

# 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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Mrs. Wm Churchill, June 24  
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## TRUE HOLINESS

Eph. 4: 24

A beginning word as to the text, in which the expression "true holiness" is found. True holiness, or holiness of truth; or the truth of holiness; the truth about holiness; the holiness truth; the truth of holiness; or "true holiness." Holiness a teaching of the Bible. Holiness as a doctrine of the Bible. Holiness a doctrine of the Church. Holiness the nature of God. Holiness the revelation of God, as manifested in Jesus Christ and in the Holy Ghost. Holiness as a law. Holiness as a grace. Holiness as a life. Holiness as a programme. Holiness (modus operandi)—manner of operation. Holiness (multum in parvo)—much in little. Everything in holiness and holiness in everything. The man who has been wholly sanctified has gone all over and all through the way of salvation; conviction, repentance, pardon, regeneration, consecration, faith and entire sanctification. It is like a man having ten dollars. We know if he has ten dollars, he has one dollar and all below ten dollars. So if a man has the blessing of holiness, he has all before it and has taken all the steps leading toward it, and all the steps leading to it, and all the steps into it, and is now, praise the Lord, in it and is enjoying it.

The foregoing statements of holiness, or about holiness, each and all of them, suggest thought for treatment. If we use the word holiness as a noun, then it must be understood as a state, a condition. This use of the word holiness is a common use of the word and is doubtless the thought of the Apostle Paul, in the text for he is speaking of the "New Man" which after God is created (as in Gen. 1:26, "Let us make man in our image"). Holiness as a state in the human heart is a creation, a divine creation. David prayed (Psalm 51:10) "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." It is "creation" not a suppression, nor a depression of the carnal mind—or inbred sin, but a cleansing, a sanctifying of the nature. This is "true holiness," or holiness of the truth. "Sanctify them through thy truth" (John 17:17). Sanctified by Christ. Sanctified through Christ. Sanctified in Christ. Sanctified for Christ, is necessary to "true holiness" as we shall see.

There are many errors concerning holiness as a state, or condition. We mention (1) the one that teaches that we are born holy. That a child is innocent is clearly the teaching of the Bible, and hence all children dying in innocency are saved by the virtue of Christ's blood, without repentance on the part of the child; but that children are born pure, free from inbred sin, is very far from the teachings of the Word of God. "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me" (Psalm 51:5). David was not born of illegitimate parentage. His mother was the lawful, legal wife of his father Jesse but his father and mother were the descendants of Adam, the first man, and in "Adam all die." Hence we hear this same man David saying, "The wicked are estranged from the womb;

they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies" (Psalm 58:3). What parent has not been grieved as he has heard the first little story, lie, deviation, exaggeration, or denial of the truth of his young hopeful? No, no, we are not born holy; but we are born innocent, and remain so until we learn the nature of law and the cause of sin, and hear of the remedy and cure of sin. The prophet Jeremiah declares (Jer. 17:9) "The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked." Jesus our Lord says, "From within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: all these evil things come from within, and defile the man" (Mark 7:21-22, 23).

2nd, is the error that in conversion, the new birth, justification, or regeneration, the soul is made holy and free from inherited sin. The term regeneration has confused some theological writers because they have endeavored to make regeneration provide for the nature of sin in salvation; whereas the work of regeneration is necessary in bringing to full life the soul that was dead in sins of a personal character. In the first work of grace, God not only forgives the dead soul (the sinner) but also brings it to life, and not only brings it to life, but he also regenerates or makes new and cleanses away all acquired (not inherited) depravity, and washes the soul by regeneration, doing away with all the habit and conduct of sin, fully restoring to innocence and brings back the soul to where it was before it ever committed sin; and more, by regeneration the soul is now alive in God and enjoying the life of God in the soul. But this is the limit of that great work.

That the nature of sin remains in the soul of the regenerated is the verdict, agreement, experience, argument of all fully sanctified teachers. To claim that in regeneration the soul is cleansed from all sin is to unchristianize all who have felt the stirrings of sin after they have grown that they are in a state of Christian life and grace. No, the universal testimony of regenerated people is that the nature of sin remains in justified believers (Psalm 51:2; John 15:2; 1 Cor. 3:1-3; Gal. 5:17).

3rd, is the error that by growth in grace we will become pure. This is a very common and popular error of many good and sincere Christians. However, this position is very weak and even foolish to all who have been wholly sanctified. Growth but enlarges and brings to maturity that which already exists. It adds no new element; that is not the nature of growth. Growth does not cleanse and since the nature of sin remains in the regenerated, nothing but cleansing will ever remove it. Growth does not change the nature of a tree, a calf, a goat, a kicking mule, a pig or the nature of a man. The nature of sin is a poisonous virus in the human soul, and nothing but the mighty fiery Baptism with the Holy Spirit can burn it out.

And, fourth, is the error that the death

of the body (natural death) sanctifies from the nature of sin. Some get it just before natural death, some in the act of, or when dying, others after death. Paul calls death an enemy and says, "The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death" (1 Cor. 15:26). In the book of Job 18:14 death is called "the king of terrors." Death, an enemy and the king of terrors, is to be your deliverer from sin. How unreasonable is such an idea. The Calvinists as a religious people are more deceived by this error, because they hold that sin is a part of the human body. Paul does use the expression "flesh" but a full examination of that text (Rom. 8:8-9) shows it is not the natural body of which Paul is speaking. Sin is a condition of the soul or spirit of man and not of the body.

True holiness is not merely a doctrine, a theory, a mental conception, an agreement of teaching, a rule, a law (though it is full of these and more); it is a grace, a blessing—indeed, **The Blessing.**

True holiness is not obtained nor attained by mere intellectual reasoning. It is beyond man, outside of man and not of man. On the aspect of holiness the Bible pictures holiness as beautiful. True holiness is well-behaved. It does not get sulky or fussy in spirit but is always pleasant. "Great peace have they which love thy law; and nothing shall offend them" (Psalm 119:165).

As to the characteristics of true holiness: it is submissive to the providences of life. It is uncomplaining, patient, hopeful looking out for the best. "To speak evil of no man, to be no brawler, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men." Titus 3:2. True holiness is co-operative, it hates nothing but sin. It is not clannish or narrow minded or sectarian. True holiness will work with all other churches and church people that are pushing the work of holiness. True holiness makes you bigger than your church, bigger than your individual notions. True holiness is aggressive, it is not content with getting over Jordan. Its motto is, "Deeper in and farther out." "The trees of the Lord are full of sap," says David. Happy and joyous in the way, and happy on the way to heaven in the way of true holiness. True holiness is aggressive in spiritual knowledge.

I began reading the Bible through the first year I was converted (1877) and I have read it through every year since and twice through two years and am just finishing it now my 49th time. Oh, how sweet and beautiful it is to me this last reading. What a treasure. No book or paper, or anything, ever lies on top of my Bible. The Bible, and good books are my companions these days when I am away from home so much. With Jesus and the Holy Ghost, how happy these days; Christ is more beautiful, the Holy Spirit more precious, and the Bible is growing sweeter every day. Praise God. True holiness is aggressive in promoting holiness. "Sanctified and meet for the Master's use." Sanctified for use. Sanctification is for service.

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