

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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Popular Holiness---A Misnomer.

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The very term "popular holiness" is a misnomer, because holiness is not and cannot be popular in the eyes of a world, the very friendship with which is enmity with God, and in the hearts of whose devotees there is lurking a principle that is not, and in the very nature of it cannot be, subject to the law of God. This is one case where the popular dictum, "I love some people that I do not know, because of their enemies; and I fear some people because of their friends," holds true. "Is this vile world a friend to grace, to help me on to God?"

For everything real and worth while in life the devil usually has a counterfeit, and it is not strange that he seeks to take away the reproach from holiness. In fact, it seems that upon this citadel he aims his heaviest guns; for, strange to say, some people appear to hate and fight definite holiness more than they do sin and hell.

In this day, when so many are drifting into the swirl of modernism and apostatizing from the faith "once for all delivered to the saints," it should not be considered strange that this baneful influence would even invade the ranks of the holiness people. It is becoming extremely unpopular to be a real saint today; to even talk about holy things is considered "mushy" or "sissified" in many circles; but to talk about a "one hundred per cent red-blooded American" is quite popular indeed. All this, of course, meets with the approval of the "Old

Man," as the "ego" delights in being eulogized.

If, "Without holiness no man shall see the Lord," and if, "Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate," and if, "This is the will of God, even your sanctification," then holiness or complete or full salvation must be the most important thing in all the Bible; and so it is, for I find on its cover the title Holy Bible, indicating that it is a book on holiness.

General William Booth of the Salvation Army is reported to have said, "Holiness must be in the front rank. If I had the privilege of ascending to the Celestial City and asking the assembled angels in the mighty temple, where day and night they worship the Great Jehovah, what position ought holiness to occupy, you know that angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim would join with the seven spirits that are before the Throne with one united shout, 'Place it first.'

"If I could have the still greater privilege of kneeling before the intercessory Throne of my dear, precious, glorified Saviour, and of asking Him what position this truth should hold, you know that He would answer, 'Blessed are the pure in heart.' Holiness comes first!

"If further still, borne on a burning seraph's wings, I could rise to the Heaven of Heavens, and like its holy inhabitants, be allowed to enter the Holy of Holies where Jehovah especially manifests His glory; and if prostrate before that throne with all reverence I should

ask the question, 'What is the most important qualification?' You know that He would answer, 'Be ye holy, for I am holy.'

If holiness is the chief thing in heaven, then holiness is the greatest and most important thing in the world, and if I believe this, and, bless God! I do! then all things and all people must be brought to this standard to measure their relative importance or worth. This then is the criterion to which all must be brought, and before which all must stand alike, shorn of all the attachments of emoluments that his world tags onto them. Bishop or laymen, we want to know how they stand on definite, clear, sky-blue, second blessing holiness, for this is the only kind that gives a man a genuine experience, that he knows he has, right here in this life. And this is the very criterion that popular holiness does not want us to use to elevate men.

Popular holiness wants these great learned men to be given a place out of respect for their position. Popular holiness toadies to bishops and superintendents. Popular holiness says, "We must recognize his ability and use him, even if he doesn't see eye to eye with us on holiness lines;" but God says, "Not many wise, not many mighty, not many noble are called." Our greatest need today is a good old-fashioned Pentecostal outpouring of the Holy Ghost. May God grant it to us to stem the awful tide of wickedness that is flooding in upon us.—The Wesleyan Methodist.

THE USES OF ADVERSITY

David said it was good for him that he had been afflicted, and few could speak from more experience than David. But no affliction seems joyous at the time, and one must be rather far along in Christian experience before he can make David's words his own. A recent issue of the Watch Tower says:

Jesus, our Saviour, declared to His disciples: "It must needs be that offenses come" (Matthew 18:7); and experience adds her own confirmatory word. Some one else has appropriately remarked: "Prosperity is the blessing of the Old Testament; adversity is the blessing of the New." Certain it is that the New Testament writings are full of references to the sufferings of Christ's followers, and even of Himself it is written that "He learned obedience by the things which he suffered" (Hebrews 5:8), and that He was made "perfect through sufferings" (Hebrews 2:10). In fact the whole tenor of the New Testament inculcates the principle of resignation under adverse conditions, and more.

For the follower of the Lord Jesus must not be merely a passive sufferer, but a strenuous and persevering combatant against opposing forces.

We see how a certain beneficial operation of adversity is traceable even in other than Christian realms. Tourists who travel the shores of the Mediterranean Sea often express surprise at the tastelessness of the fishes served up for food. This flavorless quality is easily accounted for when one learns that the fish around the coast of Spain, Italy, Greece and Asia Minor are for the most part caught in quiet lagoons or calm waters of protected bays and gulfs, where the demands on their energy are few, and where the days pass in indolent quietude. How different is the life of battling with storm and tempest and chilly waves on the part of the creatures that live in the rough waters around the Orkneys, the Shetlands, and the Hebrides of Scotland! Fish caught there is always delicious.

A very common looking brownish clay is taken as a basis for some of the finer pottery wares. It is fashioned into vases and painted

by the artist, but it still looks lifeless and the colors crude and dead, if not really inharmonious. But it is then subjected to the fire until it rivals even the loveliest flowers in delicacy and beauty. The outline, the form, the elements, were all there; but the fire gave texture, durability and charm. The best of pieces are more than once put in the fire and the value increases with each firing. So the Lord sends His children through repeated furnaces of affliction in order that their characters may attain a rare, a priceless perfection.

When we reflect on the conditions of disciplinship laid down by our Lord we need not be surprised if certain adverse or unpleasant things be our portion. He said: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). The very first step of the way is thus seen to be a self-imposed adversity against ourselves, and the narrow way never grows broad and easy. The apostle Paul, who himself suffered so much of opposition, was comforting instead of discouraging the early

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