



# Daily Consecration and the Refiner's Fire

"Thy Word  
is  
Truth"

## **DAILY CONSECRATION AND THE REFINER'S FIRE.**

"PRESENT your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Romans 12:1).

God requires all Christians to consecrate their lives continually to Him. All our possessions belong to Him. A daily consecration is going on in the heart of the one who is growing in the grace and knowledge of the Lord. You may withhold your consecration, grow lean in your soul, and lose the blessing of God; but if you would retain His blessing, have power with God, and hold faith in your heart, you must consecrate right up to the last moment. Lay constantly on the altar the least thing God permits to cross your pathway, and let Him do with it as He pleases.

### **The Cost**

People have said. "I will consecrate to God that which I can easily get along without"; but consecration to God is that which cost you something, as it did David, who said, "Neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing" (II Samuel 24:24). God may have stripped you of temporal things, as He did Job; nevertheless, you can hold tike integrity of your heart and give God what remains - which is your heart and life.

If people would only come up to the help of the Lord on consecration alone. He would do wonderful things for them. Consecration is the very groundwork that God requires. Christ was constantly saying to the Father: "Lo, I come to do thy will, O God." "I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will. but the will of him that sent me."

"Not my will, but thine be done." And, if the Son of God, the Second Person of the Godhead, was obedient even unto His death on the cross that we might have these glorious experiences in our hearts, how much more ought we to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God and keep our lives constantly consecrated before Him.

## **Childlike**

Jesus called a little child and set him in the midst of His disciples, and said, "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 18:3). A little child is placed by its mother wherever she wills in the crib, taken in her arms - and whatever seems best for that child is done. So we are in God's hands; and if He places us in hard or in easy places, we are to do or be whatever He requires. The trouble is that people are not submissive to the will of God. They have not made the supreme consecration - to be willing to let God place them where He sees best.

If a test, persecution, or affliction overtakes you, that does not necessarily mean that you are not a child of God or that you are dealt with worse than others. On the contrary, God is trusting you a little more than another. He realizes that you are able to stand the test and be trusted. You should thank God for every test He permits to come your way, because it is God's mercy, God's trust in you. He is trying you out, that He might prove whether you are worthy of the trust He has placed in you. It means everything for us to have that consecration that God can do with us as He pleases.

## **Submissive**

The self-life reaches for things to gratify itself. In the home there is opportunity to keep silent, though you might say something in self-defense; but you grow in grace and mortify the flesh, or self-life, by keeping still and making no defense. One has opportunities daily of putting that self-life down. Paul said, "I die daily" - "I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection."

I once saw some mechanics working on a very choice mantelpiece. One workman would take a small plane and smooth off little rough places in every corner, till it was just as smooth as could be. It was a lesson to me, as I thought of how God is preparing us to fit into His building; and with

chisel and plane He will smooth off a little here and there. Until the building is complete, there are places where we can be chiseled and the roughness planed off. We are to lie in the Master's hand like a piece of wood, and let Him place us where He sees fit. Then when we are in the building, the Master can put on chisel or sandpaper to perfect us. The grinding may hurt; but if we submit, God can bring the building to perfection.

It will not be long till the trump sounds, and we who remain shall be "caught up." It will be only those who have been willing to fit in wherever God saw best who will be ready. We may be only the doorsill that people walk over; but it will make no difference to us, just so we have a place in God's building.

We have seen the branding of cattle in the great corrals, when the red-hot iron was put on to brand them with the owner's mark. It meant suffering, and after being loosed the animal would get up and walk away, often holding its head down. Many times God sees best to put on the branding iron, that He might mark us as His children. Our head will go down with sorrow and grief, It humbles every soul whom God permits to go through a severe test; nevertheless, it is for our greatest good. Our attitude must be: "I bow in submission; for I believe what the Scriptures say: "All things work together for good to them that love God." Whatever God permits, or whoever His instrument may be in the case, we can say. "It is all right."

### **Surrendered**

We must love God with al our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and give God our best. He will lay deep consecrations on every heart. We may draw back from the depths of the consecration; but God will call us to that consecration, and if we do not make it, the Spirit will withdraw.

Consecration is one of the most serious things in the Word

of God. We cannot treat it lightly. It may not be the easiest or most pleasant service, but God requires it. He will have a people whom He can trust and bless. If we are faithful to Him when the books are opened He will surely reward us for the least service given to God.

"And Jephthah vowed a vow unto the LORD, and said. If thou shalt without fail deliver the children of Ammon into mine hands, then it shall be. that whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me when I return in peace from the children of Ammon. shall surely be the LORD'S, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering" (Judges 11:30.31).

Hannah vowed a vow. and said. O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head" (1 Samuel 1:11).

David said: "Neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing" (II Samuel 24:24).

### **A Lesson from a Visit to the Shipyards**

I had an experience that I shall never forget. We had occasion to visit the shipyards on business, during the war period. As we passed through that great Institution, with its hundreds of men employed, we saw one man drilling a hole, another shaving off a little steel, and another taking iron out of the fire. Many of them were the saints of God. It was a wonderful picture to me of what God is doing in the lives of His children.

At last we came to a great sheet of iron in the fire, at white heat; and when the iron reached the perfect heat, they drew it out of the furnace, removed it to another place, and two great Irons came down together on that white-heated iron and how the iron gave way to the two great Iron molds, the One above and the other below!

I thought of how God many times, in His great love and mercy, would take a life and put it into the refining fire, and hold it there until it gets to a whitened heat. It requires strong heat to bend and mold the hardest steel. So many of us have wills that are strong, and our minds are so set, that in order for God to handle us He has to slip us into the furnace till the steel in our lives is heated; and when He takes us out. He puts the mold of the Word of God on, and then it will mold and bend us to His will. The Word of God sinks deepest into our heart when we have gone through some heavy test, when we have been put through the fire. Then is when the sweetness of the Word of God sinks into our life most.

How those great irons would come down and bend the steel! It would be moved along, and bent again. Then a man would come with his plumb, and measure here, and move it along, and measure there. As I stood and looked, I thought: O God, how many times You have had to put some of us into the fire, into the furnace seven times heated. The old plumb line of the Word is put on here and there, and the metal has to be put back into the fire again. God is setting up His Kingdom in our hearts; and, in His love. He is watching over us as the "refiner and purifier" of our souls, that He might test us and see whether we will bend to His will and heed His call when He speaks.

### **Yielded**

If God could only get us to a place where our wills would constantly and willingly bend, where we would be pliable and mellow in the hands of God, as the heavy iron is mellowed through the heated furnace when the pressure is brought to bear. God would work wonderfully in the yielded life.

If there had been any power in that great sheet of iron to have drawn back from the fire, it probably would have done so. but it was helpless; so it was shoved into the furnace, and kept there till the proper heat was brought to bear.

Then it was placed in the molds that bent it at the will of the one who had it in charge.

Christ is the One who has control of our lives We are bought with a price. We are subjects of the King who is ruling over our lives. The King of kings and Lord of lords is the One to whom we are in subjection, if we are born again We are His children, and He is the One who must have the pre-eminence. He is the One who must mold and fashion us as His will. Little we know of God's purpose in purifying our hearts when He permits some fiery trial. "The fining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold: but the LORD trieth the hearts." How few can stand "the fining pot for silver" To say nothing of the sevenfold heat for gold.

When that purifying work is going on, there is One whose form is like unto the Son of man, bending over the furnace, watching over the gold. Many times He has to lift the heat because we cannot stand the furnace. If we begin to faint and fail and ask God to lift the fire when He puts It on. He may lift It, because He will not permit us to be tempted above that we are able to bear, but He will put it on again with greater heat than before If we have me Blood upon our souls, If we have a conscience void of offense toward God and man, then we can enter into hard places with God.

Things may come to you that are bitter to the flesh, but they will be sweet to the spirit. You can welcome pain and grief if they bring you closer to Him.

"Let sorrow do its work.

Send grief and pain;

Sweet are Thy messengers,

Sweet their refrain,

When they can sing with me,

More love, O Christ, to Thee.

More love to Thee,

More love to Thee!"

### **Purged**

A great calm will settle down on your soul if you say as Jesus said in the Garden, "Not my will, but thine, be done."

No matter how far you have advanced in grace, God wants to purge you still He has heights and breadth to reveal to His people; and the more you yield to the refining work of the Spirit, the brighter the crown, the more glistening the robe you will wear in Heaven.

God is calling every one of us to consecrate to the very depths, that we may receive what God has promised to them that love Him, He says, "Neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit" (I Corinthians 2:9,10).

God will plant in the heart all the beautiful gifts and graces that He has prepared for those who love Him All you need to have is an honest heart, and a true heart toward God. Walk in the light and the Blood will flow over your heart continually. Keep the faith channels open, keep in touch with high Heaven, and God will do the work. He is leading every child of God out Into the depths of the riches of Jesus Christ Into the fullness of the Gospel.

**The Apostolic Faith**  
**International Headquarters**  
**6615 SE 52nd Avenue**  
**Portland Oregon, 97206 USA.**  
**[www.apostolicfaith.org](http://www.apostolicfaith.org)**  
**Africa Headquarters**  
**Campground Road, Anthony Village,**  
**P. O. Box 78, Ebute-Meta, Lagos, Nigeria.**  
**[www.apostolicfaith-ng.org](http://www.apostolicfaith-ng.org)**