

# The Believer's Witness in Christ

*"I believed, and therefore have I spoken" (Psalm 116:10).*

To speak what I do not believe is hypocrisy. Not to speak what I do believe is cowardly. To speak what I believe only when and where I know it will be received is deceitful.

Pastor Henry Mahan

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## Contending for the Truth

Contending for the truth against the errors of modern religion is the duty of God's servants. I hope our spirit is one of genuine love to all the chosen of God; but today's rule of charity which requires us to keep silent on certain points in order to avoid controversy, I utterly despise. It is treason to the Lord Jesus to be silent on any point where He has spoken and the honor of His gospel is concerned. It is easy on the flesh to deal in generalities, to denounce hyper-this or hyper-that, and to claim to be a friend to all; but it is required of the loyal servant of King Jesus to maintain His crown-rights and to stand up for His gospel of glory and grace.

Pastor Henry Mahan

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*"Go home to thy friends and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee." (Mark 5:19)*

The Lord had shown great mercy to this poor sinner, setting him free from demons and from sin. Now He tells him to go home to his family and friends and be THE LORD'S WITNESS.

Do not go home and begin to preach. Do not go home and take up the great doctrines of grace and expound them. Do not go home and strive to bring everyone to your views and beliefs. Do not go home and condemn all who do not see what you see. Go home and tell them WHAT GREAT THINGS THE LORD HAS DONE FOR YOU! Not what great things you have read or heard, but what great things you have EXPERIENCED!

This is the way to begin our witnessing. There is never a more interesting story than the story a person has experienced, lived, and felt. If you would really interest others and get their attention, tell them what great things the Lord has done IN you and FOR you! Notice the Lord said, "Tell them what great things THE LORD HATH DONE." It is a story of FREE GRACE. Not what we did, willed, or gave, but what He did for us by His own free, sovereign, and undeserved love. We will not convince them nor change them, anymore than another man could convert us. But THE LORD, who did great things for

us, can do great things for them if He is so pleased. And He is pleased to use the faithful witness of those who go and tell "how great things the LORD hath done for thee."

Henry Mahan

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*No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light. (Luke 11:33)*

What is the sign that God expects from us for the evidencing of our faith — that serious practice of that religion which we profess to believe — but a readiness to entertain all divine truths, when brought to us in their proper evidence?

The Jews had the light with all the advantage they could desire. For God, having lighted the candle of the gospel, did not put it in a secret place, or under a bushel; Christ did not preach in corners. The apostles were ordered to preach the gospel to every creature; and both Christ and his ministers cry in the places of concourse. It is a great privilege that the light of the gospel is put on a candlestick, so that all who come in may see it, and may see by it where they are and whither they are going, and what is the true, and sure, and only way to happiness.

Matthew Henry