

"NOW THE GOD OF PEACE"

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triumphant death through which the daughter had just passed. She had gone to this institution as a young Christian, but, like so many Christians, without a personal, practical realization of Christ's ministry of cleansing and victory in the life. In a series of revival services on the campus she had made her full dedication and had experienced Christ as her sanctifying Lord. Among her papers, so the parents wrote, they had found this prayer of confession and consecration that had come from her burdened heart at the time of her spiritual crisis:

"God, you know how empty and aimless this life has been and you know the fruitless hours I have spent on myself and my own interests. I do not know why you still love me, unlovely as I am, but I know you do, for you have said, 'I have loved thee with an everlasting love.' Lord, I want you to be my Lord; take this stubborn hateful life and live through me. I made a mess of everything, but, please, God take me; I'm yours for whatever you want to do with me. If you take away everything that I hold dear, give me the patience of Job, the faith of Abraham, but above all, the love of Christ. This is my heart's prayer."

So remarkably was that prayer answered that her father and mother were able to write of the new radiance and power that entered her life and characterized the last months of it: "She laid all on the altar and from that time grew spiritually by leaps and bounds . . . She studied her Bible and memorized Scripture until many marvelled at her insight . . . During her last night she rose up in bed and shouted, 'The victory is won.'"

For her, you see, "the God of peace" had become both the Presence who calms the soul and the Purifier who cleanses it.

III. The God of Peace as the Perfector Who Commissions Us:

We pass next to Hebrews 13.20-21, where we read, "Now the God of peace . . . make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight." What is the Christian's business in this world? Is it to revel comfortably in God's love? Yes, but that is far from all of it. Is it to rest securely in the sense of one's own salvation? Yes, but that cannot be the whole of it. Is it to contemplate with fascination the glory that awaits us beyond the shadows? Yes, but more.

According to this apostolic benediction our business is to be the commissioned servants of God's will! "To do His will!" That is the thing for which there is no substitute. To this end Christ has redeemed us. For this purpose He became "our bleeding Sacrifice." For this reason He rose from the dead. Unto this objective our hearts have been "perfected," that is, adjusted to, harmonized with, the heart of God.

"He wills that I should holy be,
That holiness I long to feel;
That full, divine conformity
To all my Master's blessed will."

Only as we come into such vital accord with God's purpose can we be useful to Him.

But even then we run headlong into a difficulty. What though the service we render shall come from a heart of utter devotion, the service itself, we painfully realize, is a frail and awkward thing. Can there ever come of

it that which is worthy of God? Besides, there is the pitifully short time we have in which to perform it. A few years that fly with breath-taking speed, and the tasks we barely began must be dropped by our palsied hands! Isn't it a depressing and hopeless business after all—a vast and inescapable frustration?

Think of Cecil Rhodes, Africa's brilliant and tireless explorer and developer—one of the most prodigious toilers of the 19th century—facing death at less than fifty, and saying regretfully, "So much to do, so little done." Think of the countless ones in the long march of the centuries who have felt that death has claimed them when the record of achievement was such a meager one, when indeed the temptation was strong upon them to feel that they had failed.

Had they failed? Not for one hour—not if they lived their lives under the commission and control of the God of peace. For, cries the apostle to all such workers in the blessed kingdom of God's will, He is "working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever." Ah, that is a great word on which to end: He Himself is the completion of every unfinished task. He Himself is the beautifier of every clumsy product of our willing but unskilled hands. He Himself guarantees that the projects on which we have worked with so little success in time will be carried over into glad fruition in eternity.—Selected.

Letters from Our Pastors

Meductic, N. B.

The King's Highway:

It has been a long time since we sent in a report from this field. We have seemingly had little of interest to others to report, but we can say that the regular services have been faithfully maintained, and the blessing of God has been upon us.

Last September we held a short series of special meetings at Mid-Southampton, with Rev. R. T. Sellick as evangelist. The attendance and interest were only fair, and the meeting did not reach the proportions of the previous year. We believe some good was done, and perhaps more might have been done, if the meeting had run longer. We continued one week longer after the evangelist left, when Brother Randolph Nicholson very acceptably supplied for us. The Lord's blessing was upon him, and his preaching was interesting and unctuous.

The people have been very kind to us and have done their best to provide for us in temporal things. On the evening of December 20, a number of the good folk of Mid-Southampton met together and gave us a donation of cash and goods. A few days later the church at Meductic did the same. We found ourselves well provided for the holiday festivities for which we were very thankful.

We wish to mention a specially bright spot in the holiday season, a wonderful service on Christmas Eve. The presence of the Lord was very real indeed; everyone was blessed, and a hallowed influence lingered with every heart long after the meeting had been dismissed.

We received many greeting cards from brothers and sisters in the Lord, from far and near. It is fine to be thus remembered, and we surely do appreciate our good friends. We

received more cards than we sent. If any who sent us a card but did not receive one should read these lines, we greet you herewith, and wish you great blessings for the New Year. May the Lord bless all the readers of the King's Highway.

Sincerely yours,

H. C. and MRS. MULLEN.

Fredericton, N. B.

Dear Highway Readers:

We are thankful to our heavenly Father for the many blessings so bounteously bestowed upon us during the year that has passed. We spent a pleasant few days at the Christmas season with Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Dow and daughter Rosamond in Milltown, Maine, and enjoyed preaching for Rev. E. R. Watson on Sunday evening, the 22nd of December. We were very kindly remembered by friends and relatives, with cards and substantial gifts at Christmas. We want to thank you, and say, the Lord bless you, in this year of 1947. We are looking ahead to the future with full confidence in Jesus knowing that no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. Let us be true to the trust committed to us as holiness people, to adorn the doctrine we profess in all manner of living. Would be glad to supply for the brethren if wanted. We still enjoy the work of the Lord. Keep on praying.

Yours for true holiness,

P. J. and MRS. TRAFTON.

Black's Harbour

Dear Highway Friends:

Perhaps some of you would like to hear from this part of the Lord's vineyard. Well, we have just been plodding along and trying to win some souls to the Christ.

Our people here are very loyal in their support in every way. Church attendance, prayer and giving. On September 21st, 1946, we were happily surprised when a goodly number of church members and friends gathered at our home for a social evening, and before leaving, Deacon Justason, on behalf of those present, presented us with a good sum of money, for which we tried to thank them.

On October 6th, we began special meetings with Rev. F. A. Dunlop as evangelist. We were privileged to hear some wonderful preaching and we thank God that it was not in vain. Our church was strengthened, a number of young folk were saved and all are keeping true. Thank God! By the way, Bros. Dunlop and P. H. Green opened up the work in this place, and we had an anniversary service while our Brother Dunlop was with us. Some would be glad to know that the church has been moved off the blockings out to the pavement and is now on a nice concrete foundation. Again we say, "Thank the Lord."

We were well remembered at the Christmas season, and again the church people showed us in a very practical way that they are concerned about our welfare. We thank God for people who pray: "Lord supply our pastor's needs," and then undertake to help answer their own prayer.

We intend by God's grace to "keep on keeping on."

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous New Year.

Yours in Him,

H. S. and MRS. WILSON.