

CAUSES OF BACKSLIDING FROM HOLINESS

1. Taking off the altar, that is going back on consecration. They take up that which was laid aside, put on that which was put off, or begin to do that which they had ceased to do.

2. Compromising. Trying to be half-way, which in reality is not to be, for no one can go two ways at once, or be two persons at the same time.

3. Failure to be aggressive. This usually comes from the opposition one finds. "Well," the enemy will say to them, "If holiness makes so much conflict, don't say and do so much, just live it to yourself." To follow this advice is to find your manna spoiled sooner or later. To rest is to rust.

4. The miser spirit. The hoarding of wealth instead of using it for God, using money to get and keep rich. Thousands go down here. The devil can take many a soul out of holiness into hell with a greenback, and will unless they are cleansed from "the love of money."

5. Fashions. The dressy devil comes as an angel of light to millions. With a foothold in what has become "bonnet pride," he brings into subjection the whole being, till it is uneasy and discontent unless rigged in the gaudy, sinful, expensive, and often vulgar toggery of the world's most abandoned class.

6. Looking toward Sodom. A secularized mind. The heart takes up with the rush of business in the world, set on pursuing it, thinking on the problems, absorbed in its cares. No adequate portion of time given to the soul's interests. The fact is, holiness is but seldom in the mind. It is no longer the centre. The machinery is out of balance.

7. Afraid of what "they say." This always brings a snare. In battle no banner will lead a conquering host only the one on which is inscribed, "What will God say?" Deference to the opinions of men, when God's "thus saith" has gone forth is to choose the way to defeat.

8. Failing to associate with holy people. When the heart makes this preference, and the will chooses it, it is only a little way further till the old wilderness life is reached again.

9. Failure at the throne of grace. This failure to pray is radical and cannot be atoned for in any other way. The battle of the knees is the battle of the world.

10. Failure to study the Bible. As well might the mariner on the high seas seek to guide his vessel without the compass as the believer without the bible, and yet there is continual and fearful shrinkage here.

11. Failure to testify to holiness. As well might a witness in court expect to do his duty by testifying to a case not in court, as a witness for holiness expect to do anything for holiness but not saying anything about it. Confession of grace is in order to keep grace. A failure to confess is a public acknowledgment of losing. "Ye are my witnesses saith the Lord." A witness in court who refuses to testify is at once arrested for contempt of court. Conscience will make this arrest without fail.

12. Failure to obey God the Holy Ghost. Repeated unwillingness to obey the voice within—the ought—results in grieving away or quenching the Holy Spirit. Without this plain guide, the soul becomes entangled, gets into darkness, and soon blunders into some snare.

13. The lack of that continuous watchfulness, and nearness to God which secures the experience from leaking away. Many do not intend to miss it, but they are so careless, so in-



Sister Sanders and Family at Balmoral Farm, South Africa.

BALMORAL (MISSIONARY) FARM FUND.

Previously Acknowledged	\$2,201.40
Amount now needed	944.99
Mrs. Dolph Nixon	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Bent	5.00
Mrs. (Rev.) Aaron Kinney	5.00
Miss Ethel Sollows	2.00
B. R. Burt	5.00
E. Bamford	2.00
Mrs. Howard Cox	2.00

MISSIONARY FUND.

Jonesport Missionary Society	12.00
St. John Missionary Society, Special offering	\$22.50
Israel Craig	1.00
Beals, Maine, Missionary Society	23.96
Beals, Sunday School birthday offering	4.44

"He is not here. He is risen!" This fact announced by the angel is, as we can see when we look back on it, among the best attested in human history.—Liddon.

attentive, so easily interested in something else, so ready to fill the mind with other reading than the Word and doctrine, so evidently lacking in discretion that the devil makes an easy prey of them.

14. Turn a deaf ear to these main attacks of satan. He will tell you,

- (1) "It's a mistake."
- (2) "You have lost it."
- (3) "Live it but don't profess it."
- (4) "You can't live it anyway."

15. Failure to carry all "voices, dreams, visions and impressions" and even "blessings" to the Lord, in order that you may not be led astray in your guidance. Test the internal impressions at all times:

- (1) By the word of God.
- (2) By providence.
- (3) By sound human judgment.

16. Failure to be deaf, and blind and lame and halt, stiffnecked and rebellious towards all questionable amusements, such as church fairs, festivals and all such like things. Holiness people never go to balls, nor play cards, nor take chances in raffling and all such games.

17. Failure to secure a continual fresh supply of holiness literature, to read it, and to recommend and circulate it.—Selected.

NEXT SUNDAY

Mr. Speeds will clean his auto,
Mr. Spurs will groom his horse,
Mr. Gadds will go to Coney
With the little Gadds, of course.
Mr. Flite will put carbolic
On his homing pigeon's perch,
Mr. Weeds will mow his bluegrass,
Mr. Jones will go to church.

Mr. Hett will test his furnace,
Mr. Fette will mend a chair,
Mrs. Fette will soak her bunion,
Mrs. Hett will wash her hair,
Miss De Spill, with iron and cleaner,
Will remove a coffee smirch,
Miss McBird will practice trilling,
Mrs. Brown will go to Church.

Mr. Clerk will drive a golf ball,
Mr. Tiller steer his boat,
Mr. Popper on his cycle
Round and round that State will mote.
Mr. Swatt will watch a ball game,
Mr. Stake and son will search
Through the bosky wood for mushrooms,
Mr. Walks will go to church.

Do you ask me what's the matter?
Do you wonder what is wrong
When the nation turns from warships,
Sermon, prayer and sacred song?
Why do people rush for pleasure,
Leave religion in the lurch?
Why prefer a padded auto
To a cushioned pew in church?

Reader, well I know the answer,
But if I should speak aloud
What I think's the real reason,
It would queer me with the crowd.
You'll be popular, dear reader,
When you wield the critic's birch,
You'll be safely in the fashion
If you blame things on the church.
—Newark Evening News.

THE OLD FAMILY PEW.

One sometimes hears a deal of nonsense about the danger of creating prejudice against religion in the mind of a child by making him attend church once a week. The danger would seem to be about one-tenth as great as that of arousing a prejudice against education by sending him to school twice a day. In both cases the remedy lies in the good sense of the parents and their estimate of the value of religion and education carefully instilled into the child's mind. The strength of the church has been in the old-fashioned family pew, with father at one end and mother at the other and a stairway of more or less restless children between. From that pew have gone out the upright, devout, consecrated men and women who have loved the Church and maintained her worship and done her work in their several generations. But for the sake of the Church, and especially for the sake of the children, let it be restored.—Southern Churchman.

Peace unspeakable, wisdom unsearchable, power invincible come to those who seek the heights. The soul loses its wrinkles and the mind its cares, fretfulness gives place to tranquility, and fever to calm; weakness becomes power, and fear is swallowed up in love; the reproach of defeat is rolled away and the cry of shame is turned into a song of victory, when we learn to pray.—Selected.