

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

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EDITORIAL

WORKERS THRUST OUT

Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth labourers into the harvest. Mat. 9-38.

Our Lord saw that the world's greatest need was the gospel of the grace of God, to save men from sin, and after He has done His part by His suffering and death to make salvation possible to all men: He also calls and sends forth men to preach, and to be workers together with Him. And He admonishes us to pray that the Lord will send forth, or as Adam Clark explains it "thrust forth" labourers. He says that the need is great for the harvest of souls is ready for the reapers but the reapers are few: And those who are really qualified and called of God are not anxious to go. Dr. Adam Clark says further, "The man who is forward to become a preacher either home or in the foreign fields, knows little of God, of human nature or of his own heart. It is God's province to thrust out such preachers as shall labour: and it is our duty to entreat him to do so." As we read in the Old Testament scriptures of God calling men into His service, we are impressed with the thought that God had to thrust them forth, that is in most, if not all cases the men whom he called to special work or to fill places of responsibility for Him were very reluctant about going. Among these were Moses, Gideon, Saul, and Jeremiah. These all felt their inability to do the work they were called to, and also Paul of the New Testament only obeyed when called because He said "Woe is me if I preach not the gospel."

It seems quite natural for every person who has been converted to want to do good, and to help other souls to seek the Lord, and so they may, for God would have all His people to be workers and witnesses for Him. And they may all do that without having a definite call to preach the gospel. We would not for a great deal, discourage any one whom God has called to the gospel ministry; we would much rather encourage them. But we should also be careful to not encourage those to become preachers of the gospel or missionaries whom God has not called. Some may choose the ministry as a profession because they think it an easy way to get a living, or for the honor attached to it, or because their relatives or friends advise them to. When any of these are their motives for preaching the gospel, it is safe to say that they are not at all qualified, nor called of God to preach, because if they were conscious of the responsibility attached to that profession I am sure it would take more than any of the foregoing mentioned inducements to persuade them to take such a step. That is why that men who are called of God are reluctant and have to be "thrust out"

by God himself. When God really calls one to the ministry, or foreign mission field, he or she will go or backslide. He cannot keep God's blessing on his soul and be disobedient in that any easier than he can and disobey in any thing else that God requires of him. "He that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not to Him it is sin," says James.

Perhaps if we did not offer so many inducements, such as pay, salaries, positions, to young people to become preachers or missionaries, but left them in God's hands to be sent or thrust forth by Him, some of those who are now trying to fill these positions would be found engaged in some other calling or profession, and those who did go would be more successful and accomplish far more in His service. We are not speaking of our own denomination now, nor any one in particular but of churches in general for there are very many preachers so-called, who make no effort to get souls definitely saved, which they would be doing if God called them to preach His gospel, but they seem to be satisfied to hold their positions, draw their salaries, entertain the people and try to preach a mere social gospel. We read an article in a magazine recently called the "Flame," the official organ of the Calvary Holiness Church published in England. The writer was speaking of their missionary movement called the Worldwide Evangelization Crusade which sends out from ten to fifty missionaries a year all over the world, wherever they say that God wants them to go. He said we never promise them a cent of salary, nor do we promise them that they will not starve, or perish on the field of their choice. We promise to do what we can to help them, but they go because God has called. He has said "Go!" They were thrust out workers, and did not dare to disobey. He says further: We have told the Lord that we will never hesitate to send pioneers into any number of new fields without a thought of where their future support is to come from, so long as He sends us men and women who are full of the Holy Ghost and plainly commissioned for the task, and who with us, joyfully take the "risk" of going out on these conditions. He says that although we have been passing through the worst financial crisis in the history of this country the funds have come to send out and support one hundred missionaries in the last four years. This coincides with what we have believed and tried to practise since God called us to the gospel ministry: namely, if God calls men to go anywhere, He will provide and give grace to endure whatever tests may come. The pioneers of the holiness movement in this country were dis-fellowshipped from their churches because they preached full salvation, and they went out without the backing of a mission board or the promise of a cent for their support. They had revivals, built churches, and because of their sacrifices and God's blessing we have what we have today. I fear sometimes that the spirit of courage and sacrifice which characterized the work of our fathers in past days, is not as prominent in some who profess to be called today. They seem to be inclined to look to human resources for support rather than to depend on God whom they say called them.

I would say to all young people who are looking toward the gospel ministry, first settle it that God is calling and then where He wants you to work. Then go and He will not fail you. I am not saying that the mission boards and churches should not do their best to support our preachers and missionaries. Don't misunderstand me, we must do that, and the churches will rob their own souls of God's blessing and will dry up, and backslide if they fail to do their part. But this

is what I want to make clear: If God really calls men and women to the gospel ministry, or mission fields, they won't have to depend on boards, or men to provide funds and places for them to work. If God is calling them they can, and should go, and will go or backslide, regardless of circumstances or conditions or money because God says "Go." If God told me to go to Africa or anywhere else I would go, whether the mission board said go or not go, because if He said go He would open the door and no man could shut it, and He would provide and give success. May He send us more of the thrust forth kind of labourers to go into the great needy harvest field. Let us pray.

RELATIONSHIPS AND ADJUSTMENTS (Continued from Page One)

decked his fingers with diamond rings. Not till after he was wholly sanctified did the Spirit so sweetly whisper to him the will of God. He gladly stripped off the tinsel and the show sought to honor God in his dress. The old-time saints once had conscience in this matter but now it is laughed at even by some professing holiness preachers.

What a different attitude we have of recreations! Today the world is sport mad. In the contests between college, amateurs and professional teams often the spirit of wild vindictiveness breaks out when one side sees itself being defeated and when they think wrong decisions are made. There is something in the spirit of the whole thing that reflects the spirit of the Roman Coliseum and its bloody gladiatorial contests. The more knock-down-dozey-out displays in a hockey game the more the fans applaud and the greater satisfaction they have for their money.

It does seem sad when in a holiness school there is a wild hurrah by a majority over a basket ball game, which is inevitably followed by a very dull and uninteresting prayer-meeting. "What's the harm?" We must do it to hold the young." These arguments bring a holiness church and college back to the worldly standard. In this natural evolution, inter-collegiate sports come in, fraternities are organized. They soon laugh and joke about the fervid emotionalism of the early days. We are making the proper adjustments they say. "Rich and increased in goods and have need of nothing." God says, "Ye are poor and wretched and miserable and blind and naked."

Yes, the sanctified reckons God's ownership of himself and all that he has. His life does not consist of the abundance of the things which he possesseth. He is industrious, saving and judicious, yet not to hoard money but to give out that which is given. He denies himself that God's cause may have more. He pours contempt upon all the pride of the world and his former pride. And in this experience he enjoys perfect liberty. Having nothing, he possesses all things. He enjoys the beauties of nature as never before. The simplest fun makes for him a feast. He has fellowship with all who has Christ. He guards the Holy fire, loves his enemies, does good to all who would despise and ignore him. He has a heaven to go to heaven in. No tinge of the martyr spirit in countenance, testimony or preaching. He exults in life, boosts wherever he can get a chance. Hates sham and bowing down to fashion or men of money for personal gain. He is a pilgrim clothed in the garments of salvation. He is willing to be