

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —
REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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EDITORIAL

WHY DO WE LACK?

If the power of Pentecost is adequate and the provisions of Pentecost are perennial, why do we lack in spiritual fulness and spiritual victory? I believe S. D. Gordon has the answer: "If we do not have power, it is because we are not willing to pay the price."

Success in any sphere involves cost. The genius of the scholar is the result of hours, days and years of study and research; the prowess of the athlete is the reward of strenuous training and submission to certain rules of physical fitness; the skill of the musician is the consequence of faithfulness and diligence in practice and nerve-racking toil. "The heights by great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight, but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night." Success is to be realized if we are willing to pay the price, otherwise we shall fail or fall far below the highest levels of worthy accomplishment.

Since this law operates consistently in the realm of things material, it is not surprising to discover its demands in the spiritual sphere. If there is a price to pay for success in worldly enterprise, how much more is it to be expected in spiritual endeavour.

Men who have obtained and enjoyed the power of Pentecost, have recognized the conditions to be met, and possessed with an ardent desire to live and labour under the mighty endowment of the Spirit, have paid the price necessary. This applies to the personal crisis of Pentecost and also to the permanent operation of the Spirit in the hearts of those who have received Him. Only as we are possessed with consuming desire to receive the "promise of the Father" do we find our way to Pentecost, and only as the desire for a Spirit-filled life holds supremacy in our interests do we continue to enjoy His abiding and abounding grace.

Reviewing the historic outpourings of the Holy Spirit we find the earnest desire and sacrificial spirit of the seekers ever present. Ten days of praying, waiting, believing, preceded the official day of Pentecost, and the New Testament believers enjoyed a sustained fellowship in the Spirit's fulness as they fasted, prayed, and gave themselves to zealous spiritual service. There were days of fasting and nights of prayer associated with the

great Wesleyan revival. Four hundred prayer groups prayed mightily before the memorable outpouring of the Spirit in Wales. Before the spiritual awakening of Moody's day there were 2,000 miles of noon-day prayer meetings every day. The unusual manifestation of the Holy Ghost in association with Jonathan Edwards' sermon, "Sinners in the hands of an angry God," was the result of three days of continuous fasting and prayer by the preacher. At Pentecost men were pricked in their hearts and cried out, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Three thousand responded to the exhortation, "repent and be converted." In the revivals and visitations of the Spirit referred to it was not uncommon for men and women to fall prostrate under the power of conviction and cry out for mercy and pardon. True repentance led to genuine conversions and the slain of the Lord were many. The spell of worldliness was broken, theaters and dance halls all but abandoned as the news of the mighty works of God was noised abroad. Such is the effect of the Spirit's outpouring whenever and wherever it occurs.

Why then are we lacking in spiritual resources today? Why are the scenes familiar to Pentecost little more than a memory of the dear dead past? Why do we not have a greater fulness of the Spirit upon us? Why? Because we are not willing to pay the price.

THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

WESLEYAN AND FREE METHODISTS CO-OPERATE

At the General Conference of the Wesleyan and Free Methodist churches in 1943, committees were appointed "to work and plan toward a union of these two bodies." Taking a realistic attitude in the matter, both groups realized the danger of pressing for union prematurely and the need of preparing their people for such important action. Consequently, these denominations have been seeking to foster the spirit of fellowship and understanding by union revival campaigns, exchange of evangelists, caution against overlapping in Home Mission effort, etc. Progress toward union has been made by these churches which have one great factor in common, a call to spread scriptural holiness. Dr. Howland, editor of the official organ of the Free Methodist Church, writes in a recent editorial: "We have come anew to realize that we are not competitors but co-operators in the great work of the Kingdom."

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ENCOURAGING SIGNS AND SOUNDS

For the past two months a movement has been under way in the United States to "marshal the prayer forces of the nation." The movement has spread to Canada, Newfoundland, and Cuba. People of all denominations are invited to form prayer groups in their local communities and join in intercession for a Spirit-born revival. All-night prayer meetings are being held every other week, October 12th being the date of the first of these nationwide "midnight to dawn" intercessory vigils. It is hoped that by the beginning of the New Year more than one thousand praying saints will be united in fervent prayer in these meetings.

In a day when programmes, personal appeal and man-glorifying propaganda is predominant in so-called evangelism, it is heartening to learn that the spirit that leads to true re-

vival is coming upon the people of God. It is as a "sound of going in the mulberry trees."

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CANADA TO HAVE RADIO STATION FOR MISSIONARY BROADCASTS

An organization known as "The Western Broadcasting Association" was recently formed in Canada with the purpose of establishing a radio station in the west (Brooks, Alberta) for Gospel broadcasting. The plan is to begin with an experimental 200 watt short wave transmitter. As soon as this is in operation, work will commence on the erection of a 10,000-watt short wave station and a lower powered transmitter for the regular broadcast band. Gospel broadcasts in several languages will be conducted daily and "such items as are most suitable for reception in the Christian homes of the land."

The Association sponsoring the enterprise is interdenominational, and will have representatives on the Advisory Committee "of every affiliation that preaches a fundamental faith." Studios and headquarters will be in Calgary, Alberta. More than half the funds needed for this project have been already promised.

FORM WITHOUT POWER

Dr. Daniel Steele

Salvation includes much more than a book knowledge of God. It is quite probable that the entire New Testament, if not the whole Bible, will be found in hell in the memories of those who have read it, but have failed to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

Thousands have read the Gospels, and have seen the Son of God pass four times before their eyes, and have failed to know Him as their personal Savior. They can admire His sinless character, and still say, "This man shall not rule over us." They are not new creatures, because they refuse to be born of the Spirit.

They may have a historical faith in Jesus Christ, but they come short of that evangelical trust which receives Him as Savior, and enthrones Him as King. They have the "form of godliness" while denying its power.

Trusting in a mere form of religion is building your mansion on a cloud, instead of upon the Rock of Ages. This is the great peril of nominal Christians. Their number increases rapidly wherever persecution has ceased and Christianity has become fashionable. They have never been transformed by its power. They have never really submitted to God and received His adorable Son as their infallible Teacher, effectual Savior, and rightful Lord.

They have never cast themselves in utter self-despair upon the merits of His atonement, crying, "For me, for me my Savior died." They have never received a response from Heaven, the witness to their adoption, uttered by the Holy Spirit with a voice which no one knows excepting him in whose heart it has consciously resounded.

They have no power, because they have no life. They may have culture, science, money, and social standing; but they have no grip upon God, the Source of all power. What they need is that vital power which overcomes the inertia of nature and makes the sluggish active.