

The Believer's Part in Becoming Spiritual

The Yielded Life. What?

Self will relinquish nothing except under compulsion. So it is necessary to understand the full measurement of a yielded life. Many of us think that God wants *things* from us. God is a Person: what He desires most is fellowship with a person, so He wants us. He asks first that we yield ourselves.

"And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God" (II Cor. 8:5).

But God specifies the measurement a bit more explicitly lest we stop short with merely "giving our heart to the Lord" or "the saving of our soul." It is the easiest thing in the world to use the phraseology of consecration while missing the reality of it. God asks for the body as well as spirit and soul.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Rom. 12:1).

But God goes still further, for He leaves no loophole in this matter of yielding. He knows full well how the beauty of a life may be marred and its testimony nullified by the unyieldedness of even one member of the body. What a source of evil is an unyielded tongue!