

HULL CIRCUIT.

Extract of Joseph Smith's Journal, 1821.

SUNDAY July 1. Was at a Camp-meeting at Acklam. it was a good day to my soul.

Tuesday 3. Preached at Wharram to a crowded congregation. it was the first time of my being here, and we have no society. But it was such a time as I had not before experienced and the Lord gave me nine souls. The next day I held a meeting after dinner and the Lord poured out his Spirit so mightily upon us that every heart was full, and the Lord gave me four souls more. Praise the Lord for ever.

Wednesday 4. Preached at Duggleby. The Lord was powerfully present, and souls were crying out for mercy. We then held a prayer-meeting, and the power of God was present in a wonderful manner: some were crying out for mercy; some were rejoicing; five souls got clearly into liberty, and joined the society. Praise the Lord for all his mercies.

Monday 13. Came to Martin, where a camp-meeting was to be held for the whole branch. I looked at the situation of the ground, got the waggon to the place, and gave instructions to the prayer-leaders, as some of them had never seen a camp-meeting.

Sunday 15. The morning was very rainy, but after some time the weather cleared up, yet we had occasional showers. The meeting commenced a little before ten. We had preaching and exhortation; the praying companies then branched out and took their stations and the prayer-meetings were well supported. In the afternoon, in the prayer-meetings, souls were in distress; and a little past five, we broke up. At six, Sister Ansdale preached in the street and at the same time I held a love-feast. When twenty-two had spoken I gave out a hymn which was sung with great spirit. And whilst singing, a woman dropped down in distress for her soul; and before she, got into liberty, there were two or three more, so that the work went on, without intermission, till half-past ten o'clock. I never before saw such a display of the power of God; for the glory of God filled the chapel in a wonderful manner. There were seven crying out for mercy in different parts of the chapel at once; and seventeen found the pardoning love of God before I left the pulpit to come down among them. Two others got into liberty afterwards, so that I was witness to nineteen who found the pardoning love of God. It was thought advisable to conclude the meeting. Some of the friends then held a prayer-meeting in a house, and two more found the pardoning love of God. Praise the Lord for all his mercies; he hath this day wrought a great work.

Sunday September 2. Lovefeast at Old Malton, I was obliged to leave it to go to preach at three in the market place. Five souls found the Lord at the lovefeast.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Transcription of Journal Extract published within a series of extracts from Hull Circuit 1822

Monday May 27. I preached at Reighton, and the power of God was amongst us. Here one thing struck me with astonishment beyond all I had ever seen. When I had nearly done speaking, one of our friends observing a young woman to appear unwell, took her to the door. In about three minutes she fell into such an agony that it took several to hold her; and she continued so till two o'clock the next morning, when she became more composed. The friends were urgent to know the cause of it, and asked if the heat of the place affected her. She said No, it was something else. After much pressing, she said it was the agitation of her mind. They asked if she wished to see me. She said Yes. About eleven o'clock, she began to rave as bad as before. I went to see her, and when I arrived she was quite still, and as if in a sleep, She then got up and cried "Lord have mercy on me." "Oh! if you knew what I feel!" she continued crying to the Lord to have mercy on her, for upwards of one hour. Raving occasionally; and sometimes on her knees, sometimes on her feet, and it took several to hold her. Such distress I never before beheld. I talked and prayed with her, and the Lord so blessed her soul that she said, "I am born for the kingdom of glory! Bless Jesus for what I feel!" My mind was greatly affected, and felt much of the power of God.

Friday, September 27. I spoke at Sewerby. Sunday, 29. I was desired to attend a meeting called to pray for a revival of the work of God. The friends from four or five small towns were desired to meet at a central place at one o'clock. We had about seven hundred of a company. I exhorted and several prayed, After this I preached. We then led out into prayer meetings, which were well supported, and the power of God was present. Rain then coming on many left us. We continued till about half-past four. I believe much good was done. Many sinners were pricked to the heart, and professors were quickened.

JOSEPH SMITH.

References

Primitive Methodist Magazine 1822/160; 1823/120