

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

OL. XXXI.

MONCTON, N. B., JULY 31, 1934

NO. 24

THE DANGER OF COMPROMISE

By the Editor.

Perhaps one of the greatest temptations confronting preachers and professors, yea, possessors of the grace of holiness, is the temptation which probably comes to all, which is to compromise in their preaching, and testimony, for the sake of pleasing others. There are those in our congregations and also some members of our churches who are professing to be Christians, and in many respects give satisfactory evidence that they have been converted. Many of these are good helpers in the Lord's work. They give of their money, time, and strength to support the church, and are much appreciated by their pastor. Yet it is very evident that they have not made a complete consecration of their all to God, and they have not obtained the grace of holiness, or the baptism with the Holy Spirit, which Jesus promised to his disciples if they would continue to love him, and keep his commandments. See John 14:16. Furthermore it is very clear that some of these good folk do not enjoy the preaching on second blessing holiness, and when this special phase of truth is pressed upon them they sometimes show signs of carnal resentment, and let the preacher know that they think such preaching is not necessary.

Now no pastor or preacher wants to offend, or incur the illwill of any of his hearers. Hence the temptation comes to him to just compromise a little with them, for the sake of peace, and of having their full support. And this is the first danger point which he comes to. For sometimes he yields to this subtle temptation of the evil one, and becomes indefinite in his preaching. He decides to preach what he calls the life of holiness rather than the doctrine. And he is sometimes heard to say, that he is not particular about the profession or testimony to second blessing holiness, but rather that people will live the life. This attitude on the part of the preacher is always very pleasing to those folk who want to be recognized as holiness people and good church members; but who never have had their old man crucified, by the baptism with the Holy Ghost and fire. Well what is the result of such preaching? This is what experience and observation has taught us, viz. That people as a rule, never do obtain the experience of entire sanctification or holiness except the doctrine as well as the life of holiness is scripturally, and faithfully, and continually kept before them by the preaching of the Word. And as Dr. C. W. Butler puts it, "No mild exposure of this truth takes." The preacher must do more than refer to holiness or allude to it, in order to make people feel their need. Of course he must be in possession of, and enjoying the grace of holiness himself before he will lead others into the experience. Then he must kindly but persistently and with the unction, and blessing of God on his own soul, show up carnality in all its subtle forms even in the hearts of believers, and insist that God has called us to holiness. And only then will people see their need of a clean heart, and loath

carnality and turn from it. And cry to God (like the Psalmist. "Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity and cleanse me from my sin"). Psa. 51:2. And consecrate themselves to God and believe and enter in. Observation has taught us furthermore, that if the preacher fails in his duty as outlined above, the result will be, loss of vision on the part of the people, and no seekers among the believers after holiness, and a gradual lowering of the standard of holiness in testimony and living in the church, followed by a gradual departing of the glory, or that peculiar sense of God's presence among the people as they gather together to worship, and the people become more and more formal in their devotions and turn to means of amusement and social entertainment to hold (they say) the young people to the church and Sunday School. And unless there is a revival on definite second blessing holiness lines, the time will swiftly come when that church will not want nor tolerate holiness preaching. All because a pastor failed to declare the whole counsel of God. The great apostle said. "So we preach and so ye believed". And in conclusion let me say, that the above lines describe the way that preachers and churches that were once spiritually alive, and separated from all worldliness, and were a means of blessing and salvation to others, have become formal, cold, worldly, and near dead. Brethren if the founders of the holiness movements of modern times beginning with the Wesleys, had not preached far more definite on the doctrine as well as the life of holiness, than some men who are filling so-called holiness pulpits now we never would have had a holiness-movement or church. Because those holy men preached until people were convicted of their need and felt it was holiness or hell for them. And they humbled themselves, prayed through, got the blessing and testified and preached it until others saw the light and believed and also sought and found the experience and so the fire spread from church to church and from place to place, and the work grew. The promoters of the holiness doctrine were persecuted, it is true, but God was with them and used them mightily in the salvation of souls. Churches were organized and continue today where the preachers and people are true to the doctrine as well as the life of holiness. Let us beware of the danger of compromise.

WHERE ARE WE DRIFTING

The accompanying clipping we cut from "THE COBDEN SUN" and feel like sending it on for the readers of the Era with a few remarks. The drift towards demoralization in our day is surely awful to contemplate and the church has to a large degree shut her eyes to its terribleness, and to its utter sinfulness, and is, because of this, to a large degree responsible for the grave situation; and we have much reason to fear that we as a Holiness Movement are not guiltless on this line.

How often among our own people, on our campgrounds, in our homes and in our services

children from very little tots to young girls entering their teens are permitted to go forth in public with their arms and lower limbs often almost wholly uncovered, and are such things and liberties (with a question mark after liberties) (perhaps licenses would be a more appropriate word) not, as the writer of the above clipping says, not to a considerable extent a cause for the revolting scenes we meet so frequently now almost anywhere? Is it not an outstanding fact today that "female modesty" is getting to be a scarce commodity? An acquaintance with inside situations in the world of affairs today gives an appalling awakening, and the church is largely asleep to the facts, and to her imperative duty in these respects. Have we not reason to believe that if even the Holiness Churches, took the stands they ought to take, that things would be very different than they are? But is it not true of today that "Because iniquity abounds, the love of many waxes cold?"

Some of the drift goes under the assumption of "Sun Baths" and little children of both sexes are frequently on the streets and elsewhere with less covering on them than a few years could have been conceived as a possible sight in public, and the sign of ancient Israel is repeated in the Spiritual expression of reproof, "My people love to have it so." When the Christian Church ceases to severely reprove sin, she soon is found indulging herself in that which a while ago she very strongly recognized as very sinful, and now condones what she once most rightly and vigorously condemned. Is God pleased with this state of things? Surely He is not. God's attitude toward immodest dress has never changed. It has always required that women (and girls young and old) dress in "Modest apparel," and no matter what present day people, religious or otherwise, wink at, and condone, God's wrath will surely be poured out on this present age unless there is a serious turning away from this gigantic evil. The Lord awaken the people, and his sleeping professed followers to this awful departure from the only right way!

Yours against the wrong,

S. J. SHIELDS

Holiness Era.

NOBLE DISCONTENT

Bad will be the day for every man when he becomes absolutely contented with the life he is living, with the thoughts he is thinking, with the deeds he is doing, when there is not forever beating at the door of his soul some great desire to do something larger, which he knows that he was meant and made to do because he is still, in spite of all, the child of God. — Phillips Brooks.

When you bury an evil habit, do not visit the grave too often.—Ram's Horn.

"A man may go to heaven without health, without riches, without honors, without learning, without friends; but he can never go there without Christ."