

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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THE WONDERFUL CHARACTER OF CHRIST

P. Wiseman

His simplicity. He is wonderful in beautiful simplicity. Simplicity is defined as the "grace whereby the soul is delivered from all unprofitable reflections upon itself;" and Mr. Wesley adds, "and upon all persons and things." How clearly this is seen in Christ's life and teaching! He took a little child as an object lesson for those who aspired to leadership or prominence in the kingdom. "No man," says Dr. Burrell, "in His audience ever knit his brows and wondered what the preacher was aiming at."

His evenness and sweetness. He is not one-sided. He possesses not one moral trait only, but all of them. His character does not show strength and weakness, but all strength. He is not on a high key, then on a very low one. There's a beautiful evenness. He is never excited, yet never sanctimonious. He is always master of the situation. He is not a flaming orator, yet "He spake as never a man spake." He always makes His point. He is Himself. The self gives character to all His actions. He is always the same, under all circumstances, always Christ the Wonderful.

His true greatness. This greatness comes from sinking rather than rising. He is great not because He did big things but because of the way or spirit in which He did little things. He did little things in a great way. To be a kingly man is nobler than to be a king. His greatness is seen, too, in that the supernatural with Him is natural. He is always doing without effort that which is necessary to be done. The blind man asks that he might see; Christ opens his eyes. The poor woman asks that the devil be cast out of her daughter; our Lord by a word casts him out. When the nobleman asks that his child be healed, Jesus heals the child. His disciples, in doubt, accuse Him of indifference as to their safety; Christ rebukes the wind and the sea, and immediately there is a great calm.

In temptation. See Him face and foil the tempter. He is tempted to distrust God, tempted to presumption, tempted to idolatry, but He answers with the Word of God. Then the devil left Him, and angels came and ministered to Him. Being tempted, He is able to succor those that are tempted. Christ was tempted but not overcome; insulted but not annoyed; poor but not discontented; crucified, but not conquered; buried but not to remain a prey to death and a prisoner of the grave. He arose. He lives, the intercessor and conqueror, "the mighty to save"—mighty to save the lowest; to save from the guilt of sin; to sanctify wholly, and to keep evermore, through time and to all eternity.

Among the great. If we were to call the roll of the great, the testimony would be unanimous as to the greatness of Christ. Carlyle said, "The tidings of the most important event ever transacted in this world is the life and death of the Divine man in Judea, at once the source and cause of innumerable changes to all the people in the

world." John Ruskin said that this life was dedicated not to the study of the beautiful face and flower, in landscape and gallery, but to an interpretation of Jesus Christ.

Among the great leaders of time, Christ shines as the sun among the stars. "We know", says one, "that artists' pupils will go everywhere searching for some noble master. The young soldier, too, longs for some heroic leader and general. And once the great man stands forth fully revealed, his followers will for him die a thousand deaths. Witness the enthusiasm of students for Socrates, Arnold, and Abelard! Witness the devotion of Scottish clansmen to that hero, Robert Bruce! Witness Baribaldi, saying, 'Soldiers, I offer you hunger, thirst, cold, heat, no pay, no barracks, no rations, frequent alarms, forced marches, charges at the point of the bayonet. Whoever loves honor and fatherland follow me' Soon responding peasants follow him to the promised death. But Christ's heroism in never betraying the cause of the people is beyond that of any leader whatsoever. His courage in fronting opposition and tyranny excelled that of any soldier or general. He bore Himself toward His disciple band after the pattern of a friendship more glorious than any other leader."

There are no emergencies or problems that Christ does not meet and solve. He touches with the heavenly touch all kinds of society. He is greater than the greatest men. He is more than a religious naturalist, more than a religious genius. He is all greatness because He is Christ.

His universality. Christ is wonderful as the great universal Person. He is "the Son of Man, not of a man, not the offspring of any family, not the product of any nation, not the outcome of any age. No family, no nation, no generation, had any monopoly of Him. As well try to monopolize the sunlight. He is the Son of Man; the common blood of humanity flowed through His veins. He is as much at home in China or Japan as in England, as much in possession of the African negro, or the North American Indian, as of the civilized white man."

His unique purity. Christ is wonderful in His unique character. He is "the goal of all goodness, the summit of all thought, the perfection of all beauty, the crown of all character." In the words of Jean Paul Richter, He is "the holiest among the mighty, the mightiest among the holy, lifted with His pierced hands empires off their hinges; turned the stream of centuries out of its channel, and still governs the ages."

A wonderful Gift. "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." I wonder if it ever occurred to us that His life is a gift—"He gave His life a ransom." The life of Jesus Christ was the only life ever given up in this world. Men have died, it is true, sooner than otherwise for some great cause, but Christ alone actually gave a life which was forever in His keeping that the race might be redeemed. "Men die sooner who must in any case die later; but Christ died for us who but for His own willingness could not have died at all." Nothing in the economy of redemption was for Himself. He needed nothing. He

came for the race. His death was an act, an accomplishment, not an accident.

The wonderful Christ the inevitable Christ. "Whosoever shall fall upon this stone shall be broken, but on whomsoever it shall fall it shall grind him to powder." Wonderful statement! We cannot escape the Christ. If we do not fall upon Him, be broken, fall in line with Him, He will fall upon us, and then it shall be, "O Galilean! Thou hast conquered!"

In closing, may we exhort you that as far as possible by His grace you let this mind be in you which was also in Christ.

TEMPERANCE REPORT

Dear Brothers and Sisters assembled at Beulah, greeting—

Reviewing the temperance work throughout our Province during the past year, we find that very little real progress has been made; many seem to have lost heart and even interest, thus giving the arch enemy much to gloat over, and with renewed energy he has pressed the battle to the gates.

It is claimed that less liquor has been sold during the past year, owing, no doubt to the depression which we are passing through, while on the other hand we have every reason to believe that bootlegging has been and is on the increase.

We are glad to note that the proposed bill, allowing the serving of beer and light wines in hotels was not brought before the House of Parliament, due largely we believe to the protests and disapprovals brought to bear by the churches and various temperance organizations. We regret that our neighbors across the border have taken a long step backward in voting to repeal the 18th amendment and legalizing the sale of beer which will only bring disaster to the nation.

The Scientific Temperance Sunday School Study Course, carried on for the last five years under the auspices of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, has been very beneficial to young people wherein they have learned of the deadly effects of alcohol on the human body, for alcohol is a narcotic poison that effects every God given organ.

We strongly recommend that our Sunday Schools be urged upon to take up these studies, also to use the Temperance pledge cards, as we believe this makes a deep and lasting impression upon the minds of the youth.

For years our own fair Dominion save P. E. I., has been in the liquor business, legalized by the government, surely a disgrace to any nation.

We know that God cannot approve of this for He does not look upon sin with any degree of allowance. Woe was pronounced upon the man that putteth the bottle to his

(Continued on Page Five)