

## THE UNSPEAKABLE CHRIST

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his legions; who was declared by St. Paul to have created all things visible and invisible, and of whom John says, "All things were made by him and without him was not anything made that was made;" for "in him dwelt all the fullness of the Godhead bodily"—this is the Christ we worship today; we see in him an infinitude that words cannot describe. His glory was veiled in mortal flesh. But we beheld that glory "as of the only begotten of the Father full of grace and truth." How can men of intelligence and reverence try to debase him to the level of a good man! All that Peter, James, Paul and John claim for him he claimed for himself, and not even an atheist or a Unitarian has ever dared to call him a self-deceived vainglorious boaster. But he was all that if he were not divine. We see in him a moral and spiritual finality. We look for none other to supplant him. Jean Paul Richter most eloquently describes him as, "Holiest among the holy, and mightiest among the mighty; with his nailed-pierced hands he has lifted the gates of the centuries off their hinges, has turned the current of history in its course and governs the ages".

But not only have we the unexplainable Christ of history and apostolic creed, we have the unspeakable reality and spiritual attestation of Christ the divine Saviour in our hearts and lives. The disciples before Pentecost, confessed him as the Messiah, but not till after they had been sanctified wholly and baptised with the Holy Ghost were all doubts and uncertainty swept away. They bore testimony to an experience and preached a message beyond the power of the natural man to understand. They did not explain it any more than Jesus explained the mystery of the new birth to Nicodemus.

They rejoiced with joy unspeakable and full of glory in all their trials and tribulations. God's sanctified children have this today. The things that eye hath not seen, nor ear heard neither hath entered into the heart of man—these things God hath revealed unto us by his Spirit.

We sing, "The half cannot be fancied this side the golden shore". When we get to heaven we shall have a new vocabulary. An inexpressible joy and love, at times, makes us desirous of breaking through our mental and spiritual limitations due to our infirm humanity. That change will come when this mortal shall have put on immortality and we shall see him as he is.

Today, we can not be content to build even in imagination a tabernacle of worship at Bethlehem's manger. Its exact location and that of Calvary is not known. In this new Dispensation God puts little emphasis on places, times or even Holy days. The Romish church devoid of real spiritual life and illumination, has carried this to a wild extreme. She has inspired a superstitious regard for the cross, with its image of Christ and for all the forms and ceremonies that decorate a dead church. But she gives no testimony to personal salvation, nor are songs of victory and salvation born in such darkened minds and hearts.

But it is this unspeakable revelation of Christ in us the hope of glory that saves us from being blind devotees of a proud hierarchy; it makes us true Christians, who know not Christ after the flesh but after the spirit.

It makes us as true believers, kings and priests unto God to offer up the spiritual worship of the sacrifice of praise. This indwelling Christ led the Martyrs to "despise the tyrants burnished steel and the lion's gory mane." They followed in the train of him who bore the cross and despised the shame and sat down on his throne. This spirit gave to the early and latter church its missionary impetus. They crossed all seas, over mountains and plains, through jungles and dark forests they pressed their way to become imperialists of an everlasting kingdom. They could labor on amid heathen darkness and deprivation with no feeling of homesickness, but love inspiring them all the way.

And this same experience has made God's true children defy the sufferings and pangs of disease to crush their faith. We can never forget dear Sister Lillian Young. We were entertained in her brother's home where she lived her later years. It was just before her translation. She could scarcely move any part of her once strong body; but she could praise God, as from her eyes there shone a wondrous light, as she magnified Jesus and his love.

Yes, and best of all we can have this experience with us in our workaday life, with all its cares, irritations, and responsibilities. In this experience we find no room for worry, fret, jealousy or malice. It is this experience that gives the true meaning to Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. It joins the two in one, and spreads the spirit out over all the year. Yea, in our losses and our crosses, in our joys and in our sorrows we have Christ within. Brother, sister, if you once enjoyed this blessing but have lost it out of your heart, you have lost the real vision of the Christ. Abundant material gifts nor the choicest of foods can not make you happy this Christmas time. A lean barren soul has no wellspring of joy. But if you have Him you have all things in Him. God bless all the readers of the Highway with a glorious Christmas-time.

## OBITUARY

**Mrs. Emily Forsythe**, of Westchester, N. S., died at Highland View Hospital, Amherst, N.S., Nov. 19th, at the age of 89. She had been ill but a short time and died following an operation.

Surviving are three sons: Will and John, of Westchester, and Roy, of Dorchester; one daughter, Mrs. Joseph Rushton, of Trenton, N. S.; and one sister, Mrs. Alice Hicks, of Salisbury, N. B.

The funeral service was held from the R. B. Church at Westchester, of which Mrs. Forsythe was a charter member, on Friday, Nov. 22nd, and was conducted by Rev. B. C. Cochran, assisted by Lic. Bertram Hicks. Favorite hymns were sung by the choir of the church. Interment was made in the Westchester cemetery.

**Mrs. Julia Ann Drost**, 93, widow of Samuel Drost, of Fort Fairfield, died Nov. 19th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nelson, with whom she had lived for over a year. Mrs. Drost had been in failing health for several months, but was in bed only about a week, and knew everything that was said to her only the night before her death.

Mrs. Drost was born in Fort Fairfield, March 7th, 1853, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ayers, and lived here all her life.

Surviving are one son, Ernest Drost, Presque Isle; also one brother, Simon Ayers, of Bangor.

The funeral was held at 2.00 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at the Reformed Baptist Church, Rev. H. S. Dow officiating.

## WEDDINGS

## Backman—Wilcox

Herman Backman Jr., and Norma Wilcox of Beals, Me., were united in marriage October 8th at the R. B. parsonage by Rev. F. A. Anderson.

## Diamond—Campbell

At the Reformed Baptist Parsonage, Hartland, N. B., on Tuesday, October 29, Maude W. Campbell, of Gordonsville, became the bride of George Diamond, of St. Leonards, N. B. Rev. A. D. Cann officiated.

## THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying:

Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying:

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

It is not Christmas without Christ.

No room for Christ in the inn; have you room in your heart?