

# 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.—I 35-8

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EXCERPTS FROM "THE PREACHER, HIS LIFE AND WORK"

By Dr. J. H. Jowett  
Chapter II.

### A. The Perils of the Preacher:

1. Deadening familiarity with the sublime. "A man may live in mountain-country and lose all sense of the heights."
2. Deadening familiarity with the commonplace. "The pathetic may cease to melt us, the tragic may cease to shock us. We may lose our power to weep."
3. Possible perversion of our emotional life. "Preaching that sways the preacher's emotions, moving him like a gale upon the sea, makes great demands upon the nerves, and sometimes produces nervous exhaustion. That is to say, the evangelical preacher, with his constant business in great facts and verities that sway the feelings, may become the victim of nervous depression, and in his nervous impoverishment his moral defences may be relaxed, the enemy may leap within his gates, and his spirit may be improved."
4. Perilous gravitation of the world. "You will meet the spirit of compromise."

### B. Make Perils Minister to a Stronger Life.

1. Transfer the wealth of the strength of temptation into the treasury of our own will. Do this by studious and reverent regard to the supreme commonplaces of the spiritual life. We must make time for prayer and for the devotional reading of the Word of God. Live in the intimate fellowship with God.
2. The discipline of the soul must be serious and studious. "There must be purpose, method and regularity." Soul culture is a travail and not a pastime. "The trouble with many of us is just this—we come to our work from low levels, from the common angle, with the ordinary points of view."
3. You will have traps and enemies, allurements and besetments, all along your way, but "grace abounds," and "the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Chapter III.

### A. Preachers' Themes:

1. Select great themes.
2. Things to avoid.
  - a. A message of reform rather than a message of redemption.
  - b. The expediences of the showman.
  - c. Cold officialism.
  - d. Dictatorialism.

"I am not suggesting that we are to effect a crimp in our preaching, and that we are to proclaim the Word with trembling hesitancy and indecision. There is a world of difference between the authoritative and the dictator-

ial." "The authoritative messenger is clothed with humility, the dictatorial messenger is clothed with subtle pride." "And, therefore, the authoritative carries an atmosphere as well as a message, it has grace as well as truth. The dictatorial may have the form of truth, but it does not carry the fragrance of the King's garden; it lacks the grace of the Lord Jesus."

### 3. Preach to Broken Hearts:

"We shall have to go to 'the throne of God and of the Lord,' we shall have to tread the way which runs by the mystical river; we shall have to pluck the leaves of the tree which are for 'the healing of the nations,' and with the exquisite tenderness of grace lay these leaves upon the wounds and the sorrows of our afflicted race."

Chapter IV.

### A. Preacher in Study:

1. "Cases are won in the chamber"—Lord Bowen.
2. How to Study:
  - a. Employ system, method, punctuality and regularity.
  - b. Explore continents of truth to understand texts.
    - (1) Gives breadth of vision. (2) Gives perspective and proportion.
  - c. Take the best that scholarships can offer in the interpretation of the word.
  - d. Cultivate the power of historical imagination.
    - (1) Live with the prophet, apostle and Christ in their day.
    - (2) Vitalize the old-world message until it becomes vivid.
  - e. Reverently respect your own individuality.
  - f. Keep your message back until it has a soul in it.
    - (1) The message must first touch the preacher before it touches the people in the crisis and common places of life.
    - (2) Preacher should have a heavenly frame of mind to interpret Scripture.
    - (3) Hard work is fruitless without "the fellowship of the Holy Spirit."

Note: I have read three of Dr. Jowett's books in the past month. My own soul has been stirred and inspired. I have given a brief outline of three chapters, "Preachers' Perils," "Preachers' Themes," and "Preachers' Study." There may be a few hints from this brief outline that will help others.

G. A. ROGERS

The understanding is better employed in bearing the misfortunes that actually befall us, than in anticipating those that possibly may.—La Rochefoucauld.

WISDOM FROM ABOVE

Years ago, when a young Salvation Army officer, I went home to Southern California where my parents had an olive ranch, for a brief furlough. I found an Irish preacher there, a poor man dying of tuberculosis. He was too far gone for a change of climate to help him. He had asked to be allowed to live in a little tent away from the house and among the olive trees. There he had his bed and table and chair; and, when able to sit up, he sat there pondering over the Word of God and writing a few letters. When I came home my mother said, "I want you to go out there and see James Fraser."

I went, and he greeted me very kindly, and said, "Well, young man, you are trying to win souls," and he went on to give me a word of encouragement. Then he said, "Sit down, and let me tell you a few things my Father has been saying to me."

Oh, the things he began to give me from the Word of God as I sat there for perhaps two hours. And then I said, "You must not talk any more; you will be exhausted."

He said, "Take these things and pass them on to others."

I said, "But how can I learn these things for myself? Can you tell me of some books I can read that will explain all these things?"

"My dear young man," he said, "I learned these things on my knees on the mud floor of a little thatched cottage in the north of Ireland, with my open Bible on the chair before me. The One who wrote the Bible came day by day and explained them to me, and you can learn more in a few weeks on your knees, with God, over His Word, than you can in all the schools in a lifetime."

I was amazed, and I have thanked God all my life since for that little Irishman, James Fraser. All through the years I have cherished the lesson he taught me. If you want the wisdom that cometh from above, if you want knowledge that is real, study your Bible for yourself, in dependence upon the Holy Spirit of God.—H. A. Ironside.

PRAYER

Prayer is a small word for a tremendous thing. We often use it carelessly, because it is a familiar word. But the thought of speaking directly to God, the Maker of all the worlds, the Ruler of all the universe, sublime in power and majesty, has awe and terror in it. It is not to be wondered at that in many cases it takes the extreme of sudden need to make a soul desperate enough to cry out to God. How can the mighty Creator listen to man? Yet not only does God listen to prayer, but He encourages it and answers it. He gives us this amazing privilege for use every day and every hour. The tiniest child can kneel and pray, sure of a hearing and of tender love. Prayer is a daily miracle whose wonder is ever renewed. It leads man into the actual presence of God.—Selected.