

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

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PAY THE PRICE

(Rev. E. A. M. Kierstead)

2 Cor. 6:17: "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing."

Are you tired of the trite and empty sayings of your contemporaries? Are you disgusted by the vagueness of modern thought? Is your soul satisfied with the "Atlantic Charter," "social security," the "New Order," etc.

Perhaps you, like I, want to get away from the unreal, the ephemeral, the veneer, the artificial, and take a few moments to think about the real and eternal truths of God.

Our text is not the outcome of speculation, philosophizing, or research. If you are modern, it will disappoint you. It is a "Thus saith the Lord." It's God's word to His children. It contains gold; the deeper you dig the richer the treasure.

Think of it! "Thus saith the LORD!" God himself is speaking. Take off the sandals from your feet. Draw near with reverence and godly fear for the ground whereon thou treadest is holy ground.

God says: "Come out from among them." So-and-So says: "Yes, that is all right for the pagan and the heathen; they must surely leave their superstitions and evil ways. Me? Why'er . . . my father and mother were both Christians . . . I was brought up to do right . . . I'm as good as most people. Yes. So far so good. But Brother So-and-So, aren't you evading the issue and playing hide-and-seek with yourself?"

Mr. Churchman says: "But I was duly baptized and confirmed. I attend church. I pay my dues. I am not like other men." Commendable, Sir! But, sir, do you really know Christ as your personal Saviour? Are you a CHILD of God? Have you a real KNOW SO in your heart? Have you separated from the things of the world?

Mr. Average Christian says: "Yes, I remember when I was 'born again.' I remember the peace and joy I received. I love the Lord. I am trying in my weak way to do what's right. I hope that I shall endure unto the end."

Thank the Lord for that, brother! But, have you victory in your soul? Is the Old Man dead? Is the way getting brighter and better the farther you go? Have you received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?

No matter who you are, or what you profess or possess. God is talking to you, brother, sister. He says: "Come out from among them . . . be ye separate . . . touch not the unclean." Have you come out? Have you paid the price?

"Come out" . . . ye pagan . . . ye heathen. Come out of your godlessness and darkness and heathen ways. Come out of your superstitions and fears. Come out of your prisons. Come out into the glorious light of salvation. Come out and be free.

"Come out" . . . ye doubters . . . ye scoffers . . . ye sinners. Come out of your doubting

castle. Come out of your levity. Come out of your prison. Come out into the liberty of the Gospel of certainty, of joy, and of freedom.

"Come out" . . . ye crippled or 'broken-winged' Christian. Come out of your daily "slips" in thought, word, and deed. Come out of your failures and compromising. Come out of the shadows. Come out on to the Highway of Holiness. Come out from your bondage to the Old Man.

"God says: "Be ye separate." How personal God is! God is talking to me, to you, to the believer, the seeker, the Christian, the saint. God says . . . be separated. Stand out from amongst the crowd! Show your colours! Dare to say, No! Swim against the ebb-tides of fashion and smartness! Dare to be old-fashioned! Call sin, SIN! Confess! Make restitution! Get a KNOW SO salvation! Receive the Holy Ghost as a second definite work of grace! Do as Jesus did!

God says: "Touch NOT the unclean thing." God has placed His STOP, LOOK, LISTEN DANGER Signals. They are for you, for me. Are you heeding them or have you paid no heed?

Are you wasting God's money merely "to keep up with the Smiths and Browns?" Are you letting down on your church attendance because you "must get out into the country with the children?" Are you missing prayer meeting because you "are so tired or business is so rushing? Are you taking a glass "just to be sociable?" Are you taking your car out on a Sunday "just to get a breath of air?" Do you run over to your neighbors and say, "Have you heard the latest?" Do you greet Mrs. Nuisance with a "Why, Mrs.— what a surprise! How glad I am to see you?" Do you take in a show "only when there is a good or educational picture?" Do you use the latest slang and sing the latest hits "just to be one of the gang?" Are you "dressing so that I won't look conspicuous?"

God says: "Touch not." Are you obeying God? "Come out." Have you been delivered? "Be ye separate." Are you of the Blood-washed Band?

OBJECTIVE HOLINESS

Dr. J. B. Chapman

And the priest shall take some of the blood . . . and . . . put it upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot (Lev. 14:14).

It is human to oscillate between the extremes. One would make holiness a matter of external words and deeds; another would make holiness a factor of heart experience. The first would deny the reality of the Holy Spirit's work in purging out the old leaven of inbred sin. The other would minify the place of the expressional life. But the truth lies between the extremes. There is a cleansing wrought by the Spirit of God, and there is a life to be lived in consequence of the in-

ward enabling of grace. Holiness is both subjective and objective, both experimental and practical. It is a grace to be possessed, and it is a life to be lived, and these are complements of each other.

The ancient aspirant for prime standing and state with God had the cleansing blood applied to his ear, the organ of hearing; to the hand, the instrument of service; and to his foot, the agent of movement. The ceremony indicated that the man was to be cleansed and kept clean from evil thoughts; the hands were to engage only in deeds of righteousness and mercy; and the feet were to walk only in the paths of peace and holiness.

Listening willingly to words of evil is twin sin to the speaking of evil words. Doing right will not make one right, but being right will result in one's doing right everywhere and all the time. The places one goes of his own free will are criteria of the character of the visitor. A good Christian, it is said, once visited a dance, just to see how things were carried on. Calamity fell, and the good man was accidentally killed in the ballroom. The devil, it is said, snatched the soul of the Christian and started off with him toward the abode of sinners. The Christian protested that he did not belong in the lot of the ungodly, but the devil replied, "You were on my territory, and I found you there."

O Christ, touch Thou my ears that I may listen only to the clean and true. Touch my hands that they may ever move at the impulse of Thy love to deeds of righteousness and mercy. Touch my feet that they may take me only into paths of duty and holiness. And, ever give me grace to live out in thoughts, deeds, words and conduct all the implications of the name Christian by which I am called that I may please Thee while I live and see Thy face in glory after while. Amen!—Herald of Holiness.

"HOW LONG, O LORD?"

Lord Jesus, how long shall the groans and the sighs

From the sin-burdened earth continue to rise?
How long shall the curse Thy creation oppress,
How long ere in mercy Thou comest to bless?

Lord Jesus, how long ere the night shall have end,
And the beams of Thy glory o'er earth shall descend?

The wilderness bloom and the desert rejoice,
And creation with singing lift up its glad voice?

Lord Jesus, not long, soon the morning will come;
Then Thy voice from the skies shall call Thy saints home;

The throne of Thy glory exalted shall be
And the beauty of Zion all nations shall see.

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