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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

VOL. XXXVII.

MONCTON, N. B., JUNE 30, 1926.

NO. 148

CHRIST LIVES AND LOVES!

J. B. McBride

Christ ever lives at the right hand of God. Jesus suffered under Pontius Pilate, was dead and buried, but rose from the dead on the third day, and is alive forevermore. It seemed that hope was almost gone, and redemption's plan was defeated, and every soul of the race was eternally lost. The disciples had returned to their former occupations; the Church had lost faith, and the world ridiculed them, saying, "We told you that He was an imposter, and that He deserved to die!" Devils and demons were having a jubilee in hell, saying, "We are done with Him forever!" But the God-man shook the throne of damnation, and, at the eventful moment, seized the keys of death and hell from the old monster, and walked out of Sheol, taking the gate off its hinges; and, walking through Hades, burst the prison bars of death, and a host of the saints rose from their long slumbering place as Jesus took His body out from Joseph's new tomb, and ascended into heaven, shouting the glad and glorious news, "He that was dead is alive again!" Hope revived, and the Church became an established fact; the disciples rallied to the cause, and the world was made to believe in the deity of Christ. And now, while devils and demons are confounded, the Church sweeps on to glorious consummation, and will stand as an imperishable structure in the presence of God through all the ages to come. Jesus brought "life and immortality to light," because He lives. Our Lord Jesus Christ is just as much alive today as He was before the tragedy of Calvary; and in His attribute of omnipresence He is real and everywhere. He fills all immensity of space, and will save, sanctify, keep, bless and commune with us, as He did His followers nineteen hundred years ago. We have absolutely no reason to be discouraged, nor to hang our heads, for Christ is by our side. We do not have to tread a long, dusty road to Jerusalem, nor go to yonder mountain to find and worship Him, or to be in His presence. He said, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age." "Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way?" can be our constant testimony; for He not only lives with us, but in us.

Christ's attribute of Omnipresence makes possible His abiding personality in us all the time and everywhere. He says, "Because I live, ye shall live also." "Whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die." Thank God for a Christ who lives today!

The knowledge of Christ's living presence in one takes out of life the sadness and sorrow which were caused by sin, and gives a gladness that makes the face shine with the light of another world, and brings in a hope that shines more brightly and clearly day by day, and which gives an anchor to the soul that holds it safe and steadfast to that within the veil. Christ's living in one's life takes the drudgery out of service rendered to God and man. He refines us by taking the harshness and the crudeness out of our lives. He sympathizes with the sorrowing, loves the unlovable, and exemplifies His life in us. If one ever gets a real vision of the gentle, pure, holy Jesus, He will become the Rose of Sharon, the Lily of the Valley, the Bright and the Morning Star, the One altogether lovely, the Fairest among ten thousand to the soul. The Christ that lives will take the charm out of the world, and become the heart-charmer Himself. The world's bent will be removed from the soul, and replaced with a heavenward bent, and love that will make the world look like trash to us.

The secret of Christian life and constant victory is for Christ to live in us. This is the whole of the gospel's teaching. It is the supreme purpose of the Trinity, and it is the supreme joy of the soul. Christ lives and loves. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." He loves the sinner, but hates his sin. His love is boundless, fathomless, and deeper than the seas. His is an undying love. He loves with a heart of tender affection. This is a cold old world apart from the love of Christ. He loves with a divine love. "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." "We love Him, because He first loved us." When we did not love ourselves enough to think of our salvation and eternal interest, God loved us even unto death. Love is the essence of the

Godhead. "For God is love." When love fails to conquer its enemies, all else will fail. Law and justice, though stern as the grave, never conquered a soul.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." This is the limit of human love; it can do no more than to give itself to die for its friends, and that has been done. But Christ gave Himself to die for His enemies, thus proving His divine love, which has no bounds. He died for sinners and aliens. Divine love holds on to a sinner until he utterly rejects the Christ that died for him, and becomes the subject of law's retribution. Love will make heaven a joyful and delightful abode for the lovers of Christ, while hate will make an awful hell for the sinner who spurns His love.

Christ not only lives, but loves, and will be the object of the love of those who reach that bright clime where all is love and peace. How Christ loved the unlovable is a mystery; it is inexplicable, except we believe that we are the offspring of God, and are His by creation as well as redemption. It has been the mystery of the ages, and the study of angels; but God is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." Redemption's price is a portrayal of His great love to us.

Christ lives and loves! Glory to God! "Oh, how I love Jesus," is the song of the redeemed soul.—God's Revivalist.

A Quaker is said to have thus addressed John Wesley: "Friend Wesley, I have had a dream concerning thee. I thought I saw thee surrounded with a large flock of sheep which thou didst not know how to feed them." How many Christian friends have beautiful dreams about helping the cause of Scriptural holiness, but how few remember their dreams and act as the Quaker did.—Ex.

"Four classes of people need urging: Sinners should be urged to repent; backsliders to return; believers to go on unto perfection; and those entirely sanctified to step into the place of abundant service. Ours is an urgent gospel."—Heart and Life.