

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

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SPECIAL NOTICE

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EDITORIAL

THE SWIFTLY PASSING YEARS

My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle.
—Job 7-6.

When we come to the beginning of a New Year we are again reminded of the fleetness of time: How quickly another year has passed! We are made to think of the foregoing words of good old Job, who though he was suffering greatly found his days passing swiftly. I presume that the reason that time seems to pass so swiftly as we get older is because we are so busy. We have so many things that we want to do but cannot because of lack of time that the days and years seem to be shorter than they were when we were younger. The comparison that Job uses here to illustrate the swiftly passing days (namely the weavers shuttle), is very suggestive. I suppose many of our readers have watched the weaver at work at the loom some time, and we have noted how swiftly the shuttle flew back and forth across the warp in the loom, so swiftly that our eye could scarcely follow it, but while the shuttle was running it was doing something—it was making a web which suggests to us that we also are doing something while the days and years are passing by. We too are making a web of character. Our Heavenly Father, the Giver of all life, supplies the warp for the loom of life and we supply the filling. The thoughts we think, the words we speak, the deeds we do make the filling which we weave into the web of character, yes, and the things we leave undone which we should have done will also leave flaws like the broken threads leave flaws in the weaver's web. Now in as much as God has given to each of us a life to live we are individually responsible to him for the kind of character that we build. Jude admonishes us to build up ourselves on our most holy faith, so we see that there is a human side to character building. People generally make two mistakes about building Christian character. Some seem to think that young people can build a Christian character without a foundation to build upon so they get babies to join the cradle roll, then the Sunday School when old enough, then when still very young baptize them and join them to the church, and encourage them to become workers in the Church and thereby build a Christian character. Now all this would be good if the child was converted as soon as it became old enough but all this form and ceremony without being regenerated and sanctified wholly is like trying to erect a building without a foundation, like the man of whom Jesus spoke in the parable who built his house on the sand, and when the wind and rains and flood came

and beat upon it, it fell and great was the fall of it. Note Jude recommends a foundation for our building which he calls, "Your most holy faith." The second mistake which folk make and this one is often made by many people professing holiness, is to think that after we are saved and sanctified there is nothing more that we have to do but just rock ourselves in our religious experience and do nothing; but note: Jude is writing to them "who are sanctified by God the Father and preserved in Jesus Christ and kept." To these he writes: "But you beloved building up yourselves on your most holy faith, keep yourselves in the love of God." Now when the web is finished, it is cut off from the loom, so Job speaks of God cutting off his life with pining sickness from the loom of life; and is this the end of it? No indeed! The web will be unrolled again before the eye of the inspector. I have seen this done several times myself in the cotton mills, after the web of cloth was finished and taken out of the loom it was put on another machine, and unrolled again, while the inspector scanned it closely, looking for flaws or broken threads, and when he found one as he sometimes did, the weaver was called and asked to explain why the flaw was there, for he was expected to make a perfect web according to the manufacturer's standard, and suffered loss if he did not. This reminded me of the words of the great apostle which read, "For we must all appear before the Judgment seat of Christ to receive for the things done in the body, etc." Now if we would make a web of character which will meet the approval of the Judge we must guard our thoughts first of all. Paul wrote to the Philippians. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, honest, pure, lovely, of good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Some one has said if we sow a thought we reap an act, if we sow an act we reap a habit; if we sow a habit we reap a character, if we sow a character we reap a destiny. So if we would make 1937 the best year of our lives we must pay close attention to the material which we weave in to our web of character. Let us put in good thoughts, kind words, and noble deeds and 1937 will be a Happy New Year.

MY LIFE IS BUT A WEAVING

My life is but a weaving
Between my God and me;
I may but choose the colors—
He worketh steadily.
Full oft He weaveth sorrows,
And I, in foolish pride,
Forget He sees the upper
And I the under side.

I choose my strands all golden,
And wail for woven stars;
I murmur when the pattern
Is set in blurs and mars.
I cannot yet remember
Whose hands the shuttles guide,
And that my stars are shining
Upon the upper side.

I choose my threads all crimson,
And wait for flowers to bloom;
For warp and woof to blossom
Upon that mighty loom.
Full oft I seek them vainly,
And fret for them denied—
Though flowering wreaths and garlands
May deck the upper side!

My life is but a weaving
Between my God and me;

I see the seams, the tangles—
The fair design sees He.
Then, let me wait in patience
And blindness, satisfied
To make the pattern lovely
Upon the upper side.—Sel.

Temperance Column

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging. Whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.—Prov. 1:20.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AND BEER

In an age when drinking and its evils were common the young Benjamin Franklin saw a better way of life and practised it. He was liked and influential among his associates because in his thoughtful and kindly way he stood for something higher. In his autobiography he writes of his experience in Watt's Printing House in London: "At my first admission into this printing house I took to working at press, imagining I felt a want of bodily exercise I had been used to in America, where presswork is mixed with composing. I drank only water; the other workmen, near fifty in number, were great guzzlers of beer. On occasion, I carried up and down stairs a large form of types in each hand, when others carried but one in both hands. They wondered to see, from this and several instances, that the Water-American, as they called me, was stronger than themselves, who drank strong beer! We had an alehouse boy who attended always in the house to supply the workmen. My companion at the press drank every day a pint before breakfast, a pint at breakfast with his bread and cheese, a pint between breakfast and dinner, a pint in the afternoon about six o'clock and another when he had done his day's work. I thought it a detestable custom; but it was necessary, he supposed, to drink strong beer, that he might be strong to labor. I endeavored to convince him that the bodily strength afforded by beer could only be in proportion to the grain or flour of the barley dissolved in the water in which it was made; that there was more flour in a pennyworth of bread; and therefore, if he would eat that with a pint of water, it would give him more strength than a quart of beer. He drank on, however, and had four or five shillings to pay out of his wages every Saturday night for that muddling liquor; an expense I was free from. And thus these poor devils keep themselves always under."—The Journal of the National Education Association.

LIQUOR LIABILITIES

During the first half of 1934, the Travelers Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut, reports that eighty-one persons were killed each day, and 1,900 were injured each day in automobile accidents. This was an increase of twenty-one per cent in fatal accidents over the corresponding period of 1933. Drunkenness at the wheel vies with drunkenness on the part of pedestrians to produce this appalling massacre. Less than 100,000 American soldiers died in France, and only about half of them died of shell fire. The automobile (plus liquor) is becoming as terrible a disaster as the Great War. It has often been stated that man with the things which his cleverness can invent can easily reach the place where he can destroy himself. It looks as though some such possibility were not far away. What with armaments, and liquor, and all the rest, man has built for himself a material world which is just ready at all times to blow up and wipe him from the earth.—The Presbyterian.