

CONSECRATION IN CONCRETE

(Continued from Page One)

all lie in us, and that it is too much to expect that all men will be our friends if we are true to God and to the righteousness of Christ. Nevertheless, the holy man is both peaceable and peace-making. And very much of strife, and contention and disagreement can be averted by quietness, by attending only to our own business; by a yielding spirit, when only our pleasure or preferences, or even sometimes, our property, is at stake. "We can (afford to) take joyfully the spoiling of our goods, knowing that we have in heaven a better and a more enduring substance." It is often our peculiarity or idiosyncrasy, rather than our holiness or righteousness that has given offense. We can guard this and keep our peculiar self out of sight, or out of action, for peace-sake. There are only two kinds of peace with which holiness holds no partnership. The one is the peace of compromise, when principle or truth is at stake. The other, is the habit of giving somebody a piece of one's mind.

The second feature in God's perfect will here is expressed in the 17th verse. "Recompense to no man evil for evil." God's will enjoins us thus against retaliation. Against, "an eye for an eye, or a tooth for a tooth. Against "getting even," with our foe. It would have us "commit the keeping of our souls unto God as unto a faithful Creator."

Third, it would have us go farther and "Bless them which persecute us" (v. 14). "Feed him if ye hunger," and "if he thirst give him drink" (v. 20). And all this with the prayer and purpose of saving him from the retributive vengeance of God. (see v. 19, 20). For why should we show more zeal for the salvation of the heathen who are enemies at once of God and all men, than those at hand whose like enmity against God is proven by their opposition to us "for His name sake."

It takes the "love of God shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost given to us" to make us thus perfect like our heavenly Father "who maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." And as it is thus by His goodness, He would bring all to repentance, so it is His perfect will toward us, that by like love and like goodness, we labor to bring to repentance and to salvation, those who are injurious to us.

IV.

Humility is the only soil in which holiness can flourish. And this grace is projected in three different connections in this chapter, on the Perfect will of God. First with respect to our gifts and service in the kingdom of God, "That we think not of ourselves more highly than we ought to think. But to think soberly" (v. 3). To remember that high offices, long tenure, or great gifts, even do not conclusively prove great goodness in us. (See I. Corinthians XIII:1-3). To know that at best, and most our gifts, whatever it may be, but makes us one member and not the whole body. "And that the hand cannot say to the foot, I have no need of thee." That Christ while condescending to make a church of two or three, graced with his presence, never consented to do so of just one, no matter how great he may seem to be. That the

Holy Ghost is not incarnate in one member, but in the whole body. And this principle and application of Humility applies likewise to our church; our denomination; and association, and "movements" as well. "As we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office, so we being many are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another."

Humility next with reference to our learning; our long experiences, our opportunities of travel, observation and the like. "Be not wise in your own conceits" (v. 16) The arrogance of some that are learned is a worse fault than the ignorance of some that are uneducated. The contempt with which some "scholars" look down upon "non-college" men is an offense unto God. To be "puffed up by knowledge" is proof one has not experienced the perfect will of God in his soul. Even with the Spirit's illumination we but "know in part." In Peter's list of the graces, to be added to faith, virtue precedes knowledge. What is foolishness to the wise men of the world is the wisdom of God in a mystery. Some illiterate persons sense the mind of God quicker and surer and better than many who are school-taught. Philosophy has a tendency to "spoil" believers. The perfect will of God would have us to be not called, "Rabbi, Rabbi."

And once more, it is an end to the "Who will be greatest" among ourselves. Not the fawning, flattery of hypocritical society that is seeking compliment and favor for one's self, while proffering the best places unto others; but the sincere and humble "in honor preferring one another," which we saw in our Lord and Master as He stopped to wash the disciples' feet.—In Heart and Life.

TRY IT.

"The man who begins to tithe will have at least six genuine surprises. He will be surprised:

"1. At the amount of money he has for the Lord's work.

"2. At the deepening of his spiritual life in paying the tithe.

"3. At his ease in meeting his own obligations with the nine-tenths.

"4. At the ease in going from one-tenth to larger giving.

"5. Over the preparation this gives to be a faithful, wise steward over the nine-tenths that remain.

"6. At himself in not adopting the plan sooner."—Sel.

JOHN 3:16.

"God"—The greatest lover.

"so loved"—The greatest degree.

"the world,"—The greatest company.

"that He gave"—The greatest act.

"His only begotten Son"—The greatest gift.

"that whosoever"—The greatest opportunity.

"believeth"—The greatest simplicity.

"in Him"—The greatest attraction.

"should not perish"—The greatest promise.

"but"—The greatest difference.

"have"—The greatest certainty.

"everlasting life"—The greatest possession.—Sel.

STERRITT SISTERS ON STEAMER FOR AFRICA.

S. S. Kenilworth Castle,

March 24th, 1921

Dear Highway Readers:

We are very glad that we can speak to you all today through the Highway. We know you are all thinking of and praying for us these days and we do appreciate this so much.

We are waiting to sail from Southampton. It is like a May day here and we hope to have a good passage. The Lord gave us a good trip from St. John to Liverpool, for which we do thank Him. Some days it was very roly, but we had no storms, the weather was dark, only a few days of sunshine all the way. We were spared the agonies of seasickness. Sunday, March 6th, was our most uncomfortable day. Helen was not able to get out, and I was in during all afternoon. After that we became more settled and were able to be out daily and go to the dining room. It seemed good when we sighted the coast of Ireland Monday morning, the 14th. We landed early Tuesday morning and the Lord has been with us and helped us.

Brother W. E. Smith gave us a letter of introduction to a Christian gentleman in London who has a holiness mission. Through the kindness of the mission we were able to secure a comfortable, quiet room which has meant so much to us in that great city. We have had the privilege of meeting with sanctified people, and Sunday was a good day for us in the mission. It was one of their deaconesses who got our room for us. Today they begin their Easter Convention and I believe it will be a gracious time. We find God's dear people are here and there all over this world, and how good it is to meet them.

Mr. David Thomas, who has charge of the mission is a most devoted man to the work of God.

We were able to visit some of the great buildings of London and enjoyed seeing them. St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, the Parliament buildings, Crystal Palace, Buckingham Palace, where we saw the royal horses and carriages.

We were asked about a service the last Sunday we were on board the Corsican and the Lord helped us to have one. We trust some hearts were touched.

I must not make this letter too long. May God's blessing be with you. We feel His loving care so precious these days.

In Christian love,

THE STERRITT SISTERS.

CUTTING OUT HOLINESS.

A venerable woman once said to her pastor, "I met a man the other day who said he did not believe in holiness, so I'm fixing up a Bible to suit him.

I am cutting out everything on holiness. I have cut off the title on the outside, "Holy Bible." I am now cutting out all that's inside on holiness.

So far I have made 750 cuts and am only one-third through the Bible. When I get all through it will look like the remains of a turkey after a big Thanksgiving dinner."—The Drawn Sword.

"Unless you are a success inside, outward success is worth very little."