

## DESCRIPTION OF THE ALCOHOLIC LIFE AND GOD'S SOLUTION

### THE ALCOHOLIC

#### 1. Lives in a state of hopelessness and sickness

BB,pxvi-xvii ... This physician (Dr. Bob) had repeatedly tried spiritual means to resolve his alcoholic dilemma but had failed. But when the broker (Bill W) gave him Dr. Silkworth's description of alcoholism and its hopelessness, the physician began to pursue the spiritual remedy for his malady (a disease; disorder of the body; an unwholesome or disordered condition) with a willingness he had never before been able to muster. He sobered, never to drink again up to the moment of his death in 1950. This seemed to prove that one alcoholic could affect another as no nonalcoholic could. It also indicated that strenuous work, one alcoholic with another, was vital to permanent recovery.

The only constant in my spiritual condition is change. I cannot rely on yesterday's program. Today, I seek new spiritual growth through prayer and action.

#### 2. Does not like to follow suggestions

BB,p94 ... The more hopeless he (the alcoholic) feels, the better. He will be more Likely to follow your suggestions.

God is bigger than any problem. God is greater than any difficulty surrounding you. God cares for you more than it is possible for you to know. God will help you as you trust and believe in him.

#### 3. Cannot control his drinking

BB,xxvi ... we who have suffered alcoholic torture must believe—that the body of the alcoholic is quite as abnormal as his mind. It did not satisfy us to be told that we could not control our drinking just because we were maladjusted to life, that we were in full flight from reality, or were outright mental defectives.

“Someone defined an alcoholic as “someone who refuses to give up a life of failure without a fight.”

## GOD'S SOLUTION

Isaiah 61:1-3 ... **The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me** (... the Holy Spirit has taken control of me ... he is with me ... he has filled me ... he has chosen me ...), **because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor** (... the Lord has picked me to bring good news to the suffering and afflicted ... he has chosen and sent me to tell those who are poor and troubled and overloaded some good news ... he called me to deliver good news to those who are oppressed ... he has appointed me and qualified me and commissioned me to me to share the Gospel of good new to the broken, the poor, and afflicted ...). **He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted** (... he sends me to comfort the brokenhearted ... to heal the brokenhearted ... to encourage those whose who are broken ... to bind up and heal the wounded ... To comfort those who are sad...), **to proclaim freedom for the captives** (... to tell those who have been taken captive they can be pardoned and released ... to announce liberty to captives ... to shout freedom for prisoners ... to proclaim liberty to the physical and spiritual captives ... To let the captives and prisoners know that they can be set free, that the prison doors have been opened ...) **and release from darkness for the prisoners** (... to open the eyes of the spiritual blind ... to give spiritual sight to the eyes of those who are bound by darkness ... to open the eyes of those whom the devil has blinded ...), **(2) to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor** [... The Lord has sent me to tell those who are broken, beaten and battered that God loves them and wants to bless them ... that God wants them to know his kindness and good-will to us ... that he will save them from a disastrous life ...] **and the day of vengeance of our God** [... God has declared his anger against his enemies ... God will defeat and punish his enemies ...], **to comfort all who mourn** [... God has sent me to give peace to those that live in chaos ...], **(3) and provide for those who grieve in Zion** [... To care for the needs of all who have been hurt and wounded ...]-- **to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes** [... to give them hope to replace their sorrow ...], **the oil of gladness instead of mourning** [... to give them a message of joy and blessing instead of gloom and doom ...], **and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair** [... to fill them with joy, replacing a sense of hopelessness ...]. **They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor** [... they will be like great oaks trees, standing straight and strong that the LORD has planted for his glory, that will honor his name ...]