

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

- THE ORGAN OF THE -REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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SPECIAL NOTICE

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EDITORIAL

A WARNING TO SLACKERS

The prophet Amos was a plain man. He spoke plain truths. Hearing the call of God while "among the herdmen of Tekoa," he went forth, nothing doubting. With a boldness and faithfulness characteristic of his entire ministry, he declared in his first message, "the Lord shall roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the habitations of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of carmel shall wither." When he put the Gospel trump to his lips, it never gave forth an uncertain sound. When he had finished speaking the people knew what he had said, and why he had said it. No type of sin seemed to escape his notice, and no evil practice evaded denunciation.

In the first verse of the sixth chapter of his prophecy, he exposes and assails a sin that has been common from time immemorial, and pronounces a fearful judgment of those who are guilty of indulging it. "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion . ." The text he selected, the sermon he preached, the warning he sounded, was not meant primarily for the lawbreaker, the character who is readily classified, with the sinful because of his appearance and deportment. He is speaking to a class of people that belong to "the fairest and fattest of the land." They are held in esteem by many, and are occasional attendants of the services of the church. They hold a profession with the best, and are highly insulted if their spiritual standing is questioned. And all this because they are ignorant, intentionally or otherwise, of the sin of which they are guilty, and what unhappy discoveries they are destined to make on the day of judgment if they don't wake up, repent, and take the way of the cross. Yes, he speaks to the slacker. Those who can, according to their own faulty judgment, drift to heaven. Those who seldom, if ever, frequent the prayer meeting. Those who allow others to keep the work of God going with their prayers, finances and faithful attendance, while they, the slackers, come to meetings when it is convenient, give when it costs them nothing, and go on knowing absolutely nothing about burden-bearing. There is no easy way of getting to heaven. The gates of the Eternal City will never swing open to admit the shirker. The people who have entered into the joy of the Lord, have done so after fighting, patiently enduring earnestly contending for the faith.

"They climbed the steep ascent to heaven, Through peril, toil and pain."

They entered the Kingdom only as violent desire caused them to "press into it." They suffered persecution, deprivation, even death itself, "not accepting deliverance." We may not have the honour of dying for the Lord, but we certainly must participate in the cross-bearing privilege of living for Him.

Doubtless we do the spiritual slacker a great injustice when we fail to sound this warning. The easy-going, self-centered type of life that some indulge in, will lead to the same destination as will the wrecklessly sinful course. May God help us to escape the tragedy of being victimized by this subtle sin, and in behalf of the indolent, burdenless, nominal Christian to "cry aloud, and spare not!"

PRAYER SAVED PARIS IN 1918

A little pamphlet entitled "The Only Way to Win the War," published by the Dixie Bible Bureau of Tennessee, contains the following interesting item: "Dr. Len G. Broughten stated in an address: 'On the very night that all the world expected Paris to fall, I was in London, pastor of Spurgeon's old tabernacle. Although no service had been announced for that night, I felt strangely impressed to get up dress, and go to the church. When I got there, the large auditorium was half filled, with hundreds of people-the most consecrated people in the church-praying for the deliverance of Paris, France. Some were even prostrate upon their faces on the floor, praying God to spare and deliver Paris.'

"Dr. G. Campbell Morgan, who heard this statement made, immediately arose and said: 'At that very time I was pastor of Christ's Church, London, and on that same identical night, after I had retired, I, too, felt strangely impressed to get up, dress, and go to my church. Although no service had been announced and it was far past the hour for a service, several hundred people were there, earnestly praying for the deliverance of Paris.' How many thousands, in humble homes or churches elsewhere, were directed by the Lord to pray, we will never know until we reach

trespasses." Matt. 6:15. We must love mercy.

Before we can walk with God we must come to God and surrender our lives to Him. Then we will have a blessed fellowship. We will not want to go where God will not accompany us. Our lives will be guided and planned by the Architect of the Universe. They will be fruitful. And some day, if we fulfill God's minimum requirement, we will leave this vale of tears and go to the beautiful home of the One through whose mercy we have been saved, and whose peace and joy and fellowship we have loved so well. May God help us not to fail of His minimum requirements.

PRAYER

I am convinced that nothing in the whole Christian religion is so difficult and so rarely attained as a praying heart. With it you are irresistible. This, by some, would be thought a strange remark, and to savor strongly of fanaticism. But I tell you, the church will have to turn over a new leaf on this subject, and a new lesson on the subject of prayer. Frequent seasons of secret prayer, in my own mind, are indispensable to keeping an intercourse with God.

Let me say again and again, you will lose your spirit of prayer, you will be nothing, or next to nothing, though you had the intellectual endowment of an angel. I cannot contemplate a more loathsome and abominable object than an earthly-minded minister. The blessed Lord deliver and preserve His dear Church from the guidance and influence of men who know not how to pray.

Beloved ambassador of Jesus Christ, live so deeply in the Holy Spirit and His Blessed Word that He will honor the message He gives you, at all times, in the salvation of sinners, and with the more mature, divine graces in the hearts of Christians. And if you would have the faith that secures real success, be sure you have God's glory in view, not your own; for how can ye believe, which receive honor one of another, and seek not the honor that cometh from God only?—Selected.

the glory. However, history records what happened the next morning. * * * Paris was delivered. The tide of German conquest reached its highest mark that night; from that night it receded until the Armistice was signed "

GOD'S MINIMUM REQUIREMENT

R. Barclay Warren

Today we hear much of minimum wages and maximum prices. In Micah 6:8 we have God's minimum requirement. "What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

In the verses that follow, the prophet refers to some evils that ought not to exist, as treasures gained by wickedness, the scant measure that is abominable, the wicked balances, violence, and the deceitful tongue. To do justly is to obey the golden rule. "All things whatosever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

Mercy will manifest itself in our relation to dumb animals. It will be shown in our compassion for the needs of our fellows. Mercy also forgives. You can't go to heaven with a spirit of malice or spite against even your enemy. "If ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your

CHRISTIAN EVANGELISM Dr. Peter Wiseman

Christian evangelism is a spirit, a fellowship, an attitude, a passion. It should therefore be distinguished from periods of special efforts, methods of conducting such efforts; should be distinguished from the many and varied agencies at work in the upbuilding of the Kingdom of God upon the earth, such as the Sunday school, religious education, preaching, the worship service, missionary society activities, and such like. Evangelism is a spirit and a passion that should permeate all such activities and it is a spirit and a passion that should be constant in all and through all. If a church, for instance, is blessed with a spirit of evangelism, a revival is sure to come; indeed, a true revival is already there, for the spirit and passion that are characteristic of Christian evangelism mean life from the dead. That is a revival. The special efforts known as "revival meetings" or "revival efforts" will break out into a revival, if the true spirit of evagelism is in the church. The results will be an ingathering of souls. What we need more than anything else in Christian activity, in all its phases, is the glorious spirit,