

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness
THE ORGAN OF THE

REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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SPECIAL NOTICE

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EDITORIAL

"Lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God."
II Tim. 3:4.

In the apostle Paul's second letter to Timothy, especially in the third chapter, he writes of "perilous times" which would come in the "Last Days". Among many other things which he mentions there as causes of danger, is the condition which obtains very generally and is on the increase everywhere, viz. the great desire, or love for pleasure.

This fact is not only recognized by the spiritual people of our day, but men of the world, business men, manufacturers, salesmen, merchants, everywhere recognize that the heart of this age is set on seeking pleasure. And in their products and wares which they offer for sale, and the various pursuits which men follow to make a living, or to acquire money, they seem to appeal more and more to that desire in men for pleasure. This fact has been impressed upon us of late as we read the advertisements of our exhibitions which are staged annually in all parts of our province. As we compare these with the advertising of the exhibitions of a few years ago, we note how the emphasis is placed upon the entertainments today rather than upon the exhibits of farm produce, stock, and grains etc. Or the output of our factories, of manufactured goods and machinery, etc. No very little mention is made of these necessities of life, but a great deal of space is given to the advertising of entertainments such as vaudeville, plays and dancing every night, which demonstrates the above stated facts, viz. that people are pleasure mad, and that business men know it, and are ready to give the public what they want and are ready to pay for, namely, pleasure. This pleasure loving condition is not confined to the worldly people alone, but it is found in religious circles also. In most of the so-called churches of Jesus Christ there is a strong pull toward the pleasures of the world. So much so, that many churches adjust their services and Sunday Schools in the summer-time, (which time is most adapted to pleasure seeking) so that the church members can go auto riding and to the bathing beaches, where there is everything in the form of entertainment, and sin, going on. And God's day is desecrated and turned into a day of sports, and pleasure, and money getting. With the exception of a few so-called holiness churches, the young people's meetings are discontinued in the summer time. The very time when young people are subject to more temptations than any other time, through

auto rides at night time, and parking on the roadsides, and out of town places, or spending evenings, and half of the night in parks etc. If there is one time of the year that young people need the protection of the church and spiritual meetings more than another it is surely the summer-time. But in most churches that is the time that religious meetings are not emphasized at all; but the time is given over to pleasure seeking. And God only knows how many young people's lives and characters are wrecked during these beautiful summer evenings spent in pleasure seeking, not because young people are worse naturally in this age than they were formerly, but because there are means of temptation in these days which our parents never knew. This is why the Apostle calls these last days "perilous times" because these forms of pleasure are indulged in or tolerated by the professed church, which he says "has a form of godliness but denying the power thereof". Notice too, he says: "From such turn away"; because it is dangerous. I notice in a local paper lately a news item of a field day held in a country place where the people indulged in various kinds of sports. With a dance in the evening, from which they realized quite a large sum of money, and it said the money was divided between two local churches to go for their support. I thought this was a most ignoble way to raise money for the Lord's cause, to say the least. Just another appeal on the part of these churches to the desire for sinful pleasures in the people of that community as a means of raising money for the Lord's work.

The Apostle's admonition to the churches is "He that giveth let him do it with simplicity". Rom. 12:8, which condemns raising money for the Lord's cause by the above mentioned ways.

Our young people will do well to keep their organizations free from every thing that is calculated to minister only to their mental or physical pleasures. There is a strong tendency in these pleasure loving days toward socializing Christianity, especially among young people. Of course young people need and will have social life, but when we make that a part of our program in carrying on the Lord's work, we are emphasizing the wrong thing that will lead away from spirituality and God. Let us hold to spiritual programs in all our young people's work, and emphasize the need of being born again, and sanctified wholly and the prayer life. Keep spiritual, and the social life will take care of itself. And we will find that in His presence is fullness of joy and at His right hand are pleasures for ever more. Psal. 16:11.

TRUTH AND FALSEHOOD

Once to every man and nation

Comes the moment to decide,

In the strife of Truth and Falsehood,

For the good or evil side;

Some great cause, God's new Messiah,

Offering each the bloom or blight,

Parts the goats upon the left hand,

And the sheep upon the right,

And the choice goes by forever

'Twixt that darkness and that light.

Careless seems the great Avenger;

History's pages but record

One death-grapple in the darkness

'Twixt old systems and the Word;

Truth forever on the scaffold,

Wrong forever on the throne—

Yet that scaffold sways the future,

And, behind the dim unknown,

Standeth God within the shadow,

Keeping watch above His own.

Then to side with Truth is noble,

When we share her wretched crust,

Ere her cause bring fame and profit,

And 'tis prosperous to be just;

Then it is the brave man chooses,

While the coward stands aside,

Doubting in his abject spirit,

'Till his Lord is crucified,

And the multitude make virtue

Of the faith they had denied.

Count me o'er earth's chosen heroes—

They were souls that stood alone

While the men they agonized for

Hurled the contumelious stone;

Stood serene, and down the future

Saw the golden beam incline

To the side of perfect justice,

Mastered by their faith divine,

By one man's plain truth to manhood

And to God's supreme design.

By the light of burning heretics

Christ's bleeding feet I track,

Toiling up new Calvaries ever

With the cross that turns not back,

And these mounts of anguish number

How each generation learned

One new word of that grand Credo,

Which in prophet-hearts had burned,

Since the first man stood God-conquered

With his face to heaven upturned.

For Humanity sweeps onward,

Where today the martyr stands,

On the morrow crouches Judas,

With the silver in his hands;

Far in front the cross stands ready

And the crackling fagots burn,

While the hooting mob of yesterday

In silent awe return

To glean up the scattered ashes,

Into History's golden urn.

'Tis as easy to be heroes

As to sit the idle slaves

Of a legendary virtue

Carved upon our fathers' graves;

Worshippers of light ancestral,

Make the present light a crime;—

Was the Mayflower launched by cowards,

Steered by men behind their time?

Turn those tracks toward Past or Future,

That make Plymouth Rock sublime?

They have rights who dare maintain them;

We are traitors to our sires,

Smothering in their holy ashes

Freedom's new-lit altar fires;

Shall we make their creed our jailer?

Shall we in our haste to slay,

From the tombs of the old prophets

Steal the funeral lamps away

To light up the martyr-fagots,

Round the prophets of today?

New occasions teach new duties;

Time makes ancient good uncouth;

They must upward still, and onward,

Who would keep abreast of Truth;

Lo, before us gleam her camp-fires!

We ourselves must Pilgrims be,

Launch our Mayflower, and steer boldly,

Through the desperate winter sea,

Nor attempt the Future's portal,

With the Past's blood-rusted key.

—James Russell Lowell.

The great rule of moral conduct is, next to God, to respect time.—Levater.