

Be Ye Ready

#0636

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—July 6, 1957

This morning, I want to read to you a newspaper dispatch describing the terrible hurricane in southwestern Louisiana, southeastern Texas a few days ago. Most of you are familiar with these reports. But I think it will be worthwhile for us to meditate on them a bit this morning, together with some Scriptures.

This was written the second of July. The heading is:

“Mounting Misery, Slow Storm Cleanup, Mass Burial Held for Part of Victims. The latest estimate of death toll is 500.”

It's since gone up considerably above that.

“Mass removal and burial of hurricane dead from the ravaged gulf coast of Louisiana went on today. But mounting misery beset cleanup workers and slowed their progress. The Red Cross reported of Cameron, the little fishing village that was the focal point of last Thursday's great storm, it is well nigh impossible for even the strongest of men to stay in the place, much less work.

“The hurricane, first of the season, brought 105-mile-an-hour winds and 20-foot storm waves to western Louisiana and eastern Texas. Although the storm long since had moved on and died out, the havoc of its passage was not yet softened. Damage to crops, buildings and livestock was incalculable.

“As the seemingly endless procession of dead moved north from the coast mass burials got underway late yesterday. A big crane lifted 47 hand-made pine coffins into part of a 150-foot trench. Health authorities called Cameron and the neighboring villages uninhabitable for perhaps as long as three weeks. As late as yesterday, survivors still were being found afloat in receding flood waters.

Cameron, once a village of 3,000 persons lacked fresh water, sewage facilities, means to refrigerate food, electricity and protection against multiplying hordes of mosquitoes. Rats and poisonous snakes held sway in the wreckage. Pestilence (typhoid, tetanus and malaria)

was a lurking menace. Many of the search parties were armed against swarms of poisonous cottonmouth moccasins washed up from the marshes.

“Sheriff O.B. Carter, Cameron Parish, sent out a party of hunters yesterday to shoot out a particularly large swarm of snakes” Unknown Newspaper Report, July 2, 1957.

And speaking of the doctor, the one doctor there, it says:

“Searchers still have not found his three babies. His wife spends most of her time in bed recovering from the beating she received when she floated 18 hours in the raging flood water. His oldest son suffers with nightmares, and their home once the showplace of Cameron is gone” *Ibid.*

Now, it's the closing words of this newspaper reporter's article that I want you to notice especially:

“In Washington, a coast guard officer said, ‘many of the persons killed by the hurricane would be alive today if they had heeded warnings to flee their homes.’ Commander James N. Shrader, coast guard search and rescue officer, New Orleans, told a press conference, ‘the weather bureau warned of the hurricane 36 hours in advance and pinpointed to the hour its arrival time 14 hours before it hit. Most people had plenty of time to find a safe place,’ he said. ‘they simply refused to leave their homes’” *Ibid.*

As somebody handed me this newspaper the other day and I looked at it, I said, “There's a sermon in that story.”

I suppose that I could close right here, and you could go home with several important thoughts, some earnest warnings.

I'm going to read from Matthew the 24th chapter and the 44th verse.

“Therefore be ye also ready...” Matthew 24:44.

“Be ready.”

They had a warning of the exact time the hurricane would hit, but this text says:

“...For in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh” Matthew 24:44.

We've been warned about His coming, but we haven't been told the exact hour like they were. But you know what our great danger is, dear friends? Our great danger, just like these folks here, do you know why a lot of these folks didn't move? Well, I'll tell you why. They'd had hurricane warnings before. This isn't the first time that a storm has hit the gulf. It's probably the first time that one that bad hit that particular locality.

I was reading of an old man on an island off the gulf coast there, who'd lived there for years and years and years and years.

After this hurricane, he said, "We have never seen the water go over this island."

But they saw it go over *this* time. This was unprecedented as far as that locality is concerned.

And that's why (because they'd had warnings before and nothing as bad as this happened) they said, "Well, we'll sit this one out. It'll rain pretty hard; it'll blow pretty bad, but we'd rather be here in our homes when it's over than be who knows where."

And so, they stayed. And hundreds of them are in mass graves this morning, hundreds of them. And most of them could have been alive and well if they had just heeded the warning to get out.

"Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh" Matthew 24:44.

Volume 8, 315, I read:

"A storm is coming, relentless in its fury. Are we prepared to meet it?" *Testimonies for the Church*, *Volume 8*, page 315.

Noah told the people about a great storm and flood that was coming back in his day, but he told them about it so long that when the time came to leave their homes and get in the ark, they said, "No. No." And they perished in the flood.

And Jesus says here in Matthew 24:37:

"But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away..." Matthew 24:37–39.

Just like it is down here on the gulf coast.

“...knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be”
Matthew 24:39.

You know, friends, it's worth taking a moment to emphasize this. This very storm down on the gulf coast is one more sign of the near approach of the coming of our Lord.

Luke the 21st chapter and the 25th verse:

“And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring” Luke 21:25.

A-hundred-five-mile-an-hour wind, a twenty-foot wave, can you see it coming, my friends? Can you hear it?

“...The sea and the waves roaring” Luke 21:25.

And the echo of that thundering noise as it reaches our ears is to awaken in our minds, arouse in our hearts the firm conviction that the coming of Jesus is near, even at the doors [a paraphrase of Matthew 24:33].

Now, that need not be a thought of terror to us. It should be a thought of relief, of peace, of blessing, because my dear friends, as long as we're in *this* old world, one trouble after another will come, will it not? There is no release nor relief except in the coming of Jesus. That is the answer.

But I come back to this danger. Why was it that so many of them perished down there in Louisiana a few days ago? They didn't listen to the warnings. They didn't heed the warnings. They didn't *do* something about it.

They thought, “Oh, I don't think it'll be as bad as they say it will. We've had warnings before. I don't think it will be that bad.”

Let me read you something from *Early Writings*, 58:

“Some are looking too far off for the coming of the Lord. Time has continued a few years longer than they expected; therefore they think it may continue a few years more, and in this way their minds are being led from present truth, out after the world. In these things I saw great danger...” *Early Writings*, page 58.

Now, I pray that the Lord will help every mind here to be alert this morning. If any of you are inclined to be drowsy, I suggest that you do something that'll wake you up. I know what it means in the summertime to sit and listen to a message and have to pinch myself to keep awake, but it's worth it, friend, it's worth it. Because otherwise, the very thing we need most may be missed. It was while men slept that the enemy sowed tares [a paraphrase of Matthew 13:25]. You remember that? Yes.

Now, what did I just read? I read that:

“Some are looking too far off for the coming of the Lord. Time has continued a few years longer than they expected...” *Ibid.*

Is there anybody here that was expecting the Lord to come 40 years ago? May I see your hands? Expecting Him to come right away? Yes. All right.

Time has gone on longer than you expected it to, is that correct? Yes, yes. And some of you who began to look for the coming of Jesus later than 40 years ago, the time has gone on longer than *you* expected, is that correct? All right.

Now, because of that, it says some people think that it may continue a few years more, just like it was in the days of Noah.

I thought of it this way. Here's a boy comes running in, in one of those antediluvian homes.

And he says, “Oh, Daddy, do you know what I saw today? I was with a friend of mine way over on the other side of the mountain, and there I saw a man building a great building. And he was talking, and he said there was a great flood coming. And Daddy, we ought to get ready so that we can go in that ark.”

Daddy says, “Oh, son, never mind. I heard that when I was a boy, too. I was over in that valley one time, and I heard that. But look here. Here I am grown up, have a family, and no flood around. Sky's just as clear as it was when I was a boy, and no rain falls. The rivers are just where they always have been. Never mind, sonny.”

“Really, Daddy, did you hear that when you were a boy?”

“Yes.”

“And it never has happened?”

“No.”

And what does sonny think?

“Well, maybe Daddy's right. He heard it when he was a boy and it's never happened. Now, I'm hearing it. Maybe it won't happen now.”

Is that what's going on today, friends? Yes. Did our grandfathers hear that Jesus was coming right away? Yes. And our fathers, and we're hearing it, and our children are hearing it.

“In these things I saw great danger...” *Ibid.*

And what's the answer? Why, the answer is in our text:

"Therefore be ye also ready..." Matthew 24:44.

"Be ready."

Notice, He doesn't say, "*Get* ready." He says, "*Be* ready." There's a difference, isn't there? Yes. Of course, we'll have to *get* ready in order to *be* ready. But when we *get* ready, then we must *stay* ready. And then we'll *be* ready.

But how about it, friends, could a person live for years and years ready? Could he? Yes, he'd better. And that doesn't mean living in a tension. It's the people that aren't ready that are on a tension. And if you'll understand me, I'll simply say that they *ought* to be on a tension.

And we should not be interested in some tranquilizing drug that will make unready people unaware of their tensions—the unready *need* to be on a tension because they're in a most dangerous position. But the way to get rid of the tension is to get ready. And when you're ready, then it doesn't make any difference whether the storm comes tonight or tomorrow or next week or next month or next year, you're ready.

That's why Jesus says, "*Be* ready," "*Be* ready."

He says:

"...Be ready always..." 1 Peter 3:15.

And if you're *always* ready, then you can go to sleep at night, having committed the keeping of your soul to Him "as unto a faithful Creator" [a paraphrase of 1 Peter 4:19].

In the book *Acts of the Apostles*, page 431, I read:

"God desires His people to prepare for the soon-coming crisis. Prepared or unprepared they must all meet it..."
Acts of the Apostles, pages 431–432.

In other words, friends, whether we're ready or not, the storm is coming. But if we're ready, then we don't have to worry about it.

What does it mean to *be* ready?

"...And those only who have brought their lives into conformity to the divine standard, will stand firm at that time of test and trial" *Ibid*.

Oh, how wonderful it will be. You know, friends, in Noah's day, they went into the ark. And while the storm, of course, buffeted them about inside that ark, they didn't get wet any. They weren't drowned.

But this time, there's not going to be any literal ark made of lumber and pitch. We're going to go right through the great storm of the future, the persecution and the storm of the elements, the earthquakes, the hurricanes, the tidal waves. We'll see these things all around us. But thank God, friends, Jesus says:

"But there shall not an hair of your head perish"
Luke 21:18.

It's going to be a wonderful thing to have such a sense of the companionship of God and His providence that we can accept it all, and not only be saved from physical damage but be saved from a nervous breakdown.

You know, just to go through the time of trouble that's ahead would drive a person insane if he wasn't ready, resting and trusting in Jesus, wouldn't it? We're told that the most vivid imagination cannot picture the severity of the ordeal. But oh, God is going to have some people concerning whom He says:

"Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that
keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus"
Revelation 14:12.

And because they have that patience, I want you to notice what the result is, in Luke the 21st chapter and the 19th verse, this same chapter tells how that men's hearts are failing them for fear and for looking after those things that are coming on the earth. He says:

"In your patience possess ye your souls" Luke 21:19.

We hear of people losing their minds. God's people are going to keep theirs. They're going to keep their souls, their minds, their intelligence; they're going to be restful, trustful in God through that great storm, that great crisis. Why? They have settled two things. They have settled this, friends, that God is on the throne, that God makes all things work together for good to those who love Him [a paraphrase of Romans 8:28]. They've settled that.

And they've also settled that they are perfectly willing for God to do anything with them that He wants to. And when we settle those two things, that God is in charge and that we're glad for Him to do with us whatever He wants to, there's peace, perfect peace. Oh, that we may sense what it means to be ready in that way.

In *Early Writings*, page 119, I want to read something the angel said:

"My accompanying angel cried out with awful solemnity,
'Get ready! get ready! get ready! for the fierce anger of
the Lord is soon to come. His wrath is to be poured out,
unmixed with mercy, and ye are not ready'"
Early Writings, page 119.

What's the word that's repeated here again and again? "Ready." That's what Jesus said:

"...Be ready..." 1 Peter 3:15.

"...Be ready always..." 1 Peter 3:15.

The angel says, "Get ready! Get ready! Get ready! You're not ready."

"...rend the heart, and not the garment. A great work must be done for the remnant. Many of them are dwelling upon little trials" *Early Writings*, page 119.

I was very much impressed with this as I read it, friends.

"...many of them..." *Ibid.*

Many of the remnant.

"...are dwelling upon little trials" *Ibid.*

What does that mean "dwelling upon"? Well, it means to think about it, and talk about it, and mull it over. That's it. And do you know, what's in the heart comes out?

Do you remember that time that Jesus was speaking to the multitude, and there were hundreds of people wanting to get to speak to Him, and finally, one man got up close enough where he could say something to Jesus that was on his heart? And do you remember what he asked Jesus for?

Luke the 12th chapter and the 13th verse:

"And one of the company said unto him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me"
Luke 12:13.

Now, think of it, friends. Perhaps that was the first and last time he ever had to have a word alone with Jesus. I say "alone," I mean to have Jesus' undivided attention. And what was it?

Was it, "Dear Jesus, get me ready for heaven"?

No.

Was it, "Dear Jesus, show me how to get the victory over my temper"?

No, nothing spiritual at all. Purely materialistic. Extremely selfish.

If you had a chance to talk to Jesus today, to unburden your heart, what would you ask Him about?

I'm sorry to say some people if Jesus should say to them, "Friend, what would you like me to do for you?"

They'd say, "I wish You'd get me a new roommate."

Or, "I wish You would move me to a room that has more of this, or more than that in it."

Or, "I wish You'd keep the neighbor's chickens from coming over and tearing up my garden."

Or, "I wish You'd stop the railroad trains from tooting so loud."

Or, "I wish You'd move so and so away. He gets in my hair. He just bothers me."

What did I read here?

"Many of them are dwelling upon little trials" *Early Writings*, page 119.

"Little trials, little trials," do you have any?

Somebody says, "That's just the point. They're like mosquitos. They just bother you."

Do you know, there are some people that live where mosquitos are all the time? Yes. I've often thought that God allows a number of things to be around us, like mosquitos or railroads or this or that, just to remind us of the fact that we're not in heaven yet.

Some people, if they could, would get this world fixed up just like Heaven and then be perfectly willing to stay here always. That's right. And what happens to the perishing millions in heathen lands can become a very minor point, friends, if we can get everything just so nice and so comfortable and so convenient, and everything just like we likes it. We can be surrounded only by the people that we like, and if the weather is just right, as it is this morning, you know.

God allows a mosquito once in a while, and a whistle blast once in a while, and a hurricane once in a while, to help you and me to realize that this world is not our home.

Now, I come back to this thought. This man had the opportunity to talk to Jesus. And what did he want? Why, he wanted his brother fixed up so he would do what *he* wanted him to do.

"...Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me" Luke 12:13.

If there's anything that makes trouble, it's inheritances, isn't it, friends? Down through the ages, here's this man. He's in a great stew because the inheritance isn't divided to suit him. And he thinks if Jesus will just get busy and do something about it, that the brother will have to listen to Christ.

I think I know how Jesus felt because from time to time, people come to me because they think that *I* can get somebody to do something about this, that or the other thing that's bothering them. I think I know how Jesus felt.

And friends, there are times that I long that we shall lift our eyes above the little, petty trials and that in our hearts shall be welling up that great desire, "Oh Jesus, make me ready; keep me ready. Help me to *get* ready and to *be* ready."

"My accompanying angel cried out... 'Get ready! get ready! get ready!... A great work must be done for the remnant. Many of them are dwelling upon little trials... Ye suffer your minds to be diverted too readily from the work of preparation and the all-important truths for these last days'" *Early Writings*, page 119.

Now, listen to the next sentence. This is what the angel said:

"And ye dwell upon little trials and go into minute particulars of little difficulties to explain them to the satisfaction of this one or that" *Ibid*.

I've had people tell me of some problem that was bothering them and take twenty minutes to do it, and they could have done it in two minutes if it needed to *be* done. They could have done it in two minutes, friends. It took twenty minutes to do it.

"... 'Ye dwell upon little trials and go into minute particulars of little difficulties to explain them to the satisfaction of this one or that'" *Ibid*.

We're so anxious that people understand our side of it. We're so afraid that somebody will think *we're* to blame. Of course, we're not. We're never to blame. It's somebody else that's to blame.

"Conversation has been protracted for hours between the parties concerned, and not only has their time been wasted, but the servants of God are held to listen to them... If pride and selfishness were laid aside, five minutes would remove most difficulties" *Ibid*.

Isn't that encouraging, friends? But isn't it devastating to think of the *hours* of wasted time when five minutes would remove most difficulties?

If what were laid aside? Pride and selfishness, pride and selfishness.

“Angels have been grieved and God displeased by the hours which have been spent in justifying self... and thus precious time be wasted that should be spent in showing transgressors the error of their ways and pulling souls out of the fire” *Ibid.*

Brethren, souls are going down to eternal ruin, and while we spend a lot of time to be sure that everybody understands all the little minute particulars of just how we’ve been wronged, and why this one is off, and why this one is in our way, souls are going down in those muddy waters.

God help us this morning to settle it in our hearts individually, each for himself that as for *me*, I will have done with all that nonsense. I will devote my time and energy to getting myself ready and helping others to get ready.

And if there’s an inheritance to be divided, I’ll leave that with God. If God wants me to have some, He’ll take care of it. But I’m not going to spend my time when I have a chance to be with the Master taking His time away from soul-winning to carry out some selfish idea or plan of mine.

“I saw that the seven last plagues were coming upon the shelterless heads of the wicked; and then those who have stood in their way will hear the bitter reproaches of sinners, and their hearts will faint within them.

“Said the angel, ‘Ye have been picking at straws dwelling upon little trials—and sinners must be lost as a consequence’” *Ibid.*, pages 120–121.

Most of the trials we have are little trials, my friends. And God is testing us to see how anxious we are for the *one* thing of being ready, how earnest we are in getting that one thing—likeness to Jesus. God is testing us to see whether we will be diverted, distracted, or whether we will keep our eye on the goal and our feet moving in that direction.

“Therefore be ye also ready...” Matthew 24:44.

“...Be ready always...” 1 Peter 3:15.

“...for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh” Matthew 24:44.

Well now, I’m thankful this morning, dear friends, that Jesus has told us how we can get ready. He has told us exactly how we can have those white robes.

Let’s go over to Revelation the 7th chapter verses 13–14, and get a view of the saints of God in Heaven:

“And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence

came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb” Revelation 7:13–14.

There are two things I want you to notice there. One is tribulation; the other is the blood of the Lamb. You’ll have to have both if you’re ready. You’ll have to have both if you’re ready.

“...These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb” Revelation 7:14.

All the tribulation in the world will never get you ready, friend, unless you have yielded your life to be washed by Jesus. But on the other hand, merely the fact that Jesus died upon the cross, infinite as was that sacrifice, perfect as was that atonement that will never accomplish the work in you unless you are willing to be yielded to the providences of God, including tribulations.

Shall we choose our Master’s choice this morning, friends?

“...When the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem” Luke 9:51.

He turned not back from arrest, imprisonment, scourging, mockery, spitting, abuse of all kinds, and crucifixion and death. He accepted the baptism of blood that through Him perishing, millions might have hope.

And so today, God is calling for those who will willingly accept tribulation and choose to be baptized into the sufferings of Christ. Choose to live for Him, that the character of God may be revealed in them.

“...These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb” Revelation 7:14.

Can a person who is a sinner be made white and clean? Yes. Can a man who has been a slave to evil habits be transformed? Yes. Is there something, my brother, my sister that has been holding *you* back, something interfering with your being ready? Ah, let me tell you, whether it’s one thing or fifty, you can have your character and life washed and made white in the blood of the Lamb.

If you come to Jesus, just come to Him simply and say, “Dear Lord, I must have help. I want this morning to be truly converted. I want that sin taken out of my life.”

Jesus has help for you, my friend. Jesus has help for you. I *know* He does—no question about it. There is help for you, help for you. That’s why Jesus died. That’s why He came down from Heaven, down to this world was that He might live

for us showing us how to live, and then die for us that His blood might wash away our sins.

When we see what sin did to Him when we see Him dying upon the cross to take sin away, the sight of that love revealed in that sacrifice melts our hearts, and we want to be washed and cleansed.

And He says:

“...Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee”
Matthew 9:2.

“...Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole...” Matthew 9:22.

There is help for us in Jesus, my friends; there is help for us in Jesus.

I wonder if there's somebody here this morning that needs that experience and would like our prayers. I wonder if there's somebody here this morning that has some sin that has gotten you down, and you want Jesus to help you to get rid of that.

Would you like to stand for prayer right where you are, somebody here this morning that's needing that help to be delivered from sin? There's a victory you need to gain, a deliverance that you need to have, and you want our prayers this morning that Jesus will take that sin out of your heart.

Yes. Just remain standing a moment, and you. Yes. Yes, my dear brother. Oh, thank God, friends, there's help for us. There's wonderful help for us, wonderful help for us.

Well, friends, will Jesus hear these requests for prayer? Will He? Why, He says so.

He says:

“Call unto Me, and I will answer thee...” Jeremiah 33:3.

“Call unto Me, and I will answer thee...” Jeremiah 33:3.

“...Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved” Acts 2:21.

Why, friend, think of it. As if I had a cancer, and Jesus says, “Come to me and I'll take it away.”

As if I had tuberculosis, and Jesus would say, “Come to me, and I will heal you.”

This cancer of sin, this worse than tuberculosis of iniquity, Jesus says, “Come.”

“Come...and I will give you rest” Matthew 11:28.

“Come and I will take your sin away.”

Is there somebody else here that Jesus is calling, and you want that help this morning?

Well, friends, I'd like to kneel and pray for and with these that have asked for help. And I'm sure that you who are in touch with the Master will be glad to join us in prayer for each of these. And God will hear our prayers, friends.

I'm going to ask Brother Foote to pray, and then I'll pray. And each of you that's standing pray for yourself, and we'll all pray for and with you.

Let us seek God and expect Him to help us right here this morning. Let us seek God.

[Brother Foote] Our Father in Heaven, we respond as Thou hast put it into our hearts to seek Thee. Lord, we thank Thee that Thou dost not leave us to glide along in calm security until the storm overtakes us.

Help us, Lord, to take occasion when trials come to let these trials draw us closer to our Savior. Forbid that we shall allow the trials to draw our minds upon the trials and upon ourselves and away from our need of our Savior and of preparation for the storm that is coming.

Lord, bless these who have indicated their desire for special help. Give each the help that he needs, we pray. And bless us all and draw us into a closer communion with our Savior.

We ask in Jesus' name, amen.

[Elder Frazee] Dear Father, it's wonderful to be here at Thy feet this morning. And we're so glad Thou hast invited us to come. We're sure that there's a place for us for Thou hast said:

“...Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out”
John 6:37.

And we believe that this morning and that's why we're here.

We join with these who have stood, asking for special help this morning. We pray that just now, the hand of Jesus shall be stretched out and laid upon each one. Oh, may we know and feel that heavenly touch.

Take our sin away. Take it all away, Lord, the selfishness, the indulgence, the worldliness, the pride, the covetousness, every wicked thing; take it all away, our Lord. We want our robes washed white in the blood of Jesus.

As we see that crimson stream that flows from Calvary, we pray that we shall be cleansed fully and entirely and completely. And we believe it, our Father. Thou hast said:

“...What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them” Mark 11:24.

And we *do* believe this morning. We believe that:

“...The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin” 1 John 1:7.

Oh, we thank Thee for it, dear Lord, we thank Thee for it.

Now, I'd like to have each of you repeat with me:

“...The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin” 1 John 1:7.

Together:

“...The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin” 1 John 1:7.

Does it? Let's say it again:

“...The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin” 1 John 1:7.

We believe it, our Father. We believe it with all our hearts. We're leaving our sins with Thee. We're going forth with a cleansing, and we thank Thee that Thou hast said:

“...I am with you alway...” Matthew 28:20.

“...I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee” Hebrews 13:5.

And we accept it this morning in Jesus' name, amen.

Now, friends, do you know the thing to do when you've gotten a blessing? The thing to do is to tell it. I want you to turn over to the 40th Psalm. I want you to notice something here in the experience of David.

You know, David was a very human man.

You can say, “We all are.”

But David, it seems to me, was very, very human. He had his ups and downs. Sometimes he felt like singing, and sometimes he felt like weeping. But notice his experience here in the 40th Psalm:

“I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me,
and heard my cry” Psalm 40:1.

Why did David know the Lord had heard his cry? Well, because he was crying, and God had done something for him as he cried. Listen:

“He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the
miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established
my goings. And he hath put a new song in my heart...”
Psalm 40:2–3.

Is that what it says?

“...in my mouth...” Psalm 40:3.

It’s all right to have it in the heart, but it ought to get where? To the mouth.

“And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise
unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust
in the Lord” Psalm 40:3.

Now, I want to spend a few minutes in testimony meeting, especially from these who have stood this morning seeking a blessing. You who have sought the Lord this morning and you believe that God has done something for you, you believe His promise right now, this is your glorious opportunity to stand and confess Christ. This is your opportunity to stand and say:

“I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me
from all my fears” Psalm 34:4.

“I’ve sought the Lord this morning. I believe He’s heard me. I believe He’s done something for me. I’m going on in the strength of His grace,” in your own words, of course.

But first of all, in our little testimony meeting this morning, I’d like to hear from these who have sought the Lord this morning, and you believe and know that God has done something for you.

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