



# The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

"And an highway shall be there and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness."

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## REASONS FOR MISSIONARY ENDEAVOR

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The Christian movement has a creating and redeeming sovereign God back of it. The creative and redemptive activities of this God embrace the entire human race. God made of one blood all nations of the earth; and the standard of His interest in the human race is expressed in John 3 : 16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

The facts stated reveal the interest God has in humanity everywhere, and the provision He has made for their recovery and welfare. These are basic reasons for giving the full message of the Gospel of the Son of God to all men. We open the sacred Scriptures and find a perfectly sufficient reason to move all Christians to action in relation to giving to all men the Gospel, simply because it is the definite, direct and repeated command of our Lord. His command is backed by His provision and that provision involves the unspeakable gift of God in the declaration and manifestation of His love and the provision for the release of His power in saving all men from all sin.

It is enough for an obedient child of God to know that God commands such effort. If we could find no other reason, and if missionary endeavor were exceedingly barren and fruitless, it would nevertheless stand as the definite command of our risen Lord.

There are, however, other very substantial reasons from a human standpoint. Those named are largely from the divine standpoint. The unity of the human race as to its origin and its potentialities is argued successfully from the fact that all men are built physiologically the same, with the same psychological endowments. Physiologically and psychologically, the human race is a unit. This argues for the divine origin of man; but it also affords us a very substantial reason for our endeavor to give to all men equal opportunities to have light, and to know truth, and to make preparation for the life which is to come.

Capacity for knowledge and capacity for pleasure, as well as capacity to suffer and endure sorrow, are facts common to the entire human race. I think of Bishop Hartzel in his message after travelling for years in Africa and studying the conditions of the peoples on that continent, who, upon his return to America, said, "Do not say 'inferior peoples'; say 'less favored peoples.'"

There is still another very pronounced reason why we should, with great loyalty and earnestness, promote the cause of world evangelism. It is the actual result achieved by the Gospel when given to those who are in the bonds of iniquity

without it. Incidents of the transforming power of God in the Gospel being made effective in the lives of those who received the message in darkened lands stand out as an evidence to the effectiveness of our Gospel universally wherever that Gospel is received. Let me quote from a letter I received from a Sudan Interior Mission.

"O Son of God incarnate, O Son of Man divine, In whom God's glory dwelleth, in whom man's virtues shine

God's light to earth Thou bringest to drive sin's might away

And through Thy life so radiant, earth's darkness turns to day."

The following is taken from reports of the work in Ethiopia.

"These Ethiopian Christians know what it is to be made 'new creatures in Christ Jesus.' With them, indeed, 'old things have passed away and all things have become new.' They have had a new experience since they have come to know the Saviour. With the coming in of the Holy Spirit a new love, a new joy, a new incentive has entered their lives, their hearts overflow with the joy of the Lord.

"Even their heathen neighbors know there is a difference. Recently a group of Christians were accused of theft and brought together for trial. No evidence was found against them. Finally one of the heathen elders arose and defended them, saying: 'If these are the "Jesus People" they are not guilty, for the "Jesus People" do not steal.' He called attention to the fact that since this movement began they had had very few thefts, robbery had decreased, and there had been no murders for a long time. They had enjoyed a time of quietness and peace such as they had never known. He added, 'My sentence is that these are not guilty.' To this the others agreed, and they were allowed to go exonerated from all guilt.

"When Christ comes in, hatred is replaced by love. Karga was a young man belonging to a cannibal tribe (the Tangale) in Nigeria, whose father had been killed and eaten. He knew and hated the man who had killed him, and looked forward to the day when he would be big enough and strong enough to kill his enemy. But missionaries came with the Gospel, and Karga became interested in the message. As he helped the missionary master the strange tongue and translate the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit applied the truth to his heart and Karga let the Saviour come in. The old spirit of revenge disappeared and, instead of seeking the life of his enemy, he went to him and preached the Gospel of love, seeking to win him to his Saviour.

"Bishop Hannington was a missionary of the Church Missionary Society in Uganda. When returning he left his wife and three-year-old son in England. On the way he was ambushed and

killed by order of an African chief. The chief had a son who grew up to be a man. He became a Christian. Bishop Hannington's son grew up and became a missionary to Uganda. There he had the privilege of baptizing the son of the man who had killed his father. This is Christianity.

"In one area the people feared to travel alone because of bandits who robbed and spoiled and who had no hesitation in taking a human life if by so doing they could get money. In that district so many of this class have come to the Lord and so many churches have come into being that now even a woman or a child may travel unaccompanied and unafraid. In Nigeria it took the power of the Government to bring about this condition. Many years ago when a British official explained to the people that soon the day would come when even a child would be able to travel from one village to another unmolested, they thought he was talking pure nonsense. All their lives they had known nothing but fear. They have told us of hiding for nine days in a forest with neither food nor drink while a raiding enemy spoiled their village. Bandits and murderers have become lovers of men's souls and preachers of the love of God. One of these was converted at Soddu in Ethiopia. He bore the telltale marks of his former life. When convicted with six others of having killed a merchant, each forfeited a hand at the wrist. But the Gospel got into his heart. He remained at Soddu until he learned to read and was baptized, after which he returned to his native place. When we visited his church in 1943 we found a congregation of two hundred and ninety-nine people. Men once at enmity become one in Christ Jesus and sit down together at the Lord's Table. We were told of thirteen hundred in a farming community coming together at one time to partake of the Lord's Supper.

"On every hand there is an eagerness for the Word of God. Mr. Couser, who with Mrs. Couser has just returned to this country for furlough, found it difficult to satisfy the thirst of these young Christians for Bible teaching. After spending six hours a day teaching the Bible, he was asked why he stopped so soon. At another time when he had been speaking with other evangelists for four hours, the crowd was unwilling to leave. The men suggested that the women go home and prepare their meal but they said no, they had made all preparations before leaving home. They had come to listen. They did, however, reluctantly go outside and allow others who had been standing to come in and take their places."

I had rather see one soul brought into the fold, than to see him made "two fold more the child of hell." Matt. 23:15.

I had rather be tempted of the devil than to be a "child of the devil." Acts 13:10.