

grind of going on!" Only it should be quickly added that he who accepts the "grind" will find the "glory."

In a correspondence between the late Henry Drummond and Mrs. Barbour, the latter wrote: "The evangelistic career is apt to be a spiritual failure—a few years of enthusiasm and blessing, and then carelessness, no spiritual growth, no study and too often a sudden collapse." It probably is true that these perils beset the career of an evangelist more acutely than they do that of a pastor. If he is disposed to do so, the evangelist can more easily "get away" with an undisciplined life than ministers in other lines of work. Still, the dangers cited in the above quotations may well be warning to all of us.

A survey would almost certainly show, for example, that the moral breakdowns of ministers occur as a rule, not among men who are in the early stages of their career, but among men who have reached or passed the "middle." If it is not moral delinquency that gets them, it is something else, such as sloth or greed. The love of ease or the love of money is the evil to which they succumb. In any case there is unceasing need of vigilance and self-restraint. For preachers are peculiarly open to those dangers that lurk along the way of familiarities with the spiritualities, along the way of the emotions which are so easily perverted, along the way of their own powers, both personal and official, the sense of which may subtly turn to pride.

A brother beloved who has preached Christ in all His fullness for more than sixty years, recently paid what may prove to be his last visit to one of our middle western Bible institutes. Across these many years, so rich in toil and fruitage, no breath of scandal, no strain of iniquity has cast so much as a shadow upon his reputation. Said the president of that institution in telling me about it: "His voice was weak and his messages were not easily followed by many of the students, but it was worth a lot to just let them see and feel the presence of a man of God who has grown old sweetly and graciously." So it was! He might have been a "castaway." Instead he was a "continuer!"

Let each of us say to his own soul: "God helping me, I will accept these Christian disciplines: exemplification, communication, meditation, continuation. If I evade them, I shall be the poorer for it. If I follow them, I shall be the better. Moreover—and this is the really important thing—The Christ who has ordained me with His pierced hands will be honored, not ashamed!"—Heart and Life.

#### THIS MATTER OF SUNDAY WORK

It has sometimes been assumed that this problem of Sunday work is a modern embarrassment to our people. Such is not so. Those of us who worked for others thirty and forty years ago know that Sunday work was as much an issue with Christian people then as now.

Dealing with another subject, one person some months ago wrote us insinuating that we do not understand the problems of the working man. I answered that man that I happened to have some first-hand knowledge of these problems. So on this matter of Sunday work, please allow a personal reference.

My half-brother, much older than I, was employed in a railroad paint-shop. He was not a professing Christian. Often at the request of the general foreman he worked on Sunday. I

went to work as a painter's helper in that shop. One day my brother told me:

"Wheeler (the foreman) said to me, 'If I ask Carl to work next Sunday, will he work?' I said, 'He will not.' He said, 'What if I tell him that if he will not work on Sunday I will fire him,—will he work?' I said, 'He will not.' Then Wheeler said, 'I will not ask him.'"

That is how near I came to losing my job in that paint shop.

Another incident which occurred at an earlier date. One of our class leaders in Denver was a man with five children; also his mother lived with them, so there were eight in the family. Jobs were precious. The panic of the 90's was not over; there was no government "relief." You could find work, or starve. That man worked as a laborer for the Denver Gas & Electric Co. One Saturday the foreman announced, "All hands work tomorrow." The class leader privately talked with him, telling him that he was a Christian, and therefore did not want to do the Sunday work. The foreman gruffly said:

"If you do not come back tomorrow, do not come back on Monday."

He did not go on Sunday, nor Monday, nor Tuesday. Wednesday, the company sent for him, put him back to work, and by a series of quick promotions over three years, made him general superintendent of the street construction work of the company.

Ten thousand other men have faced the issue. Many have simply said in substance, "A man must live, you know," or "To take care of my family is a primary obligation," and have capitulated. Whatever the material gain or loss has been, the soul loss has been great. Their loss has been great not because of their failure to keep God's day but because they have become compromisers. They have placed material things first, and God has not had a chance to do for them.

This discussion has no reference to necessary Sunday work; however, a Christian will do well to leave even this to those who regard not the Lord's Day, while he keeps himself free to serve and worship the Lord on that day.

Of those who have held to their convictions at all cost, some have been surprised at God's immediate good dealings for them, as with the case of the Denver class leader.

On the other hand, some have given up good and profitable employment and positions and seniority which they have been years in obtaining, rather than violate the conscience. Some of these have lived for many years, seeming never to do as well as they would have done, if they had compromised. But they kept a good conscience. And if there is a future life, as we believe, then God will there have time and means to make up to any what they have lost by being faithful to Him here.

Why not read Dan. 3:16-18, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up."

These men did not know whether or not God would allow them to be burned to death. But they did know they were not going to do what they knew to be wrong. It is this "stuff that martyrs are made of" which has made the Church a bulwark of truth and a factor

for righteousness. A weakly, adjustable religion leaves God quite impotent to help us, and the world is impressed only with our willingness to place the interests of time and sense above those that are eternal. The kind of faith and fidelity that was in the three Hebrew children, and in Daniel, was the kind that caused the king to marvel, and all men to know Jehovah's power (see Daniel 3:28-30; 6:26-28).—The Free Methodist.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Nortondale, N. B.

Dear Brother Dow:

Please find enclosed \$1.50, the renewal for my Highway. I enjoy it more than ever this winter as I am not able to get out to service. I praise Him that He keeps and saves as the days come and go.

Your sister in Christ,

MRS. SARAH FAWCETT

Hartland, N. B.

Dear Brother Dow:

Please find enclosed two dollars for my Highway subscription for another year. I feel that I cannot afford to be without it, as I find great comfort in reading its uplifting spiritual truths—now especially when in most every other paper we see such appalling and disastrous news. We as Christians must continue, humbly and earnestly in sincerest and instant prayer for the salvation of our people and nation, in these uncertain days. I am anxiously wondering if Edward has yet sailed for overseas. I hope he will not have to go.

I carry my burdens and anxieties continually to Him, who is able, knowing that He can and will answer my prayers in a way that will all work out to His honor and glory.

Will you also kindly remember my soldier sons at the "throne of grace."

Very sincerely,

MRS. D. A. EBBET

California

Dear Highway:

Enclosed please find the sum of five dollars (\$5.00) for payment of another year's subscription to the Highway. Sorry that I am late in sending my renewal this year. Everything is geared up to greater speed in this world of ours today that we have to be careful or we will begin to neglect things pertaining to God and the welfare of our souls. God did not save us merely to be Christians in name only. He has something for us to do. If we possess something in this world that we like very much, something that gives us service and a great deal of satisfaction, we are anxious to talk about it and tell other people. That's what God expects us to do with what he has given us (and really He has given us something that all the wealth in the world can't buy) we should tell others about it. We all know that if we were walking along the highway at night and saw a house on fire, we would become greatly concerned about the occupants of that house and would make haste to help them escape from that danger that threatened their lives. But every day we mingle with our fellowmen at the shop, on the street, and other places, and we do not make any attempt to point out to them the need of Christ in their lives and the awful consequences of a life lead in sin. Yes, it is true that many people do not wish to hear about God, but that does not excuse us from the duty that God expects of each

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