

# 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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## A DESPERATE CONDITION

Ye Stiffnecked and Uncircumsized in Heart and Ears.

Ye Do Always Resist the Holy Ghost  
As Your Fathers Did, So Do You.

Stephen was one of the greatest men of the New Testament.

The circumstances which brought the above words from his lips were most intense. No doubt every person in his audience were wrought up to the very point of desperation, and indignation.

His Words became two-edged swords that pierced and cut and it would appear as though the truth flashed through their minds like flashes of lightning, culminating in these awful revelations of their condition and doings caused them to become fiercely violent.

These revelations are of the deeper moment because they reveal the awful state of self deception that a person may get into, while they are engaged in religious activities. While their personal condition of impenitence shuts them utterly outside of the privileges and possibilities of salvation. 1st, stiffnecked, unbending, arrogant, haughty, proud, self-willed. 2nd, uncircumsized in heart and ears. The heart unchanged—"Jesus said ye must be born again." They evidently were utter strangers to this supernatural recreative power as an experience. Their ears were not open to hear the gospel messages; they were impatient with all reproof. 3rd, they always resisted the Holy Ghost, and threw aside all of His efforts to reprove, or convince, or enlighten them to their condition and need. Hence by their own will they shut out all spiritual light, and cut themselves off from all possibility of the salvation through the atonement of Christ, and the sanctification of the Holy Spirit.

Dr. Adam Clarke gives the following forceful comment on this subject:

They were disobedient children of disobedient parents; in all their generations they had been disobedient and perverse. This whole people, as well as this text, are fearful proofs that the Holy Spirit, the Almighty energy of the living God, may be resisted and rendered of none effect.

This Spirit is not sent to stocks, stones, or machines, but to human beings endued with rational souls; therefore it is not to work on them with that irresistible energy which it must exert on an inert matter, in order to conquer the vis inertiae of disposition to abide eternally in a motionless state, which is the state of inanimate beings; but it works upon understanding, will, judgment, conscience, etc., in order to enlighten, convince and persuade. If after all, the understanding, the eye of the mind, refuses to behold the light, the will determines to remain obstinate; the judgment purposes to draw false inferences; and the conscience hardens itself against every check and remonstrance; then the Spirit of God being thus resisted, is grieved, and the sinner is left to reap the fruit of his doings.

### MAN THEREFORE MAY,

and generally does resist the Holy Ghost, and the whole revelation of God, bears unequivocal testimony to this most dreadful possibility, and most awful truth. And as matter resists matter, spirit resists spirit.

### OTHER WONDERFUL REVELATIONS.

In this great man Stephen.

1st. The disposition and courage to tell these leading men these awful truths about themselves. He probably was the only man who dared to do it.

2nd. That to be filled with the Holy Ghost does not make people soft or effeminate, but fills them with wisdom, and courage.

3rd. Stephen was given special privileges. **But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God.**

**And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.**

This was a great contrast between Stephen and his murderers. They filled with murderous rage, and he, filled with the Holy Ghost. They saw only their victim. He was permitted to look into heaven itself. The most wonderful view ever given to man, and when he gave his great parting testimony, they stopped their ears and ran upon him."

And threw him out of the city, but he used his last breath to commend his spirit to the Lord Jesus, and pray for his enemies. Thank God, there was no cold, dark river for Stephen to cross, and even the dark valley was unseen, and all other creations of the darkened imaginations of men were completely dispelled by the glory of God, manifested to this heroic saint, as he made the glorious connection between earth and heaven.

"While Christianity endures (and it will endure till time is swallowed up in eternity) the martyrdom of Stephen will be the model, as it has been, for all martyrs, and a cause of triumph to the church of God." "And all the excellent qualities with which the mind of this blessed man was endued, proceeded from the Holy Ghost, of whose influence his mind was full."

Mrs. Geo. Teddie, Dec. 20