

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —
REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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EDITORIAL

WE NEED THE HOLY GHOST!

In the soul-winning, character building work of the church, it is possible to have many things in our programme that are useful, and lack the one great essential.

Wide awake advertising, musical talent, gifted preachers, etc., play an important part in the development of an aggressive plan of evangelization.

"If you don't tell it, you can't sell it", and the pastor and church seeking to win the world must get their work before the public. The devil makes plenty of noise and does plenty of talking about his plans and programmes, and we who have something worthwhile to offer the public should seek to catch the attention of the people of the community by whatever means of advertising which seems most effective in our locality.

Good music, vocal and instrumental, has played a vital part in the work of evangelism through the years. The names of Sanky, Alexander, and Rodeheaver, are quite as significant as those of Moody, Torrey, and Sunday. Many a hardened sinner has been melted to penitential tears through the message of a hymn or Gospel song. In the realm of things spiritual "music hath charms to calm the savage breast." Whether it be in reference to the regular services of the church, or in the special revival effort, we shall do well rightly to evaluate the worth and usefulness of good music, and use it accordingly.

There are men who are divinely appointed to the field of evangelism. Clear and strong the call of God has come to them to go from place to place preaching the good news of salvation and seeking to lead men into saving relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. The church of today is fortunate in having a fine group of gifted, capable men in this field, many of them possessing excellent qualifications for the work to which they have been called. Well grounded in the truth, having fine personal appeal, and being blessed with readiness of speech, these men are well prepared to serve efficiently in the field to which they have been called.

But with due regard to the importance and value of all of which we have spoken, and we are sure that they all have their place in a God-directed evangelism, they leave us still in need. We may engage the best evangelist available, (and we should); we may be favoured with

having fine musical talent at our disposal, and know how to use it to advantage; we may bend every effort, and employ every means to bring our meeting to the attention of the people, and see results in the attendance at the services, but we still have a need that is vitally urgent.

Brethren, we need the Holy Ghost! He is the One, and the only One, that can take the human efforts and abilities referred to, and make of them a saving combination. Attendance at our meetings may be good, music and preaching may be of the highest order, but if we lack the presence and mighty workings of the Spirit, results will be disappointing. But when He is come He will convict, save, cleanse and bless. We need Him! How we need Him! Let us tarry "until He comes".

A LIVING BABY AT A DEAD MOTHER'S BREAST

By The Associate Editor

"I know thy works that thou has a name that thou livest, and art dead." Rev. 3-1.

One of the most pathetic things that we have read, or heard about concerning the results of war, was the story of how some rescue workers were digging away the wreckage after a house had been destroyed and found a living baby nursing a dead mother's breast.

This was not only a pathetic sight, but it was also very serious, for it not only meant that the noble mother's life had ended, and that she was no longer able to care for her family, but also that the baby that had escaped death when its mother was killed, must now die of starvation and poison unless its rescuers had had pity on it, and had taken it away to some one who would feed and care for it. A sudden death like the one mentioned is also a grievous disappointment to those who care.

A young soldier who came home from overseas very recently, whose vessel docked at Halifax, told of how one of his comrades who was aboard the same ship on his way home, had met sudden death before the boat reached port. We could not help but think of the terrible disappointment and shock that his parents and relatives must have felt who had no doubt made great preparations to celebrate their soldier boy's home coming, only to find when they went to the boat, or train, to meet him, that he was dead, the boy whom they had expected to see again well and happy. What a disappointment! Instead of a joyful celebration, a sad funeral.

Then the words of the foregoing scripture, "Thou hast a name that thou livest and art dead" came to mind, and we wondered how our Lord Jesus felt when he visited that church at Sardis, or how he feels about so many other so-called churches throughout our country, in view of the fact that He said "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." John 10:10. And to this end he gave up His life in sacrifice that those who are His, being regenerated and sanctified, might possess and demonstrate to others, that abundant life.

Furthermore, we have often thought of the many revival meetings which our churches have held, and of the great preaching which the people have been privileged to hear from the evangelists, whom we have had among us, and how at times there would be quite a move on the part of several young people in seeking the Lord, which made the hearts of the evangelists and pastors to rejoice. But, often we have been disappointed, because more of the church members were not blessed and revived. The re-

vival did not seem to hit the spot which we hoped it would; and second, the pastors were disappointed because very often many of those who professed to get saved soon gave up their profession and went back to the old life. We knew one case where about sixty young people under the preaching of a strong evangelist publicly professed to get saved, and in a comparatively short time, nearly all, if not everyone of them gave up their profession and left off coming to church.

Now, we have often been perplexed about such conditions, and did not know where to place the blame. Some one called Billy Sunday's attention to the big slump that always followed his big revival campaigns, and I read that he put the blame on the churches that received the new converts into membership. And this writer has sometimes thought that Sunday might be right, that it is a case of putting the new born babe to a dead mother's breast. You say, a church is dead, even when it is so active in so many ways? Yes, Jesus admitted that the church at Sardis was very active. Note his words, "I know thy works that thou hast a name to live, but art dead."

So, inasmuch as a corpse is always a menace to the health of living people if left in our homes, the board of health requires that it be buried within a reasonable time, which thing of course all concerned are willing to do.

But, what can be done with dead churches. A living child cannot survive very long at the breast of a dead mother.

I do know that Jesus has power to revive them if they will humble themselves and confess their deadness, and repent, for he told the church at Sardis to do that thing. After Lazarus of old had been dead four days and putrefaction had set in, he heard the voice of our Lord calling, "Lazarus, come forth!" And he responded, lame out of his grave, revived, healed, alive, and beautiful.

Surely our triumphant Christ, who conquered death, hell, the devil and sin, can restore dead, backslidden church members to abundant spiritual life, so that when the new-born souls come into our services, they will not starve, but will be fed, blessed and strengthened. So the Spirit said to the pastor of the church at Sardis, "Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die." Rev. 3:2. The inspired apostle says that Christ loves the church. Shall not we like Martha and Mary of old pray mightily and send messages to Jesus as they did. "He whom thou lovest is sick." Peradventure He will come and revive us again, and thus take away our reproach. Let us Pray.

H. S. DOW

SCRIPTURAL SECURITY

(Continued)

The Doctrine of "Eternal Security" Exposed

The strange and startling conclusions to which Calvinism leads, leave some of its professed adherents bewildered.

Many sincere people who have accepted the "once saved, always saved" theory, have never followed it through to its inevitable ultimate, and when they are led to do so, they find themselves very hesitant concerning their stand.

The writer asked a Christian friend who had been thoroughly indoctrinated in the Calvinistic teaching, whether he believed that the idea that if a man were once saved he could never backslide, and that if he backslid it was a sure evidence that his professed conversion