You also it is counted for righteousness. You have learned what it is to "obstinately believe God. And you have the assurance of the Word—God's Word—that He doeth the work. This is the first witness. God testifies to thy believing heart by His own living Word—that He doeth it—the blood cleanseth. You realize now the infinite import of the Word of God. You recognize that upon that Word, which can not fail, you stand and can stand for ever. You rejoice that God talks to you in assurance through His Word. The flat of the Almighty has come to thy soul in His own utterance that, "The blood cleanseth."—"It's done, the great transaction's done." There is a great calm and quiet in thy soul. This may be called the fourth step.

THE FIFTH STEP

THE HOLY GHOST MANIFESTATION

There is also a second witness. "For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified, whereas the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us." The believing heart waits peacefully, thankfully, trustingly, expectantly, with great assurance of faith the manifestation of the presence of the Holy Ghost. He is sure to reveal Himself, according to His own infinite wisdom. It is a time of holy, intense, expectancy waiting; gazing into the face of God through His promise. Whether you should seek the witness of the Spirit is questionable. You have the witness of His own utterance to you—you rest upon it, you are lovingly, thankfully, expectantly waiting His manifest presence, with His own assurance that He will come suddenly to His temple, and you are resting in His assurance. He makes known His own coming. He sheds abroad His own light. You will not be left in doubt; He will illuminate the whole temple of thy being, which He has come to possess and make His abiding place. The obedience and trust of faith merge into the knowledge of experience and you, too, know the Lord. The mystery of the gospel, "Christ in us," is unveiled to you. This is the fifth step, and you stand cleansed and endued by the Holy Ghost which is given unto you.

"Jesus, full of love divine, I am Thine and Thine art mine. Let me live and die to prove Thine unfaltering love. More and more of love I claim, Clearing still with quenchless flame: All my heart to Thee aspires, Yearns with infinite desires."

Five Steps
TO ENTIRE SANCTIFICATION

By P. F. Breese, D. D.

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Recognizing That the Work Is God's
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THE FIRST STEP
DEFINITE BELIEF

"He that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." As a child of God you have come to know that He commands you to be holy; that it is His will, even your sanctification; that Christ gave Himself for you as a part of the Church—a Christian—that He might sanctify and cleanse you; and that without holiness no man can see the Lord. You recognize your need. Every newborn child of God soon finds that while in connection with the new birth condemnation is removed, and there is a new, loyal, loving heart given, yet there are the remains of sin—the carnal mind—with its desires and ambitions and passions left, and that these war against the new life, and bring it great limitations and danger. With this seed you have come to the Word of God and have found under the light of the Spirit, that it is the provision of the atonement, and is also the will of God that you be made "throughly clean." It is with you a settled fact that you need it—must have it—and that God has it for you, the purchase of Atoning Blood, and waits to give it to you. This clear belief is the first step.

THE SECOND STEP
ENTIRE DEDICATION TO GOD

As His child, being thus made a priest unto God, you act as priest, being also yourself the offering, and present yourself a living sacrifice unto God; mark unto God, to be made holy. Be careful not to mistake and make the sacrifice unto uselessness, or unto happiness; the offering of yourself is unto God—to be in His will. This devotion, or consecration of yourself to God, is all-embracing. It was unconsciously, in your surrender to God in the beginning, so far as the yielding of yourself up to be for ever in the will of God is concerned, and you can never fail to carry it out without forfeiting the grace which came through surrender. But, now, it becomes an act—a living experience. You offer yourself as a whole burnt offering unto God, to be His holy one for ever. Into this devotion everything goes. The things which are gain are counted loss; the things that are valuable are reckoned as dross, that you may know Christ and the power of His resurrection. You die unto the world, so that you too say, "The world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." You render up yourself, all you are, and all you have, all the present and all the future—your being—unto God, to be made holy. You have now come to the end of your own works. You will never have another thing to consecrate or give to God for this is all-embracing—now and for ever. You rest, as you have reached—God helping you—the end of your own possibility. This is the second step.

THE THIRD STEP
RECOGNIZING THAT THE WORK IS GOD'S

You can do no more. It is as impossible for you to make yourself holy as to create a universe. "He that ministereth to you the Spirit and worketh miracles among you"—He must do this great work of cleaning your heart. You have already believed that He would do it, and now you are the diligent seeker. You have desperately abandoned everything to be made holy; you have sold everything to purchase this great pearl of a clean heart.

"A heart in every thought renewed,
And full of love divine;
Perfect and right and pure and good,
A copy, Lord, of Thine."