Louie’s heart was hushed as he trod sacred ground. “It is impossible to put into words the feelings that came into my heart as I set my feet upon the streets and fields where the Lord Jesus Christ had walked, and looked upon scenes which must have met His eyes daily for thirty-three years.”

The two historic spots that made the deepest impression upon his heart were Golgotha and the tomb where the body of the Lord was laid. He shared his reactions on seeing the place of the crucifixion, which in English is “skull,” in Greek “Calvary,” and in Hebrew “Golgotha.”

“I climbed to the top of the north wall east of the Damascus Gate, and there it was. A hush fell upon my heart. The top was bare, smooth, scalplike, with deep cavities clearly resembling eyes, a nose, and a mouth. . . . One’s entire attention is riveted upon that grim place where Christ was lifted up between earth and heaven as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world.”

It seemed to Louie as he stood there that he could see the three crosses laid upon the ground. He thought of how they stretched the Lord Jesus upon that implement of torture, placed huge iron nails in the centers of His palms, and drove the nails into the wood with their mallets. As he pictured them raising that cross with the Lord upon it, he felt that every movement irritated the holes in His feet and hands. Louie could almost hear Him praying, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”

“Surely crucifixion is the cruelest and blackest of punishments,” he wrote, “for it gives the greatest torture for the longest time. It includes all that pain and death can have that is horrible and ghastly—dizziness, cramp, thirst, starvation, helplessness . . . , publicity of shame, long continuance of torment . . . , untended wounds, all intensified just up to the point at which they can be endured at all,
but all stopping just short of the point which would give to the sufferer the relief of unconsciousness. But only once in all the hours at Golgotha did the Lord make reference to His suffering, when He cried, 'I thirst. . . .'

"I thought of my own sin, and the part it had in nailing Him to that cross, and I thanked Him again for dying in my stead, to obtain my eternal salvation."

Louie was swept back in memory to when he was a young man on his way from Australia to the Moody Bible Institute. While in England he had gone to hear Dr. F. B. Meyer, and now he seemed to hear his words again:

"One day I was reading in the Word of God where Paul wrote, 'I am crucified with Christ,' and I said, 'Lord, I want You to take this pride of mine and I want You to nail it to the cross. And I want You to take this censorious spirit that I have toward my fellow pastors and the way that I look down on them. And that superior air that I have, Lord, I want You to take that away. I want that to be crucified. And my love for money. I want You to nail that to the cross, and this pride of place and pride of face, and this love of all my accomplishments. I want You to nail them to the cross so that I'll really be able to say with the Apostle Paul, "I am crucified with Christ."'"

And as Dr. Meyers's words flooded his mind again, Louie said, "I stood at Calvary that day, and as I thought of the nails going through His hands and through His feet, I saw instead those nails
going through my hands. I said with the apostle Paul, ‘I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.’

“Blessed was the hour when the Lord Jesus Christ cried, ‘It is finished’ and the price of our redemption was fully paid.”

Then Louie turned his thoughts to where the Lord was laid.

“Then Louie turned his thoughts to where the Lord was laid.

“When General Gordon was seeking evidence that this was indeed the genuine site of the crucifixion, he had the entire area investigated for graves. He found what he was looking for in a monolithic tomb. . . . It seemed to him that the words of John 19:41 were thus corroborated, ‘Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid.’

“T approached the ancient garden at the foot of the hill. A huge door opened to admit me. . . . There in front of me was the Garden Tomb. What awe filled my heart as I walked over to it, and stooped to enter the low door, even as the disciples had on that first Easter morning. . . .

“Along the wall at the far end was a crypt about six and a half feet long and two feet wide. I said to myself, ‘Was that where they laid Him?’

“One of the things about the Garden Tomb that most impressed me was the square window above the unfinished section. As I gazed upon it, I could see how readily it would let in the rays of the morning sun, which would immediately shine upon any body lying in
the farther crypt. Now at last I understood how John could tell at once by looking into the dark tomb, without even entering, that Jesus had risen indeed, leaving His grave clothes, and the napkin that was about His head in a place by itself (John 20:7).

“As I had thought of the death of my Lord at Calvary, so now I allowed my mind to dwell upon the resurrection. I walked about the Tomb, seated myself on the ledge where perhaps a white-robed angel had once sat, and considered the ‘infallible proofs’: the broken Roman seal, the disrupted stone, the orderly grave clothes, the fearful earthquake, the angel visitants, the terrified guards, the frightened women, the dumbfounded disciples. . . . Jesus made seventeen personal appearances after His resurrection before and after His ascension to various persons individually and in groups. In addition, ‘He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once’ (I Cor. 15:6). God so multiplied the evidence that the resurrection of Christ has become one of the most thoroughly attested facts of history.

“So I rejoiced that day as I stood in the Garden Tomb that it was an empty tomb, that we do not worship a Saviour still hanging on a cross, or lying in a sepulchre.

“As believers, our own resurrection is guaranteed by Christ’s. . . . ‘Because I live, ye shall live also’ (John 14:19). ‘Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.’”