WRIGHT (FRANK HALL) SERMONS, 1916

Descriptive Summary
Title: Frank Hall Wright sermons
Dates: 1916
Accession Number(s): 1996-091
Extent: 2 inches
Language: Materials are written in English.

Full finding aid available here: http://www.austinseminary.edu/page.cfm?p=1125

Biographical Note:
Frank Hall Wright (1860-1922) was an evangelist in the western United States.

Scope and Contents:
The Frank Hall Wright Sermons are typed, bound sermons delivered by Wright at First Presbyterian Church of San Antonio in January 1916. These sermons were a component of special evangelistic services intended for both Christians and the general public.

Related Collections:
The Arthur Gray Jones papers at the Austin Seminary Archives include letters written by Frank Hall Wright to Arthur Gray Jones from 1915-1916.

Restrictions:
Materials are available by appointment only. Contact the archivist for details.

Preferred Citation: Frank Hall Wright sermons, 1916, Austin Seminary Archives, Stitt Library, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

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The Filling of the Spirit.

Who needs it? That is the first thing. Who needs the filling of the Holy Spirit? The apostles needed it. —Acts, 1:4— They should not depart from Jerusalem, they were to wait for the promise. Wait until endued with the power from on high. The promise of the Father is spoken of right along. John 13:10— Ye are clean, but not all.—The apostles needed to wait for this endowment. At one of Peter's sermons three thousand men were converted. And had not Peter denied the Lord? And yet the Lord had picked him out. When he was regenerated he was regenerated. And so tremendous was his preaching that three thousand were converted in one day. He had been ashamed to confess the Savior before a servant girl. Acts, 1:8 — But ye shall receive the power after the Holy Ghost is come upon you.— After the Spirit. If we have never seen the Holy Spirit we can never testify before God. We are commanded to be filled with the Spirit. The command rests upon every Christian. Christ needed the Holy Spirit. Acts 10:38 — God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power.—The power was in Jesus then after the Holy Spirit. Jesus was driven into the wilderness by the Spirit. —Led by the Spirit into the wilderness. —Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee. Acts 19:2 — Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believe— and they said, " We have not so much as heard if there be any Holy Ghost." They had been baptised, " Unto John's baptism." And after Paul
baptised them in the name of the Lord Jesus, the Holy Ghost came upon them; and they spake with tongues and prophesied. Whenever men are filled with the Holy Spirit there is a manifestation. When Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit, great numbers were converted. When men are filled with the Spirit, there will be men converted. We need boldness. — Grant unto thy servants boldness that they may speak thy word. — What we need is the filling of the Spirit for service. One time some missionaries were feeling the need of baptism of power. They prayed two weeks. And twenty-five missionaries were wonderfully awakened. The Indians, the Christian Indians, said, "we have new preachers. The power was manifested, they confessed their sins. People had no idea that confessed Christians ever lived in such sin. Some of them said their sins were too awful, they just could not get up and tell them. The Spirit of God fell upon them and sixty thousand went out of that meeting to study the Bible. Numbers of African Christians were awakened. They went across to the Pigmies to preach the Gospel. That was the beginning of Christianity among the Pigmies. All because of those twenty-five missionaries getting together and praying until the power of the Holy Spirit fell upon them. God is right on the giving hand. Waiting for his people to confess and repent. There are a great many things that interfere. Perhaps this is the very worst time to have a revival in San Antonio. But it will show the greater power of God. All the tourists in town. They may go to church when they are at home. But you don't find them
in church here. You go to any of these resorts. They are down here for pleasure. There are a great many folks who are Christians while they are at home. But you let them go on a visit, and they leave their religion at home. One time there was an Indian woman who had been a good Christian, she had to be disciplined for her wrong. She would not come before the preacher alone, she brought a spokesman. That is the way the Indians do. If you want to know an Indian's name, don't ask him, he won't tell you, you have to ask his friend. So here was the Indian woman come before the Session with her spokeswoman. The spokeswoman said, "You see this woman? She good Christian for four years. She got tired, take a little rest now?" That was it.

There are geographical Christians. Very active in a church somewhere else. But not Christians here. The chances are they have no religion at all and they are glad when they get to a place where no one knows them, where they won't have to be religious. Oh if you are living for the devil have your eyes open. You might as well be lost with your eyes open. Now I say that where the Spirit is there is power. But who may have it. --- For the promise is unto you and your children. --- And Peter said, to those that are afar off. That is the Gentiles. What shall we do? Peter said, repent and be baptized and you shall receive the Holy Ghost. The promise is unto you and your children.

Luke 24:49 ---I send the promise of my Father upon you. --- The promise of the Holy Spirit. Now what is the filling of the Spirit for? For the service. We need new power today, new power tomorrow. We ask for the filling today. There is no power without it. No power
in our preaching. No power in Sunday School teaching. No power in words. No power in personal magnetism. No power in culture. Except the Spirit of God comes. Now how to get the Spirit. I want to tell you seven points. First of all, accept the Lord Jesus Christ. No use in your talking about service until you saved yourself. Are you saved? It is so simple, if you as a sinner feel that you are a sinner and want to be saved, you just come to the Lord and accept him as your Savior. The next thing, give up your sins. You can't live in any known sin and have the filling of the Spirit. If you cherish any secret sin you will never experience the power of God. If I have iniquity in my heart the Lord will not hear me. He knows what is down in your heart. Your very affections and ambitions. If you want the Lord to cleanse you, cast out these evil things. Sometimes a Christian does things wrong outwardly. But as you grow in your faith the fight goes down deeper and deeper. Let Jesus into the very inner-most chambers of your heart. Into your impulses, your affections, everything. Worldliness may be your sin. It may be pride, conceit, or lust. One little piece of steel can ruin a compass. One time a ship went out on the rocks. They found the trouble was in the compass. They found just a little knife blade had caused the compass to off the right line. It don't take much sin to get you wrong. A great many people don't know how it is that they lost their faith. And when they bring it down to the point they find it is some little sin they have committed. Give up every known sin. You may give up all the sins you know and still do what is wrong, what God knows is wrong.
One mark of a Christian is that as we grow in faith we know more and more what sin is. How can we who have just been converted know what sin is? When God looks into us how miserable we are. As we are able to bear it God enlightens us. Step by step in the patience of God, we come to learn more and more his idea. — I say we give up every sin after we accept Christ. The third thing is to confess Christ. Never expect peace until you have confessed Christ. The fourth thing is obedience. Obey Christ. — So is also the Holy Ghost given to those that obey Jesus—Obedient rather than sacrifice. Sacrifice is a comfortable sort of thing. It is easier to sacrifice a little time than all the time. It is easier to give a little money than give all the money. Obedience is the test of discipleship. Whether you have very much light on the subject or not, if the Spirit of God talks to you, you can see the reason things are wrong. God never can use a disobedient person. You can always tell an obedient person by his happiness. One time there was a preacher who had two little boys. When he would go off to preach he would tell them what to do at home. He traveled in one of these things evangelists often have to use. Those boys could always know when he was coming. I suppose they could hear him half a mile off. And they would go running off to meet him. And he said, "When I saw them coming, I knew they had been obedient." But if he came within sight of home and saw no boys running to meet him, he knew they had been disobedient. An obedient child of God is always joyful and happy. Filled with
enthusiasm. But when you are not a Christian, you are always going about drying to defend your case. You've got a grouch on you. The fifth thing, we must want the Spirit. I pray for him every day. I feel the need of him more and more. I tell you I have to watch my motives. These hearts are so deceitful. If I am praying just to have a reputation as an evangelist, then the Lord deliver me from such a miserable thing. Oh these miserable hearts of ours, we have to turn them over to Jesus. We must want the Spirit for the glory of Jesus Christ. The sixth thing is, we must ask for him. The last thing is that we must have faith to expect him. Mark 11:24 -- What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. When praying for the Spirit of God, believe that God hears that prayer. When praying for salvation, it is our business to expect him to do just what he says he will do. Mr. Trumble said he was willing to give up the worldly pleasures. "If Jesus will express his wishes to me, I will conform myself to his wishes." What more can you ask of a man. Than he should tell you he is willing to absolutely surrender to Christ. Then how has a man the right to expect salvation? Claim it by your faith. When you pray for blessings, claim it, believe it. How about you? Do you believe it? When I was missionary to the Indians. We had a little government school. We needed a missionary teacher. Now how to get the money was the problem. Then I thought of an old woman who had the letters, T.P. written all over her Bible. Try Prove, was what they meant. I knew of a young lady who would make a splendid teacher.
If I asked for Miss R. would he send her? "Ask and ye shall receive" that is where I put my T.P. I wrote to Miss R. and said, "I have five dollars and a lot of faith, I want you to come and teach this school." Well she came, it cost her $22.50 to come down there. She had more faith than I had. I made up my mind when I had to beg for that school I would quit it. It was not long before I could pay Miss R. her salary. And when I had a surplus, I gave it to her. I felt it was coming to her. For four years the money came in a most marvelous way. One year the money for the support of the school did not come. They wrote me that they were sending it to other missions. Well I said, "Right here it ends." Our work was done. That was the beginning of my putting God to the test. "Ask and ye shall receive." Claim the blessing. God wants us to win souls. Work for souls. When God says to pray, pray. Only believe it. Trust him for it. Get the actual blessing.