

# YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

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

## SPIRITUALITY

By Jennie Henry

"To be spiritually minded is life and peace."  
Rom. 8:6

What a challenge this holds for us as young people! There are few people today who want to be looked upon as dead. The world is out for real life. Are we as Holiness young people seeking life in spiritual things? We often hear the expression: "Dead Churches," and truly some are dead. Life, or spirituality, is the line of demarcation between such Churches, and that which God expects our Holiness Churches to be. As unsaved young people come in contact with us either in our Church, home, or business life, they expect us to be spiritually minded. If they see us otherwise, they lose confidence in our profession and our influence over them for good is lost. As truly as the world looks for spirituality in our lives, God expects us to be spiritual, and praise His name, He has made ample provision.

There are of course certain rules by which we have to be led. First of all we must be in the place where we know beyond the shadow of a doubt that our lives are pleasing God. We cannot be in this place unless we have obeyed Him and walked in all the light that He has shed across our pathway. Our consecration must be complete, our "all" on the altar; and we must continue to say "yes" to all the known will of God. Within ourselves we know whether or not we have met this condition. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh but after the spirit."

Another rule that we must follow is the rule of prayer. We must spend much time in prayer in order that we may be spiritual and live prayer-filled lives. Prayer is the vital part of a spiritual life. If the devil can get us wrapped up in circumstances which surround us or get us to let down in our prayer life, he has succeeded in getting us to the point where backsliding first sets in. Someone has said, "It is as impossible to live spiritually without prayer as it is to live physically without breathing." Our victories over tests and trials must all come through prayer.

(Concluded Next Issue)

## THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM

It might seem upon first thought that the shepherds were much more favored than the wise men when the announcement of Christ's birth was made to the world. Favored indeed they were to have their hillside pasture suddenly converted into a temple of worship, brilliantly lighted up with the Glory of God, and have heaven's celestial robed choir furnish the sublimest of music, while the evangelist of the skies proclaimed to them the good news of the world's Redeemer. They were honored above all others of their race, and seemingly above the wise men to whom also Christ's birth was announced. But God always takes into consideration the people with whom he is dealing. The mere appearance of a star to the shepherds would have meant nothing to them, and would only have served to throw them into a frenzy of terror as did the first appearance of God's Glory shining about them. A

star by itself would have been meaningless, because they were not versed in prophecy and knew not that a star was to be the sign of the promised Messiah's birth. God gave them the kind of revelation they needed. It satisfied them. Anything less would have been inadequate.

On the other hand, the wise men knew and believed the prophecy of the coming Redeemer and that a star would announce Him, and were continually looking for its appearance. When they saw it they knew what it meant. They needed no other sign. They did not need the announcement of the angels, for they already believed that the Saviour would be born, and only waited the promised sign—the star. By this it is not hard to infer that God made known his promised deliverance by sufficient means to satisfy everybody. To the shepherds who knew not the meaning of the star by itself, that star which doubtless was the same Glory of God which shone round about them, God sent visible messengers to repeat the prophecy as being then fulfilled. To the wise men the star told the whole story. In those two announcements we find adequate evidence of Christ's birth to satisfy every mind and heart. The informed, the believer, the expectant, have the star, The uninformed, the doubter, the sceptic, the infidel, the gain-saying, have the star plus the visible, audible announcement of the angels. The glorious message has come to the whole world. The wilfully deaf alone do not hear it.

But after the announcement to the shepherds, the heavens again received their angelic heralds and closed behind them, leaving the shepherds alone. In the darkness they made their way to Bethlehem, and found the manger and the Babe. But for the wise men the star not only gave the message but acted as a guide to lead them to the Saviour. As they neared Bethlehem after many days travel, when the inhabitants were affrighted at the appearance of the strange light which seemed to move with the three strangers, methinks the shepherds again saw the light and rejoiced together because they now understood, and who knows but what they followed that star for another peep at the Babe.

So the Star of Bethlehem was not a lesser announcement, but the same as the angels gave. Nor were the wise men less favored of God. But in addition their herald became also their guide. While the message to the shepherds will forever remain a brilliant spot in sacred history, for God's messengers no longer need to tell thus of the Saviour, and while even the Star of Bethlehem is no longer needed in that capacity, men still need that Star which guides them to the Savior's feet. Although that star went out when it stood over the manger bed, and men saw it no more, yet it still shines down through the ages in the Gospel. It is shining in the East, as in those days, it is shining in the west, in the north and in the south. Wherever men have taken up the angelic strains of peace and goodwill, it shines to guide "whosoever will" to the feet of "the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world."

"O Star that shines to God above,  
Shine on, bright star, bright Bethlehem's star."

H. J. S. BLANEY, Y. P. Editor

## CHRISTMAS BELLS

May be Sung to the tune of "Victory All the Time."

Ring the bells of Christmas, there is joy today,  
Let their happy music drive all care away;  
Keep them gladly ringing, ringing glad and free,

Till the news goes sounding over land and sea.

Chorus—

Christmas bells! Christmas bells!

O those happy Christmas bells!

Christmas bells! Christmas bells!

Hear them sweetly chime.

Since our Christ was given, God's free gift from Heaven,

Keep the Christmas bells a'ringing all the time.

Down the ages ringing, telling us of love.  
Angels set them ringing in the heaven's above.  
First to lowly shepherds, now to you and me,  
Still those Christmas bells are ringing joyfully.

Let us keep them ringing, while we gladly sing,

With our voices blending praise to Christ our King,—

Born this Christmas morning, Babe of Bethlehem,—

Till the heavens echo with a loud AMEN.

H. J. S. B.

## CORRESPONDENCE

Beals, Maine, Dec. 2, 1935.

The young people of the Reformed Baptist Church at Beals, Maine, met on November 10th, and organized a Reformed Baptist Young People's Society. The officers were elected and at present our membership totals thirty-nine.

We have our meetings Sunday night at six o'clock before the regular evening service.

The services are well attended and much interest is being shown by the older members of our church as well as the younger ones.

Yours truly,

BLANCHE ALLEY,

Corresponding Sec'y.

Dear Highway Readers: Marysville, N. B.

In view of our urgent demands for Missionary Funds may I suggest to all our churches a special Missionary Sunday, January 26th.

We have time to make plans for this day. Shall we do so?

Our pastors could preach a Missionary sermon; our Young People's Society could take some special part, and our Sunday Schools might have a special program for that day.

Let us have a hearty response brothers and sisters and thereby send an offering to our Missionary Treasurer that will swell his much depleted funds. We should raise at least a thousand dollars on that day. Let's put some spirit and work back of this and see what can be done.

REV. F. A. DUNLOP (Pres.)

He talks much who has least to say. "How would you wish your hair to be cut?" asked the barber one day of Archelaus, king of Macedon, and the king made an answer: "Silently." Alas! This is too rare a method anywhere, in anything.—Sturgeon.