

The Romance of the Doctor's Visits

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A TROUBLED POOL FOUND PEACE

The village of T-- is a quiet little spot on the Missouri River, surrounded on three sides by hills. In this district there resided many country folk who had heard and learned to love the Gospel.

One day, I received a call from these friends to spend the following Sunday with them. Having an open date, I was glad to go and thus take advantage of the opportunity to minister to those who did not possess very much in the way of earthly goods.

Arriving at the depot, I was met by the station agent who at once extended a very cordial invitation to have lunch at their modest little home about two and one-half miles up in the hills on a winding dirt road. I gladly accepted the invitation so that I might have a visit with these friends who were actively seeking to spread the Gospel in their narrow sphere.

On the way out to the home, my hostess explained that the real reason for requesting this visit was that I might help a carpenter, who happened at that time to be working on their house, making a few repairs. She had been giving the Gospel story to this neighbor and he seemed to be quite interested, but could not find his way to the Saviour. The path was not clear and the gospel was not fully understood.

We reached the little cottage just before noon, and found a nice warm fire burning in the sitting room stove. I was urged to make myself at home, while my friend went to the kitchen to see how the mother was progressing with lunch. Meantime, I stood near the stove to gain more advantage of its warmth and was praying that the Lord might give some message that would help the carpenter.

When my hostess returned to the room, the carpenter followed her. She introduced him by saying: "Doctor, this is Mr. Pool, the carpenter, who is making repairs on our home. Mr. Pool, this is Dr. Wilson.

We shook hands cordially, and I said to him: "I am so happy to meet you, Mr. Pool, for I read in the Bible about a 'pool' that was troubled by the Lord."

"My!" he exclaimed, "that is strange, for I'm that fellow, but I didn't know it was in the Bible; tell me about it."

Sitting down with him beside the stove, I said: "Mr. Pool, has the Lord been troubling you about your sins and your soul?"

"Yes," he replied, "very much. For the last several months I have been troubled about the matter, and would like to know how to get peace with GOD."

I soon had my Bible open to the fifth chapter of John, where we read the story of the impotent man lying helpless beside the pool. At certain times an angel of the Lord came down and troubled the waters of the pool. The helpless cripple said: "**Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool. . . . Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk.**" Immediately the man was healed, and found the peace and blessing which his heart had been wanting for thirty-eight years.

"You see, Mr. Pool," I said, "all that was necessary there was a meeting between the suffering sinner and the sufficient Saviour. You need Him, too, Mr. Pool. He came to put away your sins. **'The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost'** (Luke 19:10). You are the lost man and the Saviour came for you. **'He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life'** (John 3:36). And again, Mr. Pool, look at this verse, John 1:12 -- **'But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.'** If you will take Him right now to be the Lord of your life and the Saviour of your soul, you will be His, Mr. Pool, and He will be yours. If you consider yourself to be an ungodly man, then hear this Scripture: **'Christ died for the ungodly'** (Romans 5:6)."

Mr. Pool arose slowly from the chair, walked over to the window, looked out upon a large pasture, and there with folded arms, he was in meditation for some moments. After a while, he turned about and said to me: "Doctor, I believe that CHRIST JESUS came to save sinners and to save me. I accept Him as my own Lord and Saviour. I believe He blotted out my sins when He died for me, and that I am saved today because I have accepted Him."

We knelt together beside the chair and there with thankful hearts praised the GOD of all grace for His gift of such a wonderful Saviour. We praised the Saviour Himself, who had given His life to bring peace to this troubled POOL. We worshipped together the One who had made us both children of GOD by His sovereign grace and saving power.

When my hostess returned to the room, she saw at once the joy and peace that illuminated the face of her carpenter friend, and joined with us in a season of rejoicing. You, too, my friend, may find this same Saviour if you will accept Him and trust Him.

He will blot out your sins and make you His own forever.
