The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Moliness

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

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YOU'RE THROUGH; QUIT!

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By Bishop Charles V. Fairbairn

When stationing committee moved you, they intended to move you; your ministry at that place is now over—quit.

Correspondence, outside of Christmas, Easter, and birthday greeting cards, should not be maintained. You're through—quit.

You should not visit the members of the flock, when driving through, without first calling on the present incumbent. You can explain your presence to him and inform him you are going to call—he might even go with you.

But you're through; quit.

Never discuss your successor's administration. Nor his ministrations. If members ask for advice, advise them that you are no longer in the advising business on that circuit. Never pass judgment on what ought to be done and what ought not to be done.

You're through; quit.

If your successor is slack on certain points, he may be long on some others where you are short. Anyhow, never pity folk because they are not getting better attention, or not hearing good preaching (?) like you used to give them. You're through; quit.

Never express in their hearing a lament that they haven't better leadership. You're through; quit.

Above all, above all, never, never, never maintain old friendships for the sake of dollars and checks sent at certain times of the year, or certain anniversaries. You're through; quit.

A certain society member wrote me after I had landed in the west, asking advice on a circuit problem. I simply wrote back informing that certain powers were vested in his own local trustee board, and saying that his present elder lived at such and such an address. A Kansas society, after I was elected elder, said, "Now come and see us!" I answered, "Not unless your pastor is with me, for I am no longer your pastor." A minister wrote from another conference requesting advice about his work; another asked me personally a similar question. I had to inform both that it was a serious breach of ministerial ethics for me to give any advice on a field other than my own. I believe I did the right thing.

When you were moved the action was seriously considered; it was prayed over and prayed out; it was threshed out in the committee; it was thought over and thought through. As a result, you were moved. You're through; therefore quit.

And this applies to the superannuate, too. Help the pastor help the flock, if you can, but do it through the pastor and respect his office. Never undertake to help the flock independently of the pastor. You're through; be good now, strengthen and uphold his hands, but never tie nor even hinder him. You're through; quit.—Free Methodist.

THE KING FINDS A WAY

There is a story of a good king who suffered much at the hands of rebellious subjects. Finally, however, they piled their arms at his feet and begged for mercy. He forgave them all. One said to him, "I thought you said that every rebel should die." "So I did," replied the king, "but I see no rebels here."

It is just so with our God. He has declared the eternal death of the sinner who is a rebel against the good government of the universe. Notwithstanding that declaration, if any rebel will change his status before God he will find the compassionate touch of a loving heavenly Father.

To put down rebellion and rebels is the duty of divine and eternal wisdom. To forgive the penitent prodigal is the will of infinite goodness. That forgiveness is made possible through the death of our Lord in our behalf.

How important and necessary are the justice and eternal government of God! The "scheme of salvation" is a way whereby God may be true to His government and at the same time merciful.

And this is a way out for the one who must have the mercy of forgiveness or the doom of the lost.—Free Methodist.

BUT THE ROAD LEADS HOME

The journey was long and hard. Many were the difficulties. One of the horses had died. Crossing a ford where the waters were swollen, some of the baggage was lost. The Indians had made an attack one night. Then there had been the long, hot, dusty days with poor water to drink, and sometimes not enough of that. But now all the hardships seemed as nothing since the road had brought the traveller home. The blessings of home seemed even the better because of that which had been overcome.

In our Christian pathway there are plenty of things we do not want. This is true in every pathway. If one or all of these together turn us aside, this is disaster—not the hard way itself but the failure. But if we are good soldiers, faithful pilgrims, the arrival at home will be a blessed event. At such a time we will wonder why we were bothered about what was hard for so short a time.

If in our minds we can throw ourselves ahead to the journey's end and look from there back upon what is ours now, our perspective will be better. All the present is on the journey home!—Sel.

So comprehensive are doctrines of the Gospel that they involve all moral truth known to man; so extensive are the precepts that they require every virtue and forbid every sin. Nothing has been added, either by the labors of philosophy or the progress of human knowledge.—Warren.

A PAINI & SUBJECT

A strong ministry i greded for the church in this day of keen com tion and fearful opposition. Indeed, the church—any church—needs a stronger ministry than it has. That was made apparent in a very graphic manner in an address by the chairman of the recent Ohio Pastors' Convention at Columbus. He said that the church owes whatever advancement it makes to thirty per cent of its ministers. That proportion of ministers can be counted on consistently to strengthen and enlarge the churches which they serve. The work of another thirty per cent is attended by decline in the churches under their care. Then, what about the forty per cent not included in these two groups? According to this speaker, they merely mark time, hold the churches to the status quo. It was a searching statement. It may be well to test it by the statistics of the church covering a period of the last ten or possibly twenty years. It is very doubtful if such an investigation would lead to any considerable revision of those figures. Plus quantities in the ministry, thirty per cent; minus quantities, thirty per cent; neutral, forty per cent! It's too painful to think about. Let's change the subject.—The Religious Digest.

HOLINESS WILL NEVER DIE

Let no one despair at the outlook for holiness. It shall never cease from the earth. God is with it. He is more interested in it than anything else in this world. It is the object and end of the atonement, for He died to "destroy the works of the devil." No, holiness will never die out from this world. God has promised that the day shall come when it will be universal, in its sway over this sin-cursed world. When it shall be written on the bells of the horses, "Holiness unto the Lord." Nothing else can reach the deep needs of humanity. The only thing that ails mankind is sin, and nothing but holiness is the remedy for sin. Hence all other systems of religion will be weighed in the balances and found wanting. The human heart is unsatisfied without it and the religions that can not satisfy its needs must go down. Holiness will be rejected by those who want to keep their sins. It will be unpopular with worldly and formal religionists, but it will never die out for God always has and always will have a people on earth, who are holy. Holiness, like its Author is eternal.—Selected.

THE BIBLE CAN—

- 1. Be learned by those who have been uneducated people, as Mr. Moody proved.
- 2. Be lived by the vilest sinners, as Jerry McAuley proved.
- 3. Be obeyed and loved by the lowest down men, as "Old Born Drunk" proved.
- 4. Be understood by little children sufficiently for them to be saved, as multiplied thousands of Christian children prove.—Biblical Digest.