



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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THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

LIGHTS IN THE WORLD

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"Among whom ye shine as lights." Phil 2.15.

Our text of course has reference to the Christian shining in the midst of worldly and sinful associates. It seems very clear that there is a marked contrast between those who are Christians and those who are not. But today there are many who call themselves Christians and are no different than the world in their pursuit of worldly pleasures and also in acknowledging that they sin in word, thought and deed daily. The scripture speaks of these people when it declares there are those who "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof," and tells us "from such turn away." God expects us to shine among our associates regardless of their attitudes or the professions they may make. Let us notice a few things in regards our shining for Christ.

1. There is need of shining for Christ.

With so many living for pleasure and so many others engrossed in the pursuit of earthly possessions and each of these with little or no thought about their soul's relationship to God, we must certainly agree that there is great need of a practical demonstration being given of what the grace of God can do for an individual. In the face of the compromise all about us let us all, whether we preach, teach, or testify, exalt the power of the gospel as being able to save from all sin and satisfy the soul-thirst of men. Then to go out and live a life that will give weight to our words. There are those who can be thus reached and won to Christ.

2. It is possible to shine for Christ.

In the face of the fact that in many places the Christian standards have been so lowered and the Bible standard of Christian living is declared to be impossible of attainment. I'm glad that His grace is sufficient. There is power in the blood of Christ to transform the nature of men and cause them to do willingly, that which is pleasing to God. It is not a matter of what our circumstances are or what kind of a disposition we possess, nor yet what kind of a background we have, because regardless of these important things, God's grace is still sufficient to enable us to shine in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation. The more things that are against our shining the more it will be appreciated by some to see us shine in spite of them.

3. The how of shining for Christ.

There is but one way to shine for Christ and that is to be in vital contact with Him. The best we

can do by our own efforts will utterly fail to exalt Jesus. But the weakest and most ignorant of those who live in daily contact with Him will shine. The great trouble with many is that they are trying to live a Christian life in their own strength and it cannot be done. Only those who have met Bible conditions of salvation are really Christians. No doubt it would be surprising to know how many there are about us attending churches and many of them church members who are almost totally ignorant of the conditions of salvation. They are led to believe that the "New birth" is old-fashioned teaching and not essential, all manner of worldliness is sanctioned and sin is excused. But God has not changed nor has He changed Christian standards. No person is a Christian who has not been "born again." Jesus said, "Except a man be 'born again' he cannot see the kingdom of God." Jn. 3:3. In regards worldliness God says, "Come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you", etc. II Cor. 6, 17. In regards sin God says, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin." I Jn. 3, 9. If we are to make contact with God we must meet His conditions and live the kind of a life that He requires. After one has been "born again" and has by that act of God's grace become a Christian there is an experience taught in the Word and provided for us through Calvary (Heb. 13.12) that is very essential to our shining for Christ, it is the sanctifying baptism of the Holy Ghost. This experience cleanses the heart from inbred sin (Acts 15, 8-9) and thus frees us from the greatest hindrance of shining for Christ. The one who shines for Christ is the one who is in vital contact with God because of the saving and sanctifying power of the gospel.

4. The results of shining for Christ.

If we never do any more than shine, we shall have done much and will have rewards to receive in the day that rewards are given. We will also warn others of the dangers of living in sin and the danger of being eternally lost. The best way to show others the way of salvation is to shine; some folk will be made hungry for a real experience in grace if we will shine. And what a consolation it will be when our life's race is run to know that we have glorified God and helped others by "shining for Christ."

Our text says, "Among whom ye shine as lights." God expects us to shine and if we are His we will shine. Let us examine our relationship with God and by His grace "shine for Him."

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CHRIST CRUCIFIED

Luther preached Christ,—and slumbering and decadent Europe awoke from the dead.

J. M. Nichols

This is no age in which to preach a bloodless gospel. A vast rent has laid bare the world's great heart. Its body bleeds at every pore. An intellectualism that refused an enthroned Christ made the cleavage. Curses will be upon that system of truth and its avowed exponents who keep forever in its bleeding this awful wound. There is but one message for an age when a dependent world is feeling its way out of a chasm of despair. Above all the roar and tumult comes the heart-hungry cry for a Calvary all stained with hallowed blood. The world is listening for the voice of Him who spake and the sea slumbered in the hollow of His hand. The blistering fires of these days have sent a world in search for the shadow of His wings. The stinging, biting winds from out the valley of an almost universal death have made us long for the shelter in the time of storm. In no age of the world's history has the human race been quite so hungry for the bread which comes from above.

WHAT AN HOUR THIS IS FOR THE MAN WHO HAS NOT LOST HIS COMMISSION TO PREACH THE RISEN LORD!

What a supreme moment this is in human history when Christ can be preached. On this mountain-peak of history there is no place for a preacher who moves in the fog belt. Martin Luther preached the doctrine of atoning blood to slumbering and decadent Europe and it awoke from the dead.

John Wesley thundered the glorious note of Christ crucified into the ear of peasant and peer alike. Moody's bells all chimed to the keynote of Calvary.

Oh, brother preacher, put your ear close down to the world's great heart! It murmurs and sighs like a tired and restless sea. This is a weary world and it longs for rest. Let us have done with things that, in view of eternal affairs and the ages to come, are but stones that jeer and mock the famished soul. Preach Jesus! Herald the name that charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease. Tell them He breaks the power of cancelled sin and sets the prisoner free. They can understand a message like that. Preach Jesus!

Let's get back to the Christ of the Ages—back to the shadow of the Cross. Back to Calvary—the world's final hope; that's the supreme call of the hour, the clarion call in this age for which all other ages were made! No man can hope to have a saving message who fails to preach redemption thru atoning blood.