

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

THE ORGAN OF THE
REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

Published Semi-Monthly at Moncton, N. B.,
by a Committee of the Alliance

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SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

Per year, in advance	\$1.50
Ministers, per year	1.00
Four months' trial subscription40
Sample Copy	Free
United States Subscribers	1.75
Ministers, U. S. A.	1.25

SPECIAL NOTICE

All correspondence for The Highway should reach us before the 12th and 25th of each month.
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MONCTON, N. B., DECEMBER 15TH, 1935

EDITORIAL

THE ANGELS PROMISE

"Good tidings of great joy" Luke 2:10.

As the Christmas season comes round again we are reminded of the promise made by the angel, to the humble shepherds so long ago. We cannot begin to appreciate what this promise meant to God's ancient people. Hundreds of years had passed since God had spoken directly to them.

Of course they had the written promises of God spoken through the prophets, that he would raise them up a prophet like unto Moses, or a king to sit upon the throne of David. He had promised by Isaiah their prophet that a child would be born and son given unto them, upon whose shoulders would be placed the government of his people. Hence they had waited long, and looked for the fulfilment of those promises. Praying and longing for the coming of that great one of whom the prophets spake to appear and deliver them from their enemies, that ruled over them, as Rome was doing at that time.

So this promise direct from the skies, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord", must have been good tidings of great joy indeed.

Notwithstanding two thousand years have rolled past since the songs of holy angels who celebrated the birth of that holy child Jesus, and promised great joy to all people. And in spite of the very many, and great changes that have taken place in this old world. The rise and fall of nations and kingdoms, the coming and going of great men; one thing that characterized that first and greatest celebration has lingered with us; that is the joy of Christmas. There is no season of the year that genuine happiness seems to be so marked, and general as at this season. And we know that is because Jesus the joy giver whom we worship still lives and is with us. According to the promise it was to be to all people; of course where our Lord's birth is celebrated. Joy is one of the things that distinguishes the Christian religion from all others. Because love is its ruling element. "God so loved that he gave" Where love is there is joy. Pagan religions are founded on fear which has no joy in it. The religion of Jesus brings great joy because it meets man's deepest need, his soul need, hence the Psalmist said: Bless the Lord, O my soul who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases. A soul forgiven, and cleansed and made whole is a happy soul. The chorus goes, "My happy soul rejoices the sky is bright above, I join the heavenly voices, and sing redeeming love."

These tidings bring great joy because they tell of a great victory. Satan's power was shaken to its center on the day that the angels sang their

hymn of joy. Jesus came to destroy him that had the power over death and conquer all our foes. The apostle says we are more than conquerors through him that loved us and gave his life for us. "Thou shalt call his name Jesus for He shall save his people from their sins". Matt 1:21. We rejoice also because he has gone to prepare a home for us, and he is coming again to receive us, unto himself, that where he is there we may be also. "Where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest."

We do well to celebrate again this Christmas season, and in spite of the troublesome times that we are living in, let us look up, join the angelic host and sing again, "Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace and good will toward men". And let us do our best to keep the joy bells ringing, by our words of kindness and cheer as well as by our gifts to the needy around us.

The Editor wishes all our readers A Joyous Christmas and A Happy and Prosperous New Year.

A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS

We are in the habit of extending Christmas greetings to our friends, and wishing them "A Merry Christmas".

This does not seem to be an appropriate expression for the children of God to use, as merriment really means mirth, frolic, or gaiety; we do not want our good wishes to convey that thought, on such a sacred occasion.

Christmas should be a joyous time, when the true spirit is maintained in loving devotion, as we meditate upon the wonderful gift of God's love—"A Savior who is Christ the Lord".

The angels proclaimed His advent to those lowly shepherds, as they watched their flocks by night, with glad songs of joy—Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men; thus fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; . . . His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace".

Over nineteen hundred years have passed since that memorable night; millions of earth have heard, and believed this sweet story; they have accepted Christ as their Savior, and have been transformed by power divine. Today they are praising God for a new life which is hid with Christ in God, and can lift up their voices, and sing "Joy to the world the Lord is come."

Scores of times throughout the Bible, we read of joy, fulness of joy; and everlasting joy. Then we know that the joy of the Lord is our strength. Praise Him forever.

As Christmas approaches, it may be that many are not looking forward to it, with any degree of joy, as they lack the real necessities of life; their faith almost fails at times, when they cannot provide for their dear ones.

But we believe that those who honor the King of glory—He will honor, and will provide temporal, as well as spiritual blessings. "It may not be in our way, but in His own way, the Lord will provide."

Let us be reminded of Habakkuk's confidence of faith; "although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labor of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flocks shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls; yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation."

May this inspire the faith of any who feel discouraged, or spiritually weak. Prayer is a splendid stimulant, and mixed with praise, it has

wonderful results.

Wishing our dear friends far and near, a Joyous Christmas and Victorious New Year in the Lord.

IDA M. KIERSTEAD.

OBITUARY

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."—Revelation 14-13.

Mrs. Annie Main

The community of Crystal, Maine, was saddened to hear of the sudden death of Mrs. Annie Main, 65, wife of Charles Main. Mrs. Main was born at Crystal and had lived here throughout her life. She gave her heart to the Lord while young and testified to a salvation that separated from the world and saved from sin.

She leaves to mourn their loss, her husband, one son and four daughters, a number of grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral services were held at the home November 23rd, with the writer in charge. Miss Reta and Hazel Briggs sang two selections. Interment was made in Crystal cemetery. The large number present bespoke the esteem with which our sister was held in this and surrounding communities. Mrs. Main was a faithful wife, a most loving mother, and kind friend, but we believe our loss is her gain.

To the sorrowing ones we extend our sympathy and prayers.

REV. PERLEY BRIGGS

George Everett Downey

George Everett Downey, aged three and one half months, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Downey, of Lower Brighton, went to be with Jesus early Saturday morning, November 16th, after suffering a number of weeks with whooping cough.

The funeral service was held Sunday at 12 o'clock from the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Nixon of that place. Rev. J. A. Owens conducted the service and spoke comforting words from Job 1:21. "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." A mixed quartette sang three selections, "Looking This Way", "Beckoning Hands", and "The Eastern Gate".

The little body was placed in the Community Cemetery. May God bless his sorrowing parents.

H.B.OWEN

Winifred A. Dunn

The family of William Dunn and the community of Lower Hainesville, was called to mourn the passing of Winifred A., eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Dunn on Wednesday morning, Dec. 4th, following an operation for appendicitis in the Victoria Public Hospital, Fredericton, who was eleven years of age.

She leaves to mourn their loss besides her father and mother, one brother and one sister.

The funeral was held Thursday afternoon with prayers at the house at 1.30 p. m. and service at the Reformed Baptist Church in Lower Hainesville. The music was furnished by the Upper Hainesville choir. The pastor spoke from the words of Jesus in Luke 8:52, "Weep not, she is not dead, but sleepeth".

Interment was made in the Lower Hainesville cemetery.

To the sorrowing ones we extend our sympathy and prayers.

S. G. H.

John Wesley: "God does nothing but in answer to prayer."