

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

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Miss Jessie Tedlie, Dec. 4

NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

We extend prayerful good wishes to all the readers of The King's Highway. May the peace of God rule in your hearts through Christ Jesus, and the Christian hope be an anchor to your souls.

THE TIME OF THE END

By Rev. C. F. Wimberley, D. D.

"Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end." Dan. 12:9.

We have in these words prophecy and fulfillment. The most marvelous thing has taken place in the religious thinking during the past three or four decades with reference to the above theme. When we were in the Seminary two of our teachers were of national renown; but the subject of the Lord's return was never discussed. We never heard of it until we had been preaching for five or six years. The reason is obvious: the words were closed and seals were not broken. All through the Christian centuries there have been strong believers in the "Blessed Hope;" in fact, the first three hundred years the Church not only believed it, but was actually looking for His Return. It was never questioned. Paul kept it before the churches in almost every paragraph. This great doctrine gave courage in the early persecution under pagan Rome, and it never died down until Constantine was supposed to have been converted and the Church took over and set up their worldwide domination.

When we began our ministry there were no books being featured on this line and no periodicals promoting this cause. We had been preaching several years before we ever heard of this great truth. At this time the apostasy began its creeping paralysis in the Church. We began to sense a spiritual depression which we could not understand. We had been taught that the Gospel was to bring in the Kingdom, and that the world was getting better through the Gospel each year. When we began to see our Gospel ideal melting away, we could not take it in. The drift was most plainly revealed, and yet it was revolutionary in its action.

One day we picked up a leaflet on the sidewalk; it was a circular about a book—"The Blessed Hope." We ordered the book and de-

voured this great truth; it was a literal sunburst. We had a new Gospel, a new Bible, a new vision, and a new courage. But it came not without a price; from that time, we were a "marked man," and no longer considered for appointment of prominence. A "premillennial crank"—a fanatic.

All this is most astounding when it is known by any honest student of Methodist history that our founders believed the doctrine—Samuel Wesley, John and Charles, Bishop Coke, John Fletcher, and all the rest. Then you may ask, if that is true, why did they not give it the place it deserved? The answer is obvious. The words were "still sealed." "The Time of the End" had not fully appeared on the world's horizon. But what have we today? Books, more books, and books by the greatest Bible scholars, also by authors of the humbler brackets. The Lord's coming and the "Signs of the Times" have gripped the mind and imagination of Christendom, as it has not since the days of the early Church fathers. This truth is being broadcast from the housetops. Scores of periodicals and millions of copies majoring in the publication of the Lord's return, and calling attention to the "Signs of the Times," are being published. The Bible has many new commentaries showing the prophetic word and the fulfillment taking place before our eyes.

Daniel gives us some specific things that will be taking place at the "Time of the End." As he looked through his long-range telescope he saw the things we are now seeing every day and hour; highways lined with thousands of automobiles, and trains crowded to suffocation. "Many shall run to and fro," he tells us, at the time when the seals will be opened, and the word given out. This is being literally fulfilled today. There is a restlessness never known before. Now that the oil has been rationed, cutting off the automobile travel, it is more than balanced by the airplanes that are swarming the skies. Automobiles are confined to the land, whereas the

planes circumnavigate the globe. We are only sixty hours distant from any airport to the most distant spot on the globe. For two decades the travel has been a startling fulfillment of prophecy. Forty years ago, there were no asphalt highways; today they crisscross the nation. It is said that there are 5,000,000 miles in America. Tourist camps dot the highways every few miles to accommodate the travelling public—the "runners to and fro."

But even greater than prophetic fulfillment is the fact that this truth has come out into the open. We have observed that as churches lose their evangelistic passion, they bitterly oppose this Gospel. On the other hand, we know of no zealous evangelistic denomination in the land but preaches and defends our Lord's coming. The Book and the words have been unsealed, and this doctrine has become the battleground between the orthodox Bible believers and the modernists. We do not know of a single modernist advocate who is not enraged at the preaching of pre-millennialism, or else treat it with contempt, and charge it up to fanaticism or ignorance. All the evangelistic churches—those who believe and have revivals—are indoctrinated with this gospel.

That we are nearing "The Time of the End" is evidenced by the impact of this Gospel on so many messengers. They are legion today. His coming is imminent by the way this truth is featured, and has so much emphasis. It is significant that where this doctrine is given place the Holy Spirit seems to bless in a way that will bring conviction, as nothing else will. We recall that in one of Billy Sunday's campaigns in which we participated, the meeting reached highwater mark the night he delivered his message on the Coming of Jesus. More responded than at any other service. Truly have the closed words been unsealed, and the "Time of the End" is drawing near. Any one with spiritual discernment can hear the "sound of the going in the mulberry trees." Heavenly forces are mobilizing.

"The Lord shall guide thee continually"

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