

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. 35-8

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THREE NECESSITIES AND THREE APPOINTMENTS

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Let us notice three important "without's" in the Bible. In Hebrews 11:6 Paul says, "Without faith it is impossible to please God." Now, to define faith is one of the hardest propositions that I have undertaken. All preachers preach about faith, and all try to explain it; but after all, faith is that peculiar something that enables you to reach out an unseen hand and grasp an unseen God and bring into your heart and life that which you need to make you the kind of man or woman you ought to be.

In the fourth chapter of Romans Paul did not lack much of explaining faith. The reader will remember as we quote it that Paul was describing Abraham. He said Abraham "staggered not." That is a remarkable statement. Abraham was one man that was saved from the staggers. The blind staggers often kills the mule, and it is equally as dangerous for a man. But, thank God, Abraham was saved from the staggers for "he staggered not." But the statement that makes it plainer with us is that Paul said he was "strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded, that what God had promised, He was able also to perform." It is my opinion that when you boil faith down to its last analysis it is that something that Paul calls persuasion. You were just persuaded somehow that the thing would be done and when you believed, it was done. I sometimes illustrate it like this: A few years ago I had promised to some outgoing missionaries a certain amount of money. I had paid it all but \$55.00. I had only one day in which to raise that money and I was on the train crossing Ohio. The reader will admit at once that to pray down money on a fast train is a hard proposition, but I prayed until I could see the money coming. I could see it in the envelope going across the country to the missionaries, until my heart rejoiced and leaped within my breast. I didn't know how it was going to come, but I knew God was going to send it. So out between Columbus and Akron a fine-looking gentleman boarded the train. He walked down the aisle, shook hands with me and said, "Brother Bud, your preaching has been a blessing to me." After a while he took out his purse and gave me \$5.00. He said, "You use this money where it will do the most good." I said, "I thank you, and I will do that." But when we came to the next station another man got on the train and walked down to this man and said, "Elder, I want to see you." I began to pray and rejoice. I had \$5.00 now and there was \$50.00 more to get. I said, "Thank God, the \$50.00 is in sight. At the next station the other gentleman got off and I sat and prayed. Then the elder got up and came over and sat down by me. He said, "Brother Bud, God has ben talking to me and telling me that the five wasn't large enough." Then he took

out his bank book and write me a check for \$55.00. I broke down and began to cry. There was the last \$50.00, and I mailed it out. It reached the missionaries before they left Kansas City, Mo. God was glorified, the devil was horrified, and I was satisfied. Now, reader, to me that is what Paul meant by being fully persuaded.

But the next text on "Without" is found in Heb. 9:22 and it says, "Without shedding of blood is no remission." Here you will see at a glance that there is no hope of going to Heaven at all without the shed blood of the crucified Son of God. And the man that rejects the Blood will have an awful time when he meets God at the judgment; for if there is no remission without the shedding of blood, then the man that is a Blood-rejecter is hopelessly lost. We must accept the Atonement if we get to Heaven. But I want you to remember now that we are in very peculiar days. Some of our greatest preachers have taken the fire out of hell, the gold out of Heaven, the inspiration out of the Bible, the Blood out of the Atonement, and God out of Christ, and then they have rejected His death, burial and resurrection. They have left their poor people robbed and spoiled, and yet they are trying to claim that they have all the brains now in operation in the United States. Mrs. Eddy, as great a woman as she was, said that man was incapable of sin, sickness or death; and yet no longer than last June I went through the graveyard where the old lady is buried and, to my surprise, she was just as dead as anybody. And so, brother, there is no hope if you die and belong to these Blood-rejecters. You had better begin now to sing, "My sins are covered with the Blood," and keep the music ringing in your soul. We must go up cleansed by the Blood. In Rom. 5:8-11 it says that we are justified by the Blood of Christ.

Then in Heb. 13:12-13 it says we were sanctified by the blood of Christ. So you see we have the best doctrine that has ever been preached by any people in the known world.

But in the next quotation, Heb. 12:14, Paul tells us that without Holiness no man shall see the Lord. This is our third "without." I suppose all denominations and all preachers have some kind of a theory on the doctrine and experience of Scriptural Holiness. Some good people try to tell us that they got it all at once, and possibly they did get all they ever did get at once, for evidently they didn't get Holiness because they don't live it and don't profess it. Other people tell us that they are growing into it, but we notice they grow just exactly like a wasp. They were larger when they were hatched off than they ever were again. I might illustrate it like this: They are growing like a sack of flour. When you bring it home it will stand alone in the middle of the floor, and you can read "Gold Medal" right across it; but you go back six weeks later and you have to prop it up with a broom stick. It is so shriveled up there isn't anything else in

the sack, and I think the way lots of people are growing. I have known them to get religion and say grace at the table and have family prayers for three or four months; then by that time they had so grown in grace that they had quit. But, after all, growing in grace is not Holiness. Growing in grace is man's work while Sanctification is God's work. I can make it clear by giving you just some plain, practical illustrations. When a man is converted he is cleaned up, and when he is sanctified he is cleaned out. When he is converted God makes him a babe in Christ. When He sanctifies him He makes him a soldier of the Cross. When God converts him He takes him out of the world. When He sanctifies him He takes the world out of him. When God converts him He puts on the new man, and when God sanctifies him He puts off the old man. So any reasonable man can see that there is a big difference between the Birth of the Spirit and the Baptism with the Spirit. That is plain. In John 3:7 Christ said, "Ye must be born again." In Matt. 3:11 He said we were to be baptized "with the Holy Ghost and fire," and any man knows we have to be born before we can be baptized.

I am so glad that I know what the Book means when it says, "Ye must be born again." And then I shout over the fact that God said, "Without Holiness no man can see the Lord," for I was converted August 11, 1880, and was sanctified June 2, 1890. I have run now for at least thirty-six years and I haven't had the blues once because of the fact that I haven't anything in my heart to make bluing out of. Bluing is made out of indigo, and indigo is made in a factory. When God sanctified me He burned the indigo factory down, and I haven't had anything in my heart for thirty-six years to make bluing out of. And then again I haven't been lonesome in thirty-six years. The Book speaks of the Holy Ghost as our abiding Comforter and He is to abide with us forever, and that sad lonesome feeling that I used to have in my justified state as a Southern Methodist preacher disappeared when I received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire. Today I praise and glorify God for the fact that I can walk through this country contented, satisfied, electrified, and happified, because I have been cleaned out and filled up and sent out, charged and surcharged, wound up and nothing to do but unwind, run down, shine and shout.

In connection with these three "without," let us look at three more quotations that deal with God's appointments. The first one is found in I. Thess. 5:9. "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ." Here we have the greatest appointment God has ever made with man. It is the appointment to obtain Salvation, and this appointment is left optional with man. He can accept it or he can reject it. He can come up a God-rejecter

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