

Dec. 1, 1935

Evang. Booth Clibborn

I hope to speak to you tonight about two birds. I love birds. When we were children we had birds at home. One day Dad went out and got a big Fish Aquarium. We each had our fish but we fed them too much and they turned the wrong side up. That was the end of that experience.

Dad said, "Children, I want you to have a pet." We had cats and we named them, the kittens, after every one of the children. We loved pets. I don't suppose there is a child or an Elder person who cannot remember some animal who entered into your life when the little physical things of life spoke so much to your heart. Maybe it was a pet dog. I had a pet rabbit and when it died I thought the end of the world had come. Just like you girls who had a doll and your heart was broken because the doll was broken.

There were ten of us and we were a lively crew. Dad said, "Children, I am going to do you a great favor. I am going to buy you all little birds. Now what bird would you choose?" I wanted a bird more interesting than a canary, so I chose a Parrot. one that makes lots of noise and you can teach him tricks. My brother August got his bird and Herbert got an Australian Finch. Dad got an apartment Cage and it was a sorry mess they were in. They were fighting and picking each other and some got sick and died, and I am sure the cat got a few. But one of us, Eileen, did not choose her bird quickly. She was very spiritual. She is a wonderful Pianist and has such a gift that it is really unique. I took her to a home where she sat down at a \$5000 Steinway piano. I had told them about her playing and she could play the Classics with her eyes shut. Such a command of her fingers. She was a real creative Genius. She is quite a Composer in her own right. She was then studying the piano and she was always practicing. She would dip her fingers in alum to harden them. She knew all the Beethoven Sonatas by heart, but it broke down her health and it brought her to God. In those days she was very spiritual. She said, "I don't know that I want a bird like the others. I will pray about it." We thought, who wants to pray about a present. She wanted to pray about everything.

One morning, at the breakfast table, Dad said to her, "My darling did you choose your bird?" She said, "No, I am praying about it." The days passed and again he asked her the same question. She said, "Yes, I think it would please my Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, to ask to have a dove." To ask for a dove! Who would want a dove for a pet? They are so quiet and make love all day long....who is interested in that? If she would ask for a bird she should ask for one to sing or make a noise. Father said, "I am very happy you for a dove. I am going to buy you a little cage because you chose a dove all of your own. Then we thought surely she had made the right choice and we all felt sorry that we had not chosen a dove.... "Mamie and Pappie" ...wouldn't that be wonderful. They would lay eggs and hatch their little ones.

Every morning as we went five miles to the Roman Catholic School the doves would make their salute to us children as we went, still rubbing the sleep out of our eyes. I did not realize the dove was such a marvelous bird until years ago when I went to Australia, which was first called by the Spaniards the LAND OF THE HOLY GHOST. The path of the Wings is actually charming to behold. We took a trip to Queensland, a thousand miles north of Brisbane. We arrived in Townsville, Bellow through the most marvelous woods and forests preserved by the Australian Government. The ferns are large and some of the trees are the tallest in the world. One of the things wrongly taught here in our Country is that the trees here are the largest. No! They are in Australia. One is 568 feet highthe giant Eucalyptus. Some of the most glorious scenes are seen in that Country.

The dove interested us most. There is one called "the broken-hearted dove"...the prettiest thing I ever laid my eyes on. Blue and green spots are arranged in a pattern to charm the eye and captivate the heart. It has a cream breast and in the midst is the shape of a heart and falling from it are three or four drops of blood and it is called the "broken hearted dove." I did everything I could to catch it. They would coo a little and pick up the bread crumbs and one day I caught one. It was a perfect bird and I spread out its wings and looked at it. It is called the bird "of the broken heart" and always has been and will be typical of the Spirit of God. Wherever the Holy Spirit comes, the dove comes and with it comes the love God shed abroad in the heart, and with dove comes peace; for even the world has sufficient appreciation to choose the symbol of peace, the dove. That shows you, this bird and not the crow, is the one who never quarrels,

I stayed and preached and precious souls were born and in that Country nothing interested me like the dove. Early in the morning I would go out and see birds, some as large as turkeys, some red and pink and blue and green and yellow, and some when flying looked like a streak of an airplane. The Dove is typical of the Holy Spirit and those two doves worked into the hearts of us children. Every night they cooed. They would say "Goodnight". I can hear them yet. Certain things happen in your childhood, certain little things and afterwards they have left an imprint in your heart and mind.

Those doves were so lovely. How different other birds were from these. My bird flew away. I climbed into the highest tree calling it by every good name I could think of. But it shouted its defiance at me and I never got it back. All the other birds were dead long ago. In the nest were five eggs and we were so anxious to see the Mother Dove hatch them out and see the little doves come out. The Dadday dove took sick and would not eat. We tried to nurse him and forced feeding him but nothing helped. One morning the dove was dead. We dug a little grave and my brother August made the coffin and Herbert painted it and I preached the sermon and we put the dove away to please our sister. We thought the doves would hatch out but that mother bird never went on the nest after that. She did not eat or touch water and in a week she grieved and passed away in loving hands.

Father said, "I will preach the funeral this time." We all trotted out into the garden and father preached his wonderful sermon. I never forgot it. He said, "Now, you notice the doves never quarreled, but you children often do. You hit each other and break each other's toys. The doves never did that." We all wept. Dad said, "Someday maybe the Holy Ghost will come into our home and baptize you children and you will then be saved and you will know how the Holy Spirit can come into your heart. I remember how Dad put his hand on sister and said, 'Don't cry, but someday the Great Dove of Peace will come into the Booth Cliborn home and baptize all my children.'"

Isn't it wonderful to have a father and mother who know how to pray! We sat there petrified. Father committed the dove to the grave and said a prayer for us. "The dove won't go to Heaven but you children will someday if you give your heart to God." That was one of the most impressive funerals I ever attended. When that dove was put under the ground and I decided that someday the Holy Ghost would come. Soon after that, in 1908, the Pentecostal Latter Rain fell in our home. I was the first one to be baptized, praising God and talking in tongues, and soon the other children received the baptism. I thought about our experience with the dove.

You remember how, when Noah's Ark landed on Mt. Ararat 684 feet above Sea level, the surging waters swelled and swelled everything to death until there was not a living thing left on earth. Every man, woman, child, and beast had been drowned. Noah saw the Caucasian Range at a distance and knew the water had finally abated. God says He broke up the waters of the deep. Until Mt. Ararat was rested upon by the Ark, Noah did not know the waters were abated and in his anxiety to know how far they had gone down he opened the Ark and took a bird (it was a horrid bird) in the Universe known as a SCAVENGER, an enemy of the smaller birds and a sister of the crow. It is black with not a spot to relieve that dark color that speaks of the powers of darkness.

It reminds us of the great Garden of Eden. What was the first Spirit that came out to test Humanity? Wasn't it an evil spirit? If God is all powerful and sufficient in His own Creation He certainly had power to keep Satan from tempting Adam and Eve. But Satan was allowed of God to tempt them. Certainly God foreknew this. They were free moral agents. God permitted, in that beautiful Garden of His own making, that the first spirit to come should be the Spirit of Darkness as fore-shadowed by the Raven. It has black eyes and is larger than a pigeon, very forcible and powerful and is a detestable bird, always connected in the ancient world with evil omens and bad luck. Edgar Allen Poe knew that the Raven is always a type of something evil.

There are people who consider that some danger is to come on them because of the Raven, just like some folks who see a black cat run before their Auto, so they turn back and go home. In all the understanding of the Literary world the Raven is a type of ill-omen or disease and distress. This is not only true of the Arabs or the Turks or even into Mexico or as far north as the Eskimoes. Everywhere it is the same, the Raven is an ill-omen because the first bird coming out of the Ark was a Raven. It belongs to the crow family. Gen. 8:6,7 "And it came to pass at the end of 40 days that Noah opened the window of the Ark which he had made and he sent forth a Raven which went to and fro until the waters were dried up from off the earth."

Why is the Raven typical of the powers of darkness? Because it is the first spirit God permitted to come abroad to test Humanities allegiance. But it is not the only bird Noah let out of the Ark for after that he let out the Dove. These are the first two birds mentioned in the Bible. Does it not strike you strange that Noah let the Raven out first? Look at the Eagle with its keen eyes and swift of flight. Noah had the choice of many other birds, or he could have chosen the Australian love-bird or the Cockatoo or other birds with plenty of color, or the canary; or in this country the Oriole or Red Taniger, or as in Europe the Night-in-gale. I can tell you that he chose the Raven because no other bird is typical of the powers of darkness. He was directed of the Holy Spirit to do so. He could choose no other bird.

One day I went out hunting with a Preacher friend and I said to him, "You drive the car; you cannot shoot as well as I can." He drove his own car and scared all the ducks up to where I was. I shot but I never got a duck; I think I counted one in the lake. I should have let my friend handle the gun. We were wet and walking through the slimy slough and suddenly we saw a great flock of crows. I shot at them and picked one up and looked at it. I said, "That crow is black all over." You don't know how black it is until you see it up close -- the most intense black you ever saw, just as the world was black and void before the light shined on it. Where there is no light there is darkness. Everybody under the powers of darkness loves the night. Paul tells you that those that sin, sin in the night. "But ye Brethren, are not in darkness that that day should overtake you as a thief." I Thess. 5:4

Unbelievers are all in the night and darkness. When God called Paul he said that God had called him to preach to men Col.1:13, "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness and hath translated us into the Kingdom of His dear Son. The kingdom of Satan is the kingdom of darkness. Wherever Satan rules there is absolute darkness.

If you are not converted today there is not a vestige or scintilla of light in your life.

You are being ruled by the powers symbolized by the Raven that flew from the Ark of Noah. Two birds went out from the Ark -- two spirits coming from God. Lucifer came originally from God, but he never returned to God. The Raven never came back, but the Dove came back.

All those who allow the Holy Spirit to rule their lives will come to God, but not those with the other spirit. The Dove could find no place to rest her foot so she came back. What about the Raven? They settled down on dead animals as they love stinking meat, to feed on them. The spirit of Satan is a dirty spirit. That is why unsaved people love a magazine of divorce cases. They feed on it and try to picture the people in that condition who had a broken home and their children scattered abroad. The picture shows you all that is vile and restless in the world; shows you outlavery, burning, shooting, killing by wild men who care not for God and who live for their sins. The dance hall, the Casino where the crowds go down to the Broadway of destruction.....everything that is dark and filthy, everything putrid and vile, and what it cannot show you because of strict laws, it will hint at or will draw pictures in positions always suggestive of evil. You go to picture shows because you are ruled by the Raven. You like the risque -- every sinner does by nature.

But when the spotless Spirit comes in He cleanses your heart from all suggestive things. The Raven lives in the dirt and that is where he rules and he is everything dirty. That is sinners are dirty in their habits. The sinner is all in darkness. In the Bible, Paul says "Ye were once in darkness" -- part and parcel with that darkness that reigns on the earth. You say it is stupid to ask a sinner to confess his sin. You mean to say that a sinner has no faith? He never has. Whatsoever is not of faith is sin. Everything he does then is sin. He is not prompted by faith in Christ. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom." The sinner knows nothing. God condemns them for what they are. They are ruled by the spirit of Error, the spirit of darkness possesses them.

Wherever the Dove goes, the old crow has to leave, every time. Either you are under the Spirit of the Dove tonight or you are controlled by the Raven. You cannot serve God and mammon. There is no middle road for you. "Come out from among them and be ye separate! If you come out from the spirit of darkness as God invites you out, "The Lord shall arise upon thee and His Glory shall shine upon thee." There is no light except the Holy Spirit brings it to you. He is God's Illuminator, God's means to make shine in your heart the Light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. John 1:5 "And the Light shineth in darkness and the darkness comprehended it not." John 9:5 "I am the Light of the world. " The Light of the world is Jesus and there is no Light outside of Him.

You say the world calls many people lights. The world calls Moving Picture ladies STARS but they are not stars. How can that be? That shows how the world lies. Shine in the night? How can a person, divorced a dozen times, shine? They have no taste for God and bring no one to God. Those poor deluded things; they are altogether darkness, they never knew God or Light. You look at them and idolize them, but that shows you the darkness you are in. Listen to the Word of God, Heb 12:1 "Seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of Witnesses--" The stars shining in the night are Saints of God. In some places there is no Church. The Moon is a symbol of the church. The light the world gets is the light of the sun's rays that reflect the moon. Some churches have no light. God has never left Himself without a witness. You see, the picture show world is entirely wrong.

Christ is the Light of the world because it says in Isa.9:2 "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light." He says again, "To give light to them that dwell in the land of the shadow of death." God, who commands the Light to shine out of darkness, therefore present to you two Kingdoms, the Kingdom of the Raven and the Kingdom of the Dove. Not only is the Raven darkness but it is a dirty, filthy bird feeding on rotten meat. The Arabs tell us they often have to stop because of the wind. When the wind strikes the Sahara desert it picks up the dust and blows it 8 miles high and they have to sit down. It blows sometimes for three days. When they rise up many are found dead and around the Camp is one solid mass of crows. Who told those crows there were dead men there? That is the instinct of the crow. He can smell the meat. They wait for the men to leave and when they leave, the crows pick the bodies absolutely clean so nothing is left but the bones to bleach in the sun.

Satan is your enemy. He damns thousands of souls and is after Humanity but I am going to fight him by the sword of God. Come out from the kingdom of the Raven. Not only is it true that he hates men, but look, he can't fly straight. There is one lie in the English language -- "As straight as the crow flies." That is a piece of foolishness. But the Dove does and especially the Carrier Pigeon, the most trusted bird in the world and most useful to man. It always has the homing instinct which the crow has not.

What is the matter with us Christians, what ails us when we keep on saying, "Oh I want to see Him; I shall see Him bye and bye," Something is in our hearts like the Dove that has the homing instinct. When you get the Dove of the Holy Ghost in your heart you will be singing about everything, too. You will never be able to sing the Jazz of the world. You will take that music off of your piano and burn it up and you will put on your piano, "JESUS IS MINE" or something that suggests the Glories of Heaven. The Dove will give you the "Homing Instinct." I know that some Christians do back-slide, but God is stronger than anything in us. Almost the first word of Interpretation people give when filled with the Holy Ghost is "JESUS IS COMING SOON." All they can talk about is, "I AM GOING TO SEE JESUS." The world has no hope of His coming. It is a purifying hope.

But the crow came from the tree-tops. The most horrid, the most changing, the most discordant note is that jargon CAW, CAW, CAW. That is all the crow knows and when you hear sinners laugh and go around their bar-room floors in their supposed happiness, it is so shallow, just like the CAW of the crow. The laughter of fools is like the crackle of thorns underneath the pot. There is no sense to it. The crow is a slovenly bird. A sinner cannot walk straight, he never could walk straight. I do not mean that physically for I am talking about a manner of life. You see lots of women who stop at every shop window and do not know what they want. Go and buy something if you need it, but don't wander around. The world is full of that spirit, WHAT SHALL WE DO TONIGHT, WHERE SHALL WE GO? The crow is irresponsible. We have the bird out of the cage.

It is a good thing to have a bird that will fly straight, that will not stop on every tree watching a farmer plant his corn. All farmers hate the crow. Today, all over the world, a horrible thing is put out in the field and it is called a SCARE-CROW, to scare away the crows from picking up the seed. Jesus used the same figure as He said the crows come down from the Heavens and they are the worst ones. The crow, as a symbol, implies the power of Satan. MARK 4:4 "And it came to pass, as He sowed, some seed fell by the way-side; and the fowls of the air came and devoured it up." MARK 4:15 "These are they by the way-side where the Word is sown, but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately and taketh away the Word that was sown in their hearts."

Every bird in the woods will club together against the crow. All the birds may quarrel with one another, but they form a League of Nations against the crow. He wakk never build his own nest, he is too lazy, but will nest in another's nest after he sucks their eggs. He will pick the young fledglings to pieces. The poor mother sees all this happening and all the other birds go after the crow. They hate it. Did you ever see an old crow come out of the tree and the other birds chasing him out? He has been up to some devilment. He is a cruel bird, a nasty bird. You wouldn't believe how cruel he can be.

When Trappers trapp a muskrat a raven picks out the eyes of the little animal. Only a crow can do a devilish thing like that. That is the world every time. They will take away the hope of Heaven and the Vision of Angels and the sound of your mother's cry on her deathbed. The crow goes always for the eyes. Hunters know that very well. The first thing a crow will do is to put out the eyes. The Bible says, a man that curses his mother's name and blasphemes his father ----- the eagle shall pick out his eyes. Prov. 30:17

In Australia they say the worst enemy is the crow or blow-fly. They gather around any part of the sheep. SHEEP is a type of one who is born again. Sometimes, a shepherd told me, we get our great herds of sheep headed for the city. After three years, when they are no more good they sell ~~them~~ them and take them to the great center in Sydney and they have to watch the crows. The crows watch for a sick sheep, or one a bit crippled and lagging behind. The crows will settle on its back and pick at it. The sheep will begin to run and all the time the crow will eat untill it eats into the very marrow of the back bone. Then the sheep falls and the crow will hop off and pick out its eyes and call the rest of the crows to come to the feast. That is the way Satan is, if you backslide. He takes the desire and all hope of Heaven out of you. How I hate Satan and the powers of darkness. May God us vigilance over him every time.

To God the crow never returned and Noah sent out the Dove. He watched it until it became just a little speck but nowhere was a place or a desirable home where it could nest. That is what happened to the Holy Ghost in the Old Testament, but in the New Dispensation on the Day of Pentecost the Holy Ghost descended on the little Company. He anoints our head with olive oil which speaks of the wealth and riches of God. Someday when the trumpet shall sound, all over the world, the saints shall ascend and up we will go to meet the Lord in the air and that Dove will take back that Olive Leaf Company. Tonight, decide that you will be God's and after you are then He will take you, for He is able to make that Light shine in your heart. Raven rule or Dove dominion. The Dove is a white bird and wherever he is there is righteousness and peace. He flies straight in the power of God.

Did you know that the dove is the quickest bird in flight in the world. 160 miles an hour is done by the Carrier pigeon. Today the Airplane Companies are studying them in order to get the best pattern for their stream-line Planes. The pigeon will beat the biggest Express train. There is one explanation for this. The Dove is just the right size to offer the air the least resistance.

When you are under the control of the Holy Ghost you are prepared. You are always ready to pray right now and to testify for the Lord. Wake up! The Holy Ghost is quick. Jesus said, "I come quickly." Glory to God. The quickest thing on the earth is God. God has said, "Before you call I will answer." Amen. Some of us are dead slow. We are living with the number of last year and do not know it is 1936. Get fast! Praise God, I like those who go quickly. If you believed God you would get saved quick and baptized quick. God speaks quick. He will bless you, fill you, enliven you.

One day we were going to cook some doves and my wife said, "William, I cannot find the gaul of these birds." I said, the Dove is the only bird that flies that has no gaul. There is no bitterness in the Holy Ghost. When you do the will of God, you have peace, happiness, comfort and everything. Get filled with the Holy Spirit. Get right with God. The Dove is just flying about on this audience just waiting for you to say "Come in Holy Spirit. Bless God.

Evang. Wm. Booth Clibborn
at Bethel Temple
Seattle, Washington. 1935



Photo source: Rev. William E. Booth-Clibborn
http://www.apostolicarchives.com/William_E_Booth_Clibborn.html

