

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

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EDITORIAL

A WARNING TO RELIGIOUS-BUILDERS

According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master-builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ.

Now if any man build upon this foundation, gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.—I. Cor. 3.

The Apostle in this warning to preachers and religious workers does not claim to be a wise master-builder himself or take any credit for success in his work; but he says that he works as a wise master-builder would work. Notice he also says it is according to the grace of God which is given unto me." He gives the grace of God the credit. He also declares that Jesus Christ is, and ever shall be the only foundation of the religious building, or of the Church of Christ.

Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ."

We have fallen upon times when many religious workers would build a great religious movement without Christ having any part in it.

Quite recently this writer was present at a ministers' meeting with several preachers representing several denominations. One of our number had read a paper written in a very scholarly way, entitled, education and evangelism. His idea was to have all the educational institutions in the country to become interested, and participate in a great religious movement to evangelize the world. After the paper was read and the subject was under discussion by those present, about all of whom seemed to think that it was a great scheme, and was probably the fore-runner of the millennium, the writer of the article said, I believe we can get the Jews in on this movement also. In reply to which statement, we said, I wonder what good a great religious movement could do in evangelizing the world without any Christ in it. I said, if we take the Jews in we would have to leave Christ out, for they do not believe in nor accept Christ as the way of salvation. Oh! said he,

some of them believe he was a prophet. Yes, I replied, but they do not accept his sacrificial death as the basis of man's salvation, and the word clearly states that we have redemption through His Blood, the forgiveness of sins. And without the shedding of blood there is no remission. The paper under discussion made no mention of God's power, or of Jesus' sacrifice, or of the work of the Holy Spirit in the salvation of men, but merely emphasized human effort, which with other things we told them would be absolutely powerless to save men without the power of God; for Jesus said except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God. And there the discussion ended. I mention this to give our readers an idea of what preachers are preaching to the people in these days, and what kind of material they are trying to build with. This kind of teaching produces what the apostle calls wood, hay, stubble, which will not stand the fiery tests here, nor of the great Judgment Day. There is another class of builders, who cannot be properly called builders, for they never build anything worth mentioning. They have spent several years as pastors of various churches; but have never been known to get any one converted under their ministry much less sanctified, and they about always leave the church they serve with less spiritual life than it had when they came to it. These preachers discourage spiritual life and demonstration in the church, and congregation. They have very little if any themselves, and don't seem to want anyone else to have any. "Misery likes company." And yet they are always ready to criticize other preachers' methods and ways who are doing something. Well, if some other fisherman is catching more fish than I, it does not become me to find fault with his way of fishing.

But, the apostle speaks of another kind of material which builders may use which is not inflammable and therefore will stand the test of fire: "Gold, Silver, Precious Stones." This kind he would have all builders use. Some one asks, how can we procure or produce this kind of building material?

First, the preacher must preach the word. He must preach Jesus. Paul said, I determined not to know anything among you save Jesus Christ and Him crucified. And again, it is said, Philip went down to Samaria and preached Christ unto them, and the result was a great revival. He must preach the baptism with the Holy Spirit as a means of heart purity. He must preach not only the letter of the gospel but with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven. This alone will produce conviction sufficient to cause men to yield fully to God for regeneration, and purity of heart, when the sin and dross of selfishness is cleansed and pure love remains. Let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. The temptation comes to every preacher perhaps to use the cheaper material, and build larger. Wood, hay, stubble is certainly cheaper and easier procured than gold, silver and precious stones: but what a disappointment and loss awaits the man who uses the cheaper material. "For the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is."

If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned he shall suffer loss: If souls build their hope of eternity on anything less than the Precious Blood of Jesus, they build on the sand and build in

vain. "On Christ the solid rock I stand. All other ground is sinking sand."

It is better for us as preachers to build our societies called churches of the best material, even if we have to build smaller. If we build according to the divine plan, or blue print according to the specification of the great architect, who said: On this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. We shall not suffer loss. Our work will stand the test.

"WHAT THINK YE OF CHRIST?"

Jesus is God's Alpha and Omega of revelation. We call the roll of the world's workers are thrilled to see how He meets the needs of all classes and conditions of men. The revelation of the many-sidedness of Jesus amazes us.

Are you an artist? He is altogether lovely.

Are you an architect? He is the chief corner-stone.

Are you an astronomer? He is the bright and Morning Star and the Sun of Righteousness.

Are you a banker? In Him are all the treasures of wisdom.

Are you a baker? He is the living bread.

Are you a biologist? He is the life.

Are you a builder? He is the sure Foundation.

Are you a carpenter? He is the Door.

Are you a doctor? He is the Great Physician.

Are you a farmer? He is the sower and Lord of the harvest.

Are you a florist? He is the Rose of Sharon and Lily of the Valley.

Are you a geologist? He is the Rock of Ages.

Are you a horticulturist? He is the true Vine.

Are you a judge? He is the righteous Judge, the Judge of all men.

Are you a juror? He is the faithful and true witness.

Are you a lawyer? He is the counselor, the law giver, the Advocate.

Are you a newspaper man? He is the Good Tidings of great joy.

Are you an oculist? He is the Light of the eyes.

Are you a philanthropist? He is the Unspeakable Gift.

Are you a philosopher? He is the wisdom of God.

Are you a preacher? He is the Word of God.

Are you a railroad man? He is the new and living Way.

Are you a sculptor? He is the Living Stone.

Are you a statesman? He is the Desire of all nations.

Are you a student? He is the Incarnate Truth.

Are you a theologian? He is the Author and finisher of our faith.

Are you a toiler? He is the Giver of Rest.

Are you a realtor? He is the Lord of the Land that is fairer than day.

Are you a Christian? He is the Saviour, Redeemer and Lord.

Are you a sinner? He is the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

My friend, what is He to you?

—Anonymous, From Baptist and Reflector.

New York City has a population of seven million. Its 1,074 churches have a membership of 544,000. Thus, only 7 per cent of the inhabitants are Protestant church people. Of this number it is estimated that only 40 per cent actually attend services. In other words, about 2 per cent of New York's total population will be found at church on an average Sunday. America's largest metropolis has gone pagan!—From The Christian Reader's Digest.