

# December 2. 1678. the Interpretation of the Vision.

by Jane Lead

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*The sermon explains the process of spiritual transformation and the importance of the inward birth of the Spirit in becoming a fellow heir with Christ.*

**Scripture:** Acts 2:38, Romans 8:23, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 3:6, Colossians 3:10

**Topics:** "Spiritual Transformation", "Sanctification"

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## Description

Jane Lead preaches about the vision of the Roll, where the Gentile nature is called to partake in the Covenant of Promise through the inward birth of the Spirit, becoming a fellow heir with Christ. The process involves being baptized for the remission of sins by the Holy Ghost's fire for complete sanctification. The outward Gentile nature must be transformed into a pure Nazarite before Christ can work wonders. The sermon emphasizes the need for the outward man to renounce earthly traditions and laws, embracing a spiritual transformation to unite with the divine.

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## Transcript

THE Vision of the Roll, was again held out; part of which I read, and the other could not: but it was taken up again out of sight. Which concealed matter, my Spirit was much inquisitive about; watching when the Book would open, that I might see and read, what did then withdraw. Where upon an Introversion did seize upon me. Then did the Anointing bring up the whole matter, and repeated it to me. The sum of which was, that the Gentile Nature was call'd to be made partaker of the Covenant of Promise, which the inward Birth of the Spirit did enjoy, and to be a Fellow Heir with him, to whom also pertains the Adoption, and the access to the Oracle: And to be Baptized for the remission of Sins, through the penetrating Fire of the Holy Ghost, that would give the perfect renewing of Sanctification throughout. For the outward Gentile-Nature is that outward Body of Flesh, that is thus to be made a pure Nazarite. Before Christ in Spirit can work his mighty works of Wonder. The Apostle Paul did very clearly see into this great Mystery, when he cried, Who shall deliver from this old Creaturely Body, where Sin and Death do reign? Which he, and others, who had the first fruits of the Spirit did groan under. Who though through the Spirit of their inward Man, they did subject the outward, and mortifie the earthly Members of it: Yet this was a step too short. Something else is to be expected: only this is to make way for a further Change. For while the old Creaturely Spirit and Body remaineth in its earthliness, and is only subjected, contrary to its own Propensity, it is in pain and uneasie, while not changed into the Life, and being of what is clearly

spirituality. For true it is the supernal Will of the Heavenly Born Man may yoke him, and may impose the very same Laws, that he himself hath received from God: But they cannot be so grateful nor pleasant, till he be changed and renewed in the Spirit of his Mind also. Which the wise and understanding Spirit, that is gone through the work of Regeneration in himself, presseth for: and being an abstracted Spirit, (that wants a meet-help in a fit organical Body to work through,) begins now to consider how in all Friendly amiableness, to gain the free and voluntary force of his Will-Spirit, to unite in all Points and Articles, that the Lord Jesus hath commanded to his Own, that are begotten according to the Will of the Father. Which Points and Articles of Faith are accordingly to be set before the Outward Man, for his agreement thereunto. For he must be the active Agent: for the Spirit of the inward Man without the outward, cannot bring forth into Manifestation the working Powers, without there be unity of Love and Will. For that gives Life and Courage, and Strength to resist what will make their attempts from the Satanical Kingdom.

Now then the First Work the new Man goeth upon is, to offer a test to the outward Man, whether he will renounce the Traditions and Laws, that he hath been all his Life trained up in obedience to, and that are so agreeable to the Mortal Essences in which he lives? Now must he disclaim, whatever doth relate thereunto; Abrogating the very Birth of outward depraved Nature, that consisteth in the strife of the four Elements. This is a hard pluck to bring the rational Spirit unto, it may well be Objected. But so deeply hath the Love and Wisdom of God impressed this already upon the Spirit, that is Born from the Trinity, that he cannot be at rest, till he draws the outward Man also to be come one in this Golden link with the Deity. Which will be the greatest Wonder, that ever was or shall be wrought, for it is the Salvation that will reach to the end of Man's Earth. And in truth the reason, why the outward Man hath remained as an outcast, and an Unbeliever is, because it hath been generally received, that there was no such necessity for his Salvation, his Birth being from the Stars, and there he must expire again. But we well know, his Root is deeper, and may arrive to his first Original, Paradisical Nature.

Then, 2dly, Why so few in this outward Birth have reached hereunto, is because the inward first Birth hath been but feeble and weak, and hath not been strong to overcome all Temptations, and Tryals; as not standing firm in the Faith without staggering. For till he be fully perswaded and satisfied in all the Points, that tend to the overturning of the Worldly Forms, Worships, and Constitutions of things, after a Creaturely manner; I say, (or rather the Holy Anointing doth it aver.) The illuminated Spirit is no fit Agent, to work upon the Corporeal Subject: And that too till he hath gone through the whole process of Renovation and Sanctification, and hath passed through the purging Fire of the Holy Ghost. That so the pure tinging Gold may have its Springing-Laver within him: Which will keep the inward part as a clear Crystal Stream. And this will make the inward Ground rich in all Fruitfulness, for a daily offering to him, from whom the Life-Seed was cast in. Which is so pleasant, that he permits the outward Man to partake thereof, as a Joint-Heir in Spiritual things: Upon a solemn Protest, against all of the earthly Kingdom. And when to this he is brought over, then further it is agreed upon by the High Council of the Holy Trinity, to tender the sacred Covenant, wherein are contained the high Articles of Faith, that the Spiritual Man hath signed and subscribed his Name to, which are filed and recorded in God's Life-Will. Upon which a Commission is given to try the outward Man with the same, that if he will mutually comply, then he shall be saved from the Mortal Destruction, which otherwise will come unavoidably upon him.

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/jane-lead/december-2-1678-the-interpretation-of-the-vision/>

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