The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holf ress

And an Highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holines

MONCTON, N. B., AUG. 15, 1937

NO 28

OL. XXXVII.

"THE FINE EDGE"
A. L. S.

The clear setting forth of Christian Holiness as a fact and state of conscious experience can never be given a second place in the propagation of the doctrine.

It is true the great proclamation should include a clean cut statement of the truth as firmly grounded in the Scripture. But our presentation should outrun all formal definition. Jesus assures us—"The word that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life."

The humble disciple may like his Master give out his living experience of eternal truth with "thoughts that breathe and words that burn"

And you, dear souls, who have tasted the honey out of the rock of full salvation and "the powers of the world (age) to come," do you and I clearly see that we are bound up in that blessed commission and are accredited witnesses to the great grace that God has given us?

But what is our actual word of testimony? How does it run? Is it only that so many years ago we did experience a second work of grace? Or, are simply well versed in the theology of the great deliverance, and are able to discourse with readiness and effect upon the formal truth of Holiness? Or, like a brother at a camp meeting who was fluently giving forth his convictions and as fluently criticizing the defects of others and who was asked by Asbury Lowrey, the leader of the meeting, "How about your present experience?" A searching question which went to the root of the whole matter-"your present experience." It was as if God by His anointed servant was saying, "Where art thou?"

Dear Brother: Let God put a razor edge on your present experience, and keep it fine and keen—not to wound others, but for this one supreme purpose—that you may give forth a living testimony to the mighty grace of Him Who gave Himself that He might sanctify His people with His own blood.

Do you question the effect of a fine-edged conscious experience of the great salvation, when put forth in language humble but without compromise or fear, and in praise of Him whose blood has made you whiter than snow? When backed by a Godly walk and conversation, is there anything more certain to draw the attention, arouse the dullness, and confound the unbelief of the conventional church member than the clarion note of definite testimony to the Spirit's baptism and His inward purging brought down to the present

Such a witness to the cleansing blood is certain to mark of the redeemed one from the throng who have taken the holy name of Jesus, but who are hard to differentiate from the "children of his world."

May the blessed Christ deeply stamp us as His own. May we talk the language of

Canaan and live the life, which, however genial and winsome, is yet strangely apart, as the life of those redeemed and purified unto Jesus—a people for His own possession—zealous of good works."—Christian Witness.

APPRECIATION AND DEPRECIATION E. E. Shelhamer

Here is a lesson I have had to learn and re-learn many times. We read, "Whosoever exalteth himself shall be abashed; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." This is a law as unchangeable as the throne of God. Exaltation means abasement and humiliation means exaltation. The lower we go down the higher we rise, until eventually we get out of sight both ways. We become master of our own destiny.

Life is made up of opposites—joys and sorrows, adversity and prosperity, appreciation and depreciation. As a rule they generally balance—the greater the one, the greater the other. Children (and sometimes older people) are not aware of these antixitheses. When great joys and prosperity are theirs, they do not fortify themselves against the counteraction which is likely to follow. Hence weeping often follows a season of laughter.

Once again, we read that we should "rejoice with trembling." I take it that this means we should rejoice over victories received, but at the same time do so with "trembling," lest there be a sudden reverse. It may be all right to blow the whistle long and loud, but be sure there is always enough steam in reverse to pull the heavy grade ahead. Business men tell us that in the very nature of things, panics follow waves of prosperity.

Very few lives flow on continually like a song, without any interruptions. Indeed, such a life might be called a calamity. It seems we need shocks and disappointments, lest we become earthly minded and forget our dependence upon God and others.

An evangelist was invited to hold a revival. Through much prayer and fasting God came in power and many were saved. The news spread far and wide. "He did us great good and must come back next year." He returns, but not like Paul to Corinth—"In weakness and in fear and in much trembling." There is more or less self-confidence and feigned humility. Then follows cutting and slashing out of the Spirit. Finally it is whispered, "He is not like he was the first time." What a pity that depreciation must come so quickly after appreciation.

Again, there is such a thing as making a good impression in one place, hence other places clamour for the same man. Reader, if thou art the man, now learn a lesson! Do not accept too quickly! If you allow yourself to be swallowed too soon, you may not stay down. Swallowing is spectacular, but assimilation is quite another thing.

I was over-persuaded to change dates and

postpone of the man! I must come now, the iron is hot and we must strike for everything is ready for a great revival."

sa. 35-8

"I am rather doubtful; but if the other pastor, Brother—is willing that you should crowd in ahead of him, very well."

"I will make a special trip and see him!"

He did and talked the other pastor out of his date. When I arrived, the house was packed, but I felt a misgiving. I was in the right place at the wrong time. However, I did my best in prayer, preaching and fasting, but it was a hard pull. To my surprise, the pastor suddenly closed the meeting when about half the time had elapsed and secured another man to finish. This was a good chance to prove if I had the real experience. I could have demanded full pay, but not in the Spirit of Jesus. Or, if I could have remained away, or sat back and sulked. But it was another thing to go and cry mightily to God that the other man should succeed. He did his best (blessings on him) without results, declaring (privately) that he was out of Divine order in being there.

What a pity! The meeting ended in a failure, the Spirit was grieved, and sweet fellowship broken, all because a good man got ahead of God. Young man, learn a life long lesson! Flattery generally flattens and over much appreciation sometimes ends in depreciation. Too much sweet often makes the most sour vinegar.—Christian Witness.

POWER AND INFLUENCE

It is recorded of the late Dr. Parker that at the commencement of his ministry he lived in a house where there was no garden—only a back yard. Thinking he would have a garden he brought some mold and placed it in one part of the yard. He then procured one single plant—a wall flower—and planted it in the mold. After a while he wanted to know how his plant was growing, and so measured it with a foot rule. The rule was much too long for the plant, for it only measured six inches in height. Then he thought he would take its width, which was three inches.

He then wondered if there was any other way in which he could measure it, and as there was one flower on it he thought he would measure the distance of its perfume spread, so he walked backwards from the plant, still smelling its fragrance as he went, until going outside the door of the yard he still inhaled its sweetness, and it seemed to him that if he had gone back as far as France the scent would still have followed him.

Thus every good word we speak, and every good deed we perform, has a benign influence, spreading out far beyond our highest conception. The oceans are limited by the sandbanks and rock; goodness flowing from our lips or hands knows no barrier. Its influence is as wide as the world and lasting as eternity.—Selected.