

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

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CHURCH LOYALTY

The words of one newly converted some weeks ago brought to mind this matter of loyalty to the church of our choice. Having closed a revival in one church in a large city, we were beginning another campaign within walking distance from where the new convert lived. In our endeavor to encourage the new beginner we said, "Will we see you at the services this week?" The answer was a little surprising,—it was this: "No, while I am not a member here, yet I feel this is the church I should attend, for I have been coming here." The spiritual birthplace of this soul made it seem like home. The big meeting only a few blocks away could not outweigh a moral obligation felt by this newborn soul.

The mystical union between Christ and the Church finds its most forceful illustration in the relationship of husband and wife where Paul declares "they two shall be made one flesh." Eph. 5:31. The Church, to be sure, goes beyond one's religious organization boundary lines, but if the Church covenant which we have embraced means anything, then we are morally obligated to keep our vows. Both the Church and the Home were instituted by the Lord and attended with boundaries, bonds, and covenants. To say that one church is as good as another, and that it really does not matter where one attends or pays his money, is equivalent to saying, "There are other good cooks beside the one I married, and I will divide my wages as I please." Is that the basis of "Good Housekeeping"? Saint Paul gives this personal word: "But if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." I Tim. 5:8.

Some of the nations of the Old World have either destroyed or, as fast as public sentiment will permit, are destroying all their churches. These same nations are fast undermining the faith of their citizens in the validity of their marriage vows. That same spirit is rife in both Church and State in our own land. In the same proportion as the Gospel of Jesus Christ is ignored or denied "the mystery of iniquity doth already work." Lawlessness is in the air; many are, or want to be their own masters. "Soap-box agitators," religiously and politically, are seeking for themselves a kingdom. We know one man who had an organization of which he was the only member. He was president, treasurer, secretary, and on the strength of these claims secured a pass on some of our railroads. (He should have little trouble in getting a quorum to his Board meeting.)

When pastor of a church in a large city we met a group of three men who said they attended a different church each Sunday. Twice each year they worshipped with us at the Pilgrim Church. They brought their own smile of welcome with them. They eulogized us by saying we set the best religious table to be found in the city. They invoked our pity when we remembered their "calling" kept them eating cold lunches fifty weeks in each year, and, according



"WHICH ARE YOU?"

There are two kinds of people on earth today
Just two kinds of people, no more, I say.
Not the sinner and saint, for it's well understood
That the good are half bad and the bad are half good.

Not the rich and the poor, for to rate a man's wealth,

You must first know the state of his conscience and health.

Not the humble and proud, for in life's little span,

Who puts on vain airs, is not counted a man.

Not the happy and sad, for the swift flying years
Brings to each man his laughter and to each man his tears.

No! the two kinds of people on earth I mean
Are the people who lift, and the people who lean.
Wherever you go, you'll find the earth's masses
Are always divided in just two classes.

And oddly enough! you'll find too, I ween
There's only one lifter to twenty who lean.

In which class are you? Are you easing the load
Of overtaxed lifters, who toil down the road?

Or are you a leaner, who lets others share
Your portion of labor and worry and care?

—Wilcox.



to their own testimony, were only permitted to have warm, well cooked meals two Sundays out of the whole year. Their wandering commission and their meagre fare was taking its toll, for they were growing smaller spiritually with the passing years. That priceless gem that we call Christian fellowship they had never really known. The moral fiber that girds a man with strength who is willing to shoulder responsibility along with a group of consecrated men in church work they had been deprived of in their nomadic wanderings. They failed to hold to their orbit as God's luminaries in Christian Society, and became wandering stars in a religious "no man's land."

We have spent much time praying for men at our altars who make it a point to attend camp meetings all through the season. They have no thought of helping these soul-saving institutions, but they just sit around like sponges to absorb the heavenly dews that fall. Any message that prescribes Christian duty and soul-concern for the lost will bring them forward for prayers. They are at ease in Zion, and their sin is religious gluttony. They should be sent home to help their pastor who is left to struggle through the summer months while his people are spending their vacations in ease. Moral: attend your own camp meeting, and when it is over go home and find a place of useful service in your home church.

The writer followed the practice for years, while a pastor, to send no notices of special revival services held in his church with the purpose of drawing members from other churches to his own. More than once his heart sank within him when he saw a group belonging to a sister church come in on Sunday morning, having left their

own home church where they were needed. There is but little that such visitors can accomplish in a revival meeting. If they are true saints they feel condemned for leaving their own church and pastor. There may be isolated cases where a needy soul can be brought to such a service for spiritual help, but such visits are usually made for pleasure and diversion, and often we feel it is for the purpose of shirking responsibility at home.

Many of our good people have been led to believe they are morally obligated to support some of the broadcasts which come in from some independent group that boast they are not connected with any church. That means they are accountable to no one, and their ledgers are never audited. Why not support our own broadcasts where full salvation is preached? In a recent campaign, at the expense of \$1.30 there were seventy-two souls at the altar seeking God. The Pilgrim Holiness Church never enjoyed better agencies than it has for soul-saving today, both at home and abroad.—The Pilgrim Holiness Advocate.

SEVEN REASONS WHY WE OUGHT TO SUPPORT OUR CHURCH

1. The Church provides the place, leadership and fellowship for the worship of God, the creator of heaven and earth.

2. The Church is the protector of our communities, property being more valuable, human life safer and virtue less in danger where Christian institutions exist. Her house of worship and work is a witness to God every day in the year, a symbol of all that is good, a call to all that is holy.

3. The Church is the conservator of the values of the past, the creator of ideals in the present, and the torchbearer of tomorrow's progress.

4. The Church is the great mother of children, consecrating them by baptism, educating them in her homes and schools, training them for service, preparing them to meet temptation; and, should they wander or fall by the way, the Church is ever receiving them, forgiving and restoring grace.

5. The Church sends a steady stream of consecrated men and women into every avenue of life, making our schools religious, promoting civic reforms, carrying Christian ethics into economics.

6. The Church through its ministers and members is continually carrying on a ministry of consolation to the aged, the sick, the sorrowful, the tempted, the lonely and the troubled—a service that never can be tabulated in reports nor paid for in gold—without which life for multitudes would be empty of meaning and hopelessly forlorn.

7. The Church proclaims the everlasting gospel of Christ's redeeming love and ever seeks to evangelize the neighborhood and the world.—Author Unknown.

"Shun not responsibility. The heavier the task, the greater the gain."—Sel.

Mrs. Geo. Tedlie, Feb. 4