The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness
THE ORGAN OF THE

REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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Editor and Business Manager - Rev. H. S. Dow

— Committee —

Revs. H. S. Dow, H. C. Archer, H. C. Mullen
F. A. Watson P. J. Trafton

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EDITORIAL

DOES THE LORD HAVE PROBLEMS?

O Ephraim what shall I do unto thee? Hosea 6:4.

We were in company with several preachers on one occasion, preachers belonging to several denominations. We were discussing religious work, and one of them began to tell of some problems in his church which he said he did not seem to be able to overcome, then another of the company said. "Brother B. on the basis that misery likes company, what you have told us of your problems is sort of comforting to me". For, said he, I have similar problems which I also cannot seem to correct in my church, and as I did not know that any other brother had any like them, I was about to blame myself for my seeming failure. Of course problems are common to most all preachers in their work which might be expected: but the scripture at the head of this article seems to suggest that the All-wise God has some problems also. Speaking after the manner of men the divine mind seems to be perplexed for he says. O Ephraim what shall I do unto thee. Note the nature of his problem as indicated by the following description of Ephraim, which also might be applied to Ephraim's descendants for he has a very large posterity in religious circles even today.

According to the charge laid against Ephraim here, his first trouble seems to be with his character which led him to do many things later which displeased God, and finally led to his being rejected by God. Note further that it is not because he is so bad that God criticizes him; but it is the quality of his goodness that the Lord finds faults with. "Your goodness is as the morning cloud and as the early dew it goeth away". So we see that people may have a measure of goodness which is commendable, and is appreciated by the pastor, and perhaps is recognized by the Lord; yet they come far short of God's requirement of them, because they are not qualified for the best service here, nor for glory in the world to come. While they have goodness, like Ephraim's, it does not stand the test of all conditions of life, and circumstances. Under certain circumstances they seem to be all that could be desired, under others, they fail and their goodness goeth away. While things go to please them in the church they will come, work, pay, and pray, and seem to have the cause at heart; but if they don't get a good deal of attention from the pastor, and church, if they are not consulted, and their advice accepted in all things, well their zeal wanes, and they find excuses to absent themselves from many services, and when they do go they don't usually have much to say, and it is

very obvious that a change has come over them. Their goodness has gone away. These good folks are subject to moods, and spells. They can be very pleasant to their associates in their homes, and in the church at times and manifest a real Christian spirit; but at other times they are easily offended, they scold, say unkind things, or perhaps just say nothing, or as little as possible, and have a spell of sulks perhaps for several days. Their feelings have been so badly hurt, as they say, that they can't seem to do much but just nurse them. Some of these dear souls have accepted the theory and doctrine of holiness, and have joined a so-called holiness church, and perhaps some of them who may be sincere will stand with others when the preacher asks all those who have been sanctified to rise to their feet, as a testimony to that experience: but they lack definite testimony to the experience for they never tell of a time when after they were converted that God sanctified their heart by the baptism with the Holy Spirit. The pastor will listen in vain for such a testimony although he may preach definitely on the subject of holiness, and do his best to describe the traits of the carnal mind, and to show people their need of heart cleansing, these Ephranites never make any spiritual progress. They seldom pray in church unless called upon by someone to do so. They usually sit near the back of the church, never shout the praises of God, or shed tears of joy while others testify and get blessed. In fact they don't enjoy the kind of preaching that shows up the old man or the carnal mind. As Paul puts it they have need of milk and not the strong meat of the word. They are seldom seen at the altar praying with seekers and helping them to find God. They just sit back and look on while the preacher, and a few others are praying and battling with the forces of darkness to get souls who have come for help, through to victory. They seem to have very little concern for the salvation of others even the members of their own families. They can always see the faults of other church members, they can even see them where there is none; but they cannot seem to see their own, and would be offended if any person told them that they had less grace than any one in the church. Well while the pastor is perplexed and does not know what to do with or for these folks to help them, there is a degree of comfort in the thought expressed in the text, namely that God is perplexed also, and we know he will have great sympathy with poor finite preachers if they fail to help the Ephramites. We probably will discuss this subject further in a later issue, and point out some more of Ephraim's traits of character.

SPECIAL THANKSGIVING SERVICES AT REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH HERE

Thanksgiving Day was observed at the Reformed Baptist Church with services of the Young People's Society. The morning service at 11 o'clock was devoted to thanksgiving, praise and prayer, in which many church members took part. The pastor, Rev. H. S. Dow, also delivered an appropriate address.

At the afternoon service the Junior Crusaders under the direction of their leader, Miss Wyonetta Sargeson, presented a very pleasing program consisting of songs, recitations and readings, which were enjoyed by all present. The platform of the Sunday school room, where the service was held, was decorated with fruits and vegetables.

The evening service was evangelistic in nature and was presided over by the president of

the Y. P. S., Miss Muriel Wright. At this service Lic. Charles Sanders, pastor of the church at Westchester, N. S., delivered a strong evangelistic address, which was greatly enjoyed and brought a good response from the congregation present. In addition to the congregational singing there were two quartettes sung by Lic. Judson Sanders, Lic. Charles Sanders, Lic. Miriam Sanders, all returned missionaries from Africa, and Miss Hilda Doyle, of Amherst. These messages in song were very beautifully rendered and inspiring.

Quite a number of visitors were present from Amherst and Westchester, N. S. Miss Miriam Sanders and Lic. Judson Sanders will remain in Moncton over the week-end, and will sing and speak at the Reformed Baptist Church tonight, also at the Sunday morning, afternoon and evening services tomorrow.—Moncton Times.

REVIVAL SPIRIT EVIDENT AT WEEK-END SERVICES IN REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

The Reformed Baptist Church here enjoyed a revival spirit over the week-end. Rally services were held by the Young People's Society on Friday and Saturday nights. Miss Miriam Sanders, a missionary from Africa, was the special speaker at both services. With her brother, Judson, she was here on Sunday and assisted the pastor, Rev. H. S. Dow. Mr. Sanders spoke at 10 a. m. and the pastor preached at 11 o'clock.

At 2.30 p. m., a temperance rally was held in the Sunday School. The attendance was good and an excellent program, consisting of songs, recitations and readings, was rendered by members of the school, besides the teaching of the temperance lesson by the pastor.

The evening service, which was also well attended, was evangelistic in spirit. Miss Miriam Sanders was the special speaker and delivered a stirring message which brought a good response from the congregation, several seeking and finding salvation. The music at this service was inspiring and helpful. The choir, led by Lic. Arthur Deadman, sang two special numbers and Mrs. Otis Ames, of Fort Fairfield, sang a solo.

Mrs. Ames with Mr. Ames and Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Phillips, of Woodstock, were among the visitors from outside points attending the Reformed Baptist Church on Sunday.

Special evangelistic services will continue here each night this week, except Saturday, at 7.30 o'clock, and over next Sunday. Miss Sanders will be the special speaker.—Moncton Times.

VALUE OF TIME

Seneca taught that time is the thing of which it is a virtue to be covetous. Henry Martyn was so frugal of time that some called him the only man who never wasted an hour. Fenelon says: "To show us the worth of time God never gives us two moments together, nor grants us a second until He has withdrawn the first." "Dost thou love life, then do not waste time, for that is the stuff that life is made of," says Benjamin Franklin.—Weslevan Methodist.

Great thinkers touched me from the past,
And all at once it seemed at last
Their living souls were flashed on mine,
And mine in theirs was wound and whirl'd
About empyreal heights of thought
And came on that which is, and caught
The deep pulsation of the world.