

THE PRAYER OF WORKS

At this time I bring to you a message of good cheer, and if perchance at this period of the world's career, it may appear to you that you are not the recipient from your heavenly Father of those things to which, as His Son, you are surely entitled, such as health, peace, life, love, happiness, and an abundance of all good things which He is pouring forth to you in great profusion, the only possible reason is because you have failed to make the proper contact with *Him*, the great Giver of All Good, through a prayer of works and not of words.

To illustrate: Suppose I had a sewing machine, a heater and a lamp, all of which are run by electrical current. I have made the proper contact by plugging into the main power plant, but the devices fail to work. It is of no avail that I should pray to the man at the main power plant and tell him my troubles, nor to telephone to him and talk with him about them. If, perchance, I managed to get his attention, he could only say in effect: "It is my good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (of electricity in this instance); "I know what things you have need of before you ask me;" or, "Before you call, I will answer; and while you are yet speaking, I will hear," and "I am sending out from the power plant millions of volts, much more than you accept." This is about all the man at the power plant could say, for it is not up to him, but up to me to pray aright and thus make my contact. The foregoing is but a prayer of words; what is required is a prayer of works.

The thing for me to do is to examine my wiring. The wire which carries the electrical current to the various apparatus is made up of a great number of little wires; if these are broken, the current will not pass through to the many electrical devices. A number of these wires may be broken and still the current will pass through in the required volume, but if a sufficient number become broken the current ceases to such a degree that the devices will not perform as they should. The wires must be mended, made one, whereupon the current will pass through as it should, and the sewing machine will run merrily, the heater will send forth its warmth, and the lamp will light. This symbolizes the prayer of works and the result thereof.

The only power is God. He is the Main Power Plant, and always He is "pouring forth more than we accept." (*Science and Health*) If we do not take advantage of His beneficence, the fault lies with us and not with Him. If, for instance, we are not getting the life, love, health, peace, happiness and abundance of good things which we as the Sons of God are entitled to receive, it is no use to pray to Him by a prayer of words, for it is a prayer of *works* that is needed. James, Jesus' brother, said: "Shew me thy faith *without* thy works, and I will shew thee my faith *by* my works;" and "Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

How shall we pray this prayer of works and make the contact with *omnipotence*, God, the only Power. It is of no use whatever praying to God and asking Him in one way or another for what we want, for if we might get His ear, He could only say in answer: "It

is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" with all those desirable things, of course, "Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask Him;" or, "Before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear;" and I am "pouring forth more than we [you] accept." It is your part to accept what "I" have liberally given to you, for, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

How then is it to be done? By a prayer of works, not words. The Main Power Plant, which is God, is doing *Its* part and it is up to us to make the connection. Like the wires which make the connection in the illustration, so we make our connection with the divine Power through a lot of little wires as it were, wires of gentleness, tenderness, kindness, politeness, courtesy, good nature, good temper, good sense, good taste, good humor, good cheer, joy, mirth, laughter, gratitude, generosity, patience, faithfulness, consideration, constancy, affection, tolerance, courage, and love. And when these wires become sundered by failure to express them, through fear, anxiety, worry, hatred, dishonesty, stubbornness, laziness, and a thousand and one other futile human tendencies, the result is that we fail to receive the divine current which brings us life, health, peace, happiness and an abundance of good things; whereupon when we appear to be lacking in any of these good things, it behooves us to mend our wires or mend our ways. The doing of this is the prayer of works.

Then we shall find that this prayer of works, giving thanks, praise and glory to God by action and not by words, will cause to flow to those of us who practice it that divine current, the love and power of God, and so bestow upon us health, peace, love, life, happiness and an abundance of all good things; while ill-health, fear, worry, dearth, death and other troubles will vanish from our lives, our homes and our other environments.