

Hold Fast to That Which You Have

by John Follette

John Follette emphasizes the importance of holding fast to our relationship with God and being diligent in our faith journey.

Duration: 41:25

Scripture: Isaiah 53:2-3, Matthew 1:18-25, Matthew 13:44, Matthew 16:16-17, Luke 15:4-10, Revelation 3:11

Topics: "Perseverance"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker discusses the symbolism of a betrothal between the bride and the bridegroom, relating it to our relationship with Christ. He emphasizes the importance of holding fast to our faith and not allowing anyone to take it away. The speaker also addresses the fear some people have of others receiving what they believe belongs to them, reminding listeners to trust in God's justice. He then shares the parable of the lost sheep and the parable of the lost coin to illustrate God's love and pursuit of the lost. The sermon encourages believers to rejoice in the salvation and restoration of those who were lost.

Transcript

...which every Christian is moving with God should do. First beginners don't know much about it, but they will find it if they follow. Let thy will be done.

I accept it, Lord. Here is mine. Now I want just your will wrought out in my life.

Now always remember, when you... that always includes... the will is just like that. In it are the things which we know, and in the other are things we do. You get that or don't you? We surrender things which we do not know because we haven't come to it.

But in our will we have said, all right, Lord, yes. So when the decision is rather pinching, oh yes, Lord, I want to do it. Well, I never knew! No, of course you didn't.

All the things that's going to be... Did he with you? No, he did not. You gave your surrender, and you made a discovery. You said, yes.

I don't blame you for seeing... ...without ever making another... wading through another... I expect that you... they make their... you have chosen his will. So like that, this is the sheep. He's gone astray.

He's gone out of the fold... form of self-will. But now that he's... But the Lord sees that, and then he pursues... Well, he pursues us long after our... Long after he has brought us into salvation. How do you know? He is always pursuing.

He is always after us. To get us saved? No! This pursuing element is always present. Whether we are still to be... and we find that finally there are always... Well, he on... he... He has found every one of us.

Now he changes the... the laws. Either... either... ten pieces of silver. If she lose... rejoice with me.

...ten pieces... chains... that is a display of... so now this is her... suggestion in a... the display of your wealth... this jewelry... all of this... finery... not that... but let the adornment... adornment be well... is... he doesn't care if you're... because he's dealing with spiritual... decoration. How many know flesh will do that with their decoration? Not... not of jewels, but I mean... continuing. Which do you think was more annoying to the... what he saw? Now this woman... and it's a type of their marriage, isn't it? ...a part of her marriage of... well, it originally started with the fact... now get that. How many see it? It... it has now to do with... a token of marriage... of marriage. See, the church is the... she is... well... she's betrothed to... there will be a loss... even in that field... even in that field.

He says this woman... has her head geared... but let that be lost... or disfigured... and instantly... in the common talk of the women... you know what they think? Well, that... that... that is a sign... that there's been a breaking somewhere... to restore it... so that her status... and her position... and her place... would be back. Now... she... she loses that... so she searches for it... diligently for it... even with a broom... even with a broom... to get into every crevice... this is very intricate... rejoice with me... in... in touch... my status is... is still maintained... everything is well... everything... now when you come back to... a lostness... not only... in a... a sheep... not only... in a coin... but he's telling it... to us... there is a betrothal... of the soul... you know that... well, whenever we lose... any... why... that's a tragedy... how many get that... that... that... that contact... that communion... that fellowship... that understanding... of the bride... with the bridegroom... has been injured... or distorted... or absolutely broken... how many see that's a silver... it's lost... has to be found... and arrested... uh...

Israel... was the bride... of Jehovah... and she had... in spirit... she had the spangles... in spirit... in symbols... spirit... of that relationship... and what happened... she lost it... through all of her... sins and idolatry... and that's why... we have this talk... Israel in the Old Testament... now we have the same thing... in the New Testament... the Church... this lovely Church... he says they are like a bride... they will be the bride... of the bridegroom... in our relationship to him... he has given us... we don't look at and count... but he has established... a certain relationship... between our hearts... and his heart... which can be symbolized... by the tokens which... if

unfortunately... there is a loss... of that symbol... how many are getting vain... how many can follow vain... in our experience... what is... and getting down before... desiring to find... salvation... no we are not talking about... salvation now... please don't do that... we are talking about... a relationship... in the spirit... which some way has been lost... or forfeited... but which... must come back again... how many remember the story... of the song of Solomon... do you see it there... you remember... where her communion was coined... and what a time... need an hour in there... to make your analogy... and find out what God is saying... to us as Christians... under the symbolism... of a

betrothal... ..the bride and the... ..the approach... ..the message... ..all of that... ..and there is in spirit... ..and it's in our conduct... ..in our manner... ..in our surrender... ..all of that... ..we have ten... ..pieces of silver... ..that bespeak... ..to the heavenly... ..and speak to him... ..of our union with him... ..that we are betrothed... ..now where do you get another one... ..hold fast that which thou hast... ..that no man take thy crown... ..do you get it... ..that's the same teaching... ..only he's putting it over in Revelation... ..under another symbol... ..hold fast that which thou hast... ..that no one take your crown... ..diligence... ..diligence... ..watchfulness... ..carefulness... ..in every way... ..there he's putting it under the

symbol... ..of a crown... ..watch diligently... ..that no one snaps off... ..one of your pieces, yes... ..with a Greek Orthodox bride... ..that isn't custom... ..Greek Orthodox... ..and I have to be crowned... ..and she had a floral crown... ..a lovely floral crown... ..and was crowned... ..the same idea... ..I'm glad you spoke of it... ..and I said that's alright... ..and she had her bridesmaid... ..it was quite a ceremony of course... ..they were married... ..but she carried over that same idea... ..the bride... ..to be crowned... ..the bride has this symbol... ..of her relationship... ..a relationship... ..if she loses... ..will not seek... ..diligently... ..until she finds it... ..and when she does... ..she rejoices with God... ..have a great victory...

...now we'll touch on this... ..a little later... ..but so far... ..I want to help... ..help him... ..well... ..I don't... ..I think I better not... ..break in on that... ..because... ..we go out to dinner... ..and we can't hook on again... ..but I want to finish... ..just a little... ..in there... ..and then I want to get... ..this prodigal son... ..I'll reflect for him... ..I want you to see... ..this prodigal son... ..I believe... ..as God would have us to see him... ..and not as tradition... ..has usually painted... ..how many know... ..tradition can pervert... ..the whole teaching... ..that God has for us... ..by traditional pictures... ..that's why I'm awfully wary... ..about pictures... ..a child's mind is very open... ..and if you... ..mind... ..a

thing... ..which is... ..not really correct... ..how many know... ..it'll carry through life... ..with just that thing... ..I'll close with this... ..it always annoys me... ..of course... ..they do it... ..to... ..pay honor... ..to the Lord... ..they think about... ..she's not dead... ..because... ..she's not that type of woman... ..at all... ..not at all... ..but you see... ..in their devotion... ..in their desire... ..in their... ..love... ..and... ..so they have built... ..all about her... ..all this... ..paraphernalia... ..basis... ..and not the least... ..but it has become... ..a religious... ..sentiment... ..sentiment... ..an emotion... ..of the natural... ..to respect her... ..and remember her... ..with love... ..he is born... ..of God...

...God's the father... ..well how can God... ..the father... ..how could she be... ..the mother... ..of God... ..who... ..who is doing all this... ..you know... ..she's the mother of... ..God... ..the father... ..well that's been a... ..been a big build up... ..are brought up with that... ..that they're fed with... ..they see... ..and... ..it's very difficult to... ..now... ..we Protestants... ..have just about a bad... ..bad racket... ..when you make pictures... ..of Jesus... ..on these charms... ..and these scrolls... ..why do you persist... ..in making him... ..such a distinct... ..character... ..with a halo about him... ..and all... ..so that he... ..is so very distinct... ..that you have the sense... ..it is God... ..now when Jesus... ..walked

the earth... ..no one knew him... ..as the son of God... ..they did not... ..he was thought to be... ..the son of Joseph... ..and was a man... ..just the same as... ..any peasant... ..there was nothing... ..distinctive about him... ..that we should want... ..there's nothing... ..in his flesh... ..I can imagine though... ..this is my imagination... ..that he was... ..a very agreeable person... ..he must have been... ..an agreeable... ..pleasing personality... ..to accomplish the things... ..that he done... ..but no one saw him... ..walking around... ..with a light over his head... ..and no one... ..no child... ..no man... ..ever spoke... ..well if he'd been... ..passing all this time... ..as the wonderful... ..son of God... ..savior... ..they did not know

him... ..in that fashion... ..at all... ..they knew him... ..as a peasant... ..it was Peter... ..who at last... ..penetrated through... ..and saw that he was... ..not only a man... ..now if that's true... ..he saw that he was... ..he says he is... ..not only a man... ..a prophet... ..a messiah... ..but he is... ..the son of God... ..and Jesus... ..turns to him and says... ..blessed be thou... ..at last... ..flesh and blood... ..has not revealed that to you... ..you didn't know that from... ..any flesh and blood contact... ..but God... ..revealed it to you... ..how do you see a difference... ..between... ..a revelation... ..and something... ..you just see and look at... ..they didn't know it... ..from any... ..radiant... ..then to pay honor to him...

...they make these pictures... ..and they are so misleading... ..he was supposed to be... ..now when you find that truth... ..I wanted to... ..I would rather have the sense... ..of the consciousness... ..of him... ..as he really was... ..it's what... ..artists do... ..we call it... ..the idealist... ..the artist... ..or his most common place... ..and he idealizes it... ..he idealizes it... ..it is idealized... ..and the same as we do... ..conventionalize... ..we're going to make... ..a border here... ..order that palm lily... ..now we're going to use that... ..as the motive... ..that's going to be the motive... ..as I make this free... ..do I always put it... ..just exactly as it is... ..no... ..you conventionalize it... ..and you will maybe...

...conventionalize... ..in the... ..and in their designs... ..you see... ..that is always... ..how many have seen it... ..that is a conventionalized... ..butterfly... ..do you get the idea... ..of the wings... ..a conventionalized butterfly... ..because with the Indians... ..use the butterfly... ..as the symbol... ..for he dies... ..but he's a worm... ..now the Navajos... ..you live... ..I can't stay in the... ..lower herself... ..she's astounded... ..at American women... ..who... ..they have to look... ..every single... ..sheepskin... ..now she has rolled this... ..all up... ..here she has the end of the... ..run... ..run to Tarleton... ..she's weaving... ..with this... ..in... ..with this... ..headgear... ..now that's just... ..one soul that's

saved... ..that it symbolizes... ..the failure... ..on the part of God... ..there's no real truth... ..you can't go by... ..and John... ..what does he say... ..that the dove... ..would come down light on... ..well if he's so... ..picturesque... ..and known all over... ..well why doesn't somebody... ..ever paint that... ..scared... ..his whispers blowing... ..and his hair all... ..torn up... ..and the waves dashing... ..and he's making... ..his last gasp... ..at the Lord... ..ugh... ..like that... ..and then you see... ..the Lord pull... ..well when you're up to your neck... ..how do you know... ..your past began... ..he's twigg'd it... ..and since... ..he's beginning to sink... ..and he said... ..stop it... ..where's your faith... ..he's half scared to

death... ..now sinking... ..then have the Lord say... ..where's your faith... ..he'd gone on a sort of... ..how did he ever get back... ..to the shameful failure... ..of this... ..and he walked on the... ..Peter walked on the water... ..the pictures... ..I've seen them... ..that as a sinner... ..you are overcome with... ..you know... ..the terrible life... ..and all this distress... ..and there's no salvation... ..except in Jesus... ..and there's no salvation... ..and so he puts the man... ..way down in the water... ..and fires him... ..it wasn't that...

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