

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 subscription	.40
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., SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1937

EDITORIAL

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

"Upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Mat. 16-18.

These words you will recognize as those of our Lord. He had just asked His disciples, "Whom do men say that I the Son of Man am?" And they said, "Some say thou art John the Baptist; some Elias; and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." Then He said unto them, "But whom say ye that I am?" And Simon Peter answered and said, "Thou art the Christ, the son of the living God." Then Jesus pronounced a blessing on Peter, and said, "Blessed art thou Simon Bar-Jona for flesh and blood (man) hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven." That is, God had revealed to Peter that Jesus was the Christ the Son of God and this divine revelation of Jesus to men is the rock upon which His church should be built.

It is interesting to note that there are two words in the Greek from which our New Testament is translated for the word rock which are both used by our Lord in this place. One is Petros, which means a piece of rock, and here translated Peter. Jesus said, "I say unto thee thou art Peter or Petros, a piece of rock." And the other word is Petra which means a mass of rock or a large rock. This is the word He used when He spoke the words of the text, "Upon this rock I will build my church", referring to the divine revelation of Jesus which men receive in response to their faith when they are saved, which is the rock foundation upon which His church is built, and not upon Peter the apostle as some suppose. Second I would have you notice the character or what Jesus requires of His church. It is to be separate from the world. Jesus was the first one to use this term church. He coined it. It comes from the Greek word "ekklesia" which means called out. Hence Jesus calls His followers out from the world and sin. They are separated in spirit from the world. His church is in the world; but not of it. In His prayer for His disciples in John 17 He said, "I pray not that thou shouldst take them but of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil. They are not of the world even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through thy truth." Paul also wrote to the church at Corinth, "Come out from among them and be ye separate saith the Lord and touch not the unclean thing, and I will receive you and will be a father unto you and ye shall be my sons and daughters saith the Lord almighty."

Merely forming a society of men and women and calling it a church and naming it after a

denomination does not necessarily make it a church of Jesus Christ: No more than dressing a dog in boy's clothes and giving him a boy's name, makes a boy of him. It would still be a dog and would act like other dogs. It would require a miracle to change a dog into a human being. It requires a miracle of divine grace to change a sinner into a saint and make him a member of the church of Christ. Paul said, "If any man be in Christ he is a new creature, old things have passed away, behold all things are become new." Note another requirement of the church expressed in Paul's letter to the Ephesians, Christ gave Himself for the church that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word, that He might present it to Himself a glorious church not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing but that it should be holy and without blemish. He also wrote to the church at Corinth, "The temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."

And last I would have you consider the indestructible or imperishable state of this church, as expressed in the text. He declares the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. This is very encouraging to the Lord's people indeed. We belong to an institution that will not perish, in spite of the fact that it has its enemies which are great and strong. The apostle Paul wrote, "We wrestle against principalities, powers, and the rulers of the darkness of this world, against wicked spirits in high places." But, he also said, "We are more than conquerors through Him that loved us, and gave Himself for us." It is true that millions of men and women have sacrificed their lives for the love of Jesus and His church, and they endured it all because they were on the foundation that never fails. They had received a divine revelation of Jesus in their soul which won their heart's affections and made them willing to suffer and die for Him. It is said that Robert Ingersoll stated one time, "The church must go", meaning of course that it must go out of existence and someone in replying to that statement said, "Yes, Ingersoll is right, the church must go for our Lord said a long while ago, 'The gates of hell shall not prevail against it', and it has been going ever since and is going strong."

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Sion, city of our God!

He whose word cannot be broken

Formed thee for his own abode:

On the Rock of Ages founded,

What can shake thy sure repose?

With salvation's walls surrounded,

Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,

Springing from eternal love,

Well supply thy sons and daughters,

And all fear of want remove:

Who can faint while such a river

Ever flows their thirst to assuage?

Grace, which like the Lord the Giver,

Never fails from age to age.

Saviour, if of Sion's city

I, through grace, a member am,

Let the world deride or pity,

I will glory in thy name:

Fading is the wordling's pleasure,

All his boasted pomp and show:

Solid joys and lasting treasure

None but Sion's children know.

—Selected.

NOTICE

The quarterly meeting of District No. 2 will convene with the church at Moncton, N. B., November 11th to continue over Sunday.

THE WAR WEARY WORLD

With the memories of the great World War still fresh in the minds of millions of people, one would think that all the world would be determined to travel the roads of peace rather than of war, but such is not the case. National pride and ambition for possessions and power are motives that do not readily yield to reason. In a recent book, "Peace with Honor," by A. A. Milne, an ironical history of the World War is compacted into 137 words. It is as follows:

"In the summer of 1914 an Austrian archduke was killed at Serajevo, under, it was said, Servian auspices. Austria's honor, since she was a bigger country than Servia, demanded that she should seek what is called satisfaction. Servia agreed to make certain of the obeisances and motions of humility suggested to her, but rejected certain others. Complete satisfaction being necessary to the honor of Austria, no course was left to her but the forcing of these other obeisances upon the smaller country. The force applied led directly to the killing of ten million men who were not archdukes, and, directly or indirectly, to the deaths of uncounted thousands of women and children. Even so, however, the object remained unachieved. The further obeisances were not made, and four years later Austria was still incompletely satisfied." —Wesleyan Methodist.

* * *

If this statement does not appear to be very conclusive, neither did the conflict it describes. The cost of war in the lowering of moral principle seems to be the most permanent loss to the world. If a prophet had described the loss of honor and national integrity that America has suffered during these recent years, not to speak of other nations, he would have been considered an alarmist indeed. Who could have believed that we would lose the great benefits of national prohibition, that we would have gone into such an orgy of reckless finance as to bring our national debt beyond thirty-seven billions of dollars, and that such old-fashioned virtues as sober habits, thrift, economy, good days of labor, the worth of contracts, citizenship that is not for sale, respect for the rights of property, and freedom to go and come to one's place of labor without endangering one's life would have been thrown away and discounted by the policies of our government as out of date and undesirable? No one would have believed such things possible only as he sees them put into the program of national planning.

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Meanwhile wars, undeclared but real, are raging in Europe and in Asia, with the dictator-ruled nations of Italy and Germany and Japan getting together in a compact of agreement. You have doubtless seen truck loads of scrap iron passing through city streets the last few years headed for the great shipping centers of the coast, where steamers were loaded and all, both the discarded ships and the cargo of scrap iron went to Japan to be made over into implements of war. It is a tragic comment on world trade that gas and oil from America went to Italy to carry on the conquest of Ethiopia, and now American scrap iron and other kinds of raw material from the field of our country are used against the inhabitants of China and other nationals caught under the bombardment of Japanese guns and bombs. We do not know as there is