

# 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, Moncton, N. B.

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**EDITORIAL**

**THE PASTOR**

We have had it in our mind for some time to write an article on "The Pastor" as we consider this office the one of most importance in the extension of the Kingdom of God. An article appearing in a recent issue of the "Herald of Holiness," by J. G. Morrison, is so much to the point that we are publishing a part of it for the benefit of our readers.

One of the most important items in church machinery is the pastor. However wise general officers may be, however capable district officers may be, if pastors are lacking in elements of leadership, the cause of God will stand still or deteriorate. Indeed in many respects the pastor is the key man to the human side of the kingdom of God.

No person can be a successful pastor, unless he has been definitely called thereto of God, and also unless he has been definitely baptized with the Holy Ghost, which removes all carnality from the heart. No more pitiable object exists in this world than a person endeavoring to be a pastor of God's flock while still retaining carnality in his heart. The labor, stress and grief incident to the pastoral office; the burdens, heartache and constant demands for sympathy which a minister is sure to meet, and the qualifications for being God's mouth-piece, can only be successfully met when the heart is aglow with perfect love, and that minister in possession of the flame of fire that God has promised to confer upon the leaders of his flock. A consciousness of the value of the pastoral office also has a very steadying effect upon a minister. To feel that it is but a stepping stone to something else, whether it be district office or evangelism is for that minister himself to prevent his own greatest achievement. A good education is a strong element of success for any minister, as a rule, provided he has not allowed it to operate as a deadening force upon his burning experience of heart holiness. If, to train and cultivate the mind, one finds that his conscious sense of the nearness and presence of the Holy Ghost is lessened or his passion for lost souls, cooled in any degree, he had better by far abandon all training, and do what he can in the great harvest field with a dull scythe, rather than to whet his scythe and find that,

with the whetting, his zeal and heart for harvesting have been paralyzed.

The pastor must be a leader. In holiness, in zeal for the redemption of the lost, in prayers, in fastings, in courage, in faith, he should never allow one of his flock to exceed him. He should live such a white life, his conduct and language and deportment should be so unblameable, that if all in the community where he dwells should follow his example none could take hurt or detriment. All things that go to make up a minister's life are important (and many small things are the more important because of their tininess), but two things stand out with glaring emphasis: His relation to money, and his relation to the opposite sex!

Debts, persisted in, will ruin the saintliest minister. To obtain goods, even food, without the probability of paying for the same, is a deadly thing to a preacher of the gospel. It is one of the things that the world will not forgive, and it were better if we all who are related to the holy ministry looked upon this as a mortal sin! Ever to leave a church with unpaid personal bills, is a fearful blow to holiness, a wound to the church of which that person was pastor, and a frontal attack on the salvation of which our Lord Jesus Christ is author. Any pastor who accumulates debts, and leaves with them unpaid, ought to be firmly but kindly invited to leave the ranks of the clergy of our divine Lord. It is true, that occasionally debts cannot be avoided, but such cases are so very rare as to be almost negligible. In such an event a District Superintendent should be carefully consulted before debts are contracted. Pastors, avoid debts as you would Satan himself, for debt is one terrible weapon with which our wily adversary has blasted many a ministerial career, and he is patiently waiting to blast yours.

In the same breath let us warn every pastor concerning a too great readiness to contract debt for church or parsonage building. Many a church is mortgaged to death before it is hardly born, and its energies sapped for years paying interest which could have been avoided with a little care and foresight on the part of the pastor.

The pastor's relation to his own personal finances has a distinct bearing on the kingdom of God. As a leader, he is always the "observed of the observers." As the head of the flock he is supposed always to set an example to others that they can follow without damage to their experience or injury to their influence. Let his home be a model of wholesomeness without extravagance. Let the car he buys be an average of the cars purchased by his parishioners, "That the ministry be not blamed." Do not say that it is nobody's business what you do with your salary. On the contrary, it is the concern of all over whom you have the spiritual oversight, as to the sort of example you set, in whatever realm your life may touch. And bear in mind, dear fellow-pastor, that when any of us accepted the care of the flock of Jesus, the great Shepherd, we gave up many things in relation to private choice that we formerly had a right to, before we accepted the leadership of the sanctified hosts. Now, having become a pastor, our whole care is to "Feed the flock of God, taking the oversight thereof," as one who must give an account to the great Shepherd for every act that we perform in that capacity. The pastor who can handle all the financial problems that meet him in the pastorate, so

that he secures the unqualified approval of Jesus Christ our Lord, who shall investigate him in the judgment day, will have purchased for himself a good report at that awful day!

The second outstanding and emphatic matter that should have the attention of the man of God is his relation to the opposite sex. Hundreds have fallen and besmirched the robe of the sacred ministry at this point through sheer ignorance. Hardly a minister, we believe, ever deliberately walked into the crushing folds of this serpent of indiscretion. Its beginning has almost always been an inadvertence. Too much freedom between the sexes—this should be very prudently curtailed. Too many interviews with no third party present is a very dangerous proceeding. Too many efforts to enlist the pastor's sympathy in the woes or afflictions of the private life of the other party and sympathy and pity so easily ripen into infatuation, and infatuation when it is finished bringeth forth death. Too much flattery offered to pastors, or by pastors—and flattery is the precursor of deceit—and damnation. Almost every pastor in the land, when in his right mind, feels sure that he will never succumb to such an artful assault of the enemy. But when the hook is baited ever so skilfully with the feminine gender, the sharp barbs artfully concealed in the plan to do good and assist a human being in distress (and woman's distress and woman's tears have ever been used by Satan as a means of approach) and the unsuspecting pastor swallows the bait, gets hooked on the barbs, flounders in the toils of the enemy's net, deceives, sins, and lands at last a poor derelict on the rocky shores of ruin's reef, he adds one more to the immense list of those who have been caught by Satan and damned before death, with a woman for a bait. Let every minister beware! Mankind, though converted and sanctified, is a fallen race! His complete restoration awaits the resurrection day. In the meanwhile, as John Wesley tersely put it, "conduct yourself prudently with women," and as the blessed Scriptures declare, "Treat the younger women as sisters, and the elder as mothers," in the Lord.

One thing more we think should be emphasized, and that is to keep a tender and loving spirit. With the many disheartening things met with, the tendency is to become harsh in spirit, and beat the sheep. One must pray, fast and pray, and pray some more, to keep the heart overflowing with love and tenderness.

**OBITUARY**

Minnie Cox

Minnie Cox, relict of the late B. M. Cox, died in Woodstock Thursday, Oct. 27th. She had been in failing health for a long time. The body was brought to Hartland on Saturday, the 29th, where the funeral was held in the Reformed Baptist Church, Rev. H. S. Dow, officiating. Interment was in the cemetery at Victoria. She leaves one adopted daughter, Ruth, who has the sympathy of many friends.

The man who swears does six things at once; he breaks the command of God; he violates the law of the land; he transgresses the rules of good manners; he insults good people; he profanes sacred things; he dishonors his parents.