

# THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —

## REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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### SPECIAL NOTICE

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### EDITORIAL

#### THE UNIFYING POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and one soul; neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.—Acts 4-32.

Perhaps the most outstanding characteristic of the church following Pentecost was its unity of spirit, as the foregoing verse of scripture suggests: And those were the days when she saw great success, thousands were converted. "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." Acts 2-47.

The outpouring of the Spirit on the disciples of Jesus on the day of Pentecost was evidently the answer to the prayer of our Lord, recorded in John 17 when He prayed to the Father to sanctify them that they might all be one, etc., that the world may believe, etc. Our Lord knew when he prayed that the spirit of unity in his church would be a most potent factor in convincing the lost or unsaved of their need of salvation.

Preachers and religious workers also realize that unity among Christian workers and churches is a source of strength, and so, they try to bring about, and to promote unity by means of organization; such as uniting two or three bodies of people under one religious government, and with a new church name; and while such an act is good as far as it goes, it does not always seem to go far enough to reach the source of weakness and make that church the strong soul-saving institution that it should be with all its increase in numbers and financial ability.

There is no doubt at all in this writer's mind regarding God's attitude toward so many societies called churches: We fully believe that so many religious denominations is a hindrance to success in the cause of Christ, in bringing lost souls to Jesus, especially when there is strife among them. But mere organic union, that is, getting large numbers of people to unite in one body under one head, is not the kind of union that our Lord prayed about as recorded in John 17, because it lacks the spirit which gives life, strength and fervor to the body, and an organization like that can no more be successful in God's sight than a human body can function after life has become extinct. What natural, or animal life is to the human body, the Holy Spirit is to the

Church of Jesus Christ. Natural life gives power to the various members of the body to function successfully, and harmoniously. Notice our scripture says that the whole multitude, evidently there were more than a few: A multitude, that believed were of one heart, and one soul; that is scriptural unity. The Pentecostal experience of the baptism with the Holy Spirit produces a stronger bond between those who have received that experience than any law in nature can produce between the nearest relatives. In spite of the fact that there may be great differences in their ages, financial or social standing, or in their intellectual or financial attainments, wholly sanctified people have much in common. Note it was said of the multitudes in the early church: "they had all things common."

We may be closely related by natures' laws, as brothers and sisters, or parents and children in the same family and yet, have very little in common, because of the differences in our spiritual conditions. We knew a good Christian lady living in New Brunswick, who had a sister in the flesh, living in Boston, Mass. This good woman had not seen her sister for over 20 years, and had a strong desire to visit her, which she did when opportunity served. She said she had looked forward with a great deal of pleasure to the coming visit, but told this writer after she had returned, that she was greatly disappointed in her visit, because she and her sister had so little in common. Her sister was unsaved.

We may be members of the same church, of a so-called holiness church, yea, of a Reformed Baptist Church, and still have very little in common; and may have much of that fault-finding critical spirit which causes strife and divisions among us, and hinders the work of God from progressing!

This fact we have all observed many times. We have also observed that sanctified people belonging to different denominations do possess that same spirit of unity which makes them one, and they have much in common, and can worship and work together in beautiful harmony. We believe, however, that it would be advantageous in some respects at least to all concerned if several small bodies of so-called holiness churches who have so much in common already, could be united in one denomination under one head, especially where two or more of these holiness bodies have separate churches in the same town, city or community. It would make the cause of holiness stronger in that community and set some preachers free who are now ministering to only a few people, to preach the gospel of full salvation in other needy places. We think that a union of this kind would give a better demonstration to people round about us, of the truth that we are trying to preach, and of the spirit that the early church possessed which made them "all of one heart, and one soul" when they also had all things common.

Of course if we have strife and divisions among us now in our own little churches, uniting with another body would not cure our trouble: but becoming scripturally converted and genuinely sanctified will, we believe, reach our need, and effect a cure; for these same disciples of whom it is said, "were of one heart and one soul," did, according to the record, have some strife and divisions in spirit among them before Pentecost. So we conclude that it was the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit that made them one, and it will take the same Holy Spirit's power

coming upon us individually to illuminate, cleanse, energize, and unify us, and make us successful churches in winning souls for Jesus.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Jonesport, Maine

Dear Highway:

My last two campaigns have been with Rev. H. C. Mullen and Rev. J. W. Turpel, former associates of old P. C. I., which later became E. N. C. My fellowship with these brethren was blessed indeed.

Our meeting at Hartland ran from Nov. 15th to Dec. 13th. Brother Mullen has given a complete report of this meeting. The church at Victoria joined the Hartland church to make the meeting a success. We found among these folks an "Inner Group" of people who know how to carry a burden to the closing benediction. Their faith and prevailing prayer brought God on the scene and they saw some victory. Amen! Lic. Wilbur Mullen was present during the major portion of the campaign and proved to be a great blessing. May God bless him in his future work. God bless the pastor and good wife and the faithful ones in Hartland and on that circuit. I was entertained in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Hartley. They made me feel at home and made my stay a pleasant one.

I was called to visit my mother for a couple of days during the Hartland meeting. At the close of that meeting I spent nine days with my parents. Mother responded to the physician's care and improved somewhat. Sunday, Dec. 20th, was my rest Sunday. I didn't preach anywhere. I did give the immediate family a little message in the afternoon, on Luke 2:15, which was in line with Christmas.

My wife is caring for her father at Saugus, Mass. I spent a very pleasant Christmas with them.

My second campaign that I have already referred to was from Dec. 27th to Jan. 10th in the Nazarene Church at Cliftondale, Mass. Like in every place these days we found that one can't have a revival without a real battle. Brother Turpel had some people who could bear a burden and not falter until the victory came. The campaign was not a long one and like in so many meetings people try to put off until the very last. We had a young boy by the name of Paul who expected victory every night. God give us more young people who will dare to believe God. He would come to me after nearly every service and say, "It may come in the next meeting." Thank God victory did come the last day. We had a great battle, but we had glorious victory. The last Sunday morning I spoke to the Sunday School and seventeen children came to the altar. In the closing service thirteen people responded to the altar call. To God be all the glory. I was entertained in the home of my father-in-law. My wife entertained the evangelist. I never had better care. The church people gave her money for looking after her husband like they paid Moses' mother in Bible days for looking after her son.

While in Massachusetts we had the following ministers in to hear us preach: Revs. Mr. Butler, Mr. MacDuffy, Mr. Fallon, G. Laite, V. Hoover, N. Eaton and R. Stevens. I also had the privilege of hearing Revs. J. A. Albright, S. Young, N. Eaton, Dr. R. J. Dixon and Dr. E. Stanley Jones.

On Thursday, Jan. 14th, it was my privilege