

Walter said to his mother, "That don't look much like a follower of Jesus to me."

"Well," said the mother, "our pastor is so fleshy if he didn't smoke he couldn't do the work he has to do."

They entered the church and Walter took a front seat with his father. The pastor walked into the pulpit smelling like the back door of a back alley saloon, and took his text, "We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God." He said to the sinner, "Yon must give up your sins if you ever expect to get to heaven." Then he said to the Christians, "Yon must sin as long as you live. I sin every day and every hour in the day, and I know I am ready for heaven, a poor sinner saved by grace."

He slashed the holiness folks, and told of a good man that professed the second blessing, but saw his mistake and came back to the church, and what a light he had been ever since. He warned the people against young Mr. Graves' meeting, and told them he was looking for the whole business to go crazy.

Brother A. and family were soon seated around the dinner table, and the mother said, "Son, how did you like the sermon?" Walter replied: "If that is gospel, I don't want to hear any more of it. If that is all there is in religion I don't want it. That preached said he sinned every day, and that is all the devil can do. I can't see that he is any better than any other sinner. The Bible says that Jesus came to save us from sin, and according to his own statement he is not saved from anything. So I will not go back to the church: I abhor lying and I cannot afford to be in the church and say I am a Christian and be sinning all the time."

Walter left the table, and went to his room, and decided he would just let religion pass and get all out of the world he could.

Brother A. said to his wife: "I am so glad that Walter didn't go off with the holiness craze. I think it is so misleading; it just ruins a young mind forever. There is poor Albert Graves! He is gone; he will never amount to anything in this world." The mother said, "Yes, that is true; Walter's education will take him through the world all right."

Albert continued his meeting and souls were being saved all over the country. The week passed, and it was now Saturday morning. Walter took his seat at the breakfast table, but did not eat any breakfast. His face was pale, and his lips quivered. The mother became alarmed, and asked him the trouble.

Walter, with quivering voice, said: "I have been in awful agony of soul all night. I feel like God was giving me my last call. Oh, how I regret that I ever backslid! I feel like I ought to go over to Albert's meeting this morning and give my heart to God."

The father began to scold him, and tell him how silly he was, and the best thing he could do was to forget that holiness meeting and go on about his business.

The mother told him to wait and go to hear their pastor Sunday, and if he wanted to he could come back to the church and they would fellowship him again and he would be all right.

Walter said: "Mother, that won't do me any good. I am sick of sin and my heart is breaking. My soul is heavy. Oh, how I wish I had some one to pray for me."

Brother A. stepped to the phone and called the pastor, and in a short time he was there. They were all seated in the parlor, and the pastor was told the trouble.

So he said to Walter: "I am sorry to find you in all this trouble, and I think it all unnecessary. But that is what people get that attend the holiness meeting. I am