him?

A Test of Relationship

You can be very religious and not be in love with Christ. You can be very orthodox and not be in love with Christ. You can be very nice and sweet and lovely, and not be in love with Christ. You see, religion is an assent to certain teachings, but Christianity is being in love with the Lord Jesus Christ. Christians have a Man they love and adore and worship and follow; other religious people have a system of things that they are expected to believe and do. I could be a Christian Scientist, or a Seventh Day Adventist, or a Mormon, if I told them, "I believe what you teach." All they have is doctrines, but Christians have a lovely, loving Lord, the Man who is coming back again.

I wonder if He told the truth: "If I go . . . I will come again." This is His own word. He said it again after His resurrection. There are those who think His resurrection is what He referred to, but after His resurrection, He said to Peter about John, "If I will that he (John) 'tarry till I come . . . follow thou me' (John 21:22). He was still talking about His coming, even after He rose from the dead. He is coming back again!

Let us listen to other authorities on this subject: "Paul, do you know anything about the return of our Lord? You were one of the greatest of preachers; did you ever hear anything about the Lord's return? Is He really coming back? or did He go away to stay away? or is He still in the tomb?"

"For the Lord himself," he says—not a substitute, nor a spirit, nor a ghost, nor an angel—"The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout." He wants everybody to know that He will soon be on

the way. He is coming back to take the Church away "with a shout, with the voice of the archangel." After that He will come with a rod of iron to have a settlement with the enemy. Make ready, your KING is coming!

It says that we shall be changed and go to meet Him in the air "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye" (I Corinthians 15:52). How quick is that? The translators, in using the word "twinkling," indicated the briefest moment of time they could think of. Some say it means "indivisible," that is, it is so quick that one cannot divide it into any shorter period of time. You can divide the second, but He is coming so quickly that you cannot divide that blessed moment.

We Will See the King

And we are going to meet Him. That is the beautiful thing about Christianity, it is all around Him and wrapped up in a Person. It is centered in the Man, Christ Jesus. We are going to meet Him in the air.

Thank you, Paul! We are glad you wrote these comforting words: "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God" (I Thessalonians 4:16). Angels will announce the coming of the living Lord. Will you be glad to hear them?

Then "the dead in Christ shall rise first," those lovely, precious ones whose bodies are lying yonder in the cemetery. I have twelve of them whose bodies lie near each other in Kansas City; there are eleven in one spot, and my father's body lies in a mausoleum. When He comes, the graves of the Christians will be opened immediately.

There is a difference between the Christian and the one who is not a Christian. The "dead in Christ" are not like those who are "dead in their sins." The Lord Jesus said, if you "die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come" (John 8:21); but He also said, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord" (Revelation 14:13). There is a difference! How are you going to die?

I talked with a prominent surgeon one day, and had a lovely visit. He didn't know it, and I never dreamed that he was within a few days of eternity, as we talked there in the dressing room of the hospital. A few days later his automobile was hit by a train and he was killed.

I met one of my old professors one day in the hall of a city hospital. He was a Jew, and had always been good and kind to me. We both had

patients in the hospital, and we met this time on Wednesday. "Say, Wilson," he said, "for about twenty-five years now you have been telling me a little about your religion. (I had been talking with him about Christ, but he didn't know the difference.) I wish you would take time, and I will take time off, and you come up to my office and explain what all this religion is you have. You come to my office at 10:00 next Wednesday morning, will you?"

"Of course," I replied, "I will be there."

On Friday he flew to another city to perform an operation, and started back by plane Saturday morning. About thirty miles from Kansas City they flew into a dust storm. Those dust storms are so bad that you can't run your automobile in the street; the dirt is just like snow; you can't see through the windshield. They flew into such a dust storm, and dirt got into the motor. They dropped flares, but the dirt put them out before they hit the ground. Finally, the plane ran out of gasoline, crashed to the ground, and he was killed. We were going to meet "next Wednesday."

Who Will Meet Him?

Our Lord Jesus is coming back, "and the dead in Christ shall rise first"—those who died trusting Christ; those who died as Christians, really Christians—not fakes or imitations, but the real article; those who really have eternal life in their souls by a living faith in Christ Jesus.

"The dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain"—Christians who belong to Him, who love Him—"shall be caught up together with them in the clouds." There will be a cloud from Kansas City, and a cloud from Chicago, and a cloud from New York, and a cloud from New Orleans, and a cloud from Los Angeles, and a cloud from Milwaukee: groups of Christians caught up "to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord," the One we love. How would you like that?

"Thank you, Paul, we knew you would tell us!"

"John, you leaned on Jesus' bosom, didn't you, and heard His heart beat, and looked into His face, and felt His breath; did you ever hear the Lord Jesus say anything about coming back again?"

"Listen," John replies, "I heard a voice from heaven say, 'Surely (not maybe) I come quickly.'"

"John, did you really hear Him say that?"

"Yes, I have recorded it three times in the last chapter of Revelation, in the seventh, twelfth, and twentieth verses."

"And did He say that?"

"Yes, and I wrote it down so you could know, and I replied, 'Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus'"

"Thank you, John, we thought we would hear an 'Amen' from you."

Do you know who will meet Him when He comes again? Do you know who He is going to take? He will take those who belong to Him. The Lord Jesus compares Himself to a mother hen in Matthew 23:37, and in Luke 13:34. He said, "How often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings." When the mother hen starts clucking, all the chicks come home.

When I visited Earl Ryan's farm I noticed that he had three chicken coops, with a Plymouth Rock hen, a buff cochin hen and a Leghorn hen tied to each coop. Out in the dusty road were a lot of little chicks playing. "Earl," I inquired, "how do you know which of these chicks belongs to the different hens?"

"I can tell you in a minute, Walter," he replied, and turning to his son, he said, "Bobby, go ask mother for a handful of oatmeal." When Bobby returned, Earl placed the oatmeal before one of the hens, and as soon as she saw it and started clucking, I knew which chicks were hers. Then he placed some oatmeal near another of the hens, and I knew which chicks were hers.

"Thank you, Earl," I laughed, "that's enough."

That is the way He will separate His chicks. When He calls, we will go to Him.

What Will A Magnet Attract?

Now notice, I have a small magnet here in my hand. Let's see what it will do. This can opener I found in my room at the hotel. The magnet picks it up. Here I have a package of old soiled paper. Do you think the magnet will pick it up? It is dirty looking outside, but there must be something inside, for the magnet picks it up too. The magnet picks it up because there is some old wire on the inside. But will it take up this silver dollar? No! These pennies will not cling to the magnet. This gold ring cost \$15.00 and was given to me, but it is not attracted by the magnet. This bottle of perfume is not affected, but this can opener

clings to it. My fine Hamilton watch is not attracted, but these paper clips go toward it.

How is it that all these miserable things are moved by the magnet, but my lovely watch and ring and the silver dollar not? These things that nobody cares much about all go to the magnet. And see how closely these things stick together on the magnet. Why is that? I'll tell you the reason in a minute, but first let us see if this bunch of matches will be moved. Look, one of them goes to the magnet, but the others don't. Why is that? Listen, and I'll tell you a secret: I put a steel needle in this match. It has a new heart.

You will never go to Him until He puts a new heart in you. Listen, only those persons who have in them the same kind of life that is in Him are going to be caught up to meet Him when He comes.

This dollar for instance, that I have been trying to lift with the magnet, looks wonderful, doesn't it? It is a fine dollar, and people like it. It has been around the country a great deal. It has the Government stamp on it, and is approved; but there is nothing in this dollar that is in this magnet, and for that reason, it is not attracted to the magnet.

My lovely valuable ring is not affected in the least when I put the magnet near it, for there is nothing in the ring that is in the magnet.

My watch is a fine and lovely one, but there is nothing in this watch that is in this magnet, and it is not drawn upward by the magnetic force. No matter how fine or lovely or valuable my watch is, it will never go up when I bring this magnet down.

Our Magnet is coming down, and will draw to Him the folks who have in them the things that are in Him:—God's life, eternal life, His Spirit, like the match with the new heart in it. He comes down, and we go up. It would never do for Him to leave the throne and presence of God while we were still here, for we must have an Advocate with the Father. When He starts down, we are going to start up to meet Him. Would you like that? He is coming back again!

A Strange and Awful Thing

But I must tell you a strange and awful thing:—He is going to leave behind all those who do not belong to Him. I want to ask each of you to examine your heart and see whether He has done something to you; not whether you did something. Salvation is something Christ Jesus does to you. It is a surgical operation by which that blessed Lord puts inside of your soul eternal life, and if He didn't do it, it isn't done, no

matter how many times you have gone forward in some public meeting, or how many experiences you have had. There must be the gift of eternal life implanted in the soul by the Lord Jesus. He said, "I give unto them [my sheep] eternal life" (John 10:28). Has He given it to you? Do you have this eternal life, and do you know you have it by the unmistakable proofs in your soul?

Suppose I should find a little green plant in my yard that has grown about an inch above the soil, and after looking at it closely, I say, "This is a vine of the green bean variety, and it will climb." I therefore place a pole beside the plant, and it soon starts climbing up the pole from left to right. Then I notice that my other green bean plants are coming up, so I place a pole beside each of them, and soon I observe that all of the plants are climbing the pole from left to right.

"Why is that?" you ask.

"Because the Lord has given green beans a climbing instinct different from radishes or beets or peas; an instinct to climb. I don't know why. You can't see it in the microscope, nobody knows why, but every one of the green bean plants does it. God in some way put that nature into that plant to do that thing.

But I have planted some other seeds in my yard, and soon I find another vine coming up; it is a vine of hops. As I watch this vine climbing the pole, I find that it climbs from right to left; just the opposite of the bean vine. Each of my hop vines climbs upward just as the bean vines, but in the opposite direction. Why? I don't know, but God has given to this plant this kind of nature.

You look at your nature. Have you a nature that God has implanted in you that makes you incline toward God, Love His Word, love to pray, love Christ? Love Him on Saturday afternoons, and on the Fourth of July? Makes you plan your vacation so as to get something out of God's Word during the time you are away from work? Have you a life in you that draws you to Him, and makes you love Him, and adore Him, and walk with Him, and want Him, Don't look back to when you joined the church, but the time when you met Christ, and He gave you eternal life. He is coming back, and will take all those who are fitted to live in heaven because of that new nature, and will make them feel at home with God.

Ask your heart whether the Lord Jesus is going to take you because you have in you that same life and nature that is in Him. Have you met Him, and trusted Him, and has He saved you? Are you going home?

We Are Going to See His Face

Say, won't it be wonderful to see the Lord Jesus? We have read about Him, and heard so much about Him. Won't it be wonderful to see that lovely Man who lived and died and went back to glory? Won't it be wonderful to see Him, and to fall at His feet and the story repeat, and the Lover of sinners adore?

He might take us quickly, for He has said in Revelation 22:7, 12 and 20, "Behold, I come quickly." It isn't the word used to denote time, but rather to indicate the manner of His coming. He didn't mean that He was coming soon, but rather instantaneously. The transformation will be immediate, at once, like a flash of lightning and the Christians will be gone. You get the picture when you read how the Lord translated Enoch and Elijah to heaven without their dying. He says He will do that with all the saints who are living when He comes.

"Oh, joy! oh, delight! should we go without dying,
No sickness, no sadness, no dread and no crying,
Caught up thru the clouds with our Lord into glory,
When Jesus receives 'His own.'"

"When this . . . mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory, O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" (I Corinthians 15:54, 55). It is true because we will go without dying.

He is coming to take you. He will take you, if you have taken Him. The unbeliever will not go, because he has no Christ. They don't want life, and they don't want Him; so He doesn't give them life, or Christ, or heaven. What about you? Do you want Him, and do you want to be with Him? It is a fine and blessed thing to live altogether for Him, so that when He comes, He will not find you asleep and lazy, but watching and working.

I remember when I used to walk through our factory with its three hundred employees, I could tell before I started upstairs just who I would find working. No matter what time I went up, I would always find certain ones there. I could tell you before looking at the time clock, who punched in exactly on the hour, and who punched in after the hour. You see some worked for me and loved me, but others just worked for me.

Our Lord looks down upon every one of us and knows whether our heart is His. He knows whether we are watching for the train to come with Him on it. He knows whether we want Him, or just His gifts. He

knows, and each one of us knows it, too.

Beloved, because He has said He is coming again and is coming suddenly, I want to plead with you to be ready.

"Then take with rejoicing from Jesus at once
The life everlasting He gives;
And know with assurance thou never canst die,
Since Jesus thy righteousness lives."

Copied for www.WholesomeWords.org from *A Sure Remedy Prescribed by the Doctor...* by Walter L. Wilson. Chicago: Moody Press, ©1938. (The Moody Colportage Library, no. 173).