

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —

REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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EDITORIAL

WANTED—MORE POWER

Napoleon Bonaparte once said: "Impossible is a word only to be found in the dictionary of fools."

One wiser and greater than Bonaparte declared: "If thou could believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

The implications of this statement of our Lord are tremendous: "All things are possible to him that believeth." Think of it! Here is a challenge which invites us to exchange despair for hope, defeat for victory, failure for success. Laying hold of this promise with fearless faith, we grasp that which becomes an instrument of death to evil forces, a powerful weapon for victorious warfare in the Kingdom of Christ.

Pessimism and defeatism in Christian service bespeaks a pitiful lack of faith in the Lord, who leads us, and a restricted realization of the great spiritual resources at our disposal. "Ye shall receive power," said Jesus to the little group of men who trembled under the heavy responsibility of world evangelism. "Ye shall receive power, and ye shall be witnesses unto the uttermost parts of the earth. Go ye therefore, teach, baptize." The inference to be drawn from our Lord's words are crystal clear. Going forth in the power of the Spirit, teaching the people of the nations the message of the Word, results would be realized which would justify baptisms. Instructions to baptize indicated Christ's expectancy in the fruitfulness of their labours.

The spiritual coldness of the modern church, and the blatant unbelief of the world of today, have taken their toll on would-be "evangelical" groups. Faced with indisputable evidence that Satan has gained an honoured seat in the religious parliament of this twentieth century, and that the "whole world lieth in wickedness," we are all but overwhelmed with the odds against us in our efforts to promote a real spiritual programme. The obvious indifference of many to the call of Christ and the seeming preference of many more for a form of religion which denies the power of God unto salvation, is a combination which quickly overwhelms the faint of heart and weak of faith. Only a vigorous, dynamic, Spirit-inspired confidence in the faithfulness of the Almighty will enable us to match strength with the devil and emerge victorious.

Moral integrity and doctrinal soundness are not sufficient for the demand of the times. Both are needed but they are not enough. We must live right and be faithful to truth, but we must go further if we are to expect to be a vital force for God in the time of spiritual need. Positive action by the Christian and the church of today must be precipitated by a mighty endowment of spiritual power. The machinery of evangelistic effort needs the driving force of Pentecostal dynamic.

Holiness people and leaders in the holiness movement who have been loyal to truth may resent the suggestion that the real vitality and spirit of power is lacking among us, but the writer is quite convinced. Furthermore, we believe that the frank confession of this lack is the first great step toward an attainment and an enjoyment of that Spiritual glow and glory which belong to the full salvation forces of past generations but is now a hal- lowed memory.

EXPENSIVE RESENTMENT

It costs dearly to harbor and show retaliation. One hasty word or act can undo a lifetime of good deeds. Bitterness on the inside is like nursing a deadly spider in the bosom. Or, it is like making a house pet of a young tiger, only to be torn to pieces later on. The elder brother who remained at home, but gave away to a mean disposition, was a greater loser than the prodigal who yielded to the sins of the flesh.

Rev. Roy L. Smith, editor of the Christian Advocate, gives the following sad incident: "A hard working man who had given much time to church activities was also given to being sensitive. One day his name was left off a list by some accident and although explanations were made, and apologies were offered, nothing was sufficient to heal the hurt.

"For a few Sundays thereafter, he attended the church but refused to assume his usual responsibilities. Then, one day, the pastor received a formal letter of resignation from all offices and committees, and for almost two years he stayed away from all services. A few days ago he was called upon by a solicitor for a worthy cause. Scarcely was his visitor seated when the story of the two-year-old offense began. In the two years it had accumulated bitterness, malice, and resentment of the most corrosive sort.

"The result of brooding over an old wrong is a sound spirit out of which all sweetness and peace have gone. Let it be granted that the offense in the first place was humiliating. Let it be further granted that an actual wrong was done. It must still be admitted that the offender worked far less of an injury upon the sufferer than he has worked upon himself during these two years of nursing his grudge. A wise old Negro once said, 'A chip on de shoulder is 'bout de heaviest load a body ever carries.'

"The sensitive layman of our story has suffered, and suffered severely. His pain has not been imaginary; it has been very real. He has not had a happy day since the incident occurred, but the cause of his wretchedness is inside him. He is suffering from a self-administered infection of the soul.

"That is what resentment does to us. It poisons all spiritual life and takes away all the joys of our days. He who is unable to conquer his resentments is like the man who is unable to throw off a poison that is infecting his blood stream. Sensitive people are especially

in danger at this point. The bruises and jolts of life hurt them so seriously, and they find it difficult to forget the wounds.

"In the event you find yourself harboring a resentment, no process of self cleansing can be too difficult to be tried, for the cost of maintaining a grudge is always excessive.

THE PREACHER WHO TALKS TOO MUCH

"Not a few preachers have fallen into a "talkative habit." They seem to think that they must "add a word" to almost every announcement. By the time they get through most of the audience are worn out to a frazzle and a lot of precious time has been wasted.

A wise and observant editor calls attention to those preachers who think they must make "appropriate" remarks.

"Recently," says the editor, "we attended a church service at which the pastor introduced every hymn, every scripture reading, every anthem, and every other part of the service with "appropriate remarks." The consequence was that an hour was used up, and the people too before he reached his sermon. Evidently that pastor thinks that he is paid for his much speaking. We are certain that his people would let him off with less. The truth is that he spoiled a beautiful service also because everybody was fidgety to get home to dinner by the time the sermon was begun. What a pity it is that man cannot understand the value of time and learn not to fritter it away! We are making no plea for short services or short sermons, although we might make a plea for both of them. We are simply pleading that pastors will conduct the service of worship in a dignified and straightforward way without interpolating too many of their own side remarks. When these side remarks are unusual they are sometimes very delightful. When they are continuous they are nerve racking."

Much could also be said about eliminating repetition and sentences which are seemingly spoken to fill in the time rather than to convey mighty truths, during the delivery of the sermon. The wise preacher will study to make the most of every moment of time in the service and then dismiss before the people tire of the service. We should always allow for the Holy Ghost to break up our plans, and to carry the service on in His way. When the Holy Ghost seems to carry a service entirely out of the human the people will not tire of it. However we may even let a service in which the Holy Ghost has manifest Himself mightily drag out at the close and lose much of the good effect of the meeting.—"The Preachers Magazine."

EFFICACIOUS REMOVER

It is stated that Alcohol will remove stains from summer clothes. That is correct. It will remove also:

The Summer clothes,

The Winter clothes,

The Spring clothes,

The Fall clothes, not only from the back of the man who drinks it but from his wife and children as well.

It will remove also:

A good reputation,

A man's business,

A man's friends,

A happy look on children's faces,

A prosperous man to a pauper's grave.

A man from the highway of heaven to the road to hell.—*Christian Index.*