

THE King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness.

THE ORGAN OF THE
REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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SPECIAL NOTICE

All correspondence for The Highway should reach us before the 12th and 25th of each month. Address Rev. P. J. Trafton, 291½ Rockland Road, Saint John, N. B.

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EDITORIAL

THANKSGIVING.

The governors of our country do well in setting a day for National Thanksgiving. This brings the matter prominently before the whole dominion, so that none can make excuse if they enter not into the spirit of the day. This year it is the ninth day of November, and I am wondering if in our churches we could not make it a special day in having an all day meeting. Where it was possible, if help could be secured, well and good; if not let the resident pastor lead his own flock. We in the years gone by had such days of meetings, the morning service usually devoted to waiting on the Lord in special prayer; the afternoon in a social service for the help of the saints and the evening an evangelistic service for the saving and sanctifying of precious souls. We believe it would be a real impetus to our work. I fear as a people we are not having enough season of really waiting on God to offer thanks for the past favors and blessings.

This our National Thanksgiving Day is near the "Eleventh," the day on which the Armistice was signed that brought to a close the great world war. How thankful we should be to our heavenly Father for years of peace and plenty, and so many things in a personal way.

Most of all it seems we should be thankful to God for His wonderful Gift, for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son. The son gave himself and finished a plan of redemption for the whole human family. In his death and resurrection he completely defeated the enemy of souls and provided a full and complete and eternal salvation. We as his children have nothing to fear for he is made unto us, wisdom and righteousness, and sanctification and redemption: That according as it is written, He that glorieth let him glory in the Lord.

A final word: Let us remember the poor, for our Master said, we would always have them with us. Nehemiah commanded the people to send portions unto

them for whom nothing was prepared. John says: But whoso hath this world's goods and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him. May our thanksgiving be such that others will be benefitted thereby.

SPIRITUAL DARKNESS.

We are often compelled to pray through spiritual darkness and a sort of devil-blackness that infests the whole world. Every spiritual man feels it. We must pray by, and around and over and through all these obstacles of every sort, and never cease until we rise on into the conscious realm of the Holy Ghost, who leads us on into the realized presence of God.

You may seem dry, at times, as you go to prayer, and even after you have continued in prayer—a dryness in the very center of your spirit. Pray on. Pray on. Do not hesitate to pray on. God does not want to answer you in darkness and denseness. Pray on. There is a way out.

Clouds Will Form

Pray on. A cloud will form and break over the landscape of your spiritual nature. Showers will fall to refresh and bless. Many devout souls begin dry, but continue to pray until God abundantly ushers them into His glorious presence. Prayer may begin dry, but should close in victory; unless, as may happen once in a great while, that the pray-er is compelled or permitted for a season, for some spiritual lesson, (to pray on wholly in faith, without answer and assurance—only that granted by the Word of God alone, which says when we have met conditions. God hears and we have the petitions which we have desired of Him. This is the highest form of the prayer of faith.

When we draw nigh the manifested presence of God, there is a lifting of pressure from the spirit; a removal of the burden that bowed the soul, and a consequent lightness of heart and inner assurance of coming victory, which plainly indicates that we are at the top of the hill, and are now beginning to enter the presence of God!

Tonic of the Eternal Hills

As we draw nigh to God, the glory begins to roll in upon our souls; the brightness of His approaching presence banishes all darkness, and the light of another world begins to break in. Conditions clear. Fogs lift. We begin to feel the tonic of the everlasting hills. Breezes blow from seas of gladness, and joy rolls along the shore line of the spirit. We feel the presence of God.

We pray on a bit further. Tears break from the eyes, praise from our lips. Cares are forgotten. The world is far below. Dangers are past. Pressures gone. Thanksgiving and praise have taken the place of petition. We are blessed in our souls. God is unveiling his face. We see Jesus. We are in his presence! We came to pray; we forget to ask.

The Door is Open Now

Now ask. Now ask, even to half of the kingdom, as did Esther the queen. Yes, the door stands wide on its hinges. The storehouses of God are bursting with plenty. The apocalyptic angel can not

measure the resources that lie before the gaze. Before the soul that has prayed into His presence lie all the beauties and bounties of God. It may take only a moment, or an hour, to pray into His presence; but it takes only a moment to ask, believe and receive.

Why Prayers Are Not Answered

Never stop praying nor begin to ask until you are first blessed in your own soul. Not until then is the door open. Many pray-ers do not get close enough to utter their petition. It is never heard, therefore never answered. Neither the prayer nor the pray-er got into the presence of God.: Like the prophets of Baal on the Mount of Carmel, there was noise and effort, but no approach into the presence of God that brings the holy fire.

Oh, the useless, juiceless, joyless, fireless, passionless prayers that are offered to God, that never rise to the level of the foothills that lead on to the majestic presence of God on the top of the everlasting hills. Pray on till you reach His presence.

Covered with Glory

As you pray into the divine presence, you may forget the request and rejoice in the presence of God. The soul may become so bathed in light, filled with love and covered with glory that it abandons the object first sought and loses its petition in the contemplation of God Himself. On our way down from that excellent glory, we are so blessed we can scarce remember the thing we went for. Oh, just to draw nigh to God often is enough! He is so much more than all and any answered prayer. But lo, as we reach the place of the ascent, we may find the gift we sought, or word that the answer is on the way.

That is Prayer

There is little praying, for few pray into the presence of God. When you go to prayer refuse to cease until you get, first of all, the presence of God upon your own soul. Then request and petitions are sure. To go to prayer simply to ask for answers is the lowest form of prayer. To go to prayer to pray into the presence of God—why, that is prayer.

It is possible for the redeemed of the Lord to so walk before God that it requires but a moment's notice to talk with God, to make petitions and to receive answers. Are you of that number who diligently seek to walk daily as in the manifested and conscious presence of God? If so, at any moment you are ready to pray!—Tract.

NOTES.

Invest something in the kingdom of God by paying to missions.

The Highway for a year sent semi-monthly to your friends would be a good Christmas gift.

A good time now for you to renew your subscription.

Don't forget the different denominational funds.

Lord Tennyson wrote: "Mighty hopes make us men." The religion of Jesus Christ is the most potent agency in life for the production of "mighty hopes." Hence, to be real men is to be real Christians.