

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 sa. 35-8

VOL. XXXVII.

MONCTON, N. B., AUG. 15, 1928

NO. 15

THE GREAT CONFLICT.

Rev. A. L. Wolfram, A. B.

Since the very nature of Satan himself was imparted to Adam in the fall and has been transmitted to each of his descendants, we are enabled to account for the prevalence of evil in the world. There is no other satisfactory explanation. In every child are found evil tendencies; and when these are not overcome, but are allowed to develop, there is a harvest of wicked deeds,—wicked in the sight of God, though not necessarily considered so by mankind.

If there is no devil, and no carnal nature in man through which he can operate, how can cruelty, injustice, and oppression be accounted for, or envy, anger, jealousy, and pride, and especially the principle of lust, which is undeniably a fire of perdition burning in the bones of multitudes? It was through the fall that pride was imparted to man by Satan: for it was this principle that caused him to seek to exalt his throne above the stars of God. Satan, by tempting man to give way to his physical appetites in a way that was in direct disobedience to God's command, implanted the principle of lust, or the fire of hell, which will burn forever in the beings of those who do not have it eradicated by the power of God. Dives had a thirst never to be quenched; and those who fail to get deliverance from Satan's principle of lust will find it gnawing in their members throughout all eternity. Jesus said, "And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched" (Mark 9:43-44).

The Bible clearly recognizes and teaches the strength, the deceptiveness, the cruelty, and the treachery of this old, Adamic or carnal nature. Jeremiah says, "The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Prov. 12: 20 says, "Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil." Paul said, "I find therefore the law of my nature to be that when I desire to do right, evil is lying in ambush for me," and, "Unhappy man that I am! who will rescue me from this death-burdened body" (or corpse, —i. e. the sinful nature.—See Rom. 7, Weymouth Version). He thus describes his condition in the justified life while the next chapter gives his experience as a sanctified Christian.

The Old Testament gives many types, illustrating the truths just mentioned, as proving that the sinful nature should be "crucified": which accords fully with the New Testament, since Paul also said, "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed (not suppressed) that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin." There is absolutely no safety

until the nature Satan imparted has been slain in one's soul.

It was the old nature that caused Cain to become angry with his brother and then to slay him: for which crime he was made a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth, typical of the fact that there is no place of rest for the soul with inbred sin. John says that "whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him," which proves conclusively that no one can enter heaven with the carnal principle of hatred in his soul.

When Amalek came out to attack Israel in their journey through the wilderness Moses put Joshua in command of the forces and then went to the top of the hill to direct the battle. There, with uplifted hands the Cross was prefigured fifteen hundred years before Christ was crucified. When the hands of Moses became heavy and he could no longer hold them up, Aaron and Hur held them up for him until the going down of the sun. Thus Joshua and his people triumphed over their enemy. There is no way to conquer and to slay Amalek, the "old man" of sin, but through the Cross.

Achan was a type of carnality and was stoned to death. His love of gold and costly raiment was the cause of the defeat of the army of Israel, which could not conquer until the transgressors had been removed. Many a justified person has suffered defeat in the battle of life, because he permitted carnality to remain.

Eglon, king of Moab, oppressed Israel for eighteen years. It is the old nature that makes life hard for the child of God, giving him gloomy spells, or the blues, discouragement, makes him fearful, timid, doubtful, etc. It should be understood, however, that if he does not resist such tendencies, but gives way to them, he backslides. Eglon was a fat man, showing that he was undoubtedly fond of dainties and of flesh. Those who allow their appetites to control them cannot be spiritual. Ehud, the deliverer of Israel, "made him a dagger which had two edges" (typical of the two works of grace); and when he approached the Moabitish king he took the dagger with his left hand from his right thigh, thus making the sign of the Cross,— it is through Calvary that one may obtain deliverance from inbred sin.

Samson slew a lion, and later found honey in its carcass. When the lion is slain in the human heart, there is joy unspeakable and full of glory; and oftentimes there is such sweetness that one feels honey or something heavenly has come into the soul.

Jonathan found honey in the wood and ate of it, while many others refrained, since Saul, their backslidden king, had commanded them to fast. Jonathan's eyes were opened,—discernment was given him; and he saw clearly that his father's

carnal condition was responsible for the lack of a more decisive victory on the part of Israel. When one gets sanctified,—in spite of those who command him to beware of holiness,—one is able to see the root of the difficulty, or what is wrong with the world. Sin is at the door, carnality is everywhere prevalent, and a harvest of tribulation is the result.

Goliath was a giant with a strong armor, but was defeated by David after all the other warriors had failed to stand the test. The carnal nature has intimidated the modern preachers, who have compromised, saying there is no deliverance in this life,—that it is impossible to live without sin. But Christ came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8); great David's greater Son came to save people from—not in—their sins, which can be done only by crucifying the old nature.

This nature is very powerful and is encased in a strong armor, so that it is seldom a person actually succeeds in slaying it. It resists all attempts to subdue it, fights back, makes excuses, often saying, as Sisera did, "I am not here," that is, "There is no carnality here." It says, "Destroy me, and you will lose your position, your influence; you will be set aside," etc. But it must be destroyed or it will destroy the soul.—Pillar of Fire.

QUEEN VICTORIA AND THE SABBATH

Queen Victoria began her illustrious reign with a strict observance of the Sabbath, and never failed to insist upon it. The story is told of one of her Ministers of State who arrived at Windsor Castle late on Saturday night.

"I have brought for your Majesty's inspection," he said, "some documents of great importance; but I shall be obliged to trouble you to examine them in detail. I will not encroach upon the time of your Majesty tonight, but will request your attendance tomorrow morning."

"Tomorrow is the Sabbath, my lord."

"True, Your Majesty, but the business of the State will not admit of delay."

The next morning the Queen and the court went to church and listened to a sermon on "The Christian Sabbath—its duties and obligations," the Queen having sent the clergyman the text from which he preached. Not a word was said about the state papers during the day, but in the evening the Queen said: "Tomorrow, my lord, at any hour you please—as early as seven, if you like, we will look into those papers."

"I could not think of intruding upon your Majesty at so early an hour," replied the minister; "nine o'clock will be quite soon enough."