

JOURNAL OF
JOHN WALFORD, 1828.

(PREES CIRCUIT.)

April 4. (Good Friday.) Lovefeast at Shawbury. While we were at prayer the power of the Lord descended, five persons were brought to the ground, and many felt the gracious out-pouring of the Holy Ghost. In the evening at Butlers Bank. A large congregation; and after a powerful time in prayer, I spoke from Psalm xl. 6, and had a good time. We went to prayer and five sunk into vision; also five souls received entire sanctification. Glory to God.

Sunday April 6. At Ellerdine Heath in the morning, at Muckolton Bank in the afternoon, and Butler's Bank at night. It was a glorious day; many were converted; many were in visions, and at night two received entire sanctification.

10. Spoke at Child's Ercal. I had not full liberty in preaching. But when service was concluded, one was unable to rise. I found she was gone in vision, and she continued about three hours. When she came to, I went with her and the rest of the family home. We prayed and the Lord was pleased to manifest himself in a wonderful manner: three came down to the floor: two were in vision till between five and six o'clock in the morning. One of them had a clear manifestation of the work of God which is going forward in the circuit.

11. After breakfast we engaged in prayer, and the Lord made bare his arm amongst us. We continued in prayer, and praise until between one and two o'clock. Two were in vision, and one obtained the blessing of entire sanctification, and conviction laid hold of the rest. They wrestled to get liberty, but did not come fully through. Three of the family gave in their names to join the society. Evening spoke at Marchamley.

14. Preached at the Rhynn. On our way we called at a house to take tea, and while at prayer the man of the house was over-shadowed with the power of the Lord, and fell to the ground. When we arrived, and had begun the service; I soon found that the Lord was come. While we were at prayer, one man fell to the ground, and many felt the effusions of the Holy Ghost. The Lord blest his word to many, and there was much joy in the Holy Ghost. We afterwards led the class, and the Lord came in still greater powers one young man went into vision. We still waited, and the power of the Lord was as a mighty rushing wind: five were brought to the ground, four were in vision, which continued till nearly daylight. Two of them obtained entire sanctification.

15. Spoke at Pena Brynn, to a large congregation. The power of the Lord went through the meeting, and eight were brought to the ground. Some were struck motionless, five went into vision.

April 16. This day I came to the Clay; and on enquiring, was informed that the cause of the Lord was very low, at which I was much grieved in spirit. After the meeting had commenced, and while we were at prayer, the cloud burst, the power descended, and there was a great shaking. I spoke, and was blessed in speaking. We then sung and prayed, eight or nine were brought to the ground: some cried for mercy, two got liberty, one received entire sanctification, and also went into vision, and remained five or six hours, She appeared to have a most beautiful view of the invisible world. Being wearied I went to lie down. But was soon called up again. I came down and began to labour, and several fell to the floor. One said, "It was never like this before. It comes now to my heart!" The meeting continued till break of day.

17. Preached at Knolton Brynn. Many fell, and one professed to get liberty.

19. Came to Weston, and while at prayer with the family the power of the Lord descended, and Br. Higeinson's mother got her soul set at liberty. At night the circuit Committee met; and after we had done business, we prayed and one obtained the blessing of entire sanctification.

Sunday Apr.20. Spoke at Prees Green chapel, afternoon and evening. In the first meeting I had not gone far with my discourse before the work broke out in such a manner that I could not proceed. Five went into vision, and two obtained remission of sins, At night I was enabled to preach and had liberty, It was a powerful time, and six went into vision,

one of whom had a wonderful view of the work of the Lord in the circuit.

21. Came to Brother Abbots at Marchamley. And while praying with the family, one came to the ground, and obtained peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

29. Spoke at Pena Brynn to a large congregation. Had a powerful time in preaching. The shouts of praise were so great at intervals that my voice could not be heard. Two got liberty, and many were under conviction.

Thursday May 1 Spoke at Lightwood Green. Several shook and trembled under the word. Afterwards we agonized with the Lord; and, in answer to prayer he passed by; fourteen were brought to the ground, two got liberty, several received entire sanctification, and three were caught into vision. One man received entire sanctification after he got home.

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Monday May 5. This morning I was at brother Woodyain's of Prees. And while praying with the family, and some others who had come in, the power of the Lord came down, and brought six to the ground. Two obtained pardon, and three professed to receive entire sanctification.

7. Spoke at Bronington, I urged the believers to strive for sanctification, and while we were at prayer, one woman fell to the ground. We agonized with God till one soul got liberty, and two professed to receive the blessing of entire sanctification

Sunday May 11. Spoke in the morning at Prees lower Heath, and in the afternoon at Marehamley. It was a good time at each place. At night preached at Weston. One soul was converted to the Lord, and another obtained the blessing of entire sanctification.

12. Spoke at Lee. After preaching one went into vision, while we were singing, and another while at prayer. We continued to wait on the Lord till he passed by in great power. Four souls professed to find him of whom Moses and the prophets did write. And many were under heavy convictions. The meeting lasted till midnight. Three joined the society.

Monday 19. At Weston, had liberty in speaking. We afterwards united in prayer, and the Holy Ghost descended. Many were brought down under his power. Six were in vision. One soul got liberty through the blood of the Lamb. Many were under conviction, and I was afterwards informed of two more that were converted. O Lord, go on, and bring down Satan's kingdom.

21. This day was profitable to my soul. After I, and the family I was with, and a woman who came in, had engaged in prayer, such an Unction come down upon us as I have seldom experienced. And the before mentioned woman had her soul set at liberty.

Sunday May 25. Preached at Butler's Bank. A powerful time. Monday 16. While I and the family, with whom I had lodged, were at prayer, the Lord came down amongst us, and five of us were brought to the ground I cannot express what heavenly ecstasies were felt, and what glory rested upon us for about two hours, Truly

"His presence make our paradise,
And where he is, is heaven."

Sunday June 1. Attended a Camp Meeting at Hind's Heath. There was an immense concourse of people, and great persecution. Some found peace with God, At night we held a Lovefeast in the open air; the Lord made bare his holy arm; many cried for mercy; and some found peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

J. W.

References

Primitive Methodist Magazine 1830/68; 1830/141