

HONOR GOD FIRST

The Rev. P. J. Forsythe is responsible for the statement: "A creed that starts with the glory of God has more power for the welfare of man than one that is founded in the welfare of man alone." This expresses a world of truth and exactly locates a gross error that pervades the churches today. The reason for the truth of the above statement is clearly given in I. Sam. 2:30, "For them that honor me I will honor, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed." What then dose this teach us?

1. The honor and glory of God should decide every question and prompt every act. Very often, especially with young Christians, the question arises, "What harm is there in this or that thing?" The correct view is not, "what is the harm," but "will this glorify and honor God?"

2. A large percentage of the religion of the present day is man-centered and not God-centered. Deeds of charity are done and religious work carried on with reference to the need of man rather than for any honor that might be given to God. A humanitarian spirit in religion is not enough; this may be had while true reverence and love to God is utterly lacking. The modern teaching of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man is a phase of this same man-centered religion. He exalts man and caters to his pride, making him a son of God no matter how wicked the life. The religion of lodges is another phase of this man-centered, Christ-rejecting, human religion. Lodge members prate about their wonderful doings to relieve the needy and to benefit man, but nothing is said about doing this in the name of Jesus Christ and for the honor of God, which alone will profit the doer. Scripture is so clear on this point that there is no need for being mistaken. "Though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity (divine love), it profiteth me nothing."—I. Cor. 13:3.

"For whosoever shall give you a cup of cold water in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward."—Mark 9:41. That which makes acts of charity commendable by God is because it is done in the name of Jesus. God has nowhere promised to save and bless people because they do some acts of charity in the name of some church or society.

3. If a man settles right down and determines to honor God in all his doings it will take out the compromise and catering to the fancies of the world. That which is sometimes called tact is only another word for cajolery. We are tempted to think that by compromising a little and falling in with the fancies of the world that we may win people for God. This is a subtle temptation and looks very plausible on the surface, but it intercepts another and higher law—the honor of God. God has said that they who dishonor Him will be lightly esteemed, so He will see that we are defeated in the very thing we expected to do by compromise. God could not be God and permit to prosper in His behalf that which dis-

honors his laws. The person who dishonors God knowingly could not be blessed, for it would make God a party to his wrongdoing. Preachers should remember that while preaching and dealing with souls that they are under obligation to a higher law than to please or tickle the ears of their hearers. Some of the methods resorted to to get church members may accomplish something from a numerical standpoint, but what will numbers amount to when the glory and blessing of God is wanting. The approval and sanction of God upon a few is infinitely more to be desired than great numbers.

We believe that the failure to keep to the front that God's honor must be first in everything is doing more harm in the world than all the other false doctrines put together. If men are led to believe that they can be justified by any other means than through Christ alone they have departed from their only hope of salvation.

H. C. MULLEN.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Chas. O. Mutch sent in two new subscriptions this week for the Highway.

Brother A. E. Whelpley sends in two new subscriptions for the Highway, and says: "I truly believe that the Highway is the most efficient preacher that we have, and pray that its field of opportunity may increase.

The Lord's presence was never more precious to me than in these days. He truly is my best and dearest friend, and my physician for soul and body."

Dear Brother Baker:

I am sending my renewal for the Highway. Wish it was coming weekly. It seems better all the time. We are always glad to read the testimonies of the brethren to full salvation.

We are all well at present and enjoying this great salvation that does save and cleanse, praise the Lord! We have had no services on account of the epidemic of influenza, and we are anxious to meet again. I have attended services on the Sabbath for at least fifty years, and always endeavoured to be at every meeting. I always had a love for the church of Christ even before I made a profession. In all those years there seemed to be something lacking; it always seemed to me that a Christian ought not to sin. But my dear brother, I have seen so many make a start in the Christian life and yet continue to do things inconsistent with the Christian life. Yet the Holy Spirit kept convicting me all the time, and kept me from doing those things I would have done that were wrong, had he not spoken to me. At that time I did not understand as I do now, as the word said, "If I depart I will send him unto you, and when he is come he will convince the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement," and he convinced me and I thank God for your earnest labour here; it did me and others so much good.

Your brother,

WM. J. BENSON.

Dear Highway:

We felt like sending in a few lines to let you know that we are still trusting the "Mighty one of Israel." The law presents a man struggling for life but never obtaining it. Grace presents a man receiving life as a free gift, and rejoicing in the unseen Guest, the Holy Ghost. Our church is being blessed much through Brother Foster's meetings. We get over to Jonesport to help in the services quite often. God is working in the hearts of the people, and we are looking for a harvest. We wish all the precious saints a Merry Christmas.

Your Brother,

T. W. MOSES.

DONATIONS.

In the midst of sorrow and disease, a few of the friends gathered at the Reformed Baptist parsonage Friday, Dec. 13th, and after spending a little time in singing and conversation, the chairman on behalf of our friends presented us with \$21.25. We appreciate much the kindness of friends on every side during this time of epidemic.

P. J. T.

On the evening of Dec. 17th members of our church assembled at the parsonage. The ladies came burdened with armloads of groceries, meat and other good things. The men did their part as nobly and well, presenting us with cash well, presenting us with cash to the amount of \$32.00.

The evening was pleasantly and profitably spent in song and prayer. All felt that it was a great privilege to be assembled together once more, not having had such a privilege since September. For these tokens of kindness and for the spirit that prompted the giving we feel very thankful. We trust that God will suitably and abundantly reward each generous heart and cause them to find the full meaning of the scripture that says, "Give and it shall be given unto you."

REV. AND MRS. H. C. MULLEN.
North Head, N. B., Dec 18th, 1918

BISHOP JOYCE'S TESTIMONY.

On page 214 of "The Life of Bp. Joyce" by W. F. Sheridan we read: "At a meeting of the Minnesota State Holiness Association, held a few days before his death, Bishop Joyce said, "When I am resting under the flowers I want it told as a memorial that I had this blessing of entire sanctification as a work of grace by faith in the blood of Christ, subsequent to regeneration."

On Page 209 we read: "During the camp meeting at Epworth Heights, he sought and received this blessing." This occurred in 1883 under the ministry of Dr. Wm. Jones, who was a cousin of the sainted mother of the writer of these lines.

—D. L. Clark.

"The Word of God is to the Christian what good wholesome blood is to the body; the more it circulates the better the health."