

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

"Let no man despise thy youth"—I. Timothy 4-12

SPECIAL SERVICE

In response to an invitation of some weeks standing Rev. H. L. Robertson came to Royalton on Friday evening, November 2nd, and spoke to us in our Young People's service. An extra large group came out to hear him, including quite a few of the older church members. The President of our society, Fred Kirkbride, was in charge of the meeting; our pastor sang a solo, and then Brother Robertson gave us a very helpful message from Luke 7:14, the words of Jesus: "Young man, I say unto thee, Arise". The message found a place in every heart present, but was especially directed to those who do not know the Lord, that they might arise from the sin that is holding them. No one can do it in his own strength, no matter how badly he desires to, but at the command of Jesus, everyone who will may be released from the bondage of sin.

E. M. BLANEY

REMINDERS

As far as the Highway is concerned, the societies of District No. 2 are a long way ahead of all the other districts. They are sending more reports, and doing more work in the interest of our Page. Maybe the credit should go to their Associate Editor, Miss Hilda Doyle, or maybe they are just naturally a more active group when it comes to anything. What about it, Districts 1, 3, and 4?

A few subscriptions for the Highway have come in from some of our societies, but not in large enough numbers that we feel like publishing the result. Perhaps every member already has the paper coming to his home. Someone has said, "The sign of a good Reformed Baptist is that he reads the King's Highway." Well, let's be good society members, and "Every member be a reader".

Just a word to the Presidents. Take a little time in your next meeting to talk about the Highway, and see how many are taking it. Then every once in a while, tell all those who have subscribed to the Self-denial Fund not to forget to keep dropping their dimes into that cup on the top shelf of the cupboard. And while you are at it, tell them what wonderful times we have at these Young People's Holiness Conventions.

NATIVE DEPRAVITY

Article No. 2

By Rev. G. A. Rogers

On this page of the September 30th, issue of the Highway there appeared an article written by the writer on Native Depravity. Depravity was defined, and three proofs were given to show that man is depraved. The proofs named were: (1) The evil tendency in man (by observation); (2) The testimony of both secular and sacred history to the acts of mankind; (3) The character of infancy. With these proofs already given we shall proceed to give other proofs of depravity.

(4) The small success of religious agencies is another proof of depravity. There is not only the absence of the spiritual nature, but there is the presence of a rebellious nature that is strongly opposed to religious agencies and influences. In the midst of the preaching and teaching of Christ we see not a ready response, but a strong resistance. Christ said at one time that He could not do many mighty works because of unbelief. This is very evident in the present day.

(5) It is evident that man has spiritual apathy or indifference. Spiritual and eternal interests are neglected while interests of lesser importance are readily taken up. The general trend is that way. Men can be aroused from their slumber if one can get enough pressure upon them—they will even consent to the noble duties of religion and the demands of God, but they soon go to sleep again, forgetting that they are to live here for a short time but in eternity forever. Paul the apostle exhorts us not to sleep as do others but to watch and be sober.

(6) The greatest of universal depravity is the testimony of the Scriptures. The others are strong proofs, but this is the final word in the matter. There are direct passages; note the following: "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually". "For the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth". "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me". "There is none that doeth good, no, not one". Then again we have scriptures that show the need of regeneration. Christ said to Nicodemus, "Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God. Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God". Regeneration is an inner renovation. The necessity of regeneration lies in the native quality of our nature. Christ emphasized this when He said, "That which is born of the Spirit is spirit.—Ye must be born again". It is further shown by a contrast given in scripture between flesh and spirit, between their works (Romans 8:1-14), and their fruit (Galatians 5:16, 17, 19-24). Native depravity is found in the above scriptures and in others that could be given. But enough proofs have been given to establish the fact that the moral nature of man is depraved. The Bible settles it beyond the shadow of a doubt.

Now that it is clear to us that the nature of man is morally depraved, it is necessary for us to consider the origin of this depravity. The Bible says, "In Adam all die". Adam corrupted his own nature by the act of sin; and as representative of mankind and the father of the race, he transmitted this nature to all his posterity. The origin of depravity is in the Adamic fall. His own corrupt nature becomes the source of common depravity. Mr. Miley says, "We may thus find the connection between the universal actual sin and the sin of Adam. The universal actual sin has its source in the common depravity, and the common depravity has its source in the sin of Adam". Paul the apostle says, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned".

It is necessary to see that the Bible plainly shows that moral depravity is universal and that it came about by Adam's fall that involved all the world in sin. It is important because it underlies the necessity of Christ's incarnation and His atonement on Calvary, for our justification, spiritual regeneration, and sanctification. These are cardinal truths of Christianity. Moral or native depravity presupposes each and all. Through the first Adam the human race was deprived of the presence of the Holy Spirit and received a nature depraved; but through the second Adam, Christ, men can have their poor polluted, crooked, depraved natures cleansed, and have the Holy Ghost to come in to abide. Amen!

CONTEST RESULTS

In a recent contest between the Lower Brighton and the Royalton Sunday Schools, some very favorable results were manifest. The attendance was not helped much in either school, but Quarterlies and Bibles were much more in evidence than usual. However, what was most encouraging was the interest taken in the Bible reading. Lower Brighton, with an average attendance of 21.5, read a total of 1148 chapters, besides 3417 verses read by the members of the Primary class. Royalton, with an average attendance of 39, read a total of 3603 chapters; the members of the Royalton primary class are too young to read. Every week showed an increase in the reading done, and at least one girl in Royalton read her Bible through once, and the Old Testament part through a second time during the three weeks. The young people did the most of the reading that was done, and we believe they have been helped in spiritual things, besides gaining a new interest in the Bible.

About the same time I suggested to the Brookville people that they have a time of special Bible reading. The first week showed fine results, and the second week very much improvement with one girl reading the Old Testament through in a week. Then I offered a prize to the boy or girl who would read the most before the next Sunday. The results were far beyond anything I had ever heard of before. Besides several who read as high as nearly 700 chapters, three girls read the entire Bible through. I told them I would most certainly put their names in the Highway. They are: Juanita Tompkins, age 14; Jean Tompkins, age 14; and Ilene Tompkins, age 11. To me it is most remarkable that these girls should read the Bible through in a week, and I am praying that they will have received something from it that will continue to be of benefit to them in days to come. We have at least one point of excellence in this our youngest Sunday School and Church.

HARVEY J. S. BLANEY

EDITORIAL

NOT SIN BUT UNGODLINESS

The account of Jehu as found in the 9th, and 10th chapters of II Kings, reads more like a modern biography than a record of the life of one of the ancient kings of Israel. The first picture we see of him after he was anointed king is a life-size portrait. Here it is: "For he driveth furiously". Jehu was a man of action. He loved speed. He wanted to go places and do things. He wanted the world to know that he was serving the Lord. At one time he invited a friend to go along with him and, as he put it, "see my zeal for the Lord". He utterly destroyed the house of Ahab which had sinned against the Lord, and killed all the prophets of Baal. He destroyed everything that was openly opposed to Israel's God, and everyone knew the stand he was taking. He was a man to be admired; and God recognized what he had done to the extent of making a covenant with him.

But Jehu stopped there. It is said of him that he "took no heed to walk in the law of the Lord God of Israel with all his heart; for he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam which made Israel to sin". We find that Jeroboam had made Israel to worship golden calves in the name of the Lord, "and made priests of the lowest of the people, which were not of the sons of Levi". Jehu wanted to be known as a follower of the Lord.