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.

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ENTIRE SACTIFICATION.

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The doctrine of entire sanctification is not a gourd that sprang up in the night to wither and die with the first ray of dawn. Entire sanctification is not a mere theory but a reality in experience. It is a distinct work of God wrought in the heart by the blood of Jesus Christ through the operation of the Holy Ghost. Many look upon the doctrine of Christian perfection as something very modern, that has originated among a few fanatics who wished to propagate some new theory. This doctrine which is called perfect love, the baptism of the Holy Ghost, the fullness of God, the full assurance of faith, and entire sanctification is as old as the Christian Church. We believe that when God stepped forth to the threshold of his eternal Chamber, and looked out on what we try to conceive as nothing, God's first thought was not to create worlds, form planets, and swing into space a functioning universe. We believe God's first thought was to create a holy man. Man was the masterpiece of God's creation. No sooner had the divine potter completed his perfect work, then it was marred and destroyed by the adversary of God. The next thought that entered the mind of God was the restoration of man. "I will put enmity between thee and the women, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head and thou shalt bruise his heel." Through centuries the wheels of God were moving to bring about a complete restoration. There were continual sacrifices and ceremonies, all pointing forward and typifying Christ. Jesus came, completed his work; ascended on high, and man was restored in holy fellowship, when Christ sent the Holy Ghost on the day of Penticost, and his followers were sanctified holy.

We believe that it will need but little argument to prove that man was born into the world with a depraved nature, which must be destroyed before he is fully restored to God. The university of sin is a strong proof of man's fallen state. It is inevitable that the faculties of man are morally corrupt. The symptoms of depravity are manifested in the early life of the child. He begins to sin at the early awakening of his moral faculties. In some of the carnal mind is expressed in cruelty; in others it is expressed in stubbornness or anger. The scripture plainly teaches that man is born with inbred sin. "The heart of man is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked, who can know it? The imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth." "Behold I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me." The wicked are estranged from the womb; they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies". One loow to Golgotha is enough to convince any sane man that man is depraved.

Sin has a two fold aspect. There are actual transgressions or sins, wilful acts of disobedience to the known law of God. It is used in the plural sins, iniquities, transgressions. It is also used in the singular state. It is known as the body of sin, the old man, the law of sin and death. It is often called "The principle of sin". This state of sin was brought upon the human family by the fall of Adam. Men are responsible for their actual sins, but not for the state or principle of sin. If it can be proven that God has provided a remedy to eradicate the principle of sin, man will be held responsible if he rejects that remedy.

If it is true that man is born into the world with inbred sin, it is needful to find out what sanctification can do for him. Sanctification has a two fold meaning; one is to set apart, the other is to make holy. Christ said, "I sanctify myself that they also might be sanctified. We have here the word used twice, but with two different meanings. Christ meant that He would set Himself apart, that His disciples might be purified or made holy. Entire sanctification destroys the principle of sin, that carnal mind, and gives health and strength to the soul. In regeneration we are born into God's family. In sanctification we are made clean, and thus prepared to enjoy God. A. M. Hills distinguishes between regeneration and sanctification. "Regeneration is the work done in us, sanctification is God's work purifying the whole. Regeneration removes the love of sin, sanctification removes the inclination of sin. Regeneration changes the state of will toward sin and implants divine life, sanctification removes inbred sin." Rev. William McDonald on sanctification says, "In regeneration sin does not reign, in sanctification sin does not exist. Regeneration is the old man bound, sanctification is the old man cast out. Regeneration is sanctification begun, sanctification is the work complete."

The majority both in the world and in the Christian Church, get a wrong conception of entire sanctification. They do not comprehend its scope or do they understand its meaning. It will be needful to pause for a moment and find out what entire sanctification is not. I do not wonder some folk look astounded, when they think that the advocates of sanctification mean absolute perfection. When they think of God, they get a picture of the burning bush. They hear God say, "Moses put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the ground whereon thou standest is holy ground". They see Moses fall upon his face before the presence of God's holiness. They get Isaiah's vision, they see the seraphims cover their faces and feet, and hear one cry to the other, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." They see and hear the four and twenty elders which rest not day or night saying, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty which was and is to come". There is no wonder that we stand at awe, when we get a glimpse of God's holiness. We do not say man must or can reach absolute perfection, only can God possess it.

Christian perfection is not Angelic perfection. We see holy men fall prostrate upon the ground as dead in the presence of holy angels. The angels though created by God, have capabilities far greater than ever fell to the lot of man. They have duties and responsibilities that can never belong to us, and they are distinguished by moral qualities that can never be known among men.

Adamic perfection, which is far below absolute or Angelic perfection, cannot be obtained in this life. Adam came fresh from the hand of God. He had a perfect body and mind, which man has not been able to regain, or can obtain until the clods of the valley break asunder and he will come forth with an incorruptable body.

Entire sanctification does not include infallibility. Man may possess the blessing of Christian perfection, and lack good judgment and common sense. The scripture does not teach or does it anywhere imply that Christian perfection will give a perfect head.

It is held by some that if one has the blessing of entire sanctification, he will not be tempted. We met a man who argued that temptation was caused by the carnal mind. We spoke of Adam who came forth holy from God, but by temptation fell. He stated that Adam was created with a depraved nature. He accused God of creating evil. He accused God of making a wound that for six thousand years he has been trying to heal. We reminded him of Christ who was tempted in the wilderness. Christ knew no sin yet he was tempted. Paul, writing to the church at Corinth, said, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able, but will with the temptation also make a way to escape". The saints of God through all ages have been tempted, yet they walked holy before God.

There are those who get the conception that entire sanctification will elevate one to such a plane that there is no possibility of sin. There needs but little argument to prove the fallacy of such a statement. If the angels that kept not their first estate were banished from the presence of God, and if Adam, pure and holy, was visited by God's judgment for disobedience, it is evident that man can reach no state of Christian perfection but what, by his own free agency, he can reject God and be finally and ultimately lost.

Most every individual believes that man must be holy, before he can reach heaven. But there are a number of views in regard to how the blessing of entire sanctification is obtained. Some will claim we are purified in Purgatory. Others will say it is possible to receive the blessing of heart holiness here, but it is through growth. There are those who hold, that Christian perfection is not obtainable while man is clothed in mortality; that

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