

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness.

And an Highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holiness—Isa. 35-8.

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NO. 6

NOT SLOTHFUL IN BUSINESS; FERVENT IN SPIRIT; SERVING THE LORD.

Dr. Adam Clark says: "An idle, slothful person can never be a Christian."

Laziness of mind, or body, is altogether out of harmony with the spirit and life taught in the gospel of Christ. The definition given to the word "slothful" is "slow, sluggish, lazy, indolent." These conditions surely belong to a standard of life far below good citizenship or respectability. A person that is described by any of these terms has not reached the lowest possible edge of Christianity, whether male or female, preacher or layman.

High or low wages is no possible excuse for slothfulness; it is a condition that no self-respecting man can stoop to.

The great apostle in the first verse of this chapter from which our title for this page is taken, gives the marvelous outline of entire consecration, a living, holy, acceptable sacrifice, "a complete surrender of the person; the body, the whole man, mind and flesh, to be given to God; and that he is to consider himself no more his own, but the entire property of his Maker." A man thus laying all his powers on the altar of God, cannot idle away his time in indolence, no matter how he is situated.

The true Christian is only truly happy when doing his best in quality and quantity of work, for the scrutiny of man, and God, doing judgment day work in principle every day, and teaching Christianity by example.

FERVENT IN SPIRIT.

The definition of the word "fervent" is "great earnestness; very hot, boiling, glowing; warmth of feeling, very zealous, vehement; as, a fervent preacher."

Fervency in spirit is a very strong characteristic of the true Christian. We can no more be slothful, and be the true type of Christian, than we can be cold in spirit. Slothfulness must be abandoned,—fervency in spirit must be obtained. ("He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire."—Luke 3-16.)

There is too much frost, and not enough fire; warmth, earnestness, zeal—not wild fanaticism, but sincere love that cares for another's need; and that suffers long and is kind, and manifests

that warm interest so naturally that it is a part of himself.

"The creative and fervent periods of English literature have been closely connected with the prevalence of a positive Christian belief, and a fervent Christian feeling."

SERVING THE LORD.

"Do nothing at any time, but what is to the glory of God, and do everything as unto Him; and in everything let your hearts be engaged. Be always in earnest, and let your heart ever accompany your hand. Ever considering that His eye is upon you, and that you are accountable to Him for all that you do; and that you should do everything so as to please Him. In order to do this, there must be simplicity in the intention, and purity in the affections."—Dr. Adam Clarke.

We are unconsciously serving the Lord by the spirit we manifest, and our conduct in the presence of others, if we are "walking in the light as He is in the light," in the enjoyment of "the fulness of the blessing," being "living epistles read and known of all men."

We are consciously serving the Lord when in the performance of His will, in religious exercises and in every act of practical Christianity, so, we are never off duty as the servants of the Lord

"At home, or abroad,
On the land, on the sea."

With what energy? With what fervency of spirit, glowing, and burning?

With what faithfulness in all places, and all possible conditions, should God's people serve Him! With every power of our being!

"Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire."

"Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name!"

Strong young men, called to the ministry of the gospel of Christ should be ashamed of the very thought of seeking the easy places. Take the hard scramble circuit, solve its problems, win honest victories, develop spiritual vigour.

"KEEP YOUR LANTERN BY YOU."

"Keep your lantern by you."

The words were sharply spoken by the conductor of an evening train. "Keep your lantern by you. If anything should happen, you might be at one end of the car and your lantern at the other." The brakeman was a new hand. The conductor met him at the rear end of the last car, and the above words were spoken.

We glanced forward as the brakeman passed forward to the front end; there, to our surprise, we saw his lantern hung up in a corner, while he was taking it down and suspending it from his arm, instead of from the hook in the corner, we began to think that there were others besides brakemen who sometimes put their lamps where they would be of little use in an emergency.

There are people who make a profession of religion, who seem like shining lights in the church, but who do not take their religion with them. And then, how shall they be prepared to help others who are in danger? How shall they give them light to guide them or help them out of trouble, if their light is in some other place when an emergency arises?

Do not forget that if we neglect to let our lights shine brightly they are in danger of being put out entirely, and other light-bearers put into our places.—Selected.

HEAVEN'S FIRST LAW.

"The Bible rings with one long demand for obedience * * * We must not question, nor reply, nor excuse ourselves. We must not think that obedience in one direction will compensate for disobedience in some other particular. God gives one command at a time; if we obey this, He will flood our souls with blessings, and lead us forward into new paths and pastures. But if we refuse we shall remain stagnant and water-logged, make no progress in Christian experience, and lack both power and joy."—F. B. Meyer.

It is easier to go from strength to weakness, than from weakness to power.