

DR. WILSON'S STORIES OF SOUL-WINNING

by

Dr. Walter L. Wilson

Copyright © 1959

CHAPTER FOUR

“YOU DON’T CARE FOR MY SOUL!

The lady who was sitting in the back seat of the church attracted unusual attention because of her appearance. The collar of her dress reached almost to her ears. The skirt of her dress reached almost to the floor. She wore no jewelry, and no makeup. The hair was not curled, and one could see that she was seeking to be as plain as possible in her dress and appearance. She was a member of a religious group which believed in plainness of apparel, with no trimmings such as the world enjoyed.

This friend attended noonday services in the heart of the city, for she worked in an office which was close to the place of meeting. Each Wednesday noon, and Friday noon, she would be seen sitting attentively in the back seat, and listening intently. Just as the last word would be said in prayer, she was up and out of the door quickly, without speaking to anyone. It seemed as though she wanted to avoid any personal conversation. No one in the church seemed to know who she was, or whether she was a Christian.

I had noticed that she left quickly after the service ended, and gave no one an opportunity to converse with her, and yet she came quite regularly to the meeting. I determined to contact this friend and find out something about her, and whether she really was saved by grace, or was an observer, or a seeker. Therefore, at the close of one of the services, I slipped away quickly to the door while the last hymn was being sung and waited for her to come. As she passed me, I greeted her with a handshake. She was not very enthusiastic in her reply, and just barely shook my hand as she hurried out. I obtained no information that day. When she came to the next meeting, I repeated the performance, greeted her at the door, and asked whether the Lord Jesus had saved her. She answered quite abruptly, “No, sir!” Then hurried away.

At our next meeting, I again accosted her, and said, “I would like very much to talk with you about the Saviour if I may.”

She replied, “You care nothing about my soul, and neither does anyone else.” At once she was gone. I could see very plainly that she was in some distress of mind and heart, and so decided that at our next meeting I would try to persuade her to remain and let me have a visit with her about the gospel.

When she returned at the next service, I had that opportunity.

As we met at the door, I said to her, “Would you have the time, and the desire, to sit with me a few minutes while I tell you about the Saviour?”

She answered me, “I belong to the Church where we are taught the Bible, and taught to live like Christians. I notice that most of the people I know who claim to be Christians do not live like it, nor act like it, nor dress like it.”

I saw at once that she was judging the gospel by people’s lives, which of course was not profitable, nor helpful to her. I answered this statement of hers by saying, “Really, I did not wish to talk with you about the customs and habits and ways of others, but only to tell you about the lovely Person and the wonderful work of the Lord Jesus Christ. I would like to help you to turn your mind away from the failures of men to the perfect and wonderful Person of the Lord Jesus.”

I could see that she was a bit restless, and so asked her if she were overstaying her time away from the office, and she replied that she should have been back to her work at once, and now she was late. I suggested to her that she arrange with the office to let her come in late on the next day of the meeting, so that we could have a longer visit together. To this she agreed.

At the next meeting I observed that she came in a little earlier than before. She passed by the rear seat and came well forward near the front of the building. This encouraged me, for I could see that she really was getting serious and wanted help. At the close of the preaching she made no effort to leave, so I sat down beside her with my Bible, and said, “Can you remember when you had a meeting with the Saviour, confessed that you were a lost sinner, and then trusted your soul to the Lord Jesus Christ?”

She looked at me in blank amazement and said she had never had such an experience, and really did not understand the meaning of it. I then asked her if she were a lost woman, to which she replied again, “I am in the dark, and I do not understand what you mean, and maybe I am lost, but I do not know.”

I saw that it was time now to begin explaining her condition before God, and the provision made in Christ Jesus for her salvation. I read to her a part of Romans 3, which describes what we are in the sight of God. The story ends by the statement, “**and the way of peace have they not known.**”

She quickly accepted that statement as being true in her own life. She described in some detail her religious life, her effort to be good and her activities in the church. She also added that none of this had given her peace in her heart. She was now getting disturbed in her mind evidently about getting back to the office. I observed this, and so brought our conversation to a close by saying, “I know you must get back to work now, Miss H, so do come back again, and permit me to explain to you more fully all that the Lord Jesus would like to do for you.”

She replied that she would be back at the next service.

Her receptive spirit led me to very earnest prayer for her, and I definitely looked to the Holy Spirit to give wisdom in talking to her about the Saviour. At the close of the service again she remained seated, and I sat beside her with my Bible. I read to her Romans 4:5, **“To him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.”**

She was astonished at this truth. It had never been brought to her attention before that righteousness is a gift from God by and through the Lord Jesus. She expressed her surprise, as I explained the verse to her. We then turned to Ephesians 2:8-9. This added to the confusion of her thinking, for she had been indoctrinated with the doctrine that salvation comes by good works and good behavior. We read the passage together, **“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.”**

These passages so upset her thinking that she expressed a desire to know what does save the soul, for she saw clearly that what she had in the way of religion was not satisfactory to God. Now she had to hurry away again to her work.

When she returned to the next meeting, I read to her I John 5:12, **“He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.”** To this I added 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,”** and explained to her the need of receiving Christ for her own salvation.

As I explained that truth to her, I read slowly and distinctly John 3:16, **“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”**

In explaining it to her, I called her attention to the fact that God gave the Lord Jesus to her, but she must take Him and that when and if she did take Him she would have eternal life. The Holy Spirit revealed this precious truth to her heart, and she exclaimed, “I see that it is Christ Jesus who saves the soul, and I am taking Him just now to save my soul.”

She left the meeting, radiant in her faith and with the peace of God filling her heart. She became an ardent Bible student, filled with questions about the meaning of the Scriptures as she read them. She became at once an earnest Christian worker, carrying the message back to the church where she was a member, and seeking to win them for Christ. She became a servant of God in her own neighborhood, and invited her friends into her home for Bible study. Thus she proved her faith by her works.

~ end of chapter 4 ~

<http://www.baptistbiblebelievers.com/>
