**“Receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit” The Bible Echo 13, 7, p. 49.**

THE time to favour Zion, yea, the time, is come. This is the truth to-day. The time has come to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is freely given, and is now waiting to be received. {BEST February 14, 1898, p. 49.1}

Correspondence from all over the work plainly reveals that God is moving upon the minds of His people to seek, and pray, and believe, for the Holy Spirit. This can be only of the Spirit Himself He Himself is creating a longing, a hungering and thirsting, for the Holy Spirit, which He alone can satisfy with His fulness. He leads in a way to show that a certain thing is the one thing to do, and that it must be done at once. And when the step is taken, light in, blessing an I progress attend it. And we can only say, “Lead thou me on.” {BEST February 14, 1898, p. 49.2}

For twenty-three years I have been studying the Bible, and must say that to me that book never said so much about the Holy Spirit as it does now. It seems now that most precious teaching with reference to the Spirit of God stands out everywhere. The word is freighted with it. And all this wealth of instruction only creates a longing for more of that blessed Spirit, and more of His gracious and gentle teaching. {BEST February 14, 1898, p. 49.3}

The Holy Spirit has come. He is given. He “awaits our demand and reception,” and “brings all other blessings in His train.” Joy, joy, to every soul! Let us be glad, and rejoice, and give honour to Him. {BEST February 14, 1898, p. 49.4}

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**“That Broken Heart” The Bible Echo 13, 8, pp. 57, 58.**

JESUS died of a broken heart. Psalm 69:20. This is intensely significant. {BEST February 21, 1898, p. 57.1}

It was the ingratitude and the reproach of those for whom he endured the cruel suffering of the cross, that broke his heart. {BEST February 21, 1898, p. 57.2}

And when, in that great and awful day that is to come, all those who hold to ingratitude or reproach see what they have really done, and what they have lost, reproach will also break their hearts—though with them it will be *self*-reproach. Who can bear it! O then please do not any longer be ungrateful or reproachful in the presence of the cross of Christ. {BEST February 21, 1898, p. 57.3}

A deeper truth than this is that *it would be the same* with *those persons* if they were in heaven itself instead of in hell. To them heaven would be the same as hell; for it will not be what is outside of them, but what is inside, that will hurt. {BEST February 21, 1898, p. 58.1}

And a yet deeper truth is that even though their ingratitude and reproach did not return upon them, and they were placed in heaven, yet they would die of a broken heart. For to take these persons, wholly unacquainted with true and lasting joy, and place them in the transcendent and eternal *bliss* of heaven, with the assurance that it was all and eternally theirs—the overwhelming consciousness of this fact would break the heart. {BEST February 21, 1898, p. 58.2}

Do you not know that the heart can be broken by *joy* as truly as by sorrow? Do you not know that such a thing has occurred in this world—though of course in this world of trouble and sorrow, a heart broken by joy is far less usual than hearts broken by sorrow! {BEST February 21, 1898, p. 58.3}

The one great consideration in all this is that it is not all of heaven to be in heaven, nor is it all of hell to be in hell. The *all* of either place is in being *fit for it*. {BEST February 21, 1898, p. 58.4}

To be fit for heaven is what will find heaven to be all of heaven. And—awful truth!—to be fit for hell is what will find hell to be all of hell. No one can possibly find either place without the fitness for it; and there is no other place. {BEST February 21, 1898, p. 58.5}

O then, dear friend, do not, against the cross of Christ, heap up ingratitude and reproach that fits for hell, and that will surely break the heart. Receive him, yield yourself to him, that *now* you may become acquainted with and *enjoy* the true and everlasting joy of heaven, that fits for heaven, so that when heaven itself, with all its glory, with all its transcendent bliss, with its fulness of eternal joy, is placed upon the hearts of the redeemed, *your* heart will not be broken by it. {BEST February 21, 1898, p. 58.6}

Everything that occurred in the life of Christ on earth is laden with meaning. And this one—the most awful of all—is freighted with a most awful meaning. That broken heart! Think of it carefully, study it reverently. {BEST February 21, 1898, p. 58.7}

A. T. JONES.