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The revival in Songdo

BY W. G. CRAM.

The revival which was planned by the missionary body of Korea and which was so effectually carried out has no doubt spread further and gone deeper than we at first realized. The church in Korea has received permanent good from this revival indited by the Holy Ghost.

We have already seen in our churches in Songdo not only the change which has been wrought in the personal experiences of the native Christians but we have also seen with gratification the re-doubled energy and zeal with which they preach the gospel to their fellows.

Since the revival of Bible study, personal work, secret prayer, the leading of public meetings and such like means of grace have found pronounced expression in the lives of those who truly repented and found by faith the eternal life which is in the "Word."

The revival in the North Ward Church of Songdo of which I am pastor was planned especially for those professing to be Christians. They were exhorted to come apart a while from the world and get prepared themselves for the kingdom and its work. Heart searchings and prayers of strong faith were in evidence and before the services had gone far into the week many who were professing Christians came to realize that they had never known what it was to be saved from their sins and to have the witness of the Spirit within themselves. The conviction of the Holy Spirit was strong, revealing sin in the hearts of the people and at the same time revealing clearly Christ, sin's remedy. Many of the Christians were also convicted of in dwelling sin.

Under the leadership of the Holy Ghost the repentance and confession of sin were genuine. It was indeed inspiring to see the joy and gladness which came into their hearts when they definitely believed that Christ rolled away their sins. The convictions were as deep and the conversions were as clear as any I have ever seen in the home land. Truly the Lord is no respecter of persons.

One man who has been a believer for ten years said, "As for believing Christ I have believed Him to be the Son of God for ten years, but today is the first time I have known for myself that God's Spirit and my spirit could have fellowship with one another."

Money which had been ill gotten exchanged hands in the midst of the congregation; the brother who had hated his fellow asked for forgiveness; the one who was a professing Christian for pecuniary motives declared his folly and expressed his desire to serve Christ sincerely; the man whose rank and position in society had given him licence to snub his less fortunate brother of lower class, under the conviction of the Spirit, said, "I realize now that all

men are my brethren and I from now on will speak to them as friends and brothers and not as slaves.”

There was much of the spirit of wrestling in prayer until the Lord gave the blessing. The professions of conversion or the Baptism with the Holy Ghost were not superficial but were made only after they knew they had received the evidence from God.

Truly a great revival is on us. God’s Spirit is making Christian character in this Korean church, character that will stand the test of the coming years. Thank God for the revival of fire. May it spread from church to church, and from station to station until Korea’s church is Christian at heart as in name.