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King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness.

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EDITORIAL

II TIMOTHY 3.

1. This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy.

3. Without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good.

4. Traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God.

5. Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

10. But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, long-suffering, charity, patience.

11. Persecutions, afflictions, which came to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured; but out of them all the Lord delivered me.

12. Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

43. But evil men and seducers will wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

14. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been asured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them.

15. And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

17. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

This portion is well worth our considering, not hastily, but on our knees before cration that our God. It is a good thing that the heart be established with grace, for we are certainly in the last days. This old world is four particulars.

in a terrible commotion, unstableness everywhere; in governments, finances, society, homes, churches.

Jesus spoke of the time when they would be saying, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not.

Peter said, I perceive that God is no respector of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh right-eousness, is accepted with him. Sufficient to settle us in God.

THE HIGHER LIFE

The Two Consecrations.

Is not the higher Christian life the great need of the church? Is it not a conscious and confessed want of personal experience.

We acknowledge that we prefer to look at this matter from a practical, rather than a theological stand-point. For instance, we pass through a religious society. There are perhaps associated some hundreds of members. We converse with them in a spirit of kindness and candor. We satisfy ourselves that very many have a religious experience. There are sincere desires to do the Divine will. There are earnest, aye, and measurably successful, efforts to do that will. These friends have occasional joy. God blesses them in their closets, in their prayer circles, and under the preached Word. They would not on any consideration relinquish their trust in Christ, or their hope of Heaven. Nevertheless, as they themselves confess, their experience is not round, strong, full, abiding, and altogether satisfying. There is something that they consciously need. They want a more vivid and abiding sense of heart purity before God. They lack the ability to go steadily and successfully forward in the path of obedience, growing constantly in grace and in the knowledge and love of the Lord Jesus Christ." They crave the 'life more abundantly" that will constrain and enable them to talk for Jesus. They desire the full and glorious liberty of the sons of God. They cry out for a deeper and more blessed rest in Christ—the rest of conscious safety, of humble faith, and of perfect love.

Now, beloved reader, what is the experience that they need and desire in comparison with what they have and profess? Is it not a higher Christian life? Is it not what, in New Testament phrase, we dominate "perfect love," or entire sanctification?

How is this to be realized?

We answer, by an entire consecration of ourselves to God, and an acceptance, moment by moment, of Christ as our full and perfect Saviour.

Observe, first, by an entire consecration of ourselves to God—that consecration, of course, including body, soul, life, talents and everything.

But just at this point some one will inquire for the difference between the consecration we made of ourselves at the time of our conversion, and the consecration that our entire sanctification calls for. This is an interesting question. The distinction, as we think, will develop in four particulars.

deeper experience, then, with the illumination received at conversion and characterizing our renegerated life, our consecration becomes more intelligent, speific and careful. It is not merely myself as before. It is now these hands, these feet, these senses, this body with all its members and powers; it is now my soul, with all its ennobling faculties—its understanding, judgment, memory, imagination, conscience, will, and affections. It is now all my talents of time, influence, energy, reputation, home, kindred, friends, worldly substance—everything. Upon all we have and are we specifically and honestly inscribe, "Sacred to Jesus;" covenanting to use all in harmony with the divine will. Some at this point have been careful to write upon paper the several items that were included, as well as the several obligations that were assumed, in this fuller consecration of themselves to God. This was the case with the celebrated Dr. Jonathan Edwards, of the Presbyterian Church.

Third Difference

When we would thus specifically sanctify ourselves unto God, there is likely to rise up in the mind, or before the conscience, some peculiarly trying test of obedience. This is varied in different experiences. It may be a little thing, a very little thing, but it is not on that account any the less formidable. Eating an apple amid Paradisaical scenes would seem, from a human stand-point, to have been a very little thing; and then, observe, it was a test required of one who was living before God. Adam failed in the test; a failure "that brought death into the world, and all our woe." So the test that infinite holiness may lay uopn the regenerated may be a little thing, perhaps something connected with our appetites, or with our adornments, or with our associations, or with our services. The question may be, Will you give up that doubtful indulgence, a something in which you regard your own inclinations rather than your soul's good and God's glory? Will you lay aside the last weight, and the sin that doth so easily beset you? Will you take your place with the entirely devoted, and con-