

WHY WE NEED A SAVIOR

MAN

GOD

IN THE BEGINNING . . . The first man and woman, Adam and Eve, were created by God and enjoyed perfect fellowship with Him. They were without sin and lived peacefully in a beautiful garden that supplied all their needs. God gave them only one rule, which was not to eat the fruit of a particular tree. However, Satan tempted them to eat the forbidden fruit by saying it would benefit them. They ate it, and that act of disobedience against God was the first sin. It severed Adam's and Eve's relationships with God because He is holy and cannot have fellowship with evil.

MAN

SIN

GOD

OUR CONDITION TODAY . . . Since we are all Adam's descendants, every child in the world has been born with his fallen nature. Instead of coming into the world desiring to do right, we are all born with an inclination toward sin and evil. Proof of this natural downward tendency is abundantly evident anywhere human beings are found. Our sin results in tremendous pain, sorrow, and suffering. The consequences of sin reach far beyond this life because those who reject God and die in a sinful state will go to Hell and be separated from God eternally.

MAN

JESUS

GOD

GOD'S PLAN . . . God wants to remove sin from our lives so that we can have a relationship with Him and spend eternity in Heaven. However, the penalty for sin is death, and that penalty must be paid. Out of His great love for us, God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior. Jesus lived as a man and died in our place for our sins. Because of that, if we follow the steps that God has laid out in the Bible, our sins can be forgiven. God will change our desires and give us power to live without sin so we can enjoy eternal life with Him in Heaven one day.

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DAUGHTER, GIVE ME THINE HEART

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The founder of the Apostolic Faith work tells how God drew her to Himself and worked miracles in her life.

By Florence Crawford

I was brought up in a home of unbelief. I never knew what it was to hear my mother pray, and I never laid my hand on a Bible until I was a grown woman, but God looked down into my heart and saw that I wanted something real.

One night, as I was dancing in a ballroom, I heard a voice speak out of Heaven and say, "Daughter, give Me thine heart." I did not know it was the voice of God, so I went on dancing. Again the voice spoke. It seemed my feet became heavy, and the place was no longer beautiful to me. The voice spoke again much louder, "Daughter, give Me thine heart!" The music died away and I left the ballroom.



For three days and nights I prayed and wept, wrestling against the powers of atheism and darkness. The enemy would tell me there was no God and that the Bible was a myth. I could hardly eat or sleep, and it seemed there was no hope for me. But then I thought, *If there were no hope, why did God speak out of Heaven to me?*

At last I remembered a woman who I knew was a Christian, and I went to her home. When she opened the door and looked at my face she said, "You want God." I said, "I want Him more than anything else in the world." Right there I fell on my knees, and as she prayed for me, God came into my heart.

"I HAVE FOUND JESUS!"

Oh, the rest, the peace, the quietness that flooded my soul was wonderful! As I wept for joy, I said, "I must go and tell the others." I went to the home where some friends were waiting for me to join them in a card game. They had cards on the table and were ready to play; but I told them, "No cards for me; I have found Jesus!" They saw the light of another world on my face, and the cards were put away.

What a change God made in my heart! Everything of the world that I had loved was taken out of my heart and replaced with a love for lost souls! Often I wept as I saw those who looked sad, and many times I would stop and tell them the story of Jesus.

When I heard that God could sanctify wholly, I sought that experience. For years I went from place to place where they taught sanctification, willing to kneel at any altar, no matter how humble, if only I could find satisfaction for my hungry soul. When evangelists came to the city, I found a way to get a private interview with them, if possible.

I would tell them that God had saved my soul when I was a proud, haughty woman, that He had completely changed my life and desires, but that I still hungered for more of God. When they heard how earnestly I had sought and consecrated my life, they would say, “You are all right. You have all that God has for you,” but I knew that was not so. After each interview, I would go away, discouraged and disappointed. There was a hunger, a craving, a thirst in my heart for a deeper experience. Though I was living a consecrated life, the fire had not yet fallen on the sacrifice.

THE AZUSA OUTPOURING

How I thank God that when I heard of the outpouring of the Holy Ghost, He led me to a little mission! It was not a fine hall, but just an old barn-like building with an old board laid on two chairs for an altar. The floor was carpeted with sawdust; the walls and beams blackened by smoke. I looked around to see if anybody saw me go in, but I would not have cared if the whole world saw me go out. I had found a people who had the experience I wanted. The first “Hallelujah” I heard echoed down in my soul. When I went out of there that day, the only thing I wondered was: *Can I ever get it?*

From Monday till Friday I sought God and read my Bible at every possible moment between my duties. That Friday afternoon at the mission, the preacher stopped and said, “Somebody in this place wants something from God.” I pushed the chairs away in front of me and knelt at the altar, and there the fire fell, and God sanctified me.

Three days later, a great hunger seized me for the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire. God showed me that my heart was clean, and that the Holy Ghost could come only on clean vessels. I consecrated again, deeper and deeper, and

sought for the power to tell the world what great things God had done for me. I sought till the following Friday.

The greatest joy to my heart was that I had received the power to witness to lost souls so that they too could find Jesus.

As I sat in my chair at the mission, the Holy Ghost fell from Heaven and a rushing mighty wind filled the room. My tongue, that had never spoken a word but English, began to magnify and praise God in Chinese. The power of God shook my being, and rivers of joy and divine love flooded my soul. It was wonderful, but the greatest joy to my heart was that I had received the power to witness to lost souls so that they too could find Jesus.

THE HEALING POWER OF GOD

I had many afflictions on my body, but I never once thought of praying for the healing of my body until God baptized me with the Holy Ghost and fire. I had worn glasses for years. Three attacks of spinal meningitis early in my life had left my head and eyes so affected that I could not leave the glasses off. I went to the mission that afternoon and told what wonderful things the Lord had done for me. As I had them pray, the healing power of the Son of God flowed through my eyes, and my eyesight was made perfect.

I had lung trouble for many years and had to live in southern California for my health, but God healed me of that. I was thin, diseased, broken down in every part of my body, but when I paid the full price and in simple, childlike faith prayed

that I might get my health back again and be a witness for Him in this world, the healing streams began to flow.

As I lay on my bed at night I would open my soul to God, and every avenue of my life to the heavenly streams that seemed to flow through every fiber of my being. Each time I would awake, I would renew my consecration, and tell God that He knew my heart and knew that my life was in His hands. He knew that all I had or ever expected to have was at His disposal. Everything that I had given to Him in all the deep consecrations that He required of me when I was seeking my sanctification and baptism was all on the altar and was His. I knew that everything He gave me was not mine but only lent to me; it was His.

While still a young girl, I had been thrown from a carriage onto a jagged stump and for some time had been at the point of death as a result. Later in life, I had to wear a brace with straps and a metal plate because of that early injury, and I had not walked for eleven years without that brace. One night, the prayer of faith was prayed for me, and God instantly healed me. I walked twenty-three blocks that night and had no pain. From that day to this, I have never had a tinge of pain from that problem.

The healing of my body was complete. An internal trouble the doctors said could not be cured without an operation was perfectly healed. Once diseased from the crown of my head to the soles of my feet, I was made sound and well through the Blood of Jesus. The Christ of Calvary touched my body and made me whole. Oh, how I praise Him! How I worship Him for His great love to me! I have found a real Friend; His name is Jesus.

■ **Florence Crawford founded the Apostolic Faith Church of Portland, Oregon, and led the work from 1907 until her passing in 1936.**

STEPS TO DELIVERANCE

ACKNOWLEDGE

Admit that you have sinned and need God's help.

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)

CONFESS AND REPENT

Be genuinely sorry for the sins you have committed and ask God to forgive you.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. (Luke 13:3)

FORSAKE

Determine that with God's help you are going to turn away from all sin in your life.

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him . . . for he will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55:7)

BELIEVE

When you have honestly and sincerely taken the steps above, then believe that God will hear your prayer and save you.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

RECEIVE

God will let you know that the work is done in your heart.

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God. (Romans 8:16)