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Two Lance, the old man selected to speak, rose slowly to his feet, advanced to a point near the great bonfire around which the people were seated in several circles, and spoke the following words:

"Brothers, if you listen to my words attentively you will profit thereby. We have returned from the country of the Utes bringing good news for the Dakotas. Many, many winters ago the Great Spirit sent His Son upon the earth to teach men to do right--to be good. Instead of listening to the words of the holy Visitor, the wicked white men killed Him. He has appeared to a good and righteous man in the land of the Utes, and told him that he would soon come upon earth again; but this time for the salvation of the Indians, and not the whites. The whites are to be overwhelmed, so the Messiah said, by a great earthquake or storm. In the terrible convulsion of the earth, all Indians who are not prepared to welcome their Lord will meet with the same fate as the whites. Therefore, O my people, I exhort, may, command you to do all that the good man says, in order that you may not suffer the death of our despised enemies.

"The holy Teacher further says that the overpowering of those who have oppressed us is not to be accomplished by force of arms, that no weapons are to be used. We are simply to pray and trust in the Messiah, and dance as he shall command. This is to us a very strange doctrine, as you will admit. We have been accustomed to fight, not to pray. Therefore we must be /p.550/ all the more careful to obey every command of the new Saviour, or we will displease him.

"In conclusion, I have but to urge upon you to watch very carefully every motion of the dance which we are about to execute for you, and, when you have learned the songs and the movements, join in with us. Be repentant for your sins, pray the Great Wakantanka to look down upon you in pity, to give you food and clothing. Be sincere, be earnest, and He will hear our prayers."