

The King's Highway

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ARE YOU ENJOYING A CLEAR EXPERIENCE?

By Dr. Warren C. McIntyre

Are you sure you are saved? Are you certain that you are sanctified? Do you have that inner peace and rest of soul that is the conscious possession of those who are truly saved or sanctified?

Usually there are members in good standing, entitled to that classification because they are living earnest, well regulated lives; they are devoted to the church and definitely religious. By personal conversation with them, I find that they want to be good Christians, but they are uncertain about their relation to God.

It appears to me they fall into three classes.

A Failure to Receive

There is the man who never has had a real experience, never has prayed through to a conscious experience of the forgiveness of his sins, or to the cleansing of his heart—as the case might be. He has sought the Lord, but never has had a clear and satisfying experience. Possibly he has been to the altar a number of times, but he has no certain knowledge that the Lord has accepted him and given him a real experience of grace. This is a painful condition in which to be.

There are several possible reasons for such a condition. His repentance may have been defective—not deep and definite enough. A disposition to hold back on the Lord—not to open up and make a clean-cut, full confession of everything to Jesus—may have been his point of failure. Possibly he did not honestly and willingly face some item of restitution or reconciliation which the Lord called to his attention. He may have been unwilling to make a full surrender to Christ—there can be no compromise at this point. It may be that he drew back from what the Lord indicated was His will for the future of his life. Honesty, humility, sincerity, genuine earnestness, and a determination to go through at any cost are absolute essentials to the obtaining of a real experience of the grace of God.

The Mised Seeker

There is the man who has been misled by well-intentioned workers at the altar who centered his attention upon a thorough and open confession and the making of an all-inclusive, and unreserved consecration but failed to help him rest his faith in Christ and Christ alone to save and sanctify right then and there. This is unfortunate. These other things are essential as conditions which must be met, but there is no personal experience of the grace sought until appropriating faith takes hold of Christ as a present, personal Saviour or Sanctifier.

On the other hand, the mistake may have

been in urging him to believe too soon—not giving him time to lay a good foundation in repentance or consecration, time to fully meet the conditions to which the Holy Spirit was holding him, time to follow the Holy Spirit along the way He was leading him. Many penitents have been urged to profess an acceptance of Christ and make a claim of salvation, or to testify to the cleansing of the heart and infilling of the Holy Spirit, when there was no inner consciousness of a real work of grace having been wrought in the soul. This is most unfortunate.

A Soul in the Shadows

There is the case of the man who at one time was really saved, or it may be really sanctified, but a cloud has come over his soul and he is in a spiritual shadow. Possibly this is because of the accusation of the enemy. Possibly it is because he had made a serious mistake and the enemy has thereby gained an advantage over him. Sorry, heart heavy, in the shadow, confused, and out of victory, he holds on desperately. He is determined not to give up or go back, but he has lost his way and does not seem to know how to get out of his difficulty. He has asked forgiveness of the Lord, sincerely tried to correct his mistake, prayed earnestly and tried to believe, but because he so severely blames himself or is so crushed by the break in his experience, or for some other reason the enemy is able to keep his sensitive soul under a cloud of confusion and uncertainty. His Bible reading, prayers and other religious exercise are faithfully observed, but he is not sure of his state in grace. He is tormented by doubts and fear and uncertainty. What a tragic condition. How tender and kind all God's people should be in dealing with such cases.

Are you one of these troubled souls? If so, let me earnestly urge you to at once give new attention to your case and never rest until you have a clear and satisfying Christian experience. It will be fatal for you to go on in uncertainty. Besides you need not longer suffer the torment and disappointment of your present state and condition. God loves you. Christ has provided a redemption *Miss Alice Tedlie, Dec* your need. The blood avails. The Holy Spirit is near and ready to minister to you. Plead your case frankly, sincerely, earnestly, with simple faith in Jesus. Christ can SAVE you, can SANCTIFY you. You can KNOW. Your soul can be settled in God, and the joy of the Lord can be your daily portion. These are your redemptive rights and inheritance in Christ. May the dear Lord Jesus give you special tender help right now, I pray.—Gospel Banner.

Liberty without obedience is confusion; obedience without liberty is slavery.—William Penn.

THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD

By Dan Gilbert

The "power of the press" is a great force in the life of any nation. The press is a great weapon—for truth or for falsehood; for righteousness or for unrighteousness. Our great city newspapers have increasingly been given over to exploiting crime, sex, indecency, and vulgarity. There was a time when "yellow journalism" was widely denounced in America. Today, it is accepted as a common-place.

While the secular press has degenerated, the religious press has dwindled. There was a time when nearly every home in America received at least one religious journal weekly.

The circulation of the religious press is pathetic, when compared to that of the pagan press.

Satan's Relentless Crusade Against Righteousness

The greatest newspaper of Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, etc., have from a half million to a million circulation. The Saturday Evening Post has 3,000,000 circulation. The combined circulation of the movie magazines is nearly 10,000,000. Detective story magazines have a combined circulation of 5,000,000. Sex publications, specializing in vulgarity, have a circulation of more than 7,000,000. The lurid and off-color magazines have a total of more than 10,000,000 circulation.

The most widely circulating religious weekly is the Sunday School Times. Its circulation is around 65,000. Leading Christian publications such as Moody Monthly, King's Business, Revelation, etc., average from 25,000 to 50,000 circulation.

Religious magazines do well to have 50,000 circulation. Sex and movie magazines run into the millions of circulation!

There are an estimated 20,000,000 Fundamentalists in America. Not only are many of these families not taking religious magazines, but they are swelling the circulation of the pagan publications.

To Arms! Soldiers of the Cross

One of the greatest needs of our nation today is to build up the power of the religious press. Nine out of ten of the great city newspapers are "wet." They saturate their millions of readers with the lies spread by the propagandists for the liquor traffic. On the other hand, the only publications which give out the truth on this subject are the religious magazines which have only a few hundred thousand circulation altogether.

Until the power of the religious press is built up, we cannot hope for a victory of righteousness here on the home front.

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