

# THE PROMISE

"The promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all."—Acts 2 : 39.

NUMBER 1.

TORONTO, CANADA, MAY, 1907.

FREE DISTRIBUTION.

"And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high."—LUKE 24 : 49.

"And being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me."—Acts 1 : 4.

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."—Acts 1 : 8.

"That the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit, through faith."—GAL. 3 : 14.

"That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel."—EPH. 3 : 6.

In sending the first number of THE PROMISE we desire above all things that God's name should be glorified, and that it may be the means in His hands of helping some to get a deeper knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, and that His Kingdom be extended and name glorified. That this work is of God we have no doubt, nor have we anything else to seek than His glory. We send out THE PROMISE trusting God to supply the means, as He desires us to print. Since November 17th God has been wonderfully blessing and baptizing His children with the Holy Spirit, and giving the gift of Tongues. We have often been asked the question since the work began here if no one was baptized who did not speak with "Tongues." We should not like to say that, but that all who have received their baptism here have spoken in Tongues. Paul says I wish you all to speak with tongues—1. Cor. 14 : 5 (L.T.) and do not forbid (v. 39). There is a tendency with the people to be seeking to speak with Tongues rather than seek the

Baptism, and the Baptism rather than the Baptizer. Above all things seek Him. He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and Fire, and ye shall be witnesses.

Some ask how long shall I tarry? Jesus said until ye be endued with power from on high.

Some have been baptized after waiting a few minutes, some in a few hours, some weeks, some months. God is the best judge as to when people are ready. Don't get discouraged, for "the PROMISE is unto you and to your children, and to all that are afar off, as many as the Lord our God shall call." The work is spreading rapidly; workers are going out, trusting in God to supply their need through His own people, which we know He will do. We have trusted Him to supply our needs to carry on His work 12 years, taking nothing of the world, for His name's sake.

Lacked ye anything?"

"No, nothing."

Who are the people who get baptized? All classes; but they must be cleansed first. God does not white-wash but washes white. The Lord bless his people. The Lord bless you. This is the prayer of yours, J. H.

## HOW PENTECOST CAME TO TORONTO.

On May 20th, 1906, we opened the Mission at 651 Queen Street East. The two upper flats of the building were at that time rented to other families at \$33 per month. From the first we intended taking the whole building and opening it as a Faith Home. Therefore, after a short time, we gave all the tenants notice to leave; and when they had all removed but two, we dedicated the place to God. It was a wonderful meeting, the spirit of prayer coming upon all present.

On Saturday, Nov. 17th, my husband had fasting and prayer, and that very night the last two tenants moved out of the building, and the peace of God filled the place. That same day I

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done quite a lot of visiting in connection with the mission, and, being very tired, I retired at 10.10 p.m. Only a short time elapsed when the Spirit of God prompted me to rise and pray, which I immediately did. For some months I had been seeking earnestly for more power to heal the sick, and with this desire still in my heart I began to pray. Suddenly the Holy Ghost fell upon me and I exclaimed aloud, "Oh Jesus! Thou art a real living person! Thou art lovely beyond description!" My whole being seemed to be filled with praise and adoration such as I had never realized before. The mighty power of God took possession of my hands, clasped them tightly together, and then moved them with such rapidity that it seemed as if they were severed from my arms.

I was praising Jesus all the time, and yet it did not appear to be me, but the power within that was praising Him. Then God began speaking to me. First, He said, "These are your hands no more." I exclaimed, "Oh! thank you, Lord!" Again, my hands were raised by the power of God and pressed tightly into my right cheek; then they were moved to the left cheek and again pressed very hard. I said to the Lord, "What does this mean?" and a very quiet yet distinct voice said "Tongues." I said, "No, Lord, not Tongues." Then followed a moment of deathlike stillness, when the voice again uttered the word "Tongues." This time I felt afraid of grieving the Lord and I said, "Tongues, or anything that will please Thee and bring glory to Thy name." One unknown word was repeated several times and I thought that must be Tongues.

Suddenly a change came over me and I felt as if I were gently rising although I remained kneeling on the floor; and the Spirit said, "I will show you things to come." Just then a little fear crept into my heart and I said, "Lord, let my husband come." I tried to speak to my husband but failed, and I found that God wanted me to go through alone. Presently the power of God seemed to be lifted from me, and I returned to rest.

I awoke in the morning full of joy and gladness, knowing that I had received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, and very eagerly I told my husband of my wonderful experience. He sat and listened, but it seemed to me that he did not understand what had taken place. He remarked quietly, "Well, you have had many wonderful experiences."

I thought within myself, "I shall wait and see what the Lord does." I had not long to

wait; for that very morning, when we met together in the morning service at 10.45, as soon as I knelt in prayer, the Holy Spirit manifested His power in such a wonderful manner that every one present saw that it was of God.

During the whole of that meeting the power was upon me. I spent the noon hour alone with God as the desire for food had entirely left me; God had laid a fast upon me. During the following days of fasting and prayer I felt stronger in body than I had ever been any time previously in my life. In the afternoon of the same day I went down into the Mission intending to sit quietly on one side where I would not be seen. But God was having His way, and when the Holy Ghost again manifested His power, I could only cry out, "This is the power of the Holy Ghost! This is the power of the Holy Ghost!" Instead of the ordinary service we had a prayer meeting, when all present got down on their knees before God. That night I decided to remain upstairs, alone with God; and, as I was resting upon a couch, I again asked the Lord "what all this meant." The Spirit replied, "He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and with His stripes we are healed."

Again God wonderfully manifested His power, for I felt that I was raised from the couch, and, without intending to do so, I hurried down to the night service, and took a seat at the front with my back to the people. As soon as I was seated, the speaker on the platform either read or quoted "He was wounded for our transgressions." The Spirit, through me, repeated these words after the speaker in such a loud voice that the people present declared that it did not sound at all like me speaking. This occurred after every sentence uttered by him finishing with "By His stripes we are healed."

I knew that the time had come when God wanted me to declare to the people what He had done. Stepping upon the platform, and realizing all the time that the power of God was upon me mightily, I testified to all that God had done for me, telling them how I had received the baptism of the Holy Ghost according to the Bible. After the testimony there followed a blessed season of prayer.

On Monday morning I arose again to spend the day with the Lord. I waited patiently for Him. At noon I took the word of God, read a portion of it and spread it upon the floor. I then knelt upon it and cried to the Lord to give me nothing only what corresponded with His

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word. Great peace filled my soul and I began to sing very quietly but to my amazement I was singing *in another language*. I said eagerly, "Is this Tongues?" and then another verse burst from my lips, and for two or three hours I sang in an unknown language: it was marvellous. I was afterwards told that the hall outside was filled with people listening to the singing.

About 7.30 p.m. a dear sister, who was at that time conducting a Bible Class on Monday nights, came into the room and kissed me. I exclaimed, "This is for the glory of God!" I did not think of attending the Bible Class that night; but, after a short time, I felt that same irresistible power moving me, and I arose quickly and hurried down to the Class. I went into the room just as the saints were rising from their knees, and suddenly the Spirit sang, through me, four verse in an unknown tongue. I saw tears come into the eyes of every one present. After singing, I said again, "This is the power of the Holy Ghost." Then I left the meeting, and again the dear ones got down to pray. The Lord continued to speak through me at intervals. A week from the Wednesday following, as I knelt to pray, the Lord gave me another language that I could speak as fluently as if I had known it all my life. Later on the Lord gave me twenty-two languages, one night in a public meeting; and hundreds of verses of poetry have been given by the Spirit, also the interpretation of many. Sometimes the Lord gives me the interpretation of what others are saying; also I have been able to write all the languages that God has spoken through me, and many marvellous sketches have been drawn.

I give this testimony only for the glory of Jesus, who is so precious to me. The gift of Tongues was God's gift to me, and as such I value it, for everything which God bestows is

good; but I shall never cease to praise Him for the flood of love which filled my whole being and melted me into tenderness, and gave me such a yearning for souls as I had never had before.

A month later my husband received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and spoke in tongues.

The work has now been going on without a break for five months, between 70 and 80 having the baptism and the gift of tongues. Four workers have gone forth from this place to preach the Gospel and God is preparing others.

### SOME OF THE I'S OF JESUS.

JOHN 17TH.

I have glorified thee on the earth.  
I have finished the work.  
I have manifested thy name.  
I have given unto them the words.  
I pray for them.  
I am glorified in them.  
I was with them in the world:  
I kept them in thy name.  
I have kept and none of them is lost.  
I have given them thy word.  
I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world.  
I in them and thou in me.  
I will that they also whom thou hast given me be where I am.

Brother John Marrs and his dear wife left us April 23rd to go forth to preach the Gospel. Both of them are baptized and have the gift of tongues. God has wonderfully blessed our dear brother and used him since his baptism.

Brother Bliss Secord has been carrying on meetings in Simcoe for some weeks, and a great work has begun there.

Brother Randal also went to Wingham and opened up a work, and also at Stratford. We expect him to be in Toronto the end of this month.

Many of God's children are coming long distances. To stay in the Home to wait upon God for the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

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### SIMCOE.

The following report dated April 30th, 1907, has just arrived from Simcoe: "The Lord is blessing the meetings wonderfully. Sunday morning, April 28th, we commenced to have the Lord's Supper, the Lord honored it by sending His Holy Spirit upon us all in a wonderful manner. Three were prostrated under the power of God. They have received the Bible evidence, speaking in unknown tongues, making five altogether who have spoken in tongues since Sunday. Praise Jesus forever for it, He who baptizes with the Holy Ghost. Sister Hall's two daughters have spoken in tongues. Praise God, it was a mighty demonstration of God's power.

Bro. Church is getting along fine. He is bubbling over with Jesus and His joy, can talk about nothing else. I believe God is going to do great things in Simcoe in every way. We have prayed for several sick folks, one who couldn't get out for three months, as she has consumption. Now she has been out for a walk and feels better. Praise God.

Ester Hall spoke in several languages and interpreted in a wonderful manner, speaking in English, praying, singing, talking and exhorting in English tongues. We are going to have the rooms attended to, one made into a tarrying room, because we simply have got to, for the power of God comes and prostrates people on the floor. The meetings continued all day Sunday with about twenty minutes intermission. I think you must all have been praying for us, which continue to do. The meetings are orderly, notwithstanding the demonstration of God's power. God is enabling us to keep out all error and the flesh. We will only believe and obey all of God's Word. He will abundantly bless us.

BROTHER AND SISTER JOHN E. MARS.

### TESTIMONY OF SISTER BESSIE HIRD.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus:

I feel I must give a testimony of all the Lord has done for me. He wonderfully healed my body, after being sick nine months. I had almost given up hope of getting better. A few weeks ago I came down to the meetings at the mission, 651 Queen St. East, Toronto, and I heard of Christ as our great healer. I decided to trust Christ as my healer, and I praise Him for the wonderful strength He has given me. I am now so well and strong that I can walk eight miles; before I could only walk a very short distance. I never cease to praise Him

for what He has done for me.

A testimony from Sister Matson might encourage some who are seeking. After attending the meetings at 651 Queen St. East for a month, she returned without getting the evidence. This is from her letter. "I came home on Monday; and Tuesday, just after dinner I sang in "Tongues" and then in English. Then another hymn was given in "tongues" I know it was something about glory. On the Sabbath day I and my husband attended the service at the church, when the power of God came upon me and I sang in tongues and then in English, very much as I had done on Tuesday. One sister thought I needed fresh air, another a drink of water, and so on. I said it is Jesus speaking to you all. I let God have His way. I thank all the dear ones in Toronto for praying for me.

E. MATSON.

### THE BLASPHEMY AGAINST THE HOLY GHOST.

A correspondent is uncertain as to the precise meaning of Mark iii: 29—the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost which "hath never forgiveness." The next verse furnishes the answer: "Because they said, He hath an unclean spirit." Surely no professing Christian ever said such a thing of the Holy One of God! The nearest approach to-day to such a sin would be if our Lord were to work miracles on earth by the power of God, in the persons of His members, and they had every evidence that the Kingdom of God had nigh unto them, ascribed the whole thing to the devil.

These verses were given in the language, to Mrs. Hebden and also interpreted, Sunday Feb. 2nd, 1907.

I went to dark Gethsamane,  
The Father heard me pray;  
And when I shed my precious blood  
The sun was hid away.

I soon shall be returning  
To fetch my precious bride,  
And then amid great glory  
I'll place her by my side.

Bro. B. Secord has left Simeoe work in charge of Bro. J. Marrs. He himself intends, *v.v.*, to go East in a week's time. Prayers are asked for these young evangelists, that God may use them mightily.

MRS. HEBDEN.