

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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Entire Sanctification—How Obtained.

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The doctrine of entire sanctification is much opposed by many because it is not understood. It is not our purpose, however, so much to prove what sanctification is, or is not, as much as it is to help some hungry hearts who are seeking the blessing. But many anxious souls ask us,

"WHAT IS SANCTIFICATION?"

The word has two meanings—First, to purify, or to make holy; second, to consecrate, or set apart for a sacred purpose. In other words, God purifies, or makes holy, every seeking soul who is entirely consecrated and believing for the blessing of entire sanctification.

The Methodist Episcopal Church catechism says: "Sanctification is that act of Divine grace whereby we are made holy." (I. Thess. 5:23; Eph. 1:4; Col. 1:22; Heb. 13:12.)

The Webster's Dictionary says that sanctification is: 1. "The act of God's grace by which the affections of men are purified or alienated from sin and the world to a supreme love to God; also the state of being thus purified, or sanctified." 2. The act of consecrating or setting apart for a sacred purpose, consecration."

The Standard Dictionary says it is "The gracious work of the Holy Spirit whereby the believer is freed from all sin, and exalted to Holiness of heart and life; distinguished from regeneration and justification."

From these definitions, we notice: 1.—That sanctification is not regeneration or justification, but something distinct and separate from them. Note, it says that sanctification is "Holiness of heart and life; distinguished from regeneration and justification." Hence it must be a second work of grace. 2.—We notice that the sinner is not a candidate for it, as it is the "believer is freed from all sin." 3.—That it is not by growth, or anything that men can do, but it is "the act of God's grace by which the affections are purified." It is a Divine, Supernatural work, or "the gracious work of the Holy Spirit." 4.—As it is God's work, we can have it now, as God's time is now. Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:2). It is not in the next world, but "in this present world." (Titus 2:12-14). And we are to serve Him without fear in holiness and in righteousness "all the days of our life." (Luke 1:74-75).

HELPS AND HINDRANCES

In view of all the light we have these

days by the preaching of the truth, the testimonies of God's saints in so many of our holiness churches, camp-meetings, and conventions, also in the publication of tracts, pamphlets, and papers, and, best of all, God's Holy Word, the ignorance is remarkable that is prevalent concerning this great central truth of the Bible.

To one who is in possession of full salvation it may seem strange that any one in these enlightened days should ask, "What must I do to obtain the blessing of entire sanctification?" The way is so simple to us who have it not, and that, if they do not grasp it quickly as it is presented, we sometimes come to the conclusion that they do not want it. Alas, this is true with money; but we thank God it is not true with all. We must have charity for such, who, like some of us, are slow to see it at first.

Beloved, when we stop and consider the different theories presented from the pulpit and press by so many of the leading and popular preachers of the land, one can then see the cause for such ignorance, and wonder not that men and women all over the land say, We have not so much as heard whether there be any baptism with the Holy Ghost to sanctify us wholly, as a second definite, and instantaneous work of grace, subsequent to conversion.

The Lord, therefore, help us to bear with these until God flashes the truth on their hearts, when it will likely be "holiness or hell." There are some honest souls groping their way in the dark, and now and then we find some of them whom it becomes our blessed privilege to lead into the light. If such should read these lines, let me in love and humility write you a few thoughts.

HOW OBTAINED

Beloved, in starting out to seek full salvation, there are some very important matters you must settle in the beginning. First: A thorough and Scriptural conversion to God. Much depends on this. Yea, everything hinges on this at the start. To be mistaken here will cause you much trouble as you proceed, for no one is eligible for this experience who is not a child of God, the Holy Spirit bearing him witness that he is born from above. We fear many have sought sanctification who at the time were not eligible for the experience, not being in a clear justified state. When they got blessedly justified they thought they were sanctified, and began testifying to the experience, when

suddenly one day the old man of sin began to assert himself, and they found out they did not get entirely sanctified, but gloriously justified and were honest to confess their mistake, and went in for full salvation and received and enjoyed the blessed experience to the joy of their own hearts and to the profit of many. Still others, instead of confessing their mistake, yielded to temptation, went on professing sanctification when it was noticeable upon the doctrine. Simply being a member of the Church, or being baptised, does not make you eligible for holiness. Nay, verily. You must have the witness of the Spirit that you have passed from death unto life, and that you are a child of God, otherwise you can not get entirely sanctified. (John 14:15-17; 17:14-17; Heb. 10:19-22.) You must believe there is such an experience, and that it is for you now. If you fail here, you will never get through. The writer has seen some come up to the altar for the experience one night, and the next night sit back, refusing to move an inch. Upon inquiring what the trouble was, he found that they were not quite sure there was such an experience. They had listened to some one who told them there was no such experience. How the devil and some professors have balked many here. O, beloved, get it settled once and forever that there is such a second work of grace, and that it is for you (1) because the Bible says so (I. Thess. 4:3; John 17:15-17). (2) because thousands can testify to the truth of it; (3) because Jesus suffered and died to sanctify you (Heb. 13:12; Titus 2:14; Eph. 5:25-27).

"O for a heart to praise my God,

A heart from sin set free."

God would not give us a hunger or thirst after righteousness if He could not satisfy us. He says, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled." Glory to God. We know this is true in our own experience. Beloved, it is for you, and it is for you now. Then, don't wait another day, but seek it now. Having these prerequisites settled, the following steps will bring you into the blessing of sanctification:

1—Seek it with all your heart. God says, "Ye shall seek Me and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart." Make up your mind that you will seek it at any cost. Be determined to go every

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