

# The King's Highway

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## SPECIAL NOTICE

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## EDITORIAL

Thanksgiving was observed throughout Canada this year, much earlier than several years past and we think the change is good.

As we think of world conditions today, we the favored people of the Maritime provinces, have abundant reason to be thankful and deeply so.

The following is an extract from an article appearing in the "Witness and Canadian Homestead" of October 7th, 1931.

"There are thousands upon thousands in Southwestern Saskatchewan and South Eastern Alberta, where, for a hundred and fifty miles we are told there are no crops and not even a blade of grass. There are stretches of that country in which for several years, indeed, since 1928, no shower has penetrated the soil as much as two inches. In these districts cattle not earlier disposed of, are nearly all dead, for there is no food or water for them. Farmers who had comfortable homes have moved out of the country, leaving locked doors and desolation behind them. Those who could not leave are desolate in the midst of desolation. The Rev. T. W. Jones, of Calvary Church, Montreal, repeated last Sunday a story that thrilled the vast audience of over five thousand people in Massey Hall, Toronto, last week at the United Church Missionary Congress.

The Rev. Dr. Oliver, Moderator of the United Church told of a visit he had recently made at the home of a farmer in southern Saskatchewan "in the land where the sky comes down," who in better days had been able to entertain him in every comfort. Now the farmer was in dire straits. Though he had had no crops for years he still had had a cow, his well still produced a meagre supply of poor water. Then came a thunder storm, but, alas, their only cow was killed by lightning. Was God depriving the family with three little children and a babe about to be born, from sustenance, that their misery might sooner be ended, or was He flooding their despair with light that His people might see and succor?

The farmer went to the local banker, begging a loan, and might as well have appealed to a polar bear, so the story goes. He went to the home missionary in his extremity and the home missionary handed him the meager cheque he had just received from the board. "Go get another cow, and I'll see that the rest of the price is met somehow."

On his return home Dr. Oliver was telling of these conditions at his supper table, adding that the little boy of six had no stockings and they

were facing early frosts. His own little boy finished his meal, went upstairs and presently brought a little untied parcel and said: "It is for the little boy." In it he had put a little note: "These is my new socks for that little boy." While Church and Charity Boards and economic and political councils are wondering what to do about it—a little child is leading them."

There is not enough of thanksgiving on our part, to Almighty God for the temporal blessings, which he bestows upon us. Just a little reverse and we begin to complain. The Psalmist tells us in his writings, that, "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto Thy name, O Most High." Psalm 92:1. It is rather hard however for the carnal mind to keep sweet and not complain, we may say it is impossible, because the carnal nature is in rebellion to the will of God.

It is needful for God at times to let calamity stare us in the face, in order to bring us down from our pride in humbleness before Him. The apostle Paul, writing to the Philippians in the 4th chapter at the 4th verse, says: "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say Rejoice!" In the 50th Psalm, David reveals to us the way out of trouble: "Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the Most High.

And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me". Psalm 50:14-15.

We fear this has not been done in the past, hence the trouble of today, but thank the Lord there is a way out of our difficulties. God is still on the throne. Let us render to Him the homage that is due, then shall our sympathy and help be given to others.

## THE MAN WHO TOOK

### THE WRONG WAY

(Continued from Page One)

Beloved, you want to be perfectly frank in everything you say. Do not be deceitful or cover up; tell the plain facts and in the end you will be ahead. John Wesley said, "When you are taxed or charged with anything, do not prevaricate or evade the truth in any way, but let it appear just as it is. You will thereby not hinder, but adorn the gospel of Jesus Christ."

A second time did this dear old patriarch take a wrong step, when Sarah his aged wife, failed to patiently believe for an heir; she told Abraham to take her maid, Hagar, and thus raise up children, which of course would be theirs, since Hagar was her slave. This looked plausible, but it was simply human reasoning which fails to depend wholly upon a miracle working God. The result was Ishmael was born, who later created a lot of trouble and persecuted Isaac the true, though belated heir. And now, thousands of years later we see the baneful result of a hasty and unholy act. Millions of superstitious Arabs and Moslems who are a curse, rather than a blessing, pollute the Holy Land and other portions of the earth. Who can compute the sad outcome of one step in the wrong direction?

Friend, if you have taken the first step out of the will of God, make all haste to humble yourself, confess and recover lost ground before you take a dozen other lost steps. I do not care how great a sinner you have been, or what kind of a mean disposition you may have, if you can only humble yourself and confess, there is hope for you. But if you dare act as though nothing had happened, or as if you are all right, the only place for you is defeat, then the penitentiary and finally—outer darkness.

But, I must give you a hopeful note in clos-

ing. Though Abraham, for the time being marred God's plan, thank God, he recovered himself. Gen. 13:1-4, "And Abram went up *out of Egypt*, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south. And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold. And he went on his journeys from the south even to Bethel, unto the *place where his tent had been at the beginning*, between Bethel and Ai; Unto the place of the altar, *which he had made there at the first*: and there Abram called on the name of the Lord."

Mark, he went up *out of Egypt*. Some men, when they fall, fall so hard that they smash all to pieces and there are not enough pieces left to make a man again. But Abraham and David, when they fell, were too big to stay down and God made something out of them again. Brother if there is absolute humility and sincerity in your heart, I care not if you do make a miscalculation, if there is a streak of honesty or integrity left, God will work upon that and yet make a saint out of you.

Yes, when I get to heaven, if I do not forget it, I am going to ask Abraham, "What lesson did you learn when you went down into Egypt?" He must have evidently capitalized that mistake. If a man loses \$500.00, he ought to capitalize it and get \$5000.00 out of it, in experience at least.

The Scripture speaks about "knowing the joyful sound." Abraham must have known that joyful sound, and when he heard God call, off he went after God. When I was a boy we hunted coons. Sometimes the coon, when closely pressed by the dogs, would run up a tree and then crawl out on a limb and jump from one tree to another, and then to another, and finally come down and disappear. We had two dogs. One was just a young fellow learning to be a good coon dog. He would chase the coon to the tree and then sit down and bark up that tree. While he was doing so the coon jumped from one tree to another and finally escaped. But we had another old dog. He would come and give a couple of yelps up the tree and then make a circle around it; then a larger circle; then go to the next tree and make a still larger circle, until he found whether the coon had come down; thus, he traced the coon until he caught him.

This is a homely illustration, but in like manner a lot of people lose the trail and miss their way. They sit and waste a lot of time barking up a hollow tree. But say, you want to be like old faithful Abraham, take a big circle, and another circle out of Egypt and declare, "God is leading me, and back to Canaan I go!" If you are so unfortunate as to miss God's first plan, do not go into despair; do not blame other people; do not commit suicide; but circle around until you strike God's hot track again, and He will surely bring you out of darkness into the clear light once more.

Let us pray and ask God to give us that holy instinct, that holy intuition, so that we can find out which way God is going. You are not to blame if you make a mistake, but you are to blame if you give up and die in despair. God proposes to make you a better man or woman for having had some bitter lessons. Thank heaven, we can so profit by these, that like Adam Clarke, when a stupid boy, we will take courage and no longer stand at the foot of the class, but decide to be at the head.

God of all Grace, forbid that we should waste a lot of time, energy and money retracing our steps! But grant that we may make it easy for Thee to guide, guard and use us for Thy glory and a lost and needy world. Amen!—*The Wesleyan Methodist.*