

## RELATION OF CHRISTIANITY

To Learning and Intellectual Gifts: Its Use of Them, and Its Independence of Them.

Dear Highway:

This theme has been a subject of much discussion. We find people and zealous church workers far divided, and going to extremes as far one way as the other.

I believe there is the middle of the road to this as well as to any other subject or theme of discussion.

After much careful thought, study and prayer I have come to the following conclusions. If they are worthy of being printed on your pure pages I would be glad to have them printed. They may help someone who has a question of doubt one way or the other in their mind. If they are not worthy of being printed, turn them over to the scrap heap.

Scholars tell us, 'As a method of knowledge with respect to these things it is even more helpless than deductive philosophy.'

Whether or no God could have given to man a mental mechanism that would have made it possible for him to explore and demonstrate fundamental truth may be an open question. That he has not done so is simply a patent fact of experience.

But while asserting that fundamental truth cannot be demonstrated and that every comprehensive interpretation of life and things is simply a chosen belief, no matter by what name it may be called, we do not want to be understood as saying that Christianity is without intellectual support. Very far from this, we want to assert that Christianity has a tremendous apologetic, abundantly sufficient to justify the christian man's choice of it; that it has indeed an appeal not alone to the intellect, but to every faculty, and power of the human personality.

In the first place Christianity is atheistic system, and so it is heir to all the intellectual resources of theism. And while we must admit that theism falls short of actually demonstrating an eternal personal "first cause," yet we must nevertheless assert that it has made it fully apparent that the human mind can not come to rest in any other conception. So true is this that the theistic thinker is often half persuaded to look upon his argument as a demonstration.

But, moving on, Christianity makes another appeal to men besides those that are intellectual, and in this it is unique; for no other philosophy makes any appeal beyond the intellect. All other systems speak to the reason alone, but Christianity speaks to the whole heart and conscience of man as well as to his reason.

Christianity has largely made the intellectual life. The Bible has freed the mind and quickened its powers, and led to the investigations of science, and the discussions of being, and the critical dealing with theory and fact. The Bible stands in an ever growing environment of meditation, and criticism and interpretation. Christianity has created the pulpit, and the modern sermon with its educative

force, with its duty of feeding the mind as well as the heart.

It cannot do the latter without the first. There are good men, not marked by mental keenness and culture even illiterate men, who have been spiritual forces. But the highest mental culture and attainment can find unreachd heights, and depths in the Gospel, and in this time of rapid enlightenment the growth of popular education is making new and higher demands upon the ministry.

A scholarly ministry will always outlast an emotional one, and build a stronger church. The influence of Scotchmen today upon the intellectual life of the English speaking world, their supremacy in statesmanship, philosophy, criticism, literature and religion can be traced unmistakably to an educated pulpit, that taught men to think upon the deepest and greatest subjects.

After seeing what intellectual powers, intellectual gifts, and learning can do to build up Christianity, and make it stronger, we also can see the independence of learning, and intellectual gifts regarding Christianity. Because some of the greatest soldiers of Christianity has been deprived of both, or at least one or the other.

For instance we all have become personally acquainted with local preachers and evangelists who have never seen a college. In fact they have not had a common school education. Their personal testimony is that they have graduated from the university of hard knocks.

By God's help they are doing as much as the college men. To God they give all the glory!

Notwithstanding the fact Christianity is independent of a high degree of Learning (Education) and Intellectual Gifts. Yet is far better with them both, if properly harnessed.

Well, I praise God for this second blessing stuff! It just suits me. I mean by God's grace to hold it up to the people. It surely is the double-cure-all! Hallelujah! It has ruined me for the world. I am a spoiled child for the devil's playgrounds any more. Amen! I am going through on this good old holiness line no matter what other folks do, or what the devil says. For its none of his business. Amen! I mean it!

Yours for the interest of God's cause, and Holiness,  
STILLMAN A. MULLEN, Lic.

## EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED.

Brother Wiggins:

Enclosed you will find a money order for renewal of the Highway which we very much enjoy having in our home.

W. E. MORRELL.

Dear Brother Wiggins:

Please find renewal for the Highway. I am a little late with my renewal through neglect. The Highway is growing better all the time. It is a welcome old friend in my home. I feel that I cannot get along without it these days, it is such a blessing to me as my health is poor and I do not have the privilege of hearing the good old word preached in its fulness. I thought a year ago I would not live, but God has raised me up after seven months

of sickness and I am able to do my house work again, for which I am very thankful. During my illness God had a chance to talk to me, and showed me that I was not sanctified, and I sought and found the blessing in the good old fashioned way. Praise His dear name! It was on the 18th of March, 1922, that God gave me a clean heart. It was real, bless His name. He fills my heart with joy now while I am writing. But I have been going through some great tests for the last four months. On Nov. 29th God called my dear sister Minnie home. But I do not sorrow as those without hope, but believe we shall meet again on the other shore. God has been laying this on my heart that I should write my testimony for the Highway, but as I am a poor writer I have been putting it off: but I do praise Him he is real to me. He saves me just now and gives me victory in my soul. Praise God for the good old holiness way that leads to Him. I am in the way and on the way. Prayer for me that I may always keep on the way.

Your sister in Christ,

MRS. W. M. WAUGH.

Dear Brother Wiggins:

Enclosed please find renewal for Highway. I have been a reader of it for eighteen years and find it a great help along spiritual lines. Wishing the Highway every success, I remain

Yours truly,

WARREN M. SMITH.

## BAD COMPANY.

Sin spreads rapidly from heart to heart by the association of one with another. A man alone has the sins of but one to contend with. Put a score of others with him, and you manifold his liability to sin, because he is thus brought into contact and communion with the transgressions of so many others. A fruitful field for sin is always found where multitudes mingle. The army, the club, the university, the race, the slum. As a whole, cities are more iniquitous than country districts, because of this liability to partake of the sins of those with whom we associate.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

We have learned that those who write to our missionaries in Africa have not been informed of the increase in postage required to send letters there, and by so doing cause our beloved missionaries to pay double postage. Beloved, remember that the postage to British South Africa is **four cents** (not three) for the first ounce, and three cents for each additional ounce. An ordinary letter generally weighs about an ounce or less.

Please see that you put on the right amount.

The need of mankind is so deep seated that it cannot be reached by legislation, not even by education. Only regeneration and entire sanctification are sufficient to meet the deepest needs of us all.

"Few rich men are godly, but all godly men are rich."

"Death to carnality is the objective of all true holiness preaching."