



The Great Challenge

Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go. – Acts 9:6

The call to holiness is the challenge of love. God loved us with a great and everlasting love, and with loving-kind-ness He is ever drawing us away from sin to himself. He has loved us out of our sins, and He would love us into holiness.

It is the challenge of a great sacrifice. Jesus died to make men holy, and shall we frustrate the purpose for which He died?

It is the challenge of a great cause calling for fit work-ers and soldiers – workers together with God. Good soldiers of the Lord. But how can we work together with God if we are not agreed with Him? How can we be good soldiers of Jesus if our hearts are not pure and aflame with loyalty to Him?

The call to holiness is the wooing of a great Lover seek-ing to draw His loved one into perfect love and fellowship with himself. Holiness is love made perfect – love so filling the heart and mind and soul that sin is expelled and the great Lover is enthroned in peace and purity and power where sin had reigned.

Finally, holiness is not attained by good works; it is obtained as a freely granted and accepted gift, by faith. It is not by growth; it is by separation unto Jesus and dedication of all we have and are to Him, in simple faith. It is not by death; it is by crucifixion of the old life. It is not by the flames of purgatory, but by the cleansing blood washing away all impurity, and the fire of the Holy Ghost refining all our redeemed and consecrated power. Refining fire, go through my heart.

*Illuminate my soul.
Scatter Thy life through every part
And sanctify the whole.*

– CHARLES WESLEY

