

# A Wee Story (Compilation)

by Compilations

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*The sermon calls for a revival of faith and personal awakening within the church through powerful testimonies and confrontations with the truth of salvation.*

**Duration:** 8:14

**Scripture:** Isaiah 52:1, Matthew 11:28, John 3:3, Romans 13:11, 1 Corinthians 15:34, Ephesians 5:14, 1 Peter 5:8

**Topics:** "Compilation"

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## Description

In this sermon, the preacher shares a personal experience of preaching the gospel with passion and conviction. He emphasizes the importance of carrying the burden of others' salvation and encourages listeners to die to the opinions of the world and walk in unity with God. The preacher also recounts a conversation with an elderly woman who believed she would go to heaven based on her good deeds, but he lovingly confronts her with the truth of the need for salvation through Jesus Christ. The sermon concludes with the preacher expressing the urgency of speaking out against sin and conforming to the world, and the importance of creating an environment that nurtures spiritual growth.

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## Transcript

I was asked to go and preach in two Methodist churches in Port Aaron and Fort St. Mary in the tip of the island, the south part of the island, by a godly Methodist preacher. The conference came, he was changed, and when I got there, there was an old pipe-smoking, tobacco-spitting rascal, and he had been appointed. So I was in trouble.

I remember sending a message home to the church at home and saying, you better pray for me, I'm going to have a riot or a revival. And when I went into the pulpit and started to preach, people woke up all right. And they woke up in anger.

Awake! And they said, this is a disgrace. Who is this man? Who ever invited him here? Why did he come here? And then, the Sunday school superintendent got converted. Awake! Awake! Put on strength! Wake it up, you sleepy Christian! Awake, all that's sleeping! Arise from the dead! Christ will give you life! You say, what has love got to do with it? Because prophets are obnoxious.

They're hard to live with, and they're ungainly. As I stand there under that cross, I hate the world. I hate the flesh! I hate the devil! For that broken, bleeding, battered body of Christ is the handiwork of all.

And they don't worry too much about their politeness. And they're abrasive. And they come on hard.

They're poor and blind and miserable and wretched. And they're strange ducks. And they jostle you.

And it's better not to have such intimates. The church of Jesus Christ is largely sleeping, like a great bedroom. And you have all the Christians in bed, and they're all sleeping.

And they're saying, please, don't wake me up! I want to sleep off. And it's tough enough when they've come to maturity, but when they're in the process of growing, they're even worse. Then it's a mishmash of both flesh and spirit.

It's an ungainly bird, flapping its wings and squawking with a hoarse voice. But unless you give such birds an opportunity to squawk, they'll never be able to bellow for God in due season. Where is the environment that will encourage the birth and the nurture and the coming to maturity of men of this kind? I want to tell you, friend, if we ever needed to speak out strongly, we need to speak out today.

If we ever needed to battle against sin and ungodliness in the age, we need to battle against it now. This is not a day to go conforming to the world. This is a day to go to the Jordan of death.

And when you die to what the world thinks about you, and when you die to what your brethren think about you, and when you die to what your neighbors think about you, and you rise to walk in newness of life, then God will bless you as a Christian. When I was a student studying for the ministry, I visited often in a home, and there was a dear old lady in that home. She was an Irish Presbyterian, one of the old blue-stocking Presbyterians, knew the catechism back, side, forward, not only the shorter, but the larger, the real old Presbyterian, but she wasn't safe.

I used to call her grandmother, and she'd say, Ei! And I went out to see her. I climbed up the stairs and went into her room, and she said, Ian, I'm glad to see you. And we talked about many things, and then I opened the Bible, and I said, Grandmother, I'd like to talk to you about the Lord.

And then the atmosphere got very tense, and I read to her about Nicodemus and what the Lord said, you must be born again. And I said to her as tenderly as I could, I said, Grandmother, you would need to be born again. She was very angry.

She said, Ian, you have no right to come here and tell me that. She said, you know just how I think about these things, and I don't go in for this salvation business, and I don't go in for this new birth business. She said, I was baptized in the Presbyterian Church and have attended it all my life.

I never did anybody any harm. I'm a good, straight, honest woman. I'm 76 years of age, and she said, if anybody'll get into heaven, I will.

I said, Grandmother, I want to tell you it'll not be heaven you'll be in. You'll be in hell. And I said, I know after today our friendship's finished.

I know. I know after today you'll not want to talk to me. But I said, Grandmother, someday you and me'll be at God's judgment bar, and it would be a terrible thing if you turned round to me and said, Ian Paisley visited in my home and talked to me and never told me I needed to be seen.

So I said, I've come to tell you. She said, you can go. So I shut my book, and I went to the door of the bedroom.

I discerned a little tear in Grandmother's eye. So I stood in the doorway, and I said, Grandmother, is that final? Are you saying goodbye not to me but to Jesus today? She burst out into tears. She said, Ian, could Jesus wash away 76 years of sinning and receive me an old woman that rejected him all my life? Could he do that? I said, praise God he can do that.

And I went back into the room, and I knelt down, and I took her real hand in mine, and I prayed, and I said, Lord Jesus, here's Grandmother 76 years of age, a Christ rejecter, a religious woman, a good woman from the standards of the world, but as far as you're concerned, a rejecter of your son, and she wants to come to you. Grandmother prayed the sinner's prayer and came to Jesus, but gloriously saved. Not long afterwards, she passed the river, and she said to the Presbyterian minister, he was an old apostate, he knew nothing about the gospel, she said when she was dying, and of course he was a good church woman and paid into the church, and he would have done anything for her, she says, I want Ian Paisley to preach at the graveside.

He says, what do you want him for? I had a bad reputation even in those days, twenty-two years ago. I never had a good reputation in my life. She says, I just want him to preach at the grave.

So I went to the funeral, and he went over his antics in the house, for that's all you could call them. He was an old sinner himself, knew nothing about the gospel, led his congregation to hell, made jokes about gospel preachers, laughed at Bible thumpers, as he called them. But at the graveside, I was there, and he said to me, this woman told me that you were to preach at the graveside.

I said, sir, that's what I intend to do. So he stood there like a stuffed mummy, and I preached the gospel hot and strong. And after I finished, I said, men, I'm going to tell you a wee story.

I'm going to tell you what grandmother would have told you if you hadn't been here, and I told how I led grandmother to the Lord. You'd have seen those big men standing in the tears, running down their cheeks, as I told about 76 years of sins going under the blood. God knows I love you, but you're not saved.

Oh, if I could carry your grandmother, grandfather in my arms, and place you in the arms of Jesus, I would do it. But I can't do that. You've got to come.

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