

Tabernacle Addresses

By Wilbur Glenn Voliva

DIVINE HEALING

(Continued)

OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S LAWS PREVENTS DISEASE

I do not know of any in Zion who have died of the gripe — not one. Some of them have had the gripe, but we would not have it if we knew how to live.

Not one of us knows perfectly how to live. I admit that I do not, although I think I know as much about it as any one else.

If we strictly obeyed the laws of God, there would be no such thing as sickness.

Many people disobey God in eating—and yet it is difficult to draw the line. You cannot lay down a rule for everybody. But here is a rule which everybody can recognize and follow: *Neither under-eat nor over-eat.*

Under-eating is disobeying the law of God, and over-eating is disobeying the law of God.

If an individual has over-eaten, the system is then in a condition to be attacked by disease.

In Zion we want to discover all the laws of God.

We have many of the laws of The Kingdom laid down here. They are perfectly plain.

There are some things that we do not see or understand perfectly, but it is possible for thousands of people so to live that there will be no such thing as sickness in their midst.

I was looking at Mother King last night. She will be ninety-eight this month, and she has all her faculties and is in good health. Some one figured out how many times Mother King's heart has beaten. I forget how many times, but it is an enormous number.

It shows you what a marvelous creation the body is.

Another thing that shows you what a marvelous creation the body is, is the amount of abuse that it can stand.

Look at the way some people abuse their bodies with liquor and tobacco and drugs—and they live in spite of it all, some of them to ninety-five, and, occasionally, to one hundred years old.

Now, Mother King probably will pass over the river without any sickness. She will lie down some of these nights, and she will awaken in Heaven. Her body will lie there, and the spirit will have flown.

That is the way we should go, according to the Word of God.

Very few have reached that place.

ZION STRIVING FOR BEAUTIFUL IDEALS

As we preach from the platform in Zion, holding up these beautiful ideals to the people, some people say, "Well, I don't see anybody who has reached it!"

That makes no difference whether anybody has reached it or not,—there are the ideals!

A Zion City without any vices, without any of the curses of the world — that is the ideal for which we are living and working, is it not?

Thousands of people with no sickness—is not that worth working and living for?

This is the Christian's Psalm.

"He who dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High—"

In my mind I often have many diagrams, some of which I have put on the blackboard in teaching.

For instance (using the blackboard): Here is a circle, which we will say represents all of God's presence. You will find the Secret Place of the Most High right in the center.

The rank and file of the people are to be found on the outside. Some of them may get just inside the circle, but there are not very many to be found in the center.

When you get into the Secret Place of the Most High God, then there will be no such thing as sin.

A Christian man or a Christian woman does not willingly, knowingly do a wrong.

Do you understand that?

In the Third Chapter of First John we have some very remarkable expressions, and they mean just what they say.

John says:

"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God:—"

GOD'S WONDERFUL LOVE EXEMPLIFIED

The only expression that occurs to me that would help anybody to understand this is the following:

Suppose that a great ruler were to send word to the dirtiest little urchin there is to be found, and should say to him, "I will adopt you as my son and make you one of the heirs of my kingdom."

To take that step and to transform that child from the state of a little urchin to the position of a member of the ruler's household—a son in the family, and an heir—would require very great love, would it not?

God looked down upon humanity, in sin and disease and dirt and filth, and He made it possible for them to become His sons. Therefore the exclamation: "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God!"

What wonderful love the great ruler must bestow upon the dirty little urchin in order to call him his son and heir!

That is what God has done for us!

That is what a Christian is—he is a son of God; he is a "joint heir with Christ"—an heir unto a Kingdom that is "incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away."

"Therefore the world knoweth us not,—"

I want you to get that!

Some people are dreadfully troubled because, the moment they turn towards Zion, somebody begins to persecute them. Why, they ought to thank God, and say, "Hallelujah! I have found the place at last where it means something, and where I get something."

Let the persecution come!

"Therefore the world knoweth us not,—"

The world does not know the sons of God, you see.

If you do not dance, and play cards, and go to theaters, and use tobacco and drugs, and swear, and lie, and cheat—why, of course, you are a fool (?)!

They do not know you—and it is a good thing that the world does not know you; it is a compliment.

"Therefore the world (that is, the people who are living after the flesh) knoweth us not, because it knew Him not.

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God,—"

GOD'S CHILDREN SHOULD ASSERT THEIR RIGHTS AND PREROGATIVES

Now, let us claim our rights!

I claim my prerogatives here on Lord's Day afternoons. For a man to stand up and say, "God called me, and I am sent by God," is the strangest thing in the world to the average person in the churches.

When Jesus Christ taught, they were astonished, were they not? because "He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes."

There is the difference!

Now, then, what about you who are sons and daughters of God?

Claim your rights!

If I were entitled to an estate of a million dollars, I would claim it, and use it for God.

Take your place as a son of God, as a daughter of God! Do not be afraid to say, "I am a son of God! God is my Father!"

Take your place!

Claim your prerogatives, your rights!

A CHRISTIAN'S METHOD OF PROCEDURE

I never forget the story of John Phillips, who was a traveling preacher. He was staying at a hotel one night, and several men who were playing cards invited him to join them. He said, "All right," so they gave him a chair.

Reaching down to his gripsack for his Bible, he said, "Before I start out with anything, I always read a chapter in the Bible and pray, because I always want to succeed; and if it is God's will that I should play a game of cards here with you fellows, I want first to seek His blessing and His favor."

Before he said many words more they grabbed their cards and disappeared through a door—and he never saw them afterwards.

That is the proper way for a man to live.

On another occasion he was in a town to hold a meeting, and several representatives of life insurance societies were staying at the hotel.

He came in and registered, and then sat down to read the daily paper. One of the insurance agents struck up a conversation and said, "You look like a business man—what house do you represent?"

"Well," he replied, "I represent the largest house in the world."

Then the others came around. "Well," they said, "That is quite interesting. What kind of a house is it?"

"It is an insurance company," he said.

Then they were all very interested in finding out what this great company—the greatest one in the world—could be. They wanted to know who was the head of it.

"Well," he said, "there are three at the head of it." He led them on, until finally he said, "God Almighty, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit and Company is the Firm." Then he took out his Bible and started to read some of the insurance policies.

That is a good way for people to let their lights shine. Of course, not every one has the same gift that he had.

(To be Continued)

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BY

Zion Institutions and Industries

(Wilbur Glenn Voliva)

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