

-Balanced In the Spirit-

Seeley D. Kinne

In spiritual vision I sight a place and state wherein one is steady in the power of the Spirit. He does not drift hither and thither, by breezes swiftly blown along at one time, and at another drift in a dead calm, motionless, just floating. In the experience of many, spiritual life is made up of great spurts forward, followed by wretched lapses backward. Interspersed are periods of inactivity or lethargy. "For it is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing." Gal. 4:18.

The secret cause of these spiritual lapses lies in the existence and hidden working of a law with which we are unfamiliar. It is largely unknown, operating undiscovered and hidden. This is the law of death. Adam, when placed in the Garden of Eden, was told by the Lord that if he ate of the tree of knowledge, "dying thou shalt die." (margin) That meant, eating that tree's fruit would start the operation of the death law or power in his body. It would continue till it ended in dissolution or death—separation of soul and spirit from body. This death power is working everywhere in the race of man. At first in the patriarchs, that life given in creation was so strong, that it took nearly a thousand years for them to come to dissolution. But gradually death, constantly working, finally brought man to an early grave.

Now the time is come that this inward working of death is being discovered. And some will be brought out from under its working and be brought under the working of the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus," and the working of the resurrection life power or law of God's power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Paul very earnestly sought to know the power of Jesus' resurrection. Now those who diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord in revelation, will come into Divine illumination and get an understanding of these privileges, and the way of escape. But they must not stop at a mere belief in these privileges, but must enter into them by the way of experimental change wrought in them, putting an end to the working of the law of death.

The working of death is not understood because of the loss of an intimate relation with God and the Holy Spirit, and the consequent lack of insight and understanding of spiritual things. But thanks be to Jesus Christ and the Father, for they have arranged to uncover

and reveal to those who will stand and ask for the "Good Way." (Jer. 6:16) But Divine illumination is necessary if we are to find and get into these precious things. There are those "Who mind earthly things." "The minding of the flesh is death." That is, death works in our bodies as well as our spirit nature, when we live on the natural plane. This continuous working of death in our bodies is promoted and increased when we think, talk, eat, drink and operate on the natural plane without the leadings of the Holy Spirit.

So here is where we lose our balance in the Spirit. We drop down from the Spirit plane to the natural fleshly earthy plane which throws us out of poise. We are unbalanced, or unhorsed, so to say.

Jesus Christ came in the flesh. He took upon Him our flesh or earth nature, "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same: that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is the devil." (Heb. 2:14-18). Jesus suffered the death of crucifixion to natural desires continuously in His earth life. He suffered the pangs of death in the garden under the weight of all that the fall meant for the whole race. And then He died on the cross.

Jesus Christ came in the flesh and lived a flesh life in the Holy Spirit power, thus condemning the flesh life lived after the natural man out of the Spirit. By so doing He lived above the earth realm and obtained the right to offer to man the privilege of thus living by establishing a new law, "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus." A very important and mighty law or working power of Jesus' resurrection in its highest manifestation. It annuls and stops the working of the devil's death power in our bodies.

The reason why these laws or powers in their natures and workings have not been known in their relationship to life and death is, that "the natural man," who is not illuminated by Holy Spirit, cannot discover them. This is set forth in 1 Cor. 2:8-16. The pure powerful working of revelation has been neglected, or rejected, and lost. But now in this "must enter in," time of the Lord, these ministrations are again coming forth. Hallelujah!

Often when you have received some gracious uplift, and are let into the power and anointing of the Spirit, some

natural character trait moves in you, and you get a lapse or backset, and know not the source. For instance, you do not like what someone says or does. You may or may not speak. You just feel displeased. But the law of death operates in you.

If you are going the translation way, you must be re-created by the crucifixion of every natural trait, both good and bad. This the Lord will accomplish in various ways and by various means, perhaps by associating you with people whose ways of living are contrary to your training and tastes. You yield to speak or act by natural impulses or the flesh. It may not be wrong in itself. Only it is you acting yourself, and not being moved by the Spirit.

Again I am made to say, if you would pursue this, the overcomer's way, if you would travel the way to the Tree of Life, in the midst of the Garden, you must come into the School of Christ, and under the teaching, sway and revelation of the Holy Spirit. This is the way to a Balance in the Spirit Life, which is essential to the present call of the Lord.

"As It Was In the Days of Noe"

What anguish! They climbed the highest story of their towers, then to the hills, but the greedy waters followed them, till the last crag was covered, and all living things in the first homes of human life had perished. Equally sudden and unexpected, shall be the days of the Son of Man. See Luke 17:26; 2 Pet. 3:7. But what drowns other men only lifts the child of God nearer his home. The waters bear up the ark. When the loftiest refuges of lies and pride are submerged, and the landscape covered with a monotonous waste of trouble, God says to the soul, "Come into the ark." It is as though He is inside and wants us to enter into close fellowship with Himself. See Psalm 27:5. When God shuts the door behind us, no power can force, no skeleton key can unlock, no wedge can pry the door. For the extent of the Deluge it is appropriate to consider Luke 2:1-3. In the Genesis, as in the Luke passage, "All" may be used in a general rather than an absolute sense.

— F. B. Meyer.