

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —

REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

Published Semi-Monthly at Moncton, N. B.
by a Committee of the Alliance

Editor and Business Manager - Rev. H. S. Dow
Associate Editor - Rev. B. C. Cochrane
Other Members of Committee: Rev. P. J. Trafton,
Rev. H. M. Kimball Rev. J. A. Owens

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

Per year, in advance	\$1.50
Ministers, per year	1.00
Four months' trial subscription	.40
Sample Copy	Free
United States Subscribers	1.50
Ministers, U. S. A.	1.25

SPECIAL NOTICE

All correspondence for The Highway should reach us before the 12th and 25th of each month.
Rev. H. S. Dow, 45 Archibald St., Moncton, N. B.

MONCTON, N. B., JANUARY 15TH, 1942

EDITORIAL

WHEN THE GOOD BECOMES THE ENEMY OF THE BEST

Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire.

And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire.

In the foregoing scriptures our Lord is using some very strong figures of speech. He is trying to impress us with the fact that the salvation of our souls is the most important concern that we have: It is so important that we would better sacrifice every other interest if need be, no matter how good or important it may seem to be, in order to succeed in the saving of our own souls and others. Our Lord knew how much we depend on our hands and feet, and our eyes; He knew well, how essential these good members of our body are to our comfort and success in this life; He knew also how hard it would be for one to go through life without them. He pitied men who were thus crippled or handicapped; He had compassion on such and often healed them. We rarely see a man hobbling along on one leg, and a stick, or with an empty sleeve, or sightless eye, without feeling a very deep sense of pity for him, and asking God to bless him, and we feel very grateful for the use of our own members. So Jesus is not advising us to afflict or maim our natural bodies, or to do penance as a means of atoning for our sin. No! Only genuine repentance for our sins, and faith in the atonement that Jesus made can save any soul. The Apostle Paul wrote: "Though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor and give my body to be burned and have not love, it profiteth me nothing."

But what He is trying to teach us is, that there may be things in your life which you esteem very highly, things which you feel that you cannot do without, which are as necessary as your foot, hand, or eye, and they may be good things, and right, when kept in their God-appointed place: but if these good things so engage our attention, or take our time to the extent that they in any way interfere with our getting saved or of obtaining a better Christian experience by going on to holiness after we are converted, which is God's will for us, or if they interfere with our soul

culture, or prayer life, or service for God in the saving of other souls, no matter how good they are, they are the enemies of the best things, and have become the offending foot or hand or eye.

It is not the common sins which the unsaved engage in, that God's people need to fear most, for whereas they have been converted they have turned from sin and hate those old things which have passed away. But, the things which we need to fear most, of becoming an offense or a hindrance to us, are the legitimate things, the things we love, the things which God could bless if we used them according to their relative value to spiritual things.

The offending hand or foot or eye may be found with us in the form of a person whom we love, a member of our family, who is standing between us and our duty to God. Did not our Lord say, "If any man come after me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple?" Luke 14-26. Does he not mean that we must love these good, loveable folks less than we love Him, and not allow them to interfere with our duty or service to God?

Perhaps many of us know of some persons who were promising for the service of God, but who listened to the voice and advice of loved ones, instead of the voice of God, and the result is, backslidden in heart if not outwardly, and perhaps a lost soul.

A certain deacon told this writer that on one occasion he spoke to his pastor about something that he was doing which the deacon thought was a hindrance to the church, and the pastor's reply was: You would not expect a man to go against the advice of his wife, would you? Well, it sufficeth to say that, that pastor is no longer a preacher of the gospel, howbeit he is alive and well. Again, our offending member may be a prosperous business or a good position with a good salary which has brought us temporal prosperity.

I think that we have known some Christian people who when they were poor, and had a struggle to support their families, and "make ends meet," who because they felt their need of help from God, did much praying, and carried a soul burden, and were a great inspiration, and blessing in the church, we have seen these good people become prosperous in material things, and as they prospered temporally, they seemed to decline spiritually, lost their vision, and soul burden in prayer for others, and gradually became quite weak and formal.

It is exceeding hard for an individual, or a church to prosper temporally and spiritually at the same time. The two seldom go hand in hand. When a church prospers financially, there is great danger of her falling into the laodicean spirit, which is so subtle and unnoticed by ourselves; but is expressed in the following scripture: "I am rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not, that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. Rev. 3-17. What an awful inditement, to be in such a condition, and not to know it. So the good becomes the enemy of the best. It is said of John Wesley that when he became prosperous so that thousands of dollars a year came into his hands, that he gave all his earnings away except just enough to live on, lest his wealth become the offending member that would drag his soul down to hell. Good incomes, comfortable homes, with plenty of good

food, nice furniture, soft beds, are all so soothing to the flesh, that the tendency is to settle down, rest on these good things, lose our concern for spiritual things, become lukewarm; then what? "I will spue thee out of my mouth." God help us to always keep first things first. Let us pray.

QUARTERLY MEETING

The Quarterly Meeting of District No. 4 convened with the Church at Woods Harbour, N. S., from Dec. 11th to 14th inclusive.

The opening service, Thursday evening, was conducted by Rev. G. A. Rogers, preaching from I. Kings 18:38, "And the fire of the Lord fell." This message inspired our hearts.

Friday morning 11 a. m. a few gathered for prayer. Miss Marie Scoville, of Yarmouth, brought a brief message from "They that know God do exploits." We appreciated having Sister Scoville with us during the Quarterly. That evening Brother Rogers preached on "Losing and Finding Jesus," his text being St. Luke 2:51. Mary and Joseph supposed they had Jesus with them but supposition was not enough.

Saturday afternoon Thelma Rose brought a few comments from II. Tim. 2:15. There was a good spirit of prayer and praise in the service. Then a short business meeting followed with Brother Rogers in the chair. Only two ministers answered the Roll Call, namely, Rev. B. D. Price, of Wood's Harbour, and Rev. G. A. Rogers, of Port Maitland.

The storm also prevented the attendance of the usual number of visitors and delegates. However, delegates were present from Wood's Harbor, Shag Harbor and Port Maitland. Written reports were read from these same churches. Brother Price gave encouraging reports of the work in Charlesville and Bear Point and Sister Scoville, who was given a seat in the Quarterly, gave an interesting report of her Sunday school class work in Yarmouth Mission.

It was passed that we, as a Quarterly Meeting, request the Lord's Day Alliance to make an appeal to our Premier to protest against the appeal of the Sports Club for the privilege of hunting game on Sunday.

A vote of thanks was extended to the Woods Harbor Church for their fine entertainment.

Saturday night Brother Rogers gave a stirring message from II. Sam. 18:29, "Is the young man Absalom safe?" and Lam. 1:12, "Is it nothing to you all that pass by?" One soul knelt at the altar for salvation.

Sunday morning we enjoyed a good season of prayer after which Thelma Rose spoke on the 1st chapter of Joshua stressing, "Be strong and of a good courage." Testimonies followed. Brother Price preached Sunday afternoon. He brought an encouraging message from Job 37:21 and Matt. 17:5, his theme being "The Bright Light in the Clouds."

Sunday evening Brother Rogers preached on "Selling your souls for naught," using as his text Gen. 25:33: "He sold his birthright." This was a warning to the sanctified lest they lose the blessing. Several hands were raised for prayer. A spirit of conviction was in the service. We praise and thank the Lord for His presence all through the quarterly. We long to see more souls obeying Him, yielding their lives and enjoying His blessing upon their hearts. May God help us to be true to our charge.

HELMA M. ROSE,
Secretary