

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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PAUL PIETERSBURG
KATAL, SOUTH AFRICA
Rev H. C. Sanders, M. D.

Paul's Conflicts and Victories

The Jews tried to beat the religion out of Paul; they gave it to him (probably) with the scourge five times, then tried rods, he says "rods," when one was worn up they took another, then they took stones, and stoned him. The sea waves soaked him a day and a night, and the next morning he had more religion than ever. Then eight types of perils tried to frighten the religion out of him. Perils of waters, of robbers of his own countrymen; by the heathen, in the city, in the wilderness, in the sea, and among false brethren, then physical weariness, and painfulness and watchfulness, and hunger, and thirst, and fasting and cold, and nakedness all combined. Then the mental and heart strain with the care of all the churches seemed to tax the remaining powers of his being, but he still felt the individual burdens of his helpers, and the people to whom he ministered, for he said who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is offended, and I burn not?

Amid it all He called God to certify the truth that he was telling and put in a word of praise, "Which is blessed for evermore." Then he told his experience.—See 2 Cor. 11-24-33.

No man could go through all these things with God and for his cause without having many marvelous revelations. He said: **Lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given unto me a thorn in the flesh; the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.**

The great central feature of this unequalled experience of the Apostle, to many people, is the "thorn," and great efforts have been made to define of what it consisted. Whatever it was, it was of the devil and Paul tried by prayer to rid himself of it. But for some wise reason God let it remain, but supplied Paul with overtopping, underguarding and all around bracing grace, which God said was sufficient for him. But to the writer the abundance of **revelations** of God and his power, and his love, and sympathy and constant companionship in Paul's trials, and fears, and sufferings and his deliverances in all these features and phrases of experiences; where no human being could accompany him, reaching the depth of his need, who could fully understand every situation, and meet its need. Oh, what blessed revelations unknown by experimental knowledge of any other human being, was entrusted to Paul, to enable him to tell to men, be-

fore they had met any one of the situations, or anything similar to it, that "God was able to do exceedingly abundantly above all they ask or think," had he not experienced these things, and obtained the revelation which accompanied every test he could not have affirmed it in his preaching, teaching and epistles.

MOST GLADLY THEREFORE WILL I "GLORY IN MY INFIRMITIES, THAT THE POWER OF CHRIST MAY REST UPON ME."

Here was the great point of Paul's victory. He fought the battle to the finish, and chose the abiding power of Christ to rest upon him rather than to have any personal glory because he had been chosen of God as the great human instrument to reveal his power and love and salvation to the nations of the world.

Here is the point of millions of failures since Paul's day. Men fail to grasp the opportunities, to get great victories, and corresponding revelations, which are impossible to put into language.

1st. Because small successes puff them up, and they begin to swagger.

2nd. The talents God has given them to use for his glory, they put a financial value upon, and extort the price from those God meant for them to serve.

3rd. Their services becoming in demand they get lifted up in pride above their fellows, and as Christ will not let his power be made a matter of merchandise, and withdraws it, and they keep on like one who wist not that the Lord had left him.

4th. In this condition men soon find themselves powerless to move men's souls, and lose out.

God cannot trust ordinary people with much success. He knows the danger.

They are extraordinary who are determined to meet every test, and break at no point, and do not get tripped up by their gifts, and little successes, and momentary popularity, and preferences from the people, and words of praise, or criticisms.

The devil don't care at what point we break, so long as the break comes.

All that list of trials which Paul endured were temporary, until it came to the permanent abiding "thorn." He recognized it and its source, and endeavored to get rid of it and found that God knew all about it, and that he refused even his third prayer for its removal. He did not throw up his position; he did not quit preaching because

he got hungry and was out of fine clothing and could not afford an automobile, nor because false brethren had got into the ministry, and undertook to put a discount on his claims and questioned his authority, but with great courage and submission to the will of God chose the course where the power of Christ rested upon him.

Now, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.—Paul.

THESE SIX THINGS—YEA SEVEN.

These Six Things Doth the Lord Hate: Yea Seven are an Abomination (of His Soul) Unto Him.

- 1—A proud look.
- 2—A lying tongue.
- 3—And hands that shed innocent blood.
- 4—An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations.
- 5—Feet that be swift in running to mischief.
- 6—A false witness that speaketh lies.
- 7—And he that soweth discord among brethren.—Proverbs 6:16 to 19.

Let us read this list carefully. There are many who may find themselves in it, while their pastor is trying to convince that God loves them.

Get rid of pride, and the look will disappear.

Get a pure heart—which Jesus said was a blessed experience—and all exaggerations with you will cease. Bible salvation will save millions of innocent lives which are being destroyed—in hidden crimes—but God knows every one of them—and hates the perpetrators, regardless of positions or professions, married or single. God sees the horrible pictures of wicked imaginations, and hates the heart which deviseth them. This settles the question—Is wicked imaginations sinful?

Sky blue salvation will stop the swift footed mischief lovers and turn them into swift footed messengers to that class of sinners to get them saved.

Entire sanctification will cure the worst case of discord sowers—"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification"—and turn into "peace makers," and they shall be called the children of God. Men may have their choice, to be hated by God because of awful wickedness, or hated by (some) men because of a life of real scriptural holiness, and be loved of God and live forever.