

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

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EDITORIAL

OUR NEEDS FOR A SUCCESSFUL CAMP-MEETING

When we speak of success, our readers would naturally ask, What do you mean by success? Men's ideas of success vary greatly, especially in regard to religious matters.

Some churches and religious workers determine their success by the size of their congregations which attend their Sunday services, and also by the amount of money they raise to pay their running expenses. And we admit these things are important factors which contribute to the success of any church: But not the most important, for is it not true that any church may have a very large attendance and raise much money and yet fail to accomplish that mission or work which a church should do. A short time ago we met a man on the train who holds a responsible position in a large insurance company, and during the course of our conversation as he was telling of his success in his business, I asked him if he was doing anything of a spiritual nature for his future welfare, and he replied: "Not a thing." He said I belong to a church with over a thousand members, and we raised over thirty thousand dollars last year, and I hear lots of dry sermons, discourses on our duty to the state, and what the state expects of the individual, etc., but nothing of an evangelical or spiritual nature, of our duty to God or what God requires of us. He said some of us often say that we wish our pastor would preach at least once a year on spiritual themes. He said, I have often thought of speaking to him about the matter, for some of us would like to hear a real gospel message occasionally.

Furthermore, he said, our pastor seems to be satisfied, and thinks we are having real success. And according to reports which we hear from various places, this condition is very general. Many churches have a large attendance during the winter season, and in the summer they are closed for months because their congregations spend their Sundays pleasure seeking. And when they do go to church they are not getting much gospel.

It would seem that in order to be a successful church in the estimation of the Almighty, that our first business is to give the people the gospel. Jesus Christ, the great head of the church, after his resurrection, and in his final charge to those whom he ordained, command-

ed them to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. The great Apostle Paul also admonished Timothy to preach the Word: For said he, the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, and they will turn away their ears from the truth, etc. He also said: Woe is me if I preach not the gospel.

Second, if our camp-meeting is to be a success we must have an objective, and that is to get people saved, not merely to be baptized and join a society which we call a church; but to be born again, scripturally converted, and not only that, but our objective also should be to bring all believers into the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ. Our Lord commanded his disciples that they should not depart from Jerusalem until they had received the baptism with the Holy Ghost, which was necessary to make them witnesses unto him. And we note also in reading the New Testament, that the apostles in their preaching and labors as well as in their epistles emphasized the need of the baptism with the Holy Ghost to purify believers' hearts from all sin. To fit them for service in this life, and to qualify them for the life to come.

Third, in order to accomplish these things we need more than clear, definite scriptural doctrinal preaching under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost. In addition to this we will need a mighty volume of fervent intercessory prayer going up with faith to God. Not because God has to be begged or petitioned to make him willing to save men, but pray to bring ourselves in complete alignment with God's will and plan, so he can use us as the humble instruments or means of reaching those whom he would save and bless.

Fervent intercessory prayer creates a spiritual atmosphere which makes it possible for God to reach needy souls, and reveal to them their need. And it is also easy in such an atmosphere for those seeking God to exercise faith which touches Him and brings the soul saving power down. Let us pray that we may have a successful camp-meeting this year.

SOMETHING MORE THAN GOLD

By Rev. W. Edmund Smith

Proverbs 10:22: The blessing of the Lord maketh rich and addeth no sorrow with it.

You will notice that our text occurs in Proverbs. It may be an Old Testament maxim but I want to give it a New Testament application. Riches in the Old Dispensation had a material significance and were generally associated with the blessing of the Lord, as seen in the history of Abraham and Job. Of course they were men of grace but flocks and herds were inseparably connected with that divine favor that made them men blessed of God.

In the New Testament the basis of reckoning is changed. Jesus by his poverty entered into sympathy with the lower and despised stratum of society, and announced a spiritual principle that has never been abrogated. "God has chosen the poor of this world rich in faith." He sought to strengthen the faith of John the Baptist in prison, by sending to him the credentials of his divinity, which contained this divine provision, which was climatic, above even the blind receiving their sight and the dead being raised to life; it is this: "The poor have the Gospel preached unto

them." In what a subordinate place did Jesus and Paul and all the writers of the New Testament place material things! They taught that the life was more than meat and the body than raiment; that man shall not live by bread alone. True, he must have bread, but that is to be a subordinate interest. Jesus gives bread its true emphasis when He commanded us to "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all things needful shall be added unto you." The riches of Christ kingdom were not of silver and gold, for He made the soul of more value than the riches of all the world; and in the light of His teaching that so-called rich young ruler became a pauper when he refused the challenge of Jesus to discipleship, and that rich farmer, banking on his increased goods to satisfy his soul, sinks into hell, to make dark the night of that awful tragedy.

We notice how Paul magnifies the superlative excellence of Grace. This is the true riches—Grace! This is the special mark of divine favor—Grace! Paul followed in the train of Him who had not where to lay His head and who left nothing for funeral expenses. We place these two, Jesus and Paul, at the head of that great army of blood-washed souls who have despised the honors and the gain of this ephemeral old world, to gain the prize incorruptible and undefiled and that fadeth not away." They had indeed the blessing of the Lord that maketh rich and added no sorrow thereto. Come ye blessed of the Lord, let us estimate our riches; we may be paupers in the eyes of the world, but actually millionaires of grace if we have claimed our inheritance among them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus.

First, this blessing of the Lord makes us rich in spiritual fellowship. Truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. We have this fellowship through grace that gives us the lowly and the contrite heart, without enduring what Jesus endured of physical suffering and necessity. But this blessing does give us great compassion towards the poor and the afflicted, and we can't lie down night after night in a most comfortable bed without remembering the abject loneliness of Him who, although he had made the worlds, could claim no habitation as His own and we can say, "O Christ, thou didst go all the way to Calvary in order to break my hard and stony heart, and make it thine own habitation through the Spirit."

Paul talks about "comprehending with all saints the length and breadth and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that passeth knowledge." This fellowship with all saints indicates I believe, the real unity of the family of God in all ages and under all conditions. If we are children of God our family line runs back a long way and our family tree spreads out its branches far. Abraham is our spiritual father, and we are the true Jews, Paul says, who have the mark of spiritual circumcision.

With this blessing on our soul, how the pages of holy writ glow with spiritual meaning! God is always talking to his children and we are one of the family. No longer on the outside as strangers and foreigners but as those who have been brought nigh by the blood of Christ. When we have this vital soul-cleansing blessing the Bible is a living book, and those who battled and suffered and triumphed through faith are kin of ours. And