

The King's Highway

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At Beulah - on the St. John River

ALLIANCE SESSIONS - JULY 7 - 9, 1943

MAY JESUS BE THERE!

The following incident is related by Samuel Brengle in his book: "Heart Talks on Holiness:"

"I remember, a number of years ago, going to a camp-meeting, hoping to find Jesus there in power. I got there two or three days after the opening, and I found, if I now remember rightly, that no one had been saved. There was no grip or power in the meetings. At the appointed hour for the meeting the bell would ring, and the officers and soldiers, who had been laughing and joking and singing songs and visiting each other and making merry, would come strolling into the meetings with smiles on their faces and "God bless you's" on their tongues, but with apparently no solemn consciousness of the holy presence of the Crucified One in their midst. Then the meeting would begin with a rush and a bang, and songs and prayers and jokes and laughter and collection and smart testimonies and a Bible reading would follow, and the meeting would end again without souls. Everybody would go out again good-naturedly, make a rush for the best seats at the dinner table and enjoy themselves beautifully until the next meeting.

"Everyone seemed to take it for granted that Jesus was in the company, yet no one seemed to be especially conscious of His presence.

At last it was pointed out that the meetings were galloped through with, but no souls were saved, and it was suggested that perhaps Jesus was missing. A prayer meeting was called to look for Jesus, and some of the people present had to allow that Jesus was not with them. Then some of them went to their tents to look for Him, and some went to the woods and got down on their knees to look for Him, and would not give up the search until at last He was found, and when He was told that He was expected and that He must come, and that we would not let Him go except He blessed us, then He came, and there was a shout of a King in the camp, and He gave us a touch of His baptism, which is with the Holy Ghost and with fire. The officers, soldiers, and saints got awfully in earnest, and the poor sinners got awfully alarmed and convicted, so that they were no longer anxious about what they should have for dinner. And some seemed so anxious to talk with Jesus and get filled with His Spirit, and His great thoughts, and to get Him to put the dynamite into their testimonies and songs and prayers that they lost their appetites and didn't care whether

they had any dinner at all, if only they could be fed with bread from Heaven.

"Oh, I tell you, it was wonderful, the transformation that came over that campground when Jesus got there! The shallow joy that caused men to smile and make an empty racket, gave way before that deep joy of the Lord which makes men weep and be serious and fills their faces with the solar light of heaven, and makes their shout almost as terrible to the wicked as will be the trumpet peals and awful thunders of the Judgment Day.

I tell you the presence of Jesus in the power of the Holy Ghost on that camp ground did make the remaining days of the camp-meeting into veritable judgment days for some folks. Then the news went abroad that Jesus was in the camp, and the people poured in from all the country round about, and mighty things were done in His name. Weak folks were made strong. The timid became bold as lions. Broken hearts were healed. Sad folks were made into glad folks. The lame man leaped as an hart. The blind saw. The deaf heard. The dumb spoke. The hungry multitude were fed. Spirits that were full of passion and like a storm-tossed sea became peaceful and calm, and dead souls were raised to life. Glory to God!

"I tell you it was the presence of Jesus that saved that camp meeting from being recorded as a dismal failure, and instead caused it to be remembered as a time of wondrous refreshing from the presence of the Lord."

May the presence of Christ grace the sessions of the Alliance and services of the camp-meeting this year, and His mighty workings through the Spirit produce memorable scenes of blessing and victory.

LOSS OF THE PRAYER LIFE

Nowadays in the open life of the church and in the fellowship of believers there is seemingly little power in prayer, there is marked absence of travail. There is much phrasing, but little pleading. Prayer has become a soliloquy, instead of a passion. The powerlessness of the church needs no further explanation, and the counsellors of the church need seek no other cause. To be prayerless is to be both passionless and powerless.—Samuel Chadwick.

Herod feared John, and did many things. Had he feared God, he would have laboured to have done everything.—Gurnall.

HOW DO WE READ?

We often exhort Christian people to be faithful in the reading of God's Word. Such exhortation is certainly much needed today. There is so much in the happenings of each day that would tend to distract our minds and to keep us from the reading and meditation upon the Word altogether. As we need food for our physical sustenance and health, so we need the Word for our spiritual health and well-being.

Occasionally one hears a sort of lament concerning the reading of the Bible. Some say they are unable to understand what they read, while others have said that they cannot remember what they had read. It requires some real concentration to have the Word make its impressions on the heart and life.

A clipping from a periodical some years ago gives some suggestions that might help us in getting more out of the reading. Says this clipping—

"After the careful and prayerful reading of a chapter of the Bible, ask yourself these questions:

1. Is there, in this chapter, any EXAMPLE for me to follow?
2. Is there, in this chapter, any ERROR for me to avoid?
3. Is there, in this chapter, any DUTY for me to perform?
4. Is there, in this chapter, any PROMISE for me to claim?
5. Is there, in this chapter, any PAYER for me to echo?

There is little doubt but that if we would do our reading with these questions in mind, we would get something in its study. The Word of God is given that we might profit by it, and that we might be "thoroughly furnished unto every good work."

Perhaps these suggestions will be a help to you in getting more out of your Bible reading.—Sel.

Two men entered a car while a train was being made up, and took comfortable seats. They were asked by a grimy-faced trainman to go forward. "What's the matter with this car?" they inquired. "Nothin'," he grinned, "only 'taint coupled to anything that'll take you anywhere." That is the trouble with so many creeds, for the soul that would journey heavenward must make sure of the coupling.—Sel.

False face must hide what the false heart knows—Shakespeare.

CAMP MEETING - - JULY 9-18