

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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The Great Need of the Church To-day

(By J. B. McBride, Pasadena, California)
(Written for *The King's Highway*)

The great need of the church today is a ministry with the baptism with the Holy Spirit which gives purity of heart, power for service, a vision, and a burning passion for souls. We do not deprecate education in the least, we rather believe in every minister having a good education, but that is not the paramount need. The baptism with the Holy Ghost is the paramount need. It is the belief of the writer that if one possesses the Holy Spirit as an abiding guard, to lead and to guide one into all truth, that he, or she, will buy up every opportunity to study, and will apply themselves, and be able to get enough education to enable them to preach the gospel in its simplicity, and win souls for God, and feed the saints of the Lord. One cannot have the baptism with the Holy Spirit and be indolent, careless, and uninterested in preparing one's self for the best service in the Master's kingdom, but to the contrary, they will be energetic, live clean, be studious, prayerful, and ever trying to increase their usefulness. In this day one is left without an excuse for not having a reasonable education and a good store of knowledge in their minds, for if one cannot go to school, there are thousands of books to be had cheap, and good libraries in every town and city that are accessible. It is very needful that one study, and buy up every educational opportunity, but the *Great Need* is Baptism with the Holy Ghost. One cannot have the Holy Spirit abiding in their heart

and have any sin remaining in the soul, the Spirit of God, and sin cannot long remain in the same heart; sin must go, if the Spirit abides. To be baptized with the Spirit means as one result, that we will have a pure heart. Purity of heart is a heart where there is no envy, jealousy, hatred, malice, pride, bitterness or the root of evil left. Purity of heart means power for service, but not power alone for service, but power to live pure lives, and purity to give us power over all sin, and thus we have power for service, for if one has the Holy Ghost dwelling within, generating power in us out of the elements of purity that is within us, we are always ready for service. He never gives us education nor power some think. All we have to do is to "open our mouth and he will fill it." He can only use what we have to the best advantage, and the greatest use, touching it with divine power. This gives each one their own individuality and personality and gives us a place to fill where we can all be soul-winners, for people are attracted to personality set on fire by the Holy Spirit. The great need of the church today is such a ministry. These are days that try the heart of God's people, and the minister cannot bless the people and encourage them and lead them out of the shadows into the sunlight of happiness, unless he is blest and encouraged himself. A minister should never talk discouragement nor doubts to people; we believe if a minister has the conscious abiding presence of the Holy Spirit's anointing on his own heart, he will never talk in a discouraging way to the people, for he sees victory ahead and a glorious outcome in every battle. He re-

lies upon his God, and He never lost a battle. It is when we get out of the Spirit's leading that we see darkening shadows ahead and become fearful, and talk doubts. Doubts and discouragements do not belong to the vocabulary of a spirit-filled soul, "neither jesting nor joking." The church needs a ministry that has but one purpose, and that to win souls and extend the kingdom on the earth, a ministry that is free from the insatiable desire for filthy lucre, a ministry that will sacrifice, pray, visit the sick, the poor, the distressed, the needy, and speak to sinners about their soul's salvation. Nothing but heart purity by the baptism with the Holy Spirit upon the life of a God-called man will enable him to have the interest of lost souls at heart and make it his supreme business in life to win them for Christ. Mr. Wesley said that a minister should be a man of one job, and of one book, to succeed in his calling. What he meant by one book is that the Bible should be the book, and that all other books should be used to help one in getting the best out of the Book. Today too many people and too many preachers are reading other books that try to explain away the true meaning of the Book; they take other men's interpretations to be right and try to make the Book fit into their interpretations; and if it does not, then they are inclined to believe men instead of the Bible. A ministry that believes the Bible to be God's infallible, inspired word and has nothing at heart but to win souls and take the kingdoms of this world for our Christ, is the great need of the church to accomplish the task. Ministers, to your knees. Amen!—J. B. M.

DISCUSSING PRAYER

A Harvard professor, Rev. Keirsopp Lake, is quoted as saying regarding prayer discussion, that in his opinion "only the professional psychologist is competent to discuss this question properly."

We are glad that our contemporary believes in prayer, and would have it discussed. Untold good could come from prayer discussion by "professional psychologists. The need calls for the best they can bring from God. To make known the mind of God on prayer is a high calling. God calls for prayer and its discussion. The need of God is universal. We approach Him by prayer through Jesus Christ. In praying to Him all are on the same level of privilege; and all are on the same level of privilege to discuss prayer among men; and all are on the same level of privilege

to become competent in discussion according to their respective capacity for receiving and expressing the mind of God. Gifts differ, the end is the same, the glory of God, and the blessing of mankind. All praying spirits are akin. Their fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. They draw from the same source of inspiration. Christ in the hearts of men, women and children is the fruitage of prayer and its discussion. Men and women eminent in the kingdom of God, though not "professional" psychologists, have set forth prayer to this end. Children taught to pray by their parents first hear prayer discussed in the home. Pastors unknown in psychological circles discuss prayer before their flocks; and souls are won to God, and learn how to live and die in Him. Surely they have proven that they are competent to discuss prayer.

Prayer should be presented from the Godward and the manward side. Jesus is in the midst of these as the peerless teacher of prayer. All His disciples are learners. By His spirit they are taught to know Him and to know God. They find this knowledge beneficial in actual life. Why should they not be equal to making that knowledge known? Every praying spirit has a vision and a message. Why should they not make known the vision and declare the message? The call of God to do so carries with it a guarantee of fitness for the task. Let the spirit tell it abroad.

A friend of the late Bishop Asbury said: "He prayed the most and he prayed the best of any man I ever knew." Here intimacy with God led to better prayer. The same has been true in myriads of souls. The place of prayer is made

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