

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— . 35-8

Mrs Geo Tedlie, Feb 80

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SUSPICION

Some years ago, after the evening church service was dismissed, a woman noticed two of her acquaintances talking together in low tones. It seemed to her that they were looking at her—she believed that they were—and that she was the subject of an improper conversation. Out of this suspicion she talked, stirred up trouble for herself, the other women and the church. It was later found that the conversation in question had no relation whatever to this woman. But the damage had been done.

Now in a highly-respected newspaper of the Pacific Coast we find an editorial, a portion of which reads as follows:

"Some months ago a secretly-constructed battle-plane, on its first trial flight from a Southern California factory, disappeared mysteriously. It may now be in Japan, although suspicion is the only basis for the statement. Neither pilot nor craft has been seen since that day so fatal to naval aviation. Of course, the plane may have been swallowed by the sea."

The writer admits that "suspicion is the only basis" for the suggestion that Japan has this battle-plane and that "the plane may have been swallowed by the sea" (a thing ten or one hundred times as likely). Yet he throws out that evil and trouble-making insinuation! The way to know how such a statement feels to the victim of it is to ask how we, knowing ourselves to be innocent, would like to find a similar paragraph in a Japanese newspaper. Such remarks are the fuel out of which munition-makers build war scares, get their appropriations of millions for armaments, inflame the hatreds of people who should love one another and finally get the war, war profits for the few, blood and debt for the many.

Suspicion will stir up trouble in a church, a neighborhood and among nations. Trust and good-will, felt and expressed, work for peace.

In the days when Yosemite and the High Sierras were wild regions, peopled by uncivilized Indians and beasts of prey, John Muir travelled alone hundreds of days and slept hundreds of nights under the stars in the open, never carrying weapons of any kind. He said nothing wanted to harm him. In all those years he never suffered injury from man or beast. His behaviour may have been a little extreme. But then we remember our four thousand miles of unfortified frontier between the United States and Canada. We seem to get along well with Canada. Perhaps we would get along as well with others if we would stop building ships against them and writing and saying things against them which we would not like said about ourselves.

The Golden Rule is a good rule, even among nations. Practiced, it will come cheaper than the enrichment of munition manufacturers.—Free Methodist.

THE HEATHEN

"Plenty of heathen at home" is perhaps the thinnest excuse for apathy concerning the missionary enterprise that can be imagined. There have always been plenty of heathen at home, whether "home" is Jerusalem, Samaria, Rome, Constantinople, London or New York. Yet the Lord commanded the carrying of the gospel message only "beginning" at Jerusalem.

Taking the "great commission" seriously, the missionaries of long ago, some Jews, as Paul and the other apostles, and some Gentiles, as the ambassadors who went out from Christian centers of northern Africa and southern Europe, evangelized the regions about the Mediterranean or penetrated forests of western Asia or central Europe and brought this blessed truth to our ancestors. Many received the message and became Christians. They established a Christian civilization, set up the family altars, and took their children to hear the gospel preached. We are those children or the descendants of them.

"Plenty of heathen at home." Yes, indeed. Let us do our best for them. But if the missionary enterprise has operated for our blessing and eternal life then we have this reason also for missionary activity. "Freely ye have received, freely give," is a command with authority. Also, there is a logic in it.—Free Methodist.

ENTHUSIASM IN A GREAT CAUSE

God's work in the salvation of lost humanity is worthy of our greatest devotion, even martyrdom. Let us be fully persuaded of the honor that comes to us to be identified with this humble and holy cause, and we can by our lives heartily echo the devotion of Paul when he said, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." Adoniram Judson said of his labors in Asia: "I do not know that I shall live to see a single convert, but I would not leave my present field of labor to be made king of the greatest empire on the globe." That is the spirit that wins in any pursuit, but it is especially in place when we are engaged in carrying forward the cause for which Christ died.

The enthusiasm of John Wesley for full salvation was one of the secrets of the success of Methodism in his day. He records in his journal the following brief observation that reveals the deep devotion of the man to his convictions on this point. "On Thursday I went on to Launceston. Here I found the plain reason why the work of God had gained no ground in this circuit all the year. The preachers had given up the Methodist testimony. Either they did not speak of perfection at all (the peculiar doctrine committed to our trust) or they spoke of it only in general terms, without urging the believers "to go on unto perfection", and to expect it every moment. And wherever this is not earnestly done, the work of God does not prosper."— Wesleyan Methodist.

YOU HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR

The Sunday School—

To be there.

To be there on time.

To be there, prepared to do the work assigned you.

The Church—

To give to it your influence.

To attend its services and participate in its sacraments and appointments.

To support it with your material substance.

To offer for it your prayers.

To promote its welfare by all the means within your power.

"Oh, yes," some one says, "of course those obligations belong to church people. But I make no pretensions. I am not a member of any church."

And is this the way that one escapes his responsibilities—by not pretending to bear them, by making no professions?

It can not be done, brother. The fact that one does not profess to do right does not excuse him from doing right.

Every sinner is under just as much obligation to attend, support and promote the church of God as are the church-members. In not meeting his obligation to the church the sinner simply adds this terrible sin of omission to his other wrongdoings.

With the battle on between the forces of the Lord and the forces of the devil do you plan to stand at one side with folded arms, saying, "Well, you see, I am a non-combatant?" Do not fool yourself. Jesus said, "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad."—Free Methodist.

ONE SWEETLY SOLEMN THOUGHT

One sweetly solemn thought

Comes to me o'er and o'er—

I am nearer home today

Than I ever have been before.

Nearer my Father's house,

Where the many mansions be;

Nearer the great white throne;

Nearer the crystal sea.

Nearer the bound of life,

Where we lay our burdens down;

Nearer leaving the cross;

Nearer gaining the crown.

But lying darkly between,

Winding down through the night,

Is the deep and unknown stream

That leads at last to the light.

Father, be near when my feet

Are slipping over the brink;

For it may be I'm nearer home—

Nearer now than I think!

—Phoebe Cary