

# 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.—Isa. 35-8

Mrs. Geo. Tedlie, Feb. 40

VOL. XXXVIII.

MONCTON, N. B., JUNE 30th, 1939

No. 26

### SOME THOUGHTS ON ENTIRE SANCTIFICATION

By Louis G. Hamilton

Yesterday I received through the mail a 16-page pamphlet in which the author endeavored to disprove the reality of the experience and the scripturalness of the doctrine of entire sanctification. In the very first paragraph he makes the assumption that the doctrine is "false and evil," that it is "of Satan," and that the "Holiness people, as they are called have been taken in the subtle snare of the enemy."

His second paragraph is brief and I will quote it verbatim. It is as follows: "Hundreds, yes, thousands, of honest souls are perplexed by their teachings. They seek in vain to reach this state of perfection, and failing to attain to what they have been longing for, they become unhappy and in some instances distressed."

Thus by sophistry and a wrong premise, the author, "J. C. R.", drew up a framework of false conclusions.

I once heard Rev. Dr. T. A. Higgins, who was for many years pastor of the Wolfville Baptist Church, also a member for several years of the Faculty of Acadia University, in a sermon make a statement something like this: In man and most animals there is a natural thirst for water, there is a natural hunger and need for food. This very natural thirst and hunger proves that God the Creator has provided in nature something to quench that thirst, and food to satisfy the hunger. Prof. Higgins went on to say that because there was in the human heart everywhere, even the raw heathen and fierce savages, a reaching out and a craving desire for some Supreme Being to worship and adore, therefore this very desire in the human heart, this universal longing for a God to worship, proves that there is a God, there *must* be a God.

Now the fact that there is in every true Christian heart, a longing, yearning, desire, a deep soul-hunger for holiness in this life, a clean heart and a holy walk, this fact of the universal longing in every truly regenerate heart proves conclusively that God will satisfy that desire when His conditions are met and His terms complied with. "For He satisfieth the longing soul and filleth the hungry soul with goodness", Ps. 107:9; and, said Jesus, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled."—Matt. 5:6.

Professor Higgins' logic was sound, and may not a similar line of reasoning be pertinent in regard to the matter of the reality of the experience of entire sanctification for every Christian? But it may be asked are there not many great theologians, men eminent for holy lives and extensive learning, who tell us that the best God can do for us in regard to sanctification in this life is suppression of the sin principle within the Christian heart by the indwelling Spirit, or, as some say, by counteraction. Yes, but let us remember that great and good and very learned

men may err in any line of teaching or field of knowledge. The background of one's theology—home, parental instruction, church, school, college and seminary training, heredity, environment, the books one has read, all these and other factors may shape or mis-shape the interpretations of Scripture, and thus even great and good men, may, all unconsciously, misconceive, misconstrue or misinterpret any of the vital truths of God's word.

Let us for convenience in this writing designate those who teach suppression of the carnal nature, or, counteraction, men like F. B. Meyer, A. J. Gordon, Campbell Morgan, etc., as Class One; the other group, those who have borne strong and unwavering testimony to the blessed experience of entire sanctification as a second definite work of grace subsequent to regeneration, the carnal nature was destroyed thereby,—let us designate these as Class Two. Now any unbiased reader will admit that in Class Two there are undoubtedly thousands equally learned, intelligent, humble, holy, consecrated and honest men and women as may be found in Class One. Let us mention a few representatives of Group Two: George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends or Quakers, John and Charles Wesley, the former (John Wesley) we may regard as the founder of the great Methodist denomination, Charles, his brother, the author of "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," and who wrote more hymns on holiness than any writer of the eighteenth century; John Fletcher at whose funeral John Wesley pronounced him the saintliest man he had ever known; William Carvosso, Wm. Bramwell, Wm. Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, Catherine Booth, "Mother" of the great Salvation Army, Rev. A. B. Earle, the great Baptist evangelist who less than a hundred years ago won tens of thousands of precious souls for Christ in U.S.A. and Canada. And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of John S. Inskip, and of Amanda Smith, Stephen Merritt, Samuel Morris, the black boy, Frances Ridley Havergal, Frances E. Willard, Alfred Cookman, Seth C. Rees, Huldah Rees, Mrs. Palmer, Samuel Logan Brengle, Dr. H. C. Morrison, and our beloved Dr. Herbert Sanders and family who through faith wrought wonders for God, won multitudes of precious souls, and carried the flaming torch of holiness everywhere over land and sea, for they were filled with the Holy Ghost.

"False and evil doctrines," says J. C. R., "of Satan!" "These Holiness folks," he says, "seek in vain to reach this state of perfection, and failing . . . they become unhappy, etc.!" Was Rev. Alfred E. Cookman unhappy, who, passing from this life, cried out, "I am sweeping through the gate, washed in the Blood of the Lamb!" Did he "fail to attain what he had longed for?" Was he "taken in the subtle snare of the enemy?" Was Mrs. Hannah Whitall Smith, the sanctified Quakeress and author of "The Chris-

tian's Secret of a Happy Life", unhappy?!! Was Seth C. Rees unhappy—the Pilgrim Holiness Evangelist, styled "The Warrior Saint" who went into the slums of Chicago and won scores of souls, "diamonds in the rough" for Christ. Was he "taken in the subtle snare of the enemy?" The present writer saw him and heard him preach. His voice and words were as gentle, and his spirit as tender, as those of a fond mother could be; his face as peaceful and placid as that of an angel. Love permeated his very being, kindled his speech, and glowed in all his words.

And what a triumphant passage from this life and what a glorious death-bed experience were those of Huldah Rees, the first wife of Seth C. Rees, as she with radiant face exhorted him to still keep on preaching holiness with greater zeal than ever. And he did, up to the time of his own glorious translation into the glory world, washed in the Blood of the Lamb. "A delusion!" A most strange and happy and paradoxical delusion! Would that every preacher, and every Sunday School teacher, every evangelist, every missionary and every Christian possessed it as Cookman, and witnessed and testified to it as faithfully as Rees preached it!

Where do we find revivals today, in the denominations and churches that preach holiness or those denominations and churches that oppose it or ignore it? I claim that we have a strong and I may say irreputable argument for both the reality of the experience and the scripturalness of the doctrine of Second Blessing Holiness in the fact that God has signally and invariably blessed the denominations, local churches and individual Christians that have stood for it, while the denominations and churches that repudiate it and oppose it, are not having revivals, nor getting souls saved. What better proof of the divine blessing on the teaching of holiness than the mighty Salvation Army? From its origin something like sixty years ago it has ever stood true to the great truth of entire sanctification. The doctrine is clearly and unequivocally stated in its creed. Has God been pleased with their Holiness meetings which they have in every town and city where they labour? Has He honoured and stamped His seal of approval on them? It looks mightily like it. Oh, what miracles of grace! What mighty, what almost unparalleled triumphs of the Gospel of the Cross of Christ have followed wherever the Salvationists have gone! Other denominations that honour this doctrine and experience of Second Blessing Holiness are the Society of Friends (Quakers), Methodists, the Reformed Baptists, the Nazarenes, God's Revival people, the Pilgrim Holiness body, etc. These all are a missionary people, having gone to the darkest lands and the remotest corners of the earth with the message of salvation for the lost, and the light of holiness.

(To be Continued in Next Issue)