

BITS & PIECES
CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
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PERFECTION OF CHARACTER

“There is no easy way to glory. Tribulation is God’s threshing, not to destroy, but to separate what is heavenly and spiritual from what is earthly and fleshly. Nothing less than blows of pain will do this. The evil clings so to the holy that only the heavy flail of suffering can produce the separation. Perfection of character never can be attained save through suffering.” -Alexander MacLaren. **“That the trial of you faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.”** ~I Peter 1:7.

TRUE TOTAL SURRENDER

David Livingstone wrote in his diary: “I will place no value on anything I have or may possess except to the relation of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. If anything will advance the interests of that kingdom, it shall be given away or kept, only as the giving or keeping of it I shall promote the glory of Him to whom I owe all my hopes in time and eternity. May grace and strength sufficient to enable me to adhere faithfully to this resolution be imparted to me, so that not in name only, all my interests may be identified with His.” This is the crucified life! Galatians 2:10.

WHAT IS YOUR PASSION?

William Booth once had an audience with King Henry VII of England. His Majesty highly commended the salvationist for his unflagging zeal and work among the poor. Booth said, “Some men’s passion is for gold. Some is for fame. But my passion, Your Majesty, is for souls.” What is your passion? I cannot conceive of anyone having a passion for souls who does not witness regularly. **“The love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead.”** ~II Corinthians 5:14.

WHERE’S THE POWER?

All Fundamental Bible believers are familiar with the early Church in the Book of Acts. Though sorely persecuted, they had power with God and power with men. Where is that power in Fundamental Baptist churches today? What is the problem? I believe the problem is we are trying to do what they did (and we ought to) without the power. Oh, we have the Holy Spirit, but He is not given absolute control. Jesus said, **“Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you...”** The problem is we are trying to do the work of God in our own power, but that is utterly impossible. We need a need commitment and surrender to Christ; to the Holy Spirit. **“Be ye filled with the Spirit.”** It will cost something - you will have to give up yourself!