

# THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

## THE ORGAN OF THE REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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### SPECIAL NOTICE

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### EDITORIAL

#### WHEN DISAPPOINTMENT IS HIS APPOINTMENT

He is not here: for He is risen.—Matt. 28-6.

The empty tomb was the second great disappointment which the followers of Jesus suffered concerning Him. His crucifixion was indeed a great disappointment and grief to them. They loved him so much, and had seen so many demonstrations of his goodness, and also of his miraculous power, that they thought it was impossible that one so good and powerful could ever suffer so, or come to what to them seemed to be such an untimely end. So when they saw him taken by wicked men and nailed to the cruel cross to die, their faith suffered an eclipse. "Their sun went down at noon." Hope within them died, for they did not yet understand God's plan of redemption. His disciples became discouraged, and many of them whom he had called away from their former avocations to be his followers, went back to their nets and fishing boats.

Note the words of discouragement from the two whom he met on the road to Emmaus, when they did not recognize Jesus, and were telling him of his death. They said, "We trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel." But the foundation of their hope and trust gave way with his death, and despair took possession of them: because they did not recognize his crucifixion as God's appointment. Their human love for Jesus would have defeated God's plan of redemption, and sent us all to eternal despair. When our Lord told his disciples of his approaching death on the cross, Peter rebuked him and said: "Be it far from thee to suffer such things." Then Jesus rebuked Peter, and said, "Get thee behind me satan." Because, interfering with God's plan, Peter would have become the agent of satan.

Again, the women were greatly disappointed and wept when they went to the sepulchre with sweet spices to embalm his body on that resurrection morning; and found the tomb empty. They said they have taken away my Lord and I know not where they have laid him. Poor Mary! She did not realize that the cause of her disappointment was the greatest cause for joy and gladness that this poor old troubled world has ever known: Namely, the resurrection of Jesus our Lord. We, with them, have been rejoicing ever since over their disappointment. Think how this world has been enriched by the preaching and writ-

ings on the Resurrection, by such men as Paul, who made the Roman governors tremble, and of Chrysostom called the "golden mouthed." Luther, the great reformer; Wesley, Whitefield, Christian Evans, Spurgeon, Jonathan Edwards, and Moody, with thousands of others. How unspeakably poor and wretched we would have been if those disciples who visited the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea that morning had found the body of Jesus there as they expected, and had had the privilege of tenderly and lovingly embalming it. How unspeakably sad it would have been for us all.

Hear how the Apostle Paul emphasizes the Resurrection: "If Christ be not risen then there is no resurrection of the dead. If Christ be not risen then our preaching is vain, and your faith is vain. Ye are yet in your sins. And they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. I. Cor. 15.

He makes our present salvation and future happiness dependent upon the Resurrection, which is the greatest fact of history.

Read again his glorious adversitive: "But"—"But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept." Thank God he came back the mighty conqueror. Yes; disappointments are common to all men, and God's people have many of them. We plan, work, and pray to accomplish things which we believe will be for the glory of God, and for the good of all concerned: But how often our plans miscarry. Our best efforts fail, things seem to work against us. We seem to be defeated. Perhaps those of our own families whom we loved, and tried to help, came far short of our expectations. Oh, how disappointed we are; how we are tempted to great discouragement, and sometimes to lose faith in God's goodness, and promises to answer prayer. It is then that we begin to ask, "Why?" Why did God permit this awful sorrow or trouble to come to me. "We wonder why the test when we try to do our best."

It is in times like these that we need to remember that our disappointments may be His appointments: That the things which we grieve over, that seem to break our hearts, may be God's way of answering our prayers. Let us hold steady, beloved, suffering ones, and refuse to doubt God's infinite love and wisdom, which are always working for the best good of all his creatures—even though we cannot understand his dealings now. Our cherished hopes have perished perhaps. So they had with Mary, and the devout followers of Jesus: But the Resurrection came and explained it all, and dried their tears. And so it will come to all the faithful, if our faith fail not. "In due season ye shall reap, if ye faint not." And we shall see that our disappointments were His appointments.

### LIFE'S LESSONS

That both joy and sorrow have a common root has long been realized by thoughtful people. Life evens things up for most people, no matter how bad it seems occasionally. I find as the years roll onward, and leave the past behind,  
That much I have counted sorrow, but proves that God is kind;  
That many a rose I longed for had a hidden thorn of pain,  
And many a rugged bypath led to fields of ripened grain.

The clouds but cover the sunshine, they cannot banish the sun,  
And earth shines out the brighter when the dreary rain is done;  
We must stand in the deepest shadow to see the clearest light,  
And out of wrong's own darkness comes the very strength of right.

We must live through the dreary winter if we would value the spring;  
The woods must be cold and silent before the robins sing;  
The flowers must be buried in darkness before they can bud and bloom;  
And the sweetest and brightest sunshine comes after the storm and gloom.

So the heart from the hardest trial knows the greatest joy of all,  
And from lips that have tasted sadness, the sweetest song will fall;  
For as love comes after sorrow, and joy is reward of pain,  
So after earth comes heaven, and out of our loss, the gain.

### THE RESURRECTED CHRIST

By Seth C. Rees

To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." Acts 1:3.

The days immediately following the resurrection of our Lord were full of historic events—events of lasting history. There is an atmosphere hovering over the history of those days that is full of ozone and will serve as a tonic to a drooping spirit. There are lessons that will prove helpful forever. The horizon sometimes seems near, and at other times far away—touching earth, but in Heaven. While the Master's feet still pressed the earth, His conversation was in Heaven. This teaches us that even while we belong to the mortal state, we may live much in the heavenlies.

The transcendent thought, the heart-thrilling thought, is the resurrection—not a cunningly devised fable, no a mere picture thrown on the walls of the imagination, a mere record of ancient history—but a living Christ. "I am he that was dead, and behold, I am alive forever more." Only a living Christ can give the individual a living experience and the church and the world a living Christianity. His glorified body was still human enough that He ate and drank, and could be handled as flesh and bone. He still had human sympathies as well as a human form.

Let us notice the exaltation of the resurrection. Giving Him a glorified body did not make Him unnatural or affected. He remained simple and supernaturally natural. There was no attempt on His part to overawe them with spectacular manifestation, no attempt to bring in the element of wonder and surprise. Some people are always trying to overawe you with some marvelous vision or swelling words; with human eloquence and personal magnetism they seek to make you feel their superiority. When He introduced Himself to Mary how simply He said, "Mary," and the tenderness and the naturalness of His voice introduced Him. She knew Him. Every broken cord of fellowship was repaired. How simple His introduction to His disciples on His way to Emmaus. He talked with them like a friend, and when He approached the weary, disappointed fishermen He only said, "Children, have ye any meat?" He met them on their own level. We