

work. How faithful they have been since starting the work here.

Brother Bradley has resigned in Jonesport and we are praying that it may God's will to send him here.

Yours for a holiness church,

H. E. TUCKER

#### HEART PURITY

Radio message delivered by Rev. P. J. Traf-  
ton, over CFNB, Fredericton, N. B.,

April 20th, 1940

Text: Matt. 5-8: "Blessed are the pure in  
heart, for they shall see God."

Man in his unregenerate condition is separated from God by wicked works. Jeremiah describes the heart as being deceitful above all things and desperately wicked.

Jesus locates man's trouble in the heart, for, says he, "out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are the things which defile a man."

This is the state in which the human family found itself after the fall. In the midst of this dark picture there gleamed one ray of hope. "God said unto the serpent, I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head." Here we have the promise of one, who would crush Satan's power and give deliverance to the soul of man.

The word blessed has different shades of meaning. In the text it has this meaning—fortunate, well-off, happy, supremely blessed. Nothing here that would indicate discontent, unhappiness, unpleasantness, sadness, but just the opposite. Heart purity is an inward condition of the soul. We fear there are many in this day, like the Pharisees of old, who affected outward purity, while their hearts were full of corruption and defilement, to such there is no inward joy and happiness, but Jesus declares, happy are the pure in heart. Jesus speaks of this condition in the present tense. This state is for present enjoyment and future benefit. The followers of Jesus Christ can obtain heart purity here and now, so Jesus declares. Too many folk are putting spiritual blessings in the future, which God intends they shall enjoy here and now.

It would appear from the study of the Word of God, that no sin shall enter the glory world, and Jesus seems to emphasize the same in these words he spaks to the disciples. Dr. Adam Clarke commenting on this text says among other things (quote) "Christ here shows that a purification of the heart from all evil affections and desires, is essentially requisite in order to enter into the Kingdom of God. He whose soul is not delivered from all sin, through the blood of the covenant, can have no scriptural hope of ever being with God. Mr. Wakefield quotes from an eminent authority, thus, "God has no body and therefore is invisible; but men of contemplation can discern him with the heart and understanding. But a defiled heart cannot see God; but he must be pure who wishes to enjoy a proper view of a pure being.

How do we come to this state state of heart purity?

It is not gained through human effort. We cannot reach or obtain any state of grace through human effort. "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but by

his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour." Totus 3:5-6.

Heart purity is not attained by a process of growth. One cannot grow into grace, but one can grow in grace. One cannot grow from sin into purity; we cannot grow sin out of our lives. Jesus said, make the tree good, and the fruit will be good; make the fountain pure, and the stream will be pure. Some folk have tried making themselves good, but have found it an utter failure. Jesus Christ has purchased our salvation.

Heart purity is not obtained through the death of the human body. Numbers of folk no doubt believe in purity or assent to the fact that they need purity, but they have an idea that it cannot be obtained only at the hour of death. But there is no virtue in death. It is the last enemy to be conquered. Folk have obtained it at death, they called it dying grace, death did not do it, it was because they gave themselves to God and left all in his hands; they trusted him fully, and he did the work, not death.

Heart purity does not take place after death. We cannot find any place in the Bible where it teaches any thing like that but everything to the contrary. "It is appointed unto man once to die, and after this the judgment. "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still, and he which is filthy let him be filthy still, and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still, and he that is holy, let him be holy still. Do not be deceived by the enemy of your soul in this regard. There is no second chance; "behold now is the accepted time, behold now is the day of salvation.

Heart purity is obtainable here and now. It is conditional. God has made provision in Jesus Christ that every need of the soul can be met. Purity is the end of the soul in order to see God. Forgiveness is for the sinner, the baptism with the Holy Spirit is for the believer. Repentance, with all that means, is necessary in order that a sinner may find forgiveness. Repent, cried John the Baptist as he preached in the wilderness. Peter preaching at Pentecost, after the baptism with the Holy Ghost had come upon him, as the folk, that were pricked in their heart, cried out, Men and brethren, what shall we do, said unto them, repent and be baptized in the Name of Jesus, for the remission of sins, then they were in condition to receive the Holy Spirit. Peter speaking before the council at Jerusalem, Acts 15: 8, 9 "And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us, and put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith."

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. They shall possess God, they enjoy his felicity. How wonderful this is. Life reaches its greatest peak of happiness here in the possession and fellowship of God, and the future will be one of eternal blessedness.

Oh, blessed fellowship divine!

Oh, Joy supremely sweet!

Companionship with Jesus here

Makes life with bliss replete;

In union with the purest one

I find my heaven on earth begun.

I'm walking close to Jesus' side,

So close that I can hear

The softest whisper of his love

In fellowship so dear,  
And feel his great Almighty hand  
Protects me in this hostile land.

I'm leaning on his loving breast  
Along life's weary way;  
My path, illumined by his smiles,  
Grows brighter day by day;  
No foes, no woes, my heart can fear,  
With my Almighty Friend so near.

I know his shelt'ring wings of love  
Are always o'er me spread;  
And though the storms may fiercely rage,  
All calm and free from dread,  
My peaceful spirit ever sings  
"I'll trust the covert of thy wings."

Amen

—MRS. MARY D. JAMES

#### THE FINAL VICTORY

The opening words of the Bible are, "In the beginning God;" the closing words are: "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen." God, revealed through His Son Jesus Christ is the outstanding theme of the Bible, a fact that accounts for the omitting of much truth that might be interesting to know, but that is not essential to man's salvation. Before we reach the closing statements of the Bible concerning Christ, we have a word picture filled in with considerable detail of His earthly ministry as the suffering Messiah, and also of His promised return to earth. In these days of such great uncertainty among the nations of the earth, such a statement as the following is most heartening: "The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign forever and ever."

It is clear that the Bible picture of the period when Jesus will come again to the earth is, for the most part, a dark picture. It is a most grievous thing to see the times darkening upon the nations of the earth these past twenty years, and especially within the years of the present rise of dictators to power, yet there is satisfaction in knowing that God has a program for His cause and His people, and that program makes Christ the final victor. A person can endure much if he is entirely sure that reinforcements will arrive in due time; and this is an assured fact for the people of God. The time will come when the Lord Jesus will be the conqueror over the evils of this world.—Wesleyan Methodist.

#### THE BREADTH OF GOD'S LOVE

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher

The sun does not shine for a few trees and flowers, but for the wide world's joy. The lonely pine on the mountain top waves its sombre boughs, and cries, "Thou art my sun!" And the little meadow violet lifts its cup of blue, and whispers with its perfumed breath, "Thou art my sun!" And the grain in a thousand fields rustles in the wind, and makes answer, "Thou art my sun!" So God sits, effulgent, in heaven, not for a favored few, but for the universe of life; and there is no creature so poor or so low that he may not look up with a childlike confidence, and say, "My Father, Thou art mine!"

Each one sees what he carries in his heart.  
—Goethe.