

# 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.

VOL. XXXIV.

MONCTON, N. B., MAY 15, 1923.

NO. 45

Miss Alice Sterritt

## GROWTH IN GRACE.

"But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."—2 Peter 3:18.

There is no greater mistake than to suppose that entire sanctification is a terminus in the spiritual life, a dead ripeness beyond which there is nothing but decay, or a blessed standstill.

Holiness is a germinal principle, containing in itself like a seed, unlimited possibilities of development and reproduction. Indeed it is the only starting point of unhindered growth. As the destruction of noxious weeds takes away that which causes sickness in the vegetable, so the extirpation of sin from the heart removes that which impairs health, spiritually; and which checks spiritual thrift.

The Scripture above cited is often misapplied. It is made to teach gradual approximation to Holiness, as if it read grow into grace of sanctification as a tree through nameless years grows to maturity. This is a perversion. The passage supposes the pre-attainment and present enjoyment of grace. It may be the grace of conversion, or the grace of entire sanctification. If we apply it to conversion, it means such a culture of the heart as will cause the most rapid and

beautiful growth. And such required culture is a command to seek sanctification. If we apply it to a sanctified state it signifies advancement—it means progress in the great grace of purity—progress toward maturity. But mark: the maturity most corresponds with the nature of the life to be matured. It is not a temporary life like that of a vegetable or animal, but everlasting life.

There is such a thing as maturity in Christian character in this life, but it is maturity from time to time up to the measure of our capacity, opportunities and light. In other words, it is an ever-increasing perfection—a thermometer of heat that has no upward limit. It is of deeply experienced Christians that the following words are spoken: "But we all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord are changed into the same image, from glory to glory even as by the Spirit of the Lord." 2 Cor. 3:18.

The soul is a plastic substance—the Holy Spirit a fashioning hand. Under his influence there must be an everlasting Godward evolution. The soul will take on forever new beauties, new excellencies, bright robes and richer crowns. Nor is this to be postponed to the hereafter. It is NOW that we "Comprehend with all saints, what is the height and depth and length and breadth" of spiritual grace. To be filled with all the fulness of God

is a present attainment. Holiness is not stagnation but a perpetual flow. "Then had thy peace been as a river and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea." Isaiah 48:18.

It is quite as possible to fall into the sanctification rut as into the justification rut. Some most excellent persons seem to be smitten and afflicted with a sort of sanctified dwarfishness. They glide along into a grove of dry, perfunctory Holiness. They do not drop back again "into the weak and beggarly elements" of sin, but they do not "mount up with wings as eagles." They seem to rest on a dead level.

Remember the order of God and His bountiful preparations of grace. It is after, not before, the Son of Righteousness has arisen with healings in His wings that we "go forth and grow up as calves in the stall." It is after we are made "free from sin" that "our fruit is unto Holiness." A prime duty of the sanctified Christian is to take definite and comprehensive views of progress and enlargement in spiritual experience after entire sanctification. The heart must ever be a well-watered garden, and the Father is glorified in that the branches "bear much fruit," not that they merely retain life by abiding even in the Vine; but that they rarify and droop with ever-increasing fruitage.—Selected.

**Our Annual Camp Meeting will take place at Beulah Camp Ground, N. B., on the St. John River, 20 miles from St. John, from June 29th till July 8th. The Evangelist this year will be Rev. A. P. Gouthey, D.D., of Seattle, Washington.**

**Our Other Annual Camp Meeting at Riverside Camp Ground, near Robinson, Maine, will be held from Aug. 3rd till 12th. Rev. A. L. Whitcomb, of University Park, Iowa, will be the Evangelist.**

**WE TRUST THAT MUCH EARNEST PRAYER WILL BE OFFERED THAT OUR CAMP MEETINGS THIS YEAR MAY BE SEASONS OF GREAT BLESSING SPIRITUALLY.**