

# 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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The Highway Wishes All its Readers

**A Very Happy New Year**

## THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND CLEANSING.

The relation of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit and the cleansing from inherited sin is easy of comprehension to those who are open to the leadership of the Spirit and who will read the Bible without prejudice. For the Holy Spirit is the executive of the Godhead, who will not only guide us into all truth, but take the experiences in grace portrayed in the Bible and make them real in our lives. The cleansing of the heart from all sin by the baptism with the Holy Spirit is both reasonable and scriptural.

Lowrey in his "Possibilities of Grace" says: "This finished work of salvation from sin we call entire sanctification, or perfect holiness. It is known by various titles and phrases in the Bible, such as 'perfection,' 'sanctification,' 'perfect love,' 'pure in heart,' 'dead to sin,' 'crucified with Christ,' 'Christ liveth in me,' 'mind of Christ,' 'partakers of the divine nature,' 'free from sin,' 'filled with the Spirit,' 'loving God with all the soul, mind and strength,' 'cleanseth from all sin and from all unrighteousness,' 'cleansed from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit,' 'perfecting holiness in the fear of God,' 'that the body of sin might be destroyed,' 'that He might destroy the works of the devil,' 'purify the sons of Levi and purge them as gold and silver,' 'from all your filthiness and from all your idols will I cleanse you.' All these phrases have substantially the same signification. They represent the cleansing of the believer's soul, and the reproduction in him of the image of Christ."

In Luke 11:13 Jesus tells us who they are who receive the baptism with the Spirit which cleanses and frees the heart from sin: "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" Asking is a prerequisite of the reception of the Holy Spirit. Who ever heard of a sinner asking God to give him the Holy Spirit? And besides, the Bible teaches us that God is not the Father of sinners. But the promise is to him that "asketh."

Regarding the reason for this requirement the editor of "The Christian Sun" said in a recent issue: "And there is reason for this, viz.: until one greatly desires the gift, he will not be prepared to re-

ceive it; and till he is prepared to receive it—till his heart has been made ready—he cannot get the gift, as he has nowhere to keep it. It was said of Josiah, the king of God's ancient people, that he prepared his heart before the Lord. The heart of the average believer must be prepared to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, or he cannot receive this marvellous gift from God. We cannot receive that for which we have no capacity. If you should offer an idiot the best education it is possible to give, he could not receive it; not because he does not need it, but because he has no capacity to receive it. So, in a different sense, the believer cannot receive any gift from God for which he is not prepared, and because of that fact the Lord does not bestow upon these deficient ones the great gift of His Spirit."

On the human side there must be spiritual illumination which enables the person to see his condition, conviction of his need, confession of this to God, a definite asking to have the needs of the soul met, and appropriating faith in the faithfulness of Him who has promised, "who also will do it." This implies a complete consecration to the whole will of God, and the purpose of the asking must be wholly for the glory of God. On God's part, in fulfilling the promise, there is the cleansing of the heart from all sin and the filling of the cleansed heart with the Holy Ghost, the abiding Comforter.

Hear the Saviour's words in Luke 11:10-13—"For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?"

The preparation of the heart as the temple of the Holy Spirit is two-fold (1) "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God," 2 Cor. 7:1. (2) "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin," 1 John 1:7. The Holy Spirit makes real in our lives what Jesus died to make possible.

John the Baptist declared that Jesus was the baptizer with the Holy Ghost, and

that His baptism was purging and cleansing in its effect. Jesus declared that the experience the disciples were soon to receive was the baptism with the Holy Ghost. Peter declared that their hearts were cleansed when they were baptized with the Holy Ghost on the Day of Pentecost.

What precious provision has been made for the children of God—salvation from all sin and the abiding presence of the Holy Comforter! There must first be a willing mind to have the sanctuary of our heart renovated; an earnest seeking and a definite asking. Not until the work is done and the Holy Ghost comes in, can we sing, "There is room in my heart for Thee."—Editor Wesleyan Methodist.

"Jesus never leads a person into sin, but always away from it. Those who travel in sinful paths can not walk with Christ at the same time. He hates sin in all its forms and has made provision for deliverance from it. It is sin that is cursing the world and blighting humanity. It is sin that has caused all the wars, that has dug all the graves, that has wrecked all the human lives, that has brought misery and sorrow to mankind. But there is hope and complete deliverance from its galling chains and its terrible consequences by accepting the Christ who died for our sins and rose again for our justification.

In walking in the light of the Lord we shall have peace in our souls. While there may be war and commotion outside, and strife and confusion may be prevalent almost everywhere, there will be a blessed tranquility inside which is not disturbed by outward conditions. "Great peace have they that love Thy law, and nothing shall offend them."

In walking in the light of the Lord we shall be in the best possible condition to represent Christ and prosecute His work. Those who do not obey the light that is shining upon their souls are sure to get under condemnation, and while in this state they cannot properly hold up Christ or build up His kingdom. They are handicapped seriously and fail in the great work they ought to perform."

"Light obeyed increaseth light,  
Light resisteth bringeth night.  
Who shall give me will to choose,  
If the love of light I lose?"

—Free Methodist.

Miss Alice Sterritt