

HE ESTABLISHES HIS WORD UPON THE FLOODS  
John Wright Follette

1. ...We usually sing this when it relates to our first coming to the Lord Jesus out on the "sea of life," you know, in it's WRECKAGE, and then we find our REST? I think we can carry the same thought right on through our experience. Wherever the sea is RESTLESS, and stormy, He can make it a place of CALM. And QUIET. Our hearts become disturbed over trials, testings, provings, and the waves DO roll. Long AFTER we're SAVED, but it's from an entirely different point of view, but this TRUTH is exactly the same. On that stormy, DEEP...He brings PEACE, because He is the RESTING PLACE. We rest IN Him. Yes...about the ocean too much, you know, it's because it's so restless. And yet He gave me this from a little trip. You remember the Hitchens? Well, the Hitchens had a cottage down at...was it Santa Monica, was it? Manhattan, that's it. Manhattan Beach. And my mother was quite a friend of Mrs. Hitchen. They always were very happy together. And the Hitchens had to go away on a trip. And in the summer, as I've said before, the school was closed, at 503 Echo Street, the school was closed. That meant there was no more home for us. So I said to mother, "Well, I get a home with what I teach. But I had no teaching, so I'd have to rent a house." So we went out and rented the cottage for the summer, and got along the best we could because there was nothing doing at the school. It was my business to make a home. The Lord made a home for me. He got a home. And we stayed and He did some of the loveliest things for us that summer. Just unexpected but lovely. And among them was this trip. So one day, word came up, Mrs. Hitchen said, "Brother Follette's not going east and they have no home that they are in. They'll have to rent some place." She says, "We're going away for a couple of weeks, maybe they'd like to go down to the ocean." And so mother said, "All right. We'll go." So down we went. So we spent several days there at Manhattan Beach. And it was while I was conscious of this rolling sea and the distress of HUMANITY. The ROLLING SEA OF HUMANITY. You remember in Revelation? The sea is a picture of HUMANITY, talking and moving? That RESTLESSNESS. So, He was showing me that we are nothing but little ships that toss, and bob around on this terrific expanse, the bosom of it. And He gave me this. Now we didn't have any choice about coming out of THAT ocean. How many know we didn't? We didn't sit up the night we were formed or born to decide anything. We had to ACCEPT it.

AT SEA

I did not ask to sail this sea so broad and deep,  
Whose restless waves forever rise and fall  
And know no peace, but murmur even in their sleep  
The answer to some dim and far-off call.

At times it bares it's bosom to the morning light  
And ravishes itself in wealth of gold,  
And seems to seek the embrace of the morning's might,  
And yearns to keep such strength within it's hold.

Again when o'er it's deep a storm sweeps fierce and wild,  
Is all the booming and the high-tossed wave  
Resistance to the storm? Or is it, like a child,  
So helpless that it has no strength to save?

I cannot trace it's moods, it's temper, or it's life.  
Enough to know it stretches far and wide--  
To me an unsolved mystery of peace and strife,  
And I must sail an unknown path whate'er betide.

The tiny boat in which I sail is very frail,  
No other sailor knows it's shallow bark,  
I must not look upon it's worn and tattered sail,  
But bravely man it while I sing through all the dark.

The little craft is but a wreck--I found it so.  
I've seen it's caving hold, and know it's bending bow.  
I've walked it's creaking deck and viewed it's beams below,  
But I must sing while waves dash high against it's prow.

Ships come and go. Some laden with most costly gifts,  
 While others seem like dream-ships frail and fair,  
 With perfect masts and full-blown sails where sunlight sifts,  
 And passing, one hears music in the air.

I try to clear my deck of phantoms who would seek  
 To pace these well-worn planks and question me.  
 What broke this vessel so and made it leak?  
 And whither go these ships, and whence this strange, deep sea?

So frail my ship, it cannot bear their weight along,  
 Self-pity soon would join and sink us low.  
 So I must clear my deck and lift my song,  
 I must not ask why ships may come or go.

L'ENVOI

If sweeter music may be made through tattered sail,  
 And ships be helped, though stronger they may be,  
 Lift high your song, O heart of mine, you must not fail,  
 Though wrecked, you have a voyage to make upon this sea.

Do you see it? Do you get it? And so I wrote it, and included it. Now let me read a little note I tucked in with it:

We are not courageous by nature, but, rather cowards. We are too great self-lovers to side against the clamor and self-pity of the old creation. Self-pity will ruin one quicker than many so-called outbreking sins. It takes courage to face life and it's failures, the old creation with it's propensities, the peculiar temperment and it's frailties, and not indulge in some subtle form of excuse. Many times we are conscious of the failure and become discouraged. Why? Because we try to remodel and build up what God does not want restored. Or we sit down under self-condemnation which is not of the Spirit. God neither condemns us nor blames us for what we are by nature. We need not excuse it or explain it. We confess it; name it by it's name; side against it; let it alone and sing. Faith can sing, sight cannot carry a tune. (That's right!) We must not tarry in the positive relations of life with it's golden morning-light and youth, nor again, in the negative aspect, with it's thunder and storm. We sail on, and on, ever on. The sea is wide. God waits to hear the song of faith, triumphant over things seen --the song born from the wreckage of the old. It is not the vessel but the song which He counts.

2. Do you see it? Well, that's life, isn't it? That's life. This confusion and turmoil. Well, now it's strange, it's strange...I think this is a proper setting for what's on my heart. Now I didn't know we were going to sing these hymns at all. And most of them are exactly in line with the tenor and the thought that's on my heart. This raging sea, and the haven of rest, and all this positive thought. Let me read you something.

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. The world and they that dwell therein. For He hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

Now, how many see a little philosophy sticking up here. Has to come this morning. He has "established it upon the SEA. And founded it upon the FLOOD." When we watch God work, we can't help but find this. He is always most happy and pleased to work with the IMPOSSIBLE. He takes the IMPOSSIBLE as His ground and WRESTLES from it the thing that He wants. He likes to work with the IMPOSSIBLE. So when He was working on this Psalm with me yesterday; I thought I was going to talk about it, but I didn't. It was kept for this morning because...isn't it nice to let go; I let it go...I had this little outline of verses that I put together relative to a LAW. Law? Uh, hum. The ROARING SEA, the CONFUSION, the DISTRESS, the WRECKAGE, it is on THAT that HE ESTABLISHES HIS WORD. He brings through His word and ESTABLISHES IT, and CONFIRMS it upon the IMPOSSIBLE! He doesn't find a place of peace and rest and make THAT the word. He FOUNDS His creative

thought and word upon the IMPOSSIBLE.

3. Well now, when he gave that to me, His first illustration was...He referred...I'd been reading the Old Testament. Yesterday and again today. In the act of CREATION. What did He do? He took "bohu," "tohu," the IMPOSSIBLE, the great abyss, the yawning abyss, and water, which is always the enemy devouring; He took THAT to establish the world that we have. Yes, He did. Let's look at that just for a minute. In creation. Now we'll get in Genesis, and we might as well fold up because we'll never get OUT of it. That STRANGE way, because he has this DIVISION all the time, "the firmament, from the firmament, the firmament, and then the firmament, and the waters above and the waters below." The "waters above the firmament, the heavens," we don't know, He calls it the water that is ABOVE, and then the water which is BELOW. And it says, "And the Lord said, 'Let the earth bring forth grass and herbs yielding seed,' and the whole context in here..."and God said, 'Let the waters UNDER the heavens gather together into one place, and let the dry land appear.'" Now He's going to get ahold of SUBSTANCE with which he can work. He can't bring creation out of that water! No. He says, "Separate between the water HERE and the water THERE, and let the land come up as the MEDIUM upon which I can bring forth my creation." You see? It it BIRTHED and BROUGHT OUT of that which is perfectly NEGATIVE and DESTRUCTIVE and IMPOSSIBLE. But now, He brings the dry land OUT. From UNDER it. So it has the IMPOSSIBLE ABOVE it, and the IMPOSSIBLE BENEATH it, but it makes a "delicious sandwich!" Well, you see, it's the REALM in which He's going to work. So, when I saw that, I said, "Lord, that's right. That's the way You work. You get a PLAT-FORM out of an IMPOSSIBLE situation, then You come down and bring forth a NEW ORDER, and a NEW CREATION. How many can see, that's EXACTLY what He does in every case? He takes US as an impossible situation, and a wreckage. Exactly that! And He brings forth a NEW ORDER, or a NEW CREATION. He didn't CONDEMN the thing. It was the thing that He made His first, original, wonderful concept OUT of! It is only after it has fallen down, and man has sinned; then He brings a judgment upon the earth. But He doesn't have that in the beginning. It was a holy, wonderful thing.
  
4. So if you want to make a little note of that, I'm glad that you will. God's nature is to work in the REALM OF THE IMPOSSIBLE. That is, He ESTABLISHES HIS WORD UPON THE SEAS. Now, the sea is the wretched, destructive enemy. He makes the WRATH OF MAN to PRAISE Him. You see? He CONVERTS it. He makes even the WRATH. He will work around until the very RESISTANCE of man is compelled to OWN Him. Now God is going to triumph; He HAS triumphed, but in the END, there is an ULTIMATE, VICTORIOUS, TRIUMPHANT GOD. There is, in the END. This PROCESS overwhelms us, and we forget our real objective. In the end, it is atoned with glorious victorious VICTORY. But God is in the process, the Lord Jesus is in the process, the Holy Spirit is now in the process of bringing ORDER OUT OF CHAOS. He's bringing ORDER OUT OF CHAOS. He's bringing the ORDER out of a CHAOTIC, IMPOSSIBLE situation. I'm glad He works like that. So you can make your first illustration of that in the creation. In creation. The IMPOSSIBLE. "Tohu, bohu," impossible! Impossible! But by HIS WORD, which has all the authority in heaven, He speaks a word and He says, "LET...LET...LET..." And when God speaks a word...He showed me this in relation to promises to us and His dealings with us. Whenever God speaks a word such as a CREATIVE word, He always speaks it in FAITH, and His word never returns unto Him VOID. Remember that in Isaiah? His word shall not return unto Him VOID, if it takes MILLIONS of years to accomplish it. He will take the millions of years to accomplish it and bring it through. His word that He speaks NEVER WILL COME BACK TO HIM EMPTY. It will ACCOMPLISH THAT WHEREUNTO IT HAS BEEN SENT! Well, I...He was dealing with me about a PROMISE. And it seemed almost impossible to lay hold of the thing, and then He spoke to me. He said, "There are two features about My word when I speak it. It has all the authority of heaven back of it. It is not anything HUMAN. But it is spoken with ALL THE AUTHORITY OF HEAVEN, and it is CREATIVE." Therefore, when the thing is to move, He will accompany it with a sense of His FAITH and GRACE. He's never asked me to do some of these impossible things, but what He's given me a GRAIN OF FAITH to work with. And that little GRAIN OF FAITH always accompanies the word. Always goes with the word. "Here is a word. It has all the authority of heaven back of it. It is CREATIVE, because I have put a kernal

of faith in that word. Now let that rest in your heart." Will you take these things as encouragement? I want you to be ENCOURAGED. I've been in some hard places this week, but I have to talk out of my heart. That's why I'm living in difficult places. But I said, "Lord, can't we have a little encouragement this morning?" I like to send you away with some encouragement. Not DISCOURAGED, because...I think you're honest. You KNOW we're in difficult times, and you KNOW that God hasn't anything but DIFFICULTY FOR US! So there's no need to be "little spoiled children," saying, "Oh, Lord, please take..." He CAN'T. We have surrendered TO this. Now we will ACCEPT it. But, I like the thought that He will ESTABLISH what ever Word He has GIVEN you. He will ESTABLISH IT UPON THE SEAS and CONFIRM IT IN THE FLOODS. Now, that...what is that? Those are the ACCOMPANING FEATURES which HE will use to CONFIRM the Word which He speaks. Now, that's HARD. We say, "Well, now, if You give us the Word, and it's for so and so, MAKE IT." He says, "I will, but I'm UNDER A LAW. That creative thing, the Word, the thing that I want brought out...My Words that I have given; it will always be CONFIRMED and ESTABLISHED upon the waters, and upon the seas." Do you see that? Those are both IMPOSSIBLE, terrifying places. But that's where He brings us for the CONFIRMATION OF HIS WORD. So I found that out. I FOUND it. The Word that's given to me is sometimes impossible. When you have come through to the realization, I have found that that RULE is REAL, that He's had to bring me into the most IMPOSSIBLE situation before it will be CONFIRMED. And then it is CONFIRMED, and made straight, made right, FULFILLED. But fulfilled in such a strange ATMOSPHERE.

5. Well, then...from that, He began to teach me, show me, that we need not FEAR. Now, for instance, He brought this illustration about it. He will GIVE A WORD. And then allow everything in the world to OPPOSE it, throw it down, overshadow it, confuse it; but always remember HE HAS GIVEN THAT WORD. And ALL HELL can not prevail against His Word. It can't. And we need not be afraid. He says, "POSSESS. Move. Take hold." Well, then we are full of fear and trembling and overwhelmed. And before we know it we will shrink back. But He says, "I am bringing you to a place where I CAN FULFILL IT! I can't fulfill it until I get you into the IMPOSSIBLE place. Then I will fulfill it." Now, He wanted to make those Children of Israel OVERCOMERS. He wanted them to be associated with Him in the fact of taking Canaan Land. Remember? How did He do? Now He said, "You stand here, and I will go in, and I will kill all the enemies, and then I will turn over and we will have a wonderful meeting, and you shall possess the land!" He did NOT. He said, "YOU are to push in by FAITH and every bit that your foot tread upon...your foot tread upon...that shall be YOURS." I said, "I see this old thing working again, in this Old Testament." I see it. And what did He do? Well He said, "Now every bit that your foot treads upon, not only means that we advance in the land, but how many know that CONQUEST was dramatically illustrated by those who conquered, putting their FOOT upon the neck of their enemy? Do you remember that? Yes. As soon as they had triumphed, and won their enemy, or slain a king or anything, He brought it down, now He says, "Put your foot on it's NECK." Why? You have POSSESSED. You've got the VICTORY over that. It can harm you NO MORE!" Do you get it? In your putting your foot down, how many see your possession in life and victory? So He says, "Wheresoever your FOOT is put down in faith and obedience to Me, that's YOURS." Then do you remember all those kings? Thirty-one of them? Up in that land that they had to make conquest of? Thirty-one of them. Well, how did they do it? Through exactly this process. Well, WHAT did they have to have in order to do it? A BATTLE. A battle, a CONFUSION, a WARFARE. Do you see the seas and the FLOOD? Yes. How many see the sea and the flood right away? The sea and the flood. They are very present. But He makes them to TRIUMPH. And He says, "I will establish My Word to you ON the sea and ON the flood. And I will GIVE you this country." Do you get that? How many can follow me? There is His Word; how many see His Word? How many see it ESTABLISHED? Upon what? The SEA and the FLOOD, of that which, you might say, was almost hopeless and impossible.
  
6. Well, one time I was going through some of this POSSESSION business, and I said, "Well, Lord, I see that, and I want to put my 'foot of faith' down, and HOLD. I want to do as You have said, 'Put your foot of faith down and POSSESS.' But...I'm AFRAID, You know."

Do you know the word He gave me? FEAR NOT, FOR HE WOULD NOT SUFFER MY FOOT TO BE MOVED. Wasn't that good? He brought it right to me, He says, "This is mine anyway. I will not suffer thy foot to be moved. He that keepeth Israel will keep you." So now you put your foot down and make your possession and believe. And even though the enemy pulls and hauls and depresses and fights and scares you, He says, "I will not suffer thy foot to be moved. Why? Because I'm going to make My Word straight to you in this most impossible situation." So if you want a little word on that, take Deut. 11:24. Deut. 11:24 and Psalms 121:3. "He will not suffer thy foot to be moved. He that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, He that keepeth Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is my Keeper." He's keeping my foot there! "The Lord is my Keeper. The Lord is my Shade..." How many get the next lesson coming in? When is all of this? UNDER THE SHADOW. How many see this teaching, this figures in strangely...wonderfully combined in it's thought arrangement. I don't know how many times we've dealt with that idea of OVERSHADOWING and SHADE, and it comes all the time; it's right back again this morning's lesson where He HOLDS US. "He is the shade upon thy right hand, the sun shall not smite thee by day nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil. He shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out into this business, and thy coming back again from this time forth and forever more."

7. Now take that one in Deuteronomy. Now take another one that I think was very good that He brought to my mind in this idea of speaking words and then making it good. In the prophecies concerning Jesus as the Messiah, He prophesies, He gives a word, not only concerning His birth, but how many of you know, He prophesies His SUFFERING, He prophesies His DEATH, He prophesies the fact that He is going down into Gehenna; all of that is prophesied. Now that's the WORD. It hasn't been fulfilled yet when it was written; it was not fulfilled. It was a PROJECTION into history and into time...can't you see that God sees and knows all things? Can't you see Him projecting these things before they're even BIRTHED? Before they're even BIRTHED. Before they even come to pass. 'So out of the heart of God, before there's any accomplishment of it, He speaks a WORD. And He speaks His word concerning His Son. Concerning His Son. His DEATH, His DESCENT, His RESURRECTION, and all. Now, He's going to hold that and make it TRUE, but how can He make it possible? He has to make the SEA and the FLOOD. They'll have to make it because THAT'S WHERE HE ESTABLISHES HIS WORD. Don't be discouraged this morning. Be encouraged. If the sea ROARS, and you hear the sound of the fullness thereof, remember, He's making a PLATFORM. Some WORD is going to be fulfilled. But it cannot be fulfilled unless it's follows this. "Upon the seas and upon the floods will I ESTABLISH My Word. I will bring it through to it's glorious fulfillment. But I'll do that." One of the prophecies that He said concerning the Lord was concerning His going down into Hell. Do you remember? Into Hades. Now when He gives the word, how many know He gives FAITH with it to encourage you? How many think Jesus knew about that? Don't you think He'd read the Old Testament? Don't you think He'd read the Psalms? Don't you think...I know it because in His death on the cross, He QUOTES from the Psalms. They were His sustaining portion. The Word of God, the vision which God had given Him always SUSTAINED Him in His most tragic hour. The most terrifying hour, it was always THE WORD OF GOD being established on the SEA. And upon the FLOODS of that which you might say, is almost IMPOSSIBLE! But He says, "That's where I will establish it."
8. Now, He gives that word to KEEP us. I ask the Lord one time about this "promise business. Everybody getting a promise, and a promise, promise, promise. The promise is given to us to SUSTAIN us during the trial or during the test. It isn't the promise that makes the thing come TRUE. It's COMING true. God sees THAT. But He gives US a promise to SUSTAIN US in the interim. That's why we REST upon the promise which He has spoken, long before the thing comes by. Long before it's made manifest out here, we still...what do we do? We take that WORD which He has given, and when He speaks the Word it is CREATIVE with FAITH. And I put it in my heart and I feel a little grain of faith with that Word. And it GROWS. And I am encouraged BEFORE the thing comes to pass because of the security and the authority of that little Word He's given me. I carry that along. I carry it. But you see, that is going to be DEMONSTRATED, it's going to be PROVED, it's going to

MANIFEST. How? Just because I believe it? No, it has to have the SEA, and the billows, and the restless ocean for it's place of confirmation. So Jesus knows His fate is descent into Hell. But how many of you know He encouraged His heart with it? It says so. Let me give you those scripture verses so you can look them up when you make a little study of this. In the Psalms 16:10, "For Thou wilt not leave my soul in Hell, neither wilt Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption. Thou will show me the path of life, and in Thy presence is fullness of joy. At Thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore." How many see the promise, way back in the Psalms, that He will not suffer Him to go through this terrifying thing in vain. "You will not suffer Me to see that corruption though I GO." I think one of the most sublime pictures of faith that we have of Jesus is when He DARED to do that with merely the Word of God, "I will not suffer Thy soul to see corruption, I will be with You." Now when Jesus went down into that grave, when He went to Calvary, and He went down into the grave, He went down in ABSOLUTE FAITH. He didn't have a thing to encourage Him. But He went down in FAITH to believe the WORD that God had given way back there in the Psalms would be fulfilled HERE. What is it? The WORD which God had given Him, like a PROMISE. "I will fulfill it, but I'll have to fulfill it in a raging tart, a sea, a confusion, a flood. And I will establish My Word upon the sea. And I will establish it upon the flood." "Well, we want these words confirmed." Well, dear, this is the only platform He has. I don't say these things to make you "heavy" or to "hurt" you. I say it to ENCOURAGE you. But when He shapes these things up, say, "Thank You, Lord. Here's a sea that's overwhelming me, but You're going prove a word in it." It is a RAGING TORRENT. But He says, "That's where I'll establish My promise. I will make it good, in THAT."

9. So in the book of Acts, take this verse that goes with that. Psalm 16:10, take Acts 2:26-27, and what do you have? You have Paul giving that marvelous description of what the Messiah should BE. That second chapter of Acts is the message that Paul (actually Peter) is preaching concerning Jesus. Well, what is He preaching? A picture and a description of this Messiah. How many know he quotes this very thing? He quotes this very Word. Because he says, "This Messiah that God has sent, He has suffered Him to go down into darkness and to the pit, and to return." And Peter takes these words out of their setting in Psalms and incorporates them in his first message to the people concerning Christ! Isn't that sweet? Oh, I'm glad he did it. For he said, "About Him, it is written, 'I will not forsake Thee, neither shall Thy soul see corruption.'" Well, I said, "Thank You, Lord. Now I see it from that angle." Well, I'd like to talk more about that, but I'd like to go on with some of the other things. I was just interested to trace this out as far as I could in actual experience and demonstration in the Word, so that our hearts will see how God works. All the Children of Israel saw all of His actions and miracles and things, and He says unto the Children of Israel, "They saw His works." It was only Moses who did what? "And to Moses He showed him His WAYS." He couldn't show the WAYS to the people. He showed His ACTS to the people. But He showed to Moses the MECHANISM that worked IN THE ACT. How many see I'M doing that all the time? THAT'S MY MESSAGE. I'm trying to help people to INTERPRET THEIR LIVING. That's all I hope to do. Help you to interpret HOW TO LIVE. I've SEEN these things. You know I have. I've seen INSIDE of the Truth. I've seen HOW God does things. I've seen that. I know that. Now He wouldn't give me all this business if that were not true. That's the way it is. I've seen, not only God working, but He has let me see HOW HE WORKS. I want you to learn to do that. Just as far as it's possible, trace along with Him so you can say, "Well, Lord, I see what You're doing. Now I see HOW You're doing it. I know WHAT You're doing in a sense, because I'm involved. But I want to see..." Now He says, "See. I did that. I permitted this. I did this." That's how God works.
10. Now, in the life of Jesus. I want to give a couple little illustrations in there. He gave me one in the life of Jesus especially...is where He knew beforehand that He was to drink of a cup and be baptised with a baptism. You remember that? And he said to His disciples, they were so anxious to reign and rule. These people who are so anxious to be...oh, dear! How can I tell it? I always want to say, "Be still a little while." It would do some people good to be STILL for two or three years. But they can't TAKE it! They can't TAKE it. You know the Lord's done that with me? Even with a message on my

heart, and people needing and crying. I remember two times He shut me up for a whole YEAR! And never opened my mouth to one! Well, it did Follette GOOD! "Killed" me, but it did me GOOD! But somebody gets just a little, simple testimony, they got to set the world on fire! No. That was His way. Why? Was that easy? No. Did I get CALLED? Plenty. Did I get CRITICISED? Plenty. "What's the matter with him? Is he a fanatic? With the message that he has, and people needing, he sits home?" I've had, I don't know how many come and tell me, "What are you doing sitting HOME here?" Oh, I say, "I'm here because I'm obedient. Will you please go away?" But no, you can't. You say, "Well, I'm walking with the Lord this morning," and you know, be nice. Now coming back again to how He worked with Jesus. These ambitious disciples. It's repeated two times. First it was the disciples themselves, came to Him and said, "Lord. Now when you come into Your kingdom, let one be on the right hand and one on the other hand, and we will reign and rule with You! I'll dedicate my life to you! And look what a marvelous thing will happen when you really get ahold of me! And I will reign with You and I will..." Well, the Lord wanted safe children and go and play house... What did He say? "Why," He said, "That's not for Me to give. Can you...can you...can you DRINK OF THE CUP THAT I AM TO DRINK OF? And BE BAPTISED with the baptism whereunto I am called?" How many see a two-fold incident? Never get the CUP mixed up with the BAPTISM. Never get...the BAPTISM is CALVARY. Don't get the CUP mixed up with CALVARY. He drank the CUP before He got to Calvary! But they aren't thinking that, they're just thinking of, "I want to be with Him and reign and rule with Him!" So, this ambitious mother; she was a good Israelitish woman. And she believed in the kingdom too. Very much. But she's ambitious for her sons. Now, you can't blame a mother to be ambitious. That's all right. She wanted them to have the best there was. So this ambitious mother, she comes and she says, "Now I have a question to ask of You." He says, "What's the matter?" "I want to ask of You...now when You get this kingdom established, if You ever DO get it going, You've been puttering around so long; but now when it goes, will You have my two sons?" And How many know, He answers the SAME thing? He says, "Well, can you drink of My cup, and can you be baptised with My baptism?" Now the whole Calvary episode falls into a two-fold pattern. There is the DRINKING OF THE CUP which is one part of it. And the CRUCIFIXION on Calvary is the SECOND part. But people won't take that. They've just got a "Calvary complex." And therefore, the Calvary of dying on the cross is the CUP! It's never the CUP! He says distinctly, "I have a CUP TO DRINK, and a BAPTISM with which I must be BAPTISED with. Can you see that or can't you? That whole tragedy is in a two-fold picture. Now, that had to be fulfilled with Jesus. And He knew it. He KNEW it. He KNEW that! And so, I have brought this out in my tract, oh, Bethany Household. I've more fully elaborated it, and I won't go into that now. But in that tract on the Bethany Household, God gave real light and encouragement.

11. He wanted to REDEEM the world. One place He says, "How I am straightened until I can get there and do My redeeming work!" Do you remember that? He WANTED to do the will of God, and He KNEW that Calvary was THE WILL OF GOD. He KNEW that. He knew that very well. And He rebukes Peter, even, because he won't let Him go and accomplish it! Jesus DESIRED with all His heart to do the will of God. And IN the will of God is this redemptive cross business. And so He says, "I am straightened and held down until I can get through with that!" Not that He loved the nails and loved the crucifixion, and loved the blood. He isn't talking of that. He's talking about a strange OCCASION in which He can do the will of the Father. Which was His DEATH. And that's what He had COME for. How many can see that? He isn't delighting to do the will of God because He's going to have His life knocked out of Him. That isn't it. His delight is in the fact that this tragic thing is "in My life pattern unto the Father. And I WANT to be kept alive until I can DO that." Now, THAT is the BAPTISM. Then the WRATH OF GOD OVER SIN, it is like a great FLOOD that pours down over Him and He is CONSUMED. "And all Thy waves and billows have gone over Me." That's CALVARY. And the WRATH of God is the JUDGMENT, because He had been MADE SIN. And God JUDGES SIN. Now before He get there, how many know He says, "I have a CUP to drink of."? Remember He said, "I have a CUP to drink of before I go up to the Calvary business. I have a cup." Where was this? Yes, it's in the GARDEN. It's in the garden. And so, before He can get to Calvary at all, He knows this, He's LED, moved of the Holy Spirit to come into this "strange" struggle in the garden. This is

BEFORE He gets to Calvary. Do you know what that was? That was the ENEMY seeking to destroy Him before He could accomplish His Calvary. That was the enemy seeking...why? Because the enemy has sought to kill Him from the time He was born. When He was a baby, how many know the enemy tried to put Him out of the way? As a little baby. How many know that when He started to first preach, the Devil would have bossed Him over the precipice and killed Him? How many know, then in the boat, that the Devil got a good storm going, thought he would drown Him? What did Jesus do? He REBUKED the storm. If that storm had been His Father, would He get up and rebuke His FATHER'S work? Oh, don't be so silly! Would Jesus rebuke something God was doing? No, He rebukes what the DEVIL is doing! And the Devil would have consumed the whole thing. But He saw through it and God delivered Him. Now we don't know how many times in the life of Jesus had the enemy sought to destroy Him so that He cannot accomplish Calvary! So here is his last opportunity. And the Devil puts this strange, terrifying burden upon Him, and crushes Him, and crushes Him, and crushes Him, until...I'm glad Luke tells it because he's a physician. And you've got to take his word. If you won't take God's word, you take it as a physician. Oh, these miserable people can't see anything. What happened? The enemy is trying to press the very life OUT of Him before He can get to CALVARY. Now that's the work of the enemy. And that's the CUP, and so seeing that, Jesus had to make a tremendous...a tremendous dealing with the Father. What is it? The OLD LAW that I have been telling you about. Anything that is to really LIVE, and come through in LIFE and POWER and BEAUTY, has to go to it's DEATH. Do you know that? It will have to go to it's DEATH. In that tract I speak of illustrations which is a classic on the Old Testament. God promised Abraham an Isaac, didn't He? Isaac was the SEED of Abraham. And through this SEED He will bless the whole nations and Christ will come from that seed. Redemption will come from it. All right, here is father Abraham with a word spoken to him, "I will give you a son, and through him I will bring a whole plan of redemption and project this thing down through the ages even unto the glory. Through thy son." Don't you think that Abraham was quite "choice" over that? Do you think so? Of course. Not only with his son, but Abraham was "choice" over this strange thing that God was doing. For wrapped up in Isaac, in Isaac, word potential again; how many see all the potential possibilities of the redemption and everything in the ages to come are all hidden in Isaac? He HOLDS A FORTHCOMING of the prophets, and of the Christ, and of the redemption, and the ages. He HOLDS that, and Abraham KNOWS that. He told him so. He doesn't want anything to harm him. He's choice. What is it that God asks him to sacrifice? HIS DREAM. His ISAAC. His ISAAC. Why? Because Isaac must go down into DEATH AND BE BROUGHT UP TO LIFE, because he can fulfill his pattern. How many can see that, or don't you see that? How many see that PROFOUND LAW working way back in that situation? So God says, "Bring your Isaac up here and sacrifice him." Now can you see how the natural processes will come in and fight and quarrel, and try to confuse him and say, "Well, that's wrong! God would never ask human sacrifice! God..." How many can hear the "hubbub" of the Devil in it? Right away. All this CONFUSION. But Abraham...God encourages him. And he goes to the mountain. And he as good as slays him, doesn't he? Lays him on, ties him, has a knife here, ready. And God says, "I've seen all that I need. The surrender." This "awful" word, SURRENDER. "You have SURRENDERED. You have GIVEN IT. You have GIVEN IT, FREELY. I don't want Isaac. I want the SURRENDER OF YOUR BEING TO ME, that by FAITH, you would DARE TO DO IT!" And he says, "Yes. Because the Lord will provide a sacrifice." Do you see his faith there? Oh, yes. And Abraham says, "Even though He takes, even though he's slain, God brings Truth. He will make a sacrifice." And so He said, "That's all I want of you."

12. Now, that's that old fundamental law that I teach and preach because Jesus preached it. That which is of the flesh perisheth. But that which is of the Spirit will endure forever. Everything that hopes to live as LIFE will go through a terrific process of DEATH. It HAS to. Jesus taught it, "Except a corn of wheat fall into the earth and die, it cannot bring forth." But everybody wants the wheat to BRING FORTH! He says, "It can't. It goes through a PROCESS." So, now that's where Jesus sees these words fulfilled on a sea and upon a flood! A most awful CONTRADICTION! And here it is. Here it is. And He says, "Oh, Father! Oh, Father! If it be Thy will, let this cup, let this death, let this thing pass from Me. But if it isn't Your will, let it BE. Let it BE. Let THY



will be done. Let Thy will be done." And when Jesus was able to surrender the hope of Calvary, and all that, how many see that's "Isaac." Do you see it? Do you see that's Isaac? And when Jesus was willing to let His Isaac be surrendered to the WILL OF GOD, that's all God wanted. That's all God wanted. And God says, "That's ALL I want of You. The SURRENDER OF YOUR ISAAC." And He says, "It's enough." And how many remember, the sweat was unto DEATH? He was SWEATING BLOOD, and that's what I like Luke to tell, because He is a doctor. And when a person is under a pressure like that, that blood is pushing through the pores of your skin, that's always death. That's always DEATH. And here was our lovely, wonderful Lord, going through a process, even unto DEATH, and that's when He says, "Oh, Lord! Keep Me ALIVE! Keep Me ALIVE, till I can GET TO CALVARY! Keep Me ALIVE! But if You want Me to go THIS way, I SURRENDER! I SURRENDER. I surrender my church, I surrender the whole thing to You, because Your will is above anything I could have." How many see Him: isn't He wonderful? I think He's wonderful there. I think He's wonderful. Some of these pictures, I live in them for days, because I think they're powerful. They're powerful. And He says, "I would TO LIVE. But if You want this whole scheme to move through a channel that You don't reveal to Me now, and change it's course into something else, let THY WILL be done." Why, the Father says, "I don't want to take You like that. I'll give you life." And how many know, He sent a ministering angel down? And fed Him and strengthened Him. THEN He can go to fulfill the other aspect of this thing. What is it? CALVARY. So He was KEPT ALIVE BY what? When He PRAYED, He was praying that God would keep Him ALIVE SO HE COULD DIE! That's right. Yes. He was praying, "Lord, keep me ALIVE! Don't let the Devil KILL Me here and spoil it! Keep Me ALIVE so that I can get there and DIE!" He wasn't praying about being delivered from suffering. He wanted the WILL OF GOD accomplished. How many can see the FLOOD that He was on? How many can see the BILLOWS that were raging? How many see the WORD OF GOD ESTABLISHED IN IT? Do you get it? Do you get the Word of God, the prophecy of God established? Where is it? It is established upon the impossible. That which is IMPOSSIBLE for man to ever straighten out, that's the situation. And He says, "Here in this tragic thing, MY WORD, MY WORD WILL NOT RETURN UNTO ME VOID. I have SPOKEN it, and it will ACCOMPLISH that whereunto I have sent it." And He sends it. I didn't know I was going to talk all about that. But how many got some light and help? Yes.

13. (Question from man in group): "Was Satan aware of the consequences of Calvary?"

Follette: I think so. I think so...I think so.

Man: Any Biblical evidence of that?

Follette: I don't know of any special verse, only the ATTITUDES that he keeps taking of trying to destroy the very One that's going to upset him! Now I think he must have known it because he knows the plan of God, and he knows the Word of God. He can quote scripture. He knows, and I think that is One that disturbed him, because he knows that in the "grand finally," in the end, he will be a defeated thing. But as long as he can, he with his cohorts of demons and powers will fight against the things of God. Resist them and fight against them. Yes?

Man: We were talking about the matter in which Peter took out his sword, and really got into a big fight there. Probably could have been killed. Probably that was to (keep Him from Calvary)

Follette: Well, He could have. But you see, even there, how Jesus says, "Don't do that. You don't know the workings of God. Let this thing work out."

14. Now I think I have another one. I don't know, is it time to go? Well, now take this one in Christ, in Matthew 26: 36-46. And John 12: 27-28. Mark 14:36. And Hebrews 5:7. Hebrews 5:7 works in exactly with this. You remember that story, that little picture in Hebrews 5:7? Hebrews 5:7, talking about Jesus. "Who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him that was able to save Him from death, and was heard in that He feared." Well, if He's praying to be saved from CALVARY, how many know THAT prayer was NOT heard? But how many know, if He is praying to be saved from dying THERE, how many know that prayer WAS heard? So I'm awfully glad this is incorporated, and in my tracts I swing in on this scripture

verse too. "Who in the days of His flesh, when He prayed unto God, Who was ABLE TO SAVE HIM OUT OF THAT DEATH, and was HEARD!" And God saved Him out of the PREMATURE DEATH. The PREMATURE DEATH. "And was HEARD." So that HE COULD KEEP ALIVE TO DIE. But that's TRUE, isn't it? Now, take that concerning Him...now with the disciples, John 14:27. And John 20:26. That's where we have a storm, where we have peace. That's a good one, but I don't want to get mixed up in there, because we'll never get through here. How many see an awful good field? Yes, it's too much. The retreat should be two weeks, dear. And then send my body home! All we have to do. But this is GOOD. How many see how I work? How I study? I just live in a thing like this maybe for days and days. Because He keeps putting LIGHT, and then I go back, and come back, and go in, and come back. I can't just "read along." No. Don't you like this? How many know that's the Truth? Now how many can see why these strange questions are, that when He got in front of Calvary, "He was afraid." Oh, NO fear in Him, He was WAITING to get to CALVARY. But the enemy was going to have a PREMATURE DEATH in that garden, and kill Him before He could get through! And yet, in the heart of Jesus, this OLD LAW, He knows too. He says, "If this is ever to LIVE, it will have to go through it's DEATH, and COME UP." So He says, "All right Lord. Take it. I don't know what You mean by it." And God says, "All I want is Your SURRENDER. That's all I want." How many know, that's all He wants of any of us? He's rather have a SURRENDER OF US, and our "pet ideas," and notions and calls, and all of that stuff; He would rather have THAT, then alot of things we're going to DO for Him. Please get over that. He has angels, and thousands of working, ministering spirits. But He has SO FEW that will dedicate their hearts and lives to Him. Their WILLS. Their WILLS. That's all He asks.

15. Now, I'm going to give you one more illustration to help this thing with. I want to take Paul. And I've already given you the story with the "thorn in the flesh." How many remember that lesson? Yes. How many can see that same principle again? He wants to know God, and God wants to reveal Himself to him, and God wants to make him the great CHARACTER that He wants to, because He has called him to all this great field of ministry. But He can't make that thing good, nor the word of His GRACE good, until it is subjected to all of this SEA. How many notice with Paul, whenever these things come, he's in BILLOWS? He's in the SEA, and all the awful unrest. How many can detect that? Every time the Word of God, "My grace is made perfect in weakness;" how many remember the WEAKNESS is an utter COLLAPSE in which he is? Now He says, "That's where My Word will come through. And that's where it will be. I will bring you on the BILLOWS and the SEA. But I will establish My Word. My GRACE will be sufficient for you." Here, where there's NO billows? "No. My grace will be sufficient for you where the BILLOWS ARE! Where the billows ARE! THERE will I establish My Word, My grace is sufficient for thee. But not when you're standing here where you don't need that. But where you get in the IMPOSSIBLE. Where the billows, and the sea, I will establish My Word unto you." Didn't He? Over and over and over and over and over and over, He establishes His Word, brings the promise through to it's COMPLETION in the IMPOSSIBLE. Anyone get anything this morning? How many get a little more of my Christian philosophy, the way I live? How many know that's the way it goes? That's the way it goes. And pray the Lord will raise up some more who will go out. This Body of christ is in such need. And I only have one life to give. And I want to give everything there is of me. And He's kept me going; here I am over 80 years old, going around as if I was 50 or 40. To me it's like a miracle. And well, I'm healthier than half of you people. It's true! Really that's true, and I give God the glory for it. It's amazing. But I can't go on ministering until I'm 125 years old. Follette's still going? Well, I was so amazed not long ago, we had a gathering up in the library we were having. And Marge and Bill, and some friends were there who helped with it. And they were having the unveiling of a tablet. And, oh it was a gathering of people who hadn't seen each other thirty, forth, fifty years. And here was...she was a young woman, in my day, in the classes, she was two classes ahead of me. I hadn't seen her in, oh, YEARS. And we just met like this. And I called her by name. I said, "Is that you?" "Oh!," she said, "Are YOU alive yet!?" Well, I nearly fell over! Her first reaction, "Are YOU alive yet??" I said, "Well, it looks like it!" Well, as if I have to be planted! No, no. So will you pray with me? And ask if the Lord's willing and desires to put upon your hearts the burden for His Body. He WANTS to come, but He CAN'T

come and take alot of GREEN GRAIN. And UNRIPE fruit. He has to have SOME, enough to guarantee the gathering. He isn't going to wait until every saint is PERFECTED, but He wants to accomplish in each life that for which you have been CALLED. Whatever that little correction, whatever this is, in the HEART AND LIFE. He wants THAT. That's all He can get. And that's what I want Him to HAVE. And pray with me. Now I want to thank you; I was handed an envelope this morning, and I just nearly fell over! I appreciate your kindness. It was wonderful that you take care of me like that. God is good isn't He? And some people thought, "Well. Follette's an millionaire. He flys around in a jet, and all that business." Well, I'm a child of a King. And if God wants to treat me royally, He can do it. I have always gone without plenty all my lifetime that I am almost afraid to be taken care of. And when I came, God says, "I don't want you riding a train to all of this. Money is nothing to Me. I can take care of you." And it costs to come out, fare in and out is around 300 and some dollars or so. But what is 300 dollars to God? It's just nothing. Just nothing. Raise it up here or there, that doesn't matter! He brought it and He said...I could see it too, you see, it's not too much more than a pullman's service for a train from New York. Cheaper than some things from New York here. By train, and I couldn't travel alone by pullman. I'm not going to sit up all night in a smoker. Well who would. I couldn't. He wouldn't ask it of me. I'm His child. And so I always have a pullman; how many know what wheels are on a    ? ? Yeah. Well, you put all those things together, and I'm on three nights and two days. And it isn't very much more. And that didn't amount to anything to Him. He says, "No. Take your jet and go on out. I'll be with you." I didn't know I was coming until just a few days before I got clouded. ( a cold?) I have some pretty "rickety" things to go through. I felt pretty "terrific." And I said, "Lord, You've just got to pull me together." And He's pulled me together and I felt wonderful! Yes, really it's an answer to prayer. There were days there where I didn't know if I could navigate. And look how we've been. All health and strength. Now, as you go, remember me. And ask the Lord to fulfill in me the things that He's AFTER. Dear, I asked Him several times, "Oh, Lord. The world's in such a mess, and everything's so confused. Have You really forgotten me?" I got lost in the "shuffle." Do you know what I mean? Everything going, I said, "Well, maybe You've forgotten me." But He didn't. He hasn't forgotten me at all. But He'll take me later. And He said, "I have a few more errands for you." That's what He said. He used that word. Said it in my heart. "I have a few errands for you." So, I got to stay until I get my ERRANDS done. They're just ERRANDS. I'm an errand boy. I'm not "starting some great, terrific work, you know!! That will be established....!" Oh. I wouldn't want it anyway. I think that's alot of "funny stuff." No. Be a little errand boy. Be a little boy. And He says, "I have a few errands for you."

16. So, maybe we'll have a retreat for the next five or six years, as the Lord may lead. What are we going to sing as we go?

Man in group: I'd like to add before we close, I was given the job of showing the appreciation of the group for someone who has checked the work of some of these people who have been here six o'clock in the morning and prepared the food while the rest of us got up later.

Follette: They that served the tables also, that's scriptural.

Man: Yes, but these others were special. They were up working before we ever got up. So, Esther, we appreciate...(all you've done)

Follette: Amen. Amen. Thank you, brother. That's always nice. I'm glad for it. And I just enjoy it. Isn't it been nice to fellowship together? How many have had a GOOD retreat? So have I. And you know, I'm glad it's been good, because some told me not to come. And one thought they had it from the Lord, but said not to attend this retreat. It would exhaust me thoroughly. And WARNED me of the Lord! NOT to go. Well you know, that upset me for several days, I said, "Well Lord, how can this thing be so contradictory? You told me to go, and You've given me light along the Word and all, and now somebody has got a "leading of the Lord," that I will break down and I shouldn't be here. And I said, "What will I do?" So He told me to ABIDE BY WHAT HE HAD SAID FIRST.

You see that's true? ABIDE by the FIRST movings of the Lord. He isn't going to change THAT. So I said, "All right, Lord." Now I hope this person who has this "revelation" will find out we've had a good convention! Is that naughty, or isn't it? No, I want Him to confirm His Word! And He's confirming it upon the difficult times in my life. But I want Him to confirm that Word. So let's be careful of our leadings, you know. Because sometimes they're very "strange."

Man in group: I wanted to say that I think everyone here really (tape undiscernable)  
I really felt at home here...(tape undiscernable) I know the words  
you speak are true. (tape undiscernable)

Follette: Well, thank you. It's been good to minister to you. If you'll let in work in your heart and life. You know what would bless me more than any present? Is to have your life revolutionized and blessed in God through Truth. That will be very costly, dear boy. Very COSTLY. But if you're willing to SURRENDER, just as I've been teaching here, surrender some of your visions, and ideas, and notions, SURRENDER THEM TO HIM, let Him, out of this chaos and ruin do what HE wants, that will be much more glorifying to Him. Now, that's going to be very HARD. But I hope that this TRUTH that you have will not be in VAIN. You're young, and new, and just a little child in Him, and you need help. And how many know a word like this would be very good? To help you. I wish I could have had what I'm giving now when I was your age. Wish I had. But I had to go the hard way. I had to come through by building it and finding it and searching and digging. How many know, I don't find too many to help me? No, I don't. I really don't. I read, live, read...and it's only rarely that a find a bit of Truth that I feel somebody has found and they pass it to me. So, I only feed you out of the wreckage of my heart and life. He's wrecked me to help YOU. What are we singing before we go?

(hymn sung: Abide In Me)

Now you're shut away here. You don't think you have much ministry. How many know the ministry of opening up this place and letting God's people come is a tremendous ministry? I think that's a tremendous ministry. He'll bless you for it. You've offered it as unto Him. The retreat, you gave it to Him. You said, "This is all we can do, Lord." And we're trusting God will bless them, and bless our dear brothers, and strengthen him. He been such a testimony to me, and such...I said, "Lord, could I take it?" I don't know. But it's wonderful how He gives His grace to take on. So, as we go, our blessing will remain with Bill and Evelyn, and you'll keep praying for us. You have given a great contribution. How many see that? Yes, it's a contribution. You're not ministering in the foreign field, you're ministering in the home land. Shall we stand?

17. Our Loving Lord, we pray much about this gathering. And we prayed especially that You would keep away the people that wouldn't be able to take it and didn't need it. And we said, "Send in the people who are able to take it and need it." We've prayed people IN here and we've prayed them OUT. Because You put it on our hearts to do that. And we believe You've heard prayers. And we thank You for it. And grant that the seed that has been sowed in these hearts and lives may germinate and grow to make a harvest that's pleasing to Thee. We commit each lovely heart to Thee. Be here with Bill and Evelyn, be with us as we go, and the fellowship of the Spirit will not break because we separate. But the fellowship of the Spirit may grow. May GROW, and become rich and fruitful. Help us to minister to all those who need help where ever we may touch them. Wherever we may be able to touch them give us that life of God in us and through us that shall minister to them. For Thy glory. We ask it in Jesus' name, Amen.