

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness.

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Editor and Business Manager - Rev. P. J. Trafton
Committee:

Revs. P. J. Trafton, H. C. Archer, H. C. Mullen
I. F. Kierstead, H. S. Mullen

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EDITORIAL

The Easter season speaks to us in pathetic and melodious tones of the sacrifice and triumph of our Lord Jesus Christ. He said as he faced the Cross, "for this cause came I into the world," and it certainly was a dark hour, when cruel hands nailed Him to the rugged cross of wood, then the darkness came down and covered the earth like a pall, his plaintive wail was heard, "My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?" Then He cried again with a loud voice, "It is finished;" This was a cry of triumph, so mighty that the earth shook, the graves were opened, and the veil of the temple was rent from the top to the bottom. What triumph in His death, death to bring life, open graves, the hope of the final resurrection, the rent veil, our hope of entering into the holiest place of all through the blood of Jesus Christ. Was he the Son of God? was on the lips of many; if He was why did He allow Himself to be thus crucified? He had said, I have power to lay down my life and I have power to take it again. His power would be the greater in manifestation, by His resurrection, than by coming down from the cross. He came forth from the grave, the same Christ, for He said, destroy this temple, (His body) and in three days I will raise it up again. Thank God He came forth from the grave, to reveal Himself to His disciples as the conquering Christ, conquering death, hell and the grave; ascending on high to intercede for us, sending the Holy host, to be our sanctifier, guide and comforter. He lives forevermore, His power to display to all mankind that will believe. Bless His precious name!

EASTER JOYS

The winter months have passed so swiftly, we can scarcely realize that Springtime is at our door. This season is always welcomed, for does it not bring renewal of that life which seems to us to be dead?

Soon a transformation will take place; sunshine and rain will have a share in performing this miracle; buds will burst forth on bush and tree, while the earth is being beautified with a carpet of green.

The Divine Artist will clothe the lillies of the field, and all nature will shout for joy, and the song birds will join in the chorus as we celebrate the glad Eastertide.

To many, I fear, Easter means simply new bonnets and beautiful garments to be displayed; but to others of us it brings unspeakable joy, for

He who was slain is risen and liveth forevermore. Hallelujah! The tomb could not hold Him. He came forth a conqueror over hell, death and the grave.

We love to read of that resurrection morning recorded so vividly in the four gospels. Mary Magdalene, so early at the sepulchre, found an empty tomb, and as she stood without weeping she stooped down and looked in. There she saw two angels, who asked the reason for her sorrow. She said to them, "because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid Him," and when she turned herself back she saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

With what tender solicitude did Jesus make Himself known to that sorrowful woman, then her sorrow was turned to joy.

The Word declares that "He showed Himself alive after His passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." Surely an unmistakable evidence of His divinity.

Ought we not then to be partakers of His resurrected life,—leave the old dead past and be made new creatures in Christ Jesus. If so, some glad day we shall meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord.—I. M. K.

THE TRAGEDY OF A PRAYERLESS HOME

Unless the Lord is recognized and worshipped in the home, it is a home only in name, however rich its furnishings or spacious its chambers. The Lord is the Head of every home in the land. It was instituted by Him as one means of perpetuating His worship upon the earth. This fact must not be lost sight of. Otherwise its high and holy purpose will not be realized. The home was the church at the beginning and the father the priest, to whom was committed the responsibility of ordering his household aright according to the plan of Jehovah. The Lord said to the angels concerning Abraham, "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment."

The home where the Lord is not worshipped and His blessing and guidance sought is far from ideal. It is not only the duty of the parents to acknowledge God by daily seeking His strength and acknowledging His mercies, but it is their bounden duty to train their children to love and serve God also.

To do this properly, the Bible must be read and prayer offered. And where this is neglected the children will not be inclined to avoid sin and follow the Lord. How many homes there are where the voice of prayer is never heard and where the children early get into wickedness. What a tragedy! The babe will learn from its mother long before it can understand a word. The tone of voice, the spirit shown, will be easily interpreted by the tender child and it will receive impressions which will abide, whether they be for good or evil.

Children reared in a home where the Lord is not worshipped will not be found "playing prayer meeting" when together. Their minds will not be occupied by such exercises. There are thousands of children who have never heard their parents pray. How sad! What a day of reckoning there will be when these parents stand before the judgment bar of God! It is bad enough to be lost themselves, but it is infinitely worse to be the cause of the eternal damnation of their own children, with whom the Lord has entrusted their training for Him and for His service.

The question of influence must be considered. We cannot get away from it, much as we desire

to do so. By the force of our influence we are helping people toward heaven or hell every day. We ought to consider this fact, for it is a fact that cannot be gainsaid. We had better acknowledge this now than to be compelled to at the judgment.

Then how many homes there are where the Lord was once lovingly worshipped and where the children gathered around the family altar in prayer that are now in spiritual darkness. The altar is broken down, the family Bible is put away in a closet somewhere, no more is the voice of prayer and praise heard ringing through the house. The secret closet, where father and mother used to resort to hold communion with the Lord, is closed, with the worshippers on the outside. No more is "grace" said at the table, in acknowledgment of the manifold mercies of God. The children understand it, and the neighbors know it, that a spiritual eclipse has come over that home and that it is worse for the change.

The greatest men who have appeared from time to time in the world have come from Christian homes. Goodrich wrote: "The fireside is a seminary of infinite importance. Few can receive the honors of a college, but all are graduates of the home. The learning of the university may fade from the recollection, its classic lore may moulder in the halls of memory; but the simple lessons of home, enameled upon the heart of childhood, defy the rust of years, and outlive the more mature but less vivid pictures of after years. So deep, so lasting, indeed, are the impressions of early life, that you often see a man in the imbecility of age holding fresh in his recollection the events of childhood, while all the wide space between that and the present hour is a blasted and forgotten waste."

Dr. J. Hamilton once said: "Those of you who are best acquainted with the world, or who have read most extensively the histories of men, will allow that, in the formation of character, the most telling influence is the early home. It is that home which often in boyhood has foredoomed our most famous scholars, our most celebrated heroes, our most devoted missionaries; and even when men have grown up reckless and reprobate, and have broken all restraints, human and divine, the last anchor which has dragged, the last cable they have been able to snap, is the memory which moored them to a virtuous home."

Next to a home without the family altar, without true spirituality, is one where the worship is merely formal and where the lives of the parents do not accord with the religion they profess. The first represents the home where God is not recognized as supreme and the second where He is acknowledged but where the precept is made null and void by the inconsistent lives of those who are supposed to properly represent the lovely religion of Christ. It is folly to imagine that one has more religion at church than at home. The fact is that if it does not show itself in the home circle it is not found in the church, however loud the profession or abundant the works.

The rush and hustle of this fast age, and the narrow confines, limitations and inconveniences of the common home of today, all contribute to the lessening, if not the destruction, of the religious life of the home. This is a sad feature of the case, for because of the multiplicity of things calculated to attract, allure and lead into sin in these days, the children need greater home safeguards and greater incentives to holy living than ever before. All this being absolutely true, the necessity of emphasizing the importance of godly homes, where the Lord is worshipped in sincerity, in truth, and in the beauty of holiness, is apparent.—*The Free Methodist*.