

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

And an Highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holiness.—Psa. 35-8

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COMPLIMENTS AND CRITICISMS

By the Editor

Someone has said that the Lord lets his people hear enough good about themselves to keep them encouraged, and enough bad to keep them humble.

No doubt there is much truth in this statement, for if we were always receiving compliments for our work, we certainly would be tempted to think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think. It seems that the Apostle Paul was tempted in this way on one occasion, for he wrote to the Corinthian church and said, "Lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of revelations there was given unto me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of satan to buffet me." And Paul was human, so did not enjoy this thorn pricking him, and he besought the Lord thrice that it might depart from him: But the Lord saw that Paul needed the thorn to keep him humble, so did not take it away, but answered Paul: "My grace is sufficient for thee." Then the great apostle believed that the Lord knew best so submitted to His will and said most gladly, "Therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong." I suppose the unpleasant things which we meet in life are to the devout followers of Jesus what ballast is to the ship. It keeps it low in the water and makes it run on an even keel, so saves it from becoming top-heavy. We are thankful to the Lord and to our friends who often write us and tell us how much they appreciate our work on the King's Highway. Some of these letters we print in our paper when they are short. And others which give us the greatest compliments and which we appreciate also we have withheld. But sometimes we get some letters which serve as ballast to us, and we thank the Lord and the writers for these also, for they stir us up and spur us on to be more careful what we say and how we say it for we want to make the King's Highway as good and helpful as possible.

In one of our recent issues we were making an appeal to our subscribers for renewals, and asked them to "stir themselves up." And a good sister whose interest in our work, and especially in our paper we appreciate very much, wrote us a very interesting letter, and among other things, said that she had never heard that expression, viz., "stir yourselves up," and said "it sounds like Yankee slang to me." Now we don't blame our sister for not liking slang, for we don't like it either; neither used in a religious paper nor in the pulpit. But that expression is not slang for it is used many times in the sacred Word. We will note just a few places: Psalm 35-23:

Stir up thyself and awake to My Judgment. Psa. 78-38: Many a time the Lord turned his anger away and did not stir up all His wrath. Psa. 80-2: Stir up thy strength and come and save us. Isa. 10-26: The Lord of hosts shall stir up a scourge for him. Isa. 13-17: I will stir up the Medes against them. Isa. 64-7: There is none that calleth on thy name and stirreth up himself to take hold on thee. II. Tim. 1-6: Stir up the gift of God in thee. II. Pet. 1-13: Yea, I think it meet as long as I am in this tabernacle to stir you up, by putting you in remembrance. Well, we are glad this is a scriptural term and that it also had the desired effect on many of our subscribers, and we hope many more will be stirred, and send in their renewals today. In the same mail that we received the letter just referred to, we also received another which we wish that we had room to print, for it was certainly interesting, and if we would take it seriously, it ought to furnish ballast enough to keep us humble for a long time. It accused us of making a veiled attack on a great personality, and also of being so narrow in our viewpoint that we could not respect a solemn utterance just because it came from one of God's chosen people. We are also accused of being like Hitler, who condemned the Jews in no uncertain terms. And of being small, and said if we and other ministers and writers would banish narrow bitterness, we would accomplish so much more in spreading God's word.

These are only a few of the criticisms which our friend made who signs, "Yours in Christ." The cause of these criticisms seemed to be the reference which we made to Eddie Cantor's advice "to go to church," which was in an article from the Religious Readers' Digest.

This is what we said: "This is very good advice to come from the source it did." We simply meant what the writer of the article which we printed meant, when he said these "words coming from Cantor were so unexpected." I feel sure that those who listen to Mr. Cantor's programs over the air would never suppose that he was the deeply religious man that our critic says he is. We will have to confess to our ignorance, when we say that we did not know before that Mr. Cantor was a Jew, and I am sure we would not condemn him for that. No man is responsible for his nationality, and Jesus died for all. Our critic also commends Mr. Cantor for doing a great service to his fellowmen through the medium of the talking picture, and movies which he calls harmless amusements, that are bringing so much pleasure to countless thousands who attend them every Saturday night. Well, we will have to admit that it has been a long time since we attended a moving picture show. When Jesus saved us we lost our desire for worldly amusements. And observation has taught us that people who are interested in worldly

amusements are not very strong spiritually or very enthusiastic in the work of the Lord. The motion picture could be a great blessing to people generally if they were controlled by the right class of people, and properly censored: but since they are used as a means of getting money we fear that many of the pictures shown are demoralizing instead of only entertaining as our friend in his criticisms suggested. The testimony of a great many people who have made a careful study of the whole moving picture business is, that there is so much of suggestion of evil in many of the pictures shown on the screens that a Christian cannot afford to give his money, time or influence to them. Love not the world neither the things that are in the world, if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.—I. John 2:15-16.

SWEET CONTENTMENT AND PLEASURE

If your heart is well contented
And your soul is filled with peace,
Though your home is one you've rented
And your burdens but increase,
You are better off than many
Who have money, wealth and ease,
But in soul they haven't any
Of such blessings rare like these.

'Tisn't what a man possesses
Of the treasures of the world,
Neither what he thinks and guesses
To be pleasure's richest pearl
That will make him happy hearted,
Nor his life a blessing here,
But it's what he has imparted
To his soul that gives him cheer.

Sweet contentment then and pleasure
Are within and not without,
Which is quite a gracious treasure
Multitudes should know about,
Who are hunting, seeking, searching
For the satisfying goal,
While the evils are besmirching
Heart and conscience, mind and soul.

If you gratify your passions
Such will only give you woe;
If you seek the world's vain fashions,
You will never, never know
What it is to have the blessing
Of contentment for your mind,
And the pleasures worth possessing
Which but godly people find.

—Walter E. Isenhour

Last year it cost every American family \$79.96 to be governed. This coming year no doubt it will cost \$138.14, according to the National Industrial Conference Board.—Selected.