

Personal Testimony Atlantic Lyman Conference

by Arthur Cooke

Arthur Cooke shares his personal testimony of faith, emphasizing the necessity of true salvation and the joy of knowing Christ.

Duration: 21:24

Scripture: Isaiah 53:5, John 3:16, Romans 5:8, 1 Corinthians 1:18, Galatians 2:20, Ephesians 2:8-9, 1 Peter 2:24

Topics: "Testimony"

Description

The sermon transcript is a repetition of the hymn 'Two hundred and seven days, two hundred and seven years' which speaks about the speaker's past life of pride and fantasy. The hymn emphasizes the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross at Calvary and the freedom and grace that comes from accepting His sacrifice. The speaker encourages the audience to sing the hymn with passion and mentions a previous experience of singing it in Denver. The transcript does not provide any specific biblical references or teachings.

Transcript

207, please. 207. Years I spent in fantasy of pride, Caring not my lord was crucified, Knowing not it was for me he died on Calvary.

Mercy there was great and grace was free, Lord and there was multiplied to me. There my burdened soul found liberty at Calvary. This is an old hymn that we have been using for many, many years.

Now I think most of you should know this one. If you want to hear you sing, at Denver we had very good singing. Very hot there, but we had a very good time singing the gospel.

So let's sing this 207 as if we meant it. Years I spent in fantasy of pride. Listen now.

Here's the pitch. Years I spent in fantasy of pride, Caring not my lord was crucified. Then I trembled at... Up to 207.

Everyone sing. Now I'm killed in Jesus' hands. Verse here.

Note the words for your feet. Oh, the love that true salvation spans. Oh, the grace that brought it down to man.

Oh, the mighty gulf that God did span. Where? At Calvary. Come on, let's sing this now.

Fourth verse. Everyone sing. Oh, the love that true salvation spans.

Come on, sing together. Oh, the grace that brought it down to man. I'd like to take soprano and alto on the last verse.

Oh, the love that true salvation spans. Come on, ladies. Oh, the love that true salvation spans.

Try 208, please. 208. Oh, this is like 572 because the ladies sing first.

The glory of love. Then we, tenors and basses come in. Tell it to me again.

So on. 208. Wonderful glory of love.

Listen to Martha playing that love at first, will you? All right, now the ladies take the first part, you see. All the tenors, all of you sing the lead. Ready? Wonderful glory.

Tell it to me again. Wait a little more. Dinner over.

Come on now, ladies. You sing the first part. And then we all come in and help you.

Wonderful. When. He'll be no more.

He's a love. He's a soul. Thank you, God.

Very good indeed. 206 is a very good hymn for a congregation to sing. Wonderful love that rescued me, Sunk deep in sin.

Dirty and vile as I could be, No hope within. When every ray of light had fled, Oh, glorious day, Raising my soul from after the dead. Love found a way, Love found a way to redeem my soul.

206. Now listen to Martha play it a little, And you catch the tune. Wonderful love that rescued me, Sunk deep in sin.

Would you please? Lost my Savior, He's a love. Perhaps not. After Harold Pedro wants some money, Then we'll sing a couple of verses of the hymn For the first preacher.

Is that all right? Yes. All right. Will your eyes purple In the dark of day? Will we have death In the desert? I'm awful glad for this opportunity.

As he told you, I came here 50 years ago, and I was on stage. When I was a young man back in the east, the usual custom of the older men, that is, the men as old as I am now, they used to say, Go west and make your fortune. Well, I did that very thing, but it wasn't money.

Praise the Lord. I would like to tell you briefly. I can't give you in detail, because I don't want to take the time, but I'd like to tell you briefly.

I studied catechism. I joined the Lutheran church at the age of 14. I sung in the choir.

I led the young people's meetings. I taught a Sunday school class. I was superintendent of the Sunday school, and I didn't know a thing of salvation.

But me and another man by the name of Bon Blanc came out here. He's buried here, and his relatives are here in the meeting. When we came here 50 years ago, this was my 50th anniversary.

I was saved 50 years ago in August, and you don't know what it means to me to be here. It's a great joy to my soul. But when we came here, we heard aloud among the ungodly of the funny fellows up at Lyman, and they called them Charles Ives and Broadfooters.

Now, Mr. Charles is in the meeting, but Mr. Broadfoot has gone to be with the Lord. Now, the thing that I would like to impress upon your mind is this, above everything else. I, as a young man, can truthfully say from the time that I knew anything, I always believed that there was a Lord Jesus.

I believed He was born in Bethel. I believed He grew up among men. I believed He was crucified, and I believed that He rose again the third day, according to the Scriptures.

I believed all that. And you say to me, what more did you want? Was you saved? No, I wasn't saved. I believed that just the same thing as I believed that George Washington crossed the Delaware.

Now, after I came here, Will Myers, who now went to be with the Lord, I bought a Bible for him and kept the store right out here. I paid a dollar for it. And I got troubled about my soul, and I remember saying to Will, he was unsaved then, now if I only knew what was in it.

And he said he never forgot it. And I got to studying my Bible, and I got troubled about my soul, and I found out I was lost. A sinner.

Undone. Religious, but still unconverted. And I can say what many men can't say.

I never drank a glass of liquor in my life. I never took God's name in my life. I never played a game of cards in my life.

But that isn't salvation. Far from it. Far from it.

Mrs. Blount, her daughters are here in the meeting, talked to me one night till one o'clock in the morning. And I told her what I had. Or what I thought I had rather, I should say.

And she always came back with this truth. I won't do you any good. You must be born again.

And that was strange language to me. I never heard it. In fact, I never saw the word of faith in the Bible until that time.

And I talked to her till one o'clock in the morning. And I remember her quoting the Bible and putting my fist upon it like this. And I said to Mrs. Blount, she was in Samantha and leading me to the Lord.

I said, if you can prove to me from the book that I am wrong, I'll bow to you. And she said she was sure it wouldn't be long till I'd be saved. And several weeks after that, I was coming up the road down here, below Lyman, the shift or dawn underneath.

And he came to me this way. You know the Apostle Paul in writing the epistle to Galatians, when he was seeking to rectify the error that was preached in Galatians that except they keep them below, to be circumcised, they could not be saved. Then he says, in the second chapter, that he profited in the Jewish religion above many as equals.

Then he adds another wonderful thing. He said this, but when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb to reveal His Son in me, that's salvation. Anything short of it isn't salvation.

And let me tell you, if you're here in a meeting tonight, you may have religion, you can belong to a thousand churches, they'll never avail you anything unless you're born from above. And salvation to me was a real revelation from God to my soul, such as real as was Paul on the road to the Masters. And when I found the Lord Jesus as my Savior, this book became a new book to me.

And I didn't read it as a necessity, I read it because I became, with the editor and the author of it, and I loved it. And I studied it for 50 years. He would say to me, have you made any mistakes? Hundreds of them.

Thousands of them. But John 3.16 is just the same as it was 50 years ago. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

And I'm wonderfully glad to give this wonderful definition. I'm probably looking in the faces of many I'll never see again because I'll soon be 71 years old and I don't expect to get this way too often. But it's a wonderful thing to get out and meet you men who love the Lord, have loved the Lord for years.

There's men here, there's women here that I have known 50 years out of here. And it's a great joy to me. And it's a wonderful joy to give this testimony of my Lord and Savior, whom I love.

I mean not Jesus. The only being in the Scriptures in which the Scriptures record gives that we love having not seen Him. And we can't describe it, but it's divine.

Praise God. I'm wonderfully glad to give this testimony. May the Lord bless you.

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