

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —
REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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EDITORIAL

A TRIBUTE TO THE FAITHFUL

There is a class or type of people for whom I have deep respect and genuine appreciation. They are, I believe, the "backbone" of our churches. Because of them we are able to carry on the work of the Kingdom of Christ; without them we would fail. I speak of those who, week in and week out, during summer and winter, faithfully stand by the pastor and church. They may or may not possess outstanding talents, but they are dependable. They know how to "bear the burden and the heat of the day." When you miss them from prayer meeting or the Sunday services, you know there is something wrong; they are unavoidably detained.

I wonder sometimes if some people realize what an inconsistent attitude they take toward the work of God. They want the services carried on but they can be kept home so easily. They claim to love God so much and yet so quickly follow their own fancies. If some event of special nature is going on elsewhere, they follow the crowd and leave the carrying on of the work to some one else. They like to have liberty to spend their tithes hither and yon, apparently forgetting that some one has to pay the preacher they listen to and meet the obligations of heat, repair, etc., that arise in respect to the place of worship they attend. What they seem blind to is that when they stay home because of some trifling hindrance, some others must be at church to carry on, or else the work would die. As they go here and there seeking religious entertainment or enjoying the "specials" that various churches have, others must stay by the stuff in the church of which they are members or adherents, or that church would be utterly forsaken. If the rest of the people adopted the attitude of independence in respect to spending tithes here, there and everywhere (and they have as much right to do so) instead of bringing them into the storehouse, we would be financially embarrassed.

But honour to the faithful! To those who stand by each new pastor; who are always in the assembly of the saints whatever the nature of the meeting; who give liberally and faithfully to the financial support of the work—to these consecrated and sacrificial saints we pay loving and respectful tribute. May their tribe increase!

THE BOW IN THE CLOUD

For many years civilization has been under a cloud. In pre-war days there was the ominous foreshadowing of what seemed imminent. At the present time there is the gloom that war inevitably brings. Of the future we are more hopeful than certain. Men of vision know what the world of tomorrow should be, but of their ability to establish the desired economic and social order, the conditions that will make for lasting peace, there is much uncertainty. At best, realism forces us to confess that we are under a cloud. With the government of the universe left in the hands of man, what awaits us in the post-war world? Will it be restitution or revolution? No man can tell.

But God has set a bow in the cloud! The Scriptures plainly promise that at some time in the future, the government of the universe will be transferred from man to the Son of Man. Christ shall one day take the throne of authority and rule the kingdoms of the earth. In that day there will be neither war nor want, neither blight nor barrenness. A thousand years of peace and plenty when righteousness shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. What glorious prospect!

THE HOPE AND THE HUNGER

John Paul

The apostle John declares: "Every one that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." He refers to the hope of seeing Jesus and the hope of being like Him when He shall appear. Such is the two-fold promise to all who now are the sons of God. Having this hope they know that there is a human side to its realization; they get ready for it. Thus they are moved by the inherent leading of a regenerate heart to seek the first and basic quality in that list of properties which go to make the image and likeness of Christ—freedom from sin. "Purifieth himself" is not supposed to mean that we can perfect holiness by human washings and prunings and self-development and growth; it means that purity of heart becomes a high theme in our thinking, and that we devote ourselves to the understanding of those truths which lead to perfect cleansing in the blood of Christ and to the human conditions that put us in line for this essential element of the divine image. Because we want to be like Jesus we want to be holy.

On every side we find good people who have "this hope" trying to fit the facts up with their theories, and who develop all sorts of grotesque notions about sin and salvation; but it is gratifying to count on every side those whose hunger of heart and frankness of mind has led to the clarifying of their views on holiness. Few but backsliders recede from the old line; many come to it. It may not have made Wesleyans out of them; it may not have caused them to relinquish what they deemed Calvin's more substantial views of the nature of the atonement and the unshakable sequences of the new birth; for Wesley and his army are not all who now teach the possibility of full cleansing from sin.

Hope is emotional and intellectual in its composition. It includes "desire and expectation." Rob it of the former and it is not hope. My neighbor's house may be burning next door to mine and the wind may be blowing

the flames my way, so that I am sure my house will burn. This is expectation without desire. It is not hope. A man may be indebted to me who was never known to pay what he owed. I may need my money and may greatly desire it, but I do not expect it. This is not hope, for it is desire without expectation.

Despite the varying views as to time and detail, the gist of the hope of our Lord's return is today in many a devout breast, and wherever you find this hope the individual is thinking seriously of the deeper things of the spiritual life. Every one whom God foresaw would be converted he predetermined should go on to the image of his Son (Romans 8:29). The primary quality in that image is purity, and the Spirit plants the cry for purity in the breast of every one who is born from above.
—Christian Witness.

BLUNT ADVICE TO PREACHERS

Make no apologies. If you have the Lord's message, declare it; if not, hold your peace.

Have short prefaces and introductions. Say your best things first, and stop before you get prosy. Do not spoil the appetite for dinner by too much thin soup.

Leave yourself out of the pulpit, and take Jesus in. Defend the Gospel, and let the Lord defend you and your character.

Do not get excited too soon. Do not run away from your remarks. Engine-driven wheels whirl fast on an icy track, but when loaded go slower.

It takes a cold hammer to bend a hot iron. Heat up the people, but keep the hammer wet and cool.

Do not bawl and scream. Too much water stops the mill wheels, and too much noise drowns sense.

Empty vessels ring the loudest. Powder is harmless; lightning kills. If you have lightning, you can afford to thunder.

Do not scold the people. Do not abuse the faithful souls who come to meeting on rainy days, because others are too lazy to attend.

Preach the best to the smallest assemblies; Jesus preached to one woman at the well, and she got all Samaria out to hear Him the next time.—Author Unknown.

HE OFFERED HIS LIFE

A Christian worker went into a private ward of a military hospital in England. There he met a pilot who had neither arms nor legs. The worker tried to sympathize with him, but the pilot replied, with remarkable courage, "You are sorry I have no arms or legs, but remember this: when I joined the R. A. F. I offered my country my life, and they have only taken my arms and legs." The worker had the joy of leading this man to Christ, and now he has offered his life to the service of the King of kings. He has pocket Testaments kept on his locker, and he gets his visitors to take a Testament and promise to read it. Not even the Matron and Commandant have escaped, nor can they refuse an armless and legless man his request. They, too, are reading the Scriptures, and report to him daily on what they read. Surely this armless and legless man puts many able-bodied Christians to shame!—The Pentecostal Evangel.

Wait for the season when to cast good counsels upon subsiding passion.—Shakespeare.