

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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BUILDING AGAINST LOSS

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Text: But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. I. Cor. 3-10.

The great Apostle compares the Church of Jesus Christ to a building. He wrote "ye are God's building," and referring to his own work, in establishing the church, he said: According to the grace of God given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. Then comes the warning contained in our text, which we see is directed to preachers and workers in the cause of God. The Apostle's object in sending out this warning seems to be to the end that a permanent Church be built; one that would meet with God's approval, and would stand the tests of all time. Jesus said to Peter, "Upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Now in order to build permanently, two things, which are suggested in this chapter, are necessary. First, a proper foundation, which the Apostle says, is Jesus Christ, which has already been laid. He also says that no man can lay any other, that is if we build according to the divine plan, our faith must find a resting place in Him, not only as our great example (which he is) but also faith in Him as God's great gift and sin offering, the only one in heaven or earth that was qualified to die, to make atonement for all sin, for all mankind for all time and furthermore our faith must acknowledge the fact that he rose again from the dead, and is ascended up to the right hand of God, where he ever liveth to make intercession for us.

Second, we must use indestructible material in the superstructure. As we preachers have much to do with tsi part of the work, the Apostle thought it necessary to write the warning contained in the text.

Note please the Apostle mentions two kinds of material, which we might use in the superstructure, one kind represented by "gold, silver, precious stones," is indestructible, the other, represented by "wood, hay, stubble" is perishable. Now we know any man can build a much larger building with wood, hay, stubble, than he can with gold, silver, precious stones, for the simple reason that one kind of material is much more plentiful and easier to procure. Therefore, as it is quite natural for men to desire to build as

large as possible, or in other words to try to make a good showing in their church work, so the temptation comes to them to use the cheaper material in their building, or not to be too particular about the kind of members that they receive into their society or communion. We hear men talk of two kinds of preaching, viz., constructive and destructive. It seems, however, that preaching may be both, that is, it may be constructive in the sense that unsaved people can sit under it without feeling uncomfortable, and are willing to come in and join the membership of the church and so make a large society numerically. The same preaching may be destructive to the spiritual life of the church, because the preacher fails to hold before the people both by precept and example the high standard of Christian living, which is required in the word of God, so that the people will be found lacking in an experimental knowledge of God, and while one may build a large society and can boast of receiving many members into the church during the year, yet when his work is subjected to the test as the Apostle declares (See verse 13) it will be found that preacher is building of wood, hay, stubble, instead of gold, silver and precious stones. It is a sad fact that some so-called holiness churches were formed largely of men and women who, while they held to the doctrine of second blessing holiness, theoretically, were far from holiness in experience. The result has been that many of them proved untrue in living the life of holiness, which had a very evil effect on the community, for the people lost their respect for the cause of holiness, and the churches themselves were short lived. Now if the dear brethren who were instrumental in organizing those churches, had been more careful to see that those offering for membership were at least truly regenerated, and were striving after holiness of heart, they would have been "taking heed," and no doubt the results would have been different. We are living in a day when numbers of people accept the doctrine of holiness, and seem to think that that in itself is what constitutes holiness, while they are still lovers of themselves, of the world and pleasure, more than lovers of God. In my opinion the only remedy for this condition rests with the so-called ministry.

Brethren, we will have to go to our closets

and there fight this battle on our knees, alone with God, and by persistent prayer and holy meditation learn more of Him, receiving from Him our message, which when we deliver will make the hearers hunger after righteousness, convincing them that they must have real holiness or be lost. "And the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss."

May the dear Lord help us to "take heed how we build thereupon," and not be in haste to get members, and build large, lest our work "be burned" and we suffer loss. If we build real holiness churches, which will command the respect of the people about them, and prove a blessing to the communities, where they are located, their members will need to have holiness in experience, through the sanctification of the Spirit.

REST.

The spirit of the age in every walk of life is restlessness. In religious circles and even among the holiness people there is often found a restless spirit manifested in unsettled experiences, seeking new and strange experiences, running from one church to another, etc.

Some who claim a satisfactory Christian experience are at the same time unsettled and troubled by certain lines of preaching, or by lashings of conscience when alone. Rest comes only by digging through all this rubbish to the solid Rock.

"There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God."

THE SAME OLD SIN.

"We live in a world of idolaters today. Not only at home are men placing gold and power and pleasure in the place of God, but a very large proportion of the human race are actually worshipping physical idols of their own creation. We should not be deceived by the pleasing exterior of a modern civilization which at heart is godless; nor should be misled by the charms of Oriental mysticism when we know that beneath it lies a practical, popular, degrading, universal idolatry."