

# The King's Highway.

And an Highway shall there be, and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holiness:

The wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. Isaiah 35:8.

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## Evergreens.

MRS. MARY D. JAMES

It was Winter—cold, stern, cheerless—the storm was raging, the winds howling. Desolate, dreary, seemed the prospect on every side. Leafless trees, bare fields, no sign of verdure, until I came within view of my friends' pleasant abode. A row of beautiful, silver pines enveloped the house, giving it a cheerful appearance, that was truly gladdening to the eye and to the heart. How the dull, monotonous aspect of old Winter's reign was relieved by those lovely evergreen trees! and how they made me think of Spring—bright, beautiful Spring, and anticipate its welcome approach as it comes, and lifts the coverlet of snow off from the pretty myrtles, daffodils, and crocuses, revealing their sweet faces, and nature puts on her lovely robes, charming every beholder. Beautiful thoughts and happy feelings did those evergreens inspire as I approached the hospitable dwelling, of the inmates of which they were truly fit emblems. Peace and joy, cordial greeting, and warm Christian hearts awaited me, and met me at the threshold. The chill hand of death had been there, and taken away a loved one, but there was no gloom, no sadness. They were evergreens in that house. The love of Jesus was in their hearts, and shed its hallowed lustre over their faces, diffused its sweetness in their conversation, and its fragrance in their household, and made them living, flourishing, beautiful trees in the garden of the Lord; like the charming trees surrounding their house, evergreen—ever lovely.

I said in my heart, "Thank God, for evergreens! How glad I am that we find them here and there all over this dreary, stormy, wintry world! How cheerless—how wretched would our world be without those blessed evergreens!"

What would be the Church without them? Alas, in how many churches spiritual Winter holds its fearful sway, and long, dreary months has the heart of the pastor mourned over the sad, cold, frozen state of Zion. He would have been quite discouraged as he looked over his garden spot and saw the trees leafless, and scarcely a sign of life, but now and then his eyes fell upon a beautiful evergreen, and his heart was cheered, and he thought, "I will take courage—there are some living souls here—some who are bearing me up daily before the mercy-seat—some who are pleading in unison with me for a gracious shower to come upon this dry ground—some who bear the image of the heavenly and shed the radiance of a holy life amid all this spiritual gloom and death. I will hope for better things, and labor with a more cheerful heart."

O, that there were more evergreens! Heaven multiply them in our world, and let the Church of the living God be filled with them!

It is the ever green Christian that recommends religion. Not those who only occasionally put on their robes of verdure and beauty, and then lay them aside, and become barren and leafless. Like trees in general, it is the ever-living, ever-flourishing, ever-active Christian, that convinces the unbelieving world, and makes the religion of our Lord Jesus Christ a glory and a praise in the earth.—Guide to Holiness, July 1868.

## Three Pews to Let.

REV. JOHN THOMPSON.

These pews are all in the visible Church of Christ, and strange as it may seem, there are only three pews in the Church. So if you desire a place in this Church, you must occupy one of these pews: The Church is located in a world of sinners, lost. The Congregation is very large, and the communicants are numbered by the million. The pews are named as well as numbered, so that you need have no difficulty in designating your pew. The terms are such that the poorest in this world's wealth may have their choice of seats.

Pew No. 1. Its name is Entire Crucifixion. This pew occupies the very best position in the Church, and as for comfort, none can be more comfortable. All who occupy this pew can experimentally and truthfully say, "I am crucified with Christ." Not I was, or I hope to be, but I am. The price is immediate, unreserved, and perpetual consecration. The door of entrance is "Naked Faith," in the all cleansing power of the blood of Christ, to be applied to the heart by the blessed Holy Ghost.

Those who desire can have immediate possession.

Pew No. 2. Its name is, Being Crucified. This pew is not so comfortable as No. 1, but it has this to recommend it, "None need necessarily occupy it long—if you are willing that the work of crucifixion shall be hastened you will soon be promoted to pew No. 1."

The price of this pew is partial consecration. If you are satisfied to pay this price you can have only a partial religious experience—for a partial consecration makes partial work all the way through.

Pew No. 5. Its name is, All Negative—that is, it is neither crucified nor being crucified, but still this pew is in the visible Church, and though it is acknowledged to be inferior to No. 1 and No. 2, yet, on account of its cheapness, it is in great demand. Those who occupy this pew do not believe that "the yoke of Christ is easy, and His burden light." They complain that it is very hard work to be true Christians, but their Christians, but their difficulty is that they are unwilling to be what the profess to be, and yet they are not willing to give up this good-for-nothing profession.

This pew is vacant during the revival services, and it is generally unoccupied during the prayer and class-meeting services. Many who occupy this pew are half-day hearers, and liable to be greatly influenced by the state of the weather. It is a great pity that this pew was ever built, and we cannot honestly recommend you to occupy it.

The price is, only a profession. This is very cheap, and does not require that you should drink the cup of repentance, or suffer the pangs of the new birth, or make a consecration of yourself to God. In paying this price you avoid all cross bearing, and yet, as a form of religion is somewhat popular, you may do yourself great harm before you decide I should honestly say that this pew is in the way of deception and eternal despair.

Dear, dying reader, which of these pews do you occupy? If you are a member of the visible Church you occupy one of them—your destiny is

involved in your answer to this question.

GERMANTOWN, Pa., 1868.

—Guide to Holiness.

## Heroic Faith.

Robert Morrison, the first Protestant missionary to China, died strong in the faith that the country would become Christian, says an exchange. Yet he labored there for twenty-seven years, fighting against hatred, opposition and persecutions. There is a lesson of faith that many of God's workers need to learn.

"I do not know the word 'discouragement,'" said Rev. John Scudder. "I long ago erased it from my vocabulary."

"I do not want pity, dear friends in the homeland," wrote a missionary from Zululand, "for I am in the tip-top field of the world.

"I would rather wear out than rust out," said Henry Martyn, of India.

"I am God's little woman and He will take care of me," wrote Annie Taylor, of Tibet.

"My son, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from Him," wrote Cardner upon a rock on the coast of Terre del Fuego just before his death by starvation.

"We missionaries have got here," said Rockwell Clancy of India, to a magazine correspondent. "We are here for life, we are here at work, and we are happy."

A Christian worker once said: "The lessons I learn from the lives of missionaries are valuable. J. Hudson Taylor teaches me the supremacy of childlike faith; Mackay, of Formosa, the transforming power of consecrated forces and the preachings of Jesus; Patoh, of New Hebrides, how holy a passion is love for souls; Andrew Murry and George Muller, that prayer availed; Sheldon, Jackson, and Edgerton Young, that the frozen north cannot cool a flaming zeal for Christ.—Faith and Hope.

## Talk Him Up.

Years ago there was trouble in a certain church over the young pastor. Many members insisted upon his leaving. His few ardent friends insisted with equal zeal upon his remaining. Much bad feeling had generated. The case was critical.

Finally two prominent gentlemen called the congregation together and counselled them as follows: "It is true our pastor is not a great man. He does not preach learned or eloquent sermons, but we all know he is a good man, and that he is doing all in his power to promote our spiritual interests. Let us all agree to bear with him, and, instead of talking him down, let us go out from this meeting resolved to talk him up."

The advice was accepted. The result you can guess. He remained in that church nearly a half century, and a remarkable success attended his ministry to the close.

A good many people talk the minister down. They discount all his doings. They misunderstand his plainest sayings. They credit him with unworthy motives, predestinate his failure. An angel from heaven could not succeed under such conditions.

That is unwise. It is unfair. And it is wicked. How much better to talk up the minister!

The world will accept him at your

estimate, and respect according to the measure of your own respect.

Talk up the minister in your home. Help him to win and save the children.

Talk up the minister among the young people. Let not a finger to break the spell of his uplifting influence.

Talk up the minister among your fellow members. Be his solid friend. Join his body guard. Suffer no tongue of malice to speak against him in your presence.

Talk up the minister in the social circle, on the street, in the cars in the factory, store or office. Magnify his strong points. Minify his weak ones. Speak kindly of him, or speak not at all.

Do you know what such loyalty to the minister means? In nine cases out of ten it means success.—Christian Guardian.

## How to Win Souls.

To win souls for Christ is the very highest achievement of any man to say nothing of the Christian. "He that winneth souls is wise," said the man of wisdom in his written message to the world.

William Evans, in his book, "How To Win Souls," says that successful soul-winning for God is conditioned upon certain qualifications that are few and simple, and within reach of the humblest child of God. He suggests seven of them:

1. Be a Christian yourself. First take the beam out of thy eye, and then thou shalt see clearly to cast out the mote that is in thy brother's eye."

2. Live in the Spirit. "And the Spirit said unto Philip. Go near and join thyself to this chariot." We must "live, move and have our being" in the Spirit.

3. Have a desire to see souls saved. "And when He beheld the city He wept over it."

4. Have a working knowledge of the Bible. The Word of God is "the Sword of the Spirit."

5. Have confidence in the Word and promises of God, "It shall not be returned unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

6. Have confidence in the power of God. "For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost."

7. Must be a man of prayer, "continuing steadfastly in prayer," remembering that though "Paul may plant, and Apollos water, yet it is God that must give increase."—Selected.

"It doesn't pay to have the mothers and children of twenty families dressed in rags and starved into the semblance of emaciated scarecrows, and living in hovels in order that the saloonkeeper's wife may dress in satin, and her children grow fat and hearty, and live in a bay-window parlor."

"It was Spurgeon who said, "Some temptations come to the industrious, but all temptations attack the idle." And a prayer rose up in my heart saying, "Lord keep my busy."

"Don't worry because you haven't two talents; it will be enough to render a strict account for the one which you possess."

"Our minister never pounds the Bible. He expounds it."

"Wobbling has spoiled many a fine career."

## A Race for the Prize.

"What must I give up?" To this the Bible-answer is, that you must surrender everything that hinders your growth in grace. If certain practices, or an attendance upon certain places, hinder your spiritual progress, then be done with them! We are inclined to believe that church members slip into the theatre oftener than in former times. They are not apt to come out holier than they went in; and the example helps to increase the tide towards the playhouse door. Wherever there is a doubt in your mind in regard to an amusement, give your Master the benefit of the doubt and stay out of it. Just on this doubtful territory it is that we see so many unhappy falls.

We also firmly believe that Christians ought to surrender very often their rights to lawful things; for by so doing they may remove stumbling blocks out of the path of others, and strengthen their own graces. The Greek racer denied himself many lawful indulgences. So should a follower of Jesus whenever self-denial will increase his spiritual sinew. Too much is said these days against "asceticism"; but the danger of the Church does not lie in that direction. Satan cloaks are more in vogue than "hair shirts."

Daily food is a lawful indulgence. But fasting is sometimes profitable for both body and soul. Many luxuries, of domestic life are lawful in themselves; to give them up in order to have more money for benevolent uses, or in order to discourage social extravagances, is a dictate of pure Christianity. John Wesley had a right to own silver plate, yet he nobly refused to possess more than two or three silver spoons "while so many poor people were lacking bread." An excellent man in my congregation sold his carriage just as soon as he found that his horses were eating up his charity-fund too fast. My friend is no ascetic. He is a very sensible and sunshiny Christian. If the same spirit which actuated him were more common in the church, there would be fewer luxurious equippages, fewer wine bottles, fewer card tables, fewer sumptuous evening parties; but there would be more missionaries in the West, and more Bibles in China and Japan. Self-indulgence lives under the clouds. Self-denial soars above them.

—Dr. Cuyler.

## He Whistled for the Other Boy.

The small boy was coming home at a much later hour than he was wont to be out alone. It was growing quite dark, and as he came through the grove he could be heard whistling vigorously, if not very tunefully, long before he reached the house. The elders exchanged amused glances.

"What made you whistle so loudly, Willie?" asked one of them, as the little fellow entered.

"Well, you see," answered Willie, soberly, "it was pretty dark out there, and I thought if some boy—some little boy—should be coming along, he might be afraid, and it would be less lonesome for him if he heard me whistle."—Western Christian Advocate.

Daily prayers are the best remedy for daily cares.—Anon.—Sel.