THE KING'S HIGHWAY

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EDITORIAL

THE COST OF SAVING OTHERS

"He saved others, Himself He cannot save." Mat. 27-42.

The foregoing words were spoken by the chief priests, the scribes, and elders of the Jews, who were the enemies of our Lord, while He was hanging on the cross, suffering for the world of lost sinners. They had challenged Him to come down from the cross if He was the Son of God, and when He did not accept the challenge, then they would add insult to injury, and hurl the forgoing remarks at Him, not in sympathy but in derision. Now while these words were spoken with a bad motive, in an effort to degrade Him before the people, yet there never was a truer saying uttered by mortal man. Not because He lacked Divine power to overcome His cnemies and save Himself from the cross as they tried to make it appear, for He had said, "I have power to lay my life down, and power to take it again, no man taketh it from me." But He could not save Himself, and save others because God the Father by virtue of His sovereign will had given His son to die to atone for the sins of a lost world, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but should have eternal life. Jesus took our place, died in our stead. If He had not died and arisen again we all would have perished eternally. Hence these words spoken in sarcasm, "He saved others, Himself He cannot save" were absolutely true.

I think if we stop to consider a little, that we will find that this law of dying that others might live, also applies to other phases of life. Is it not graven on the face of nature? Jesus said "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." So the seed must die, to give life to the new plant that produces fruit.

This law also applies we believe in the church of Jesus Christ in its work of saving sinners. Our Lord also said to His followers, "If any man come after Me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow Me. He that will save his life will lose it; but he that will lose his life for My sake and the Gospel's will find it again." Perhaps the cause of the apparent weakness of the professing church, and her failure to reach the lost and get men saved is due to her unwillingness to sacrifice pleasure, ease, comfort and selfseeking to the point of suffering for the sake of promoting the work of the church. Our friends of the Roman Catholic Church put us to shame in their zeal for their church. See how great numbers of them young and old are found at their accustomed places of worship early Sunday morning at 7.00 or 8.00 o'clock, at all seasons of the year; while it is exceedingly difficult to get enough out in many Protestant churches to begin a service at 10.00 the same mornings. It seems to me, friends, that if we believe that our faith or creed is superior to theirs, then we ought to show our faith by our works. We ought to be willing to put more into it, to make more sacrifice for it than we do.

Everywhere the tendency in religious life seems to be to save ourselves. Now that the summer time is coming on, with its fine weather, good roads and automobiles as a means of conveyance, a great many church members will scarcely see the inside of their churches all summer. The attendance at Sunday schools will fall off greatly. Many churches will be closed part time while the few in several congregations who want to go to church will join together to make one large enough to hold a service; while the summer resorts, beaches, etc., where all kinds of sinful amusements, and Sunday desecrations are going on, will be thronged with these world loving, pleasure seeking church members. Shame on them!

Many preachers will be held responsible by our God, if He has called them to preach His gospel, for this state of affairs in religious circles, because they do not preach the whole truth and show the people their need of being saved by the grace of God instead of just joining the so-called churches at Easter time as a great many do and resting on that for their salvation while they know nothing of God's saving grace which cost the sacrifice of His Son Jesus. And these church-joiners are absolute strangers to the spirit of sacrifice which Jesus requires of His followers. The apostle said, "For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ not only to believe on Him but also to suffer for His sake." Phil. 1-29. Beloved, can we expect to be a blessing to others and get to the glory world, and take the easy-going, self-pleasing way. Dr. Stanley Jones said "We have to bleed to bless."

"Am I a soldier of the cross,
A follower of the lamb,
And shall I fear to own His cause,
Or blush to speak His name?

"Must I be carried to the skies
On flow'ry beds of ease,
While others fought to win the prize,
And sailed through bloody seas?

"Are there no foes for me to face.

Must I not stem the flood?

Is this vile world a friend to grace,

To help me on to God?

"Sure I must fight if I would reign,
Increase my courage, Lord:
I'll bear the toil, endure the pain,
Supported by thy word."

THE HEATHEN WORLD

A thousand million heathen are marching from the cradle to the grave without God, without hope, without the gospel. Is it that they do not want the peace and joy that come through knowing Him? Is it that they would not change their life of sorrow and degradation for the better life? No; we believe that the majority are really yearning for something better and different. The words of a heathen woman should stir us. She said, "Tell your people how fast we are dying, and ask them if they can not send the gospel faster!"—Selected.

NO SHOES, NO FEET

There are some people who are sorry for themselves. They are among the most unhappy individuals in the world. Is is not a consideration of whether one has much or little, an easy time or hard, many friends or few, but a question of attitudes. We all know of the highly favored child who tires of the expensive toys and cries for something better or different, and of the little one well pleased with a rag doll.

Discontent is a terrible thing. One feels that the wife or husband or parent or child should treat him better. The church does not appreciate him. His friends are not what they should be in behaviour toward him. He has not as many things as others or as many privileges. He has too much work, not enough honors, etc.

We shall never forget the poor woman with three little children who lived in the country, the wife of a tenant farmer, with no car, with unsaved husband, usually shut from the church services which she loved, seldom the privilege of going anywhere else, pinched by poverty. You would not have given \$10.00 for her entire living room furniture and furnishings. Yet, when we called on her, she told of the "poor family" down the road with whom she had shared her better things. And she with gratefulness told of the good dealings of the Lord and her soul and life.

And we remember the man who said that he pitied himself because he had no shoes, until one day he came across a man who had no feet. Perhaps even the man with no feet can find something for which to be thankful. He can at least rejoice that he does not have to buy shoes. If he can, he will be happier by this and surely a more pleasant companion. Those who are sorry about their hard lot are not pleasant people to have around. Those who rejoice in what they have, be it little or much, tend to be atractive people. Godliness with contentment is great gain—to the contented one and to everyone associated with him. And such a Christian is a praise to the Lord.—Free Methodist.

ABSTAINERS HAVE THE BEST OF IT

A full page advertisement in the Handbook of the recent Trades Exhibition in Birmingham, England, shows the activity of temperance sentiment in the British Isles. It says:

Other things being equal:

- 1. Abstainers have on the average a longer expectation of life.
- 2. Insurance companies which separate the risks of abstainers and non-abstainers either give lower premiums to abstainers or the bonuses paid are bigger.
- 3. Abstainers have a greater chance of recovery from serious illness, or after an operation.
- 4. Abstinence strengthens the body's resistance to disease.
- 5. By avoiding the use of alcoholic beverages, abstainers promote personal efficiency, both in work and play.
- 6. The abstaining motorist is less liable to cause injury to himself and others.
- 7. The abstainer shows the way to national stability and prosperity, by avoiding a wasteful luxury.—Sel.

Gratitude to God makes even a temporal blessing a taste of heaven.—Romaine.