

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

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SPECIAL NOTICE

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EDITORIAL

CHRISTMAS GIVING

The custom of giving at Christmas time is a very old one, and of course points us back to the greatest of all gifts: The Gift of our Heavenly Father's love, when He gave His Son Jesus to redeem a lost world. We read that when the wise men guided by the star at the time of our Lord's birth found Him in Bethlehem, that they fell down and worshipped Him, and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts, gold and frankincense, and myrrh.

So giving at Christmas is very appropriate and could be a great means of blessing, and no doubt often is when it is done wisely, and with the right motive. But we often feel that a great deal of money is wasted at this time of the year because it is given where it is not needed and hence does very little, if any good. Of course children should always be remembered with gifts at Christmas for Christmas is in a very special sense a children's day. They all look forward to it with great pleasure and they should not be disappointed. But they should be taught to give also as well as to look forward to receiving; that it is more blessed to give than to receive, and that the real spirit of Christmas is expressed in giving, and is a token of God's love-gift to us. "For unto us a child is born; unto us a Son is given."

Christmas time with many people is a time of anxiety of mind, and even of drudgery, and we fear that the real spirit of Yuletide is lost sight of. We often hear people say, "I suppose I have to buy a present for ———, but I don't know what to get, they have everything they need, and more; but I suppose I will just have to give them something because they gave me a present last year and they will be expecting something from me I know." This is what makes the Christmas season a worry, a drudgery and robs it of the real joy and the spirit of Christmas. I suppose we all have gifts which we received at Christmas times laid away, and they are not doing anyone any good because we did not need them and had no particular use for them. Of course all this buying of gifts helps the manufacturers and salesmen in creating a demand for their wares; but if we would catch the true spirit of giving at Yuletide we would save ourselves from all this worry and bondage, and we would find Christmas the time of real joy and happiness that it ought to be to all.

There were two things which characterized the spirit of the first great gift, the antitype of which all our gifts should be a type. First it was an expression of genuine love, "God so loved the

world that He gave." Note He did not give because we had given to Him and He felt under obligation to give to us in return. Second He gave not only to His friends but to all, because all had need of the gift which He bestowed. Then our giving should be confined largely to the needy, of which there are so many, and for which we can without worry find an appropriate gift. Gifts of money, food, clothing, or some other things that a poor hard working mother with a small family can use in the home. And these gifts will be used and appreciated and will be a real blessing to those who receive them, for they supply a long felt need. But man's greatest need which our Heavenly Father made provision for in His gift is our spiritual need, so in our giving let us remember those in heathen darkness who have not yet heard the gospel story. What could be more appropriate than a gift of money to our missionary work to send the gospel and workers to those who have never heard. Then let us send the usual card with the season's greetings to our many friends, associates and relatives who have no particular need, as a token of good will, and just to let them know that we still remember them and think kindly of them at this season.

I think that if our Christmas giving was regulated by the foregoing Christian spirit that we would all find Yuletide a happier, carefree time, and that Christmas would be merry indeed. And let the editor of the King's Highway say again, and mean it: We wish all our readers a Joyous Christmas and Happy New Year.

H. S. DOW

STILL UNWELCOME (Continued from Page One)

And with the knock there is a voice, the tender voice of JESUS pleading for admittance. But you say, I hear no voice? Listen while I say to you that if you do not it is because you WILL NOT. Too often when the voice would be heard, you tune in on another station. The discordant jangling of a world that is all out of tune would drown the gentle voice of Jesus, BUT IF YOU WILL, YOU MAY HEAR IT. That is so because He said it, "If any man WILL hear my voice." The will is involved here. And having heard, what then? WHY OPEN THE DOOR. It has been barred far too long. You have kept Him outside, it may be for years, LET HIM IN. Your heart was made for His divine presence, let Him in. Possibly the chief reason why you have not already done so is because you know that His presence would mean a readjustment of your whole life and you do not want His disturbing presence. You know that if Christ comes in sin must go out. You feel that life would be impoverished if some things you now cherish, while you know them to be sinful, were relinquished. You think of the Christian life as a sort of negative thing, a famine if you please. 'TIS NOT SO. "If any man will hear my voice and will open the door I will come in to him, and WILL SUP with him." 'Tis not a famine, 'tis a feast.

He who broke bread with His disciples, and multiplied the loaves and fishes; He who ate with publicans and sinners; He who went in and out the humble home at Bethany sharing the simple fare of his friends; He who prepared a meal with His own hands by the Sea of Galilee and then graciously said "come and dine"; He Jesus is saying to you, If you will but open the door of that lonely heart of yours I will come in.

He offers you the joy of His fellowship. He will be your constant guest.

Did you notice the closing words of His promise? "And He with Me." He is inviting you to

invite Him in, and as you bid Him enter and sit down to your humble table, you discover that He is host not you. It is here that He makes Himself best known to His own, in breaking of bread, and one of these days if you will let him dwell in your heart, he will call you to His banquetting house above to eat the blessed marriage supper of the Lamb.

"Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any man will hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with Me."

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."—John 3:16.

MEDITATIONS

By W. K. Carson, Norton, N. B.

In my meditations on the Holy Spirit, I thought how wonderful it is that we can have Him in our hearts, and also how it is that we receive Him.

As I thought of God's plan for men to obtain the Holy Spirit my mind went back to the days of Moses, when God told him to make a tabernacle as a place of worship. I noticed that God gave him a specific plan to work by, a blue print, so to speak. He did not leave Moses to use his own judgment in the matter, but said he, See that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed thee in the mount. Heb. 8:5. So if men would obtain the Holy Spirit they must seek Him according to God's plan, which is by consecration and faith in Jesus' blood for cleansing.

I thought also of the two rooms in the tabernacle which are a type of two works of grace, which are necessary to bring us into full fellowship with God. There was the holy place and the most holy place. The priests went always into the holy place to do the service of God, but the high priests entered the most holy place only once a year, and then he must take the blood which had been shed and with which he had been sprinkled as a type of cleansing, and offer it for his own errors and for the errors of the people. Heb. 9-7. We thought also of the beautiful white garments worn by the priest as he entered the most holy place which is a symbol of the holiness of soul and righteousness of life of God's people. The angel speaking to John in Revelation said: It is granted unto the bride of the Lamb that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white, and the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints.

Then to retain the Holy Spirit and to keep the heavenly music in our souls we must be careful to obey His dictates and honor Him in all our ways.

HIS MOTHER'S WORDS

I cannot tell you how much I owe to the solemn words of my good mother. It was the custom on Sunday evenings, while we were yet little children, for her to stay at home with us; and then we sat round the table and read verse after verse, and she explained the scriptures to us. After that was done, then came the time of pleading; there was a little piece of Alleyn's Alarm, or of Baxter's Call to the Unconverted, and this was read with pointed observations made to each of us as we sat round the table; and the question was asked how long it would be before we would think about our state, how long before we would seek the Lord. Then came a mother's prayer, and some of the words of a mother's prayer we shall never forget, even when our hair is gray.—C. H. Spurgeon.