

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —
REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

Published Semi-Monthly at Moncton, N. B.,
by a Committee of the Alliance
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— SUBSCRIPTION PRICE —
Per year, in advance \$1.50
Ministers, per year 1.00
Four months' trial subscription 40
Sample Copy Free
United States Subscribers 1.50
Ministers, U. S. A. 1.00

SPECIAL NOTICE

All correspondence for The Highway should reach us before the 12th and 25th of each month.
The King's Highway, Box 277, Moncton, N. B.

Printed by Moncton Publishers Ltd.,
Printers and Publishers, Moncton, N. B.

MONCTON, N. B., FEBRUARY 15TH, 1948

EDITORIAL

THE TIME IS AT HAND

Thousands of Christians the world over are living in expectation of the soon return of their Lord and Saviour. The moral degeneracy and political unrest of our time remind us of the admonition of our Lord: "When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your head, for your redemption draweth nigh."

Three notable developments of modern time forecast the second advent of Christ—moral decline, political disturbances and religious apostasy.

According to Christ Himself the moral and social state of the world prior to His return will be comparable to that of "the days of Noah." The ante-deluvians were guilty of sensuality in the extreme. They abandoned themselves to a reckless and ruthless pursuit of fleshly gratification. "They were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage," indulging their physical appetites without restraint and without regard for laws, human or divine. Marriage ceased to be a holy institution and became the consummate act of a relationship born out of fleshly attraction, and nourished by sensual propensity. Vows and promises were forgotten when a husband or wife saw another who possessed stronger sex appeal than the companion to whom they were already united by solemn decree.

But their record of sensuous living is no blacker than that of our generation. A fleet of ships could ride at anchor in the liquor consumed annually by the men and women of our day, and the paths to the divorce courts are wide and smooth. This is a generation as truly degenerate as that of Noah's day and it is an amazing thing that divine patience bears the strain of human rebellion to that which is holy and just. The record of crime has reached an all-time high in every direction and statistics will support the claim that we are piling up horrible records of deeds dark and ugly. Murder, drunkenness, profanity and adultery are rampant, and once again the Almighty looking down on the scene declares: "My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh."

A state of unrest exists among the nations. In a world that is supposed to be at peace, wars are being fought on a dozen fronts and threatening on as many others. The world is being divided into two huge military camps and another global war is expected by our

statesmen and political leaders. The United Nations organization is built upon the sand and will fall with a resounding crash when the fury of the opposing factions unleash their pent-up hatred. Given "space to repent," our British and American statesmen have so pitifully compromised with pagan and godless "allies," that they have barred God from their peace conferences and put their confidence in man who is able neither to heal nor help. Consequently, with the noise and tumult of the last world war still in its dying stages, we are horrified to behold the dark clouds of war again rolling up from the horizon. "There shall be wars and rumours of wars."

The "falling away," or religious apostasy which was to foreshadow the Lord's return is universally evident. "Isms" of a wide variety are spreading over the world like an infectious plague and how great the number falling victims to these delusive doctrines! Not alone in Russia and Communist dominated countries, but in our own North America movements which deny all that is fundamental to salvation are gaining headway with amazing speed. The devil is doubling his efforts to deceive and delude, knowing that his time is short. Multitudes are going "in the way of Cain," running "after the error of Balaam," and perishing "in the gainsaying of Core." And according to the Word, the day of Christ would not dawn "except there come a falling away first."

"Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their Lord . . . blessed are those servants whom the Lord when He cometh shall find watching." "He which testifieth these things saith, surely I come quickly. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!"

ON BEING TOO AGREEABLE

J. B. Chapman, D. D.

Perhaps nothing contributes more to the making of a grouch than being compelled to live with a Pollyanna who claims immediately to see good in everything. He rejoices when you bump your head and when you "hit the wrong nail," and enjoys the sight of your discomfiture. He drives you to distraction, and you become homesick to hear some weak, but familiar voice saying, "Oh, that's too bad. I am sorry for you in this matter."

A person's character may be judged by the things which please, and by the things that offend him. It is a good thing to take time out for counting our blessings, and it is an enlightening thing to observe the type of things which we list among our blessings. Passing over these things which we list as temporal blessings, and which are pretty much the lot of men without regard to their moral and spiritual character, it is encouraging if we find that prayer and Bible reading and testimony and the fellowship of the people of God are pleasing to us. It is encouraging if we find that we can rejoice when others have good fortune, without being envious of them; and if we find that peace and good will toward men find their ready abode in our hearts and minds.

But it is also well to be encouraged by the type of things that offend us. Personally, I am glad that I am offended by rough and careless language, jazz music, by everything that has to do with liquor from the sight of its advertisement in the papers and along the highways to the sight of its "finished products" in the drunkard and his family, by the proximity of men and women who engage in

smoking ill-smelling and health-destroying tobacco, and by the flaunting of scanty and gaudy dress. I want to be offended by insincere flattery, the slander of absent persons, the useless wounding of persons present, and by the gushy manners of those who heap praise upon themselves. I don't want to like language that encourages doubt about God or which reflects dishonor upon Christ, the Church, the ministry, the home or the nation. I want to be stung when vile and shallow people question the purity of good women and the honor of good men. I want to live so it will hurt me when men lie to the injury of the good name of another or to the unearned advantage of any deal or party or purpose. I do not believe the end justifies the means in every case. The means too should be right.

And here I close the activities of the day, within five minutes of midnight. I pause to thank God that good things please me and evil things offend me. I do not want to be so agreeable as to risk being taken for a friend by the devil and the wicked world. And I want my resentment against evil to be inward and real, and not just shallow and passing.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOREIGN MISSIONS TREASURER

Our President, Rev. F. A. Anderson, has asked me to write an appeal to our people from the view-point of the treasurer.

In order to do this it will be necessary for me to state as clearly as I can something of our financial position.

First, a word regarding our expenditures. These have been very heavy this year, while our receipts to date have been far less than usual.

The following items will make clear to you I believe the reason for this extra expenditure:

First, as you know, we sent out a new missionary this year, Miss Mary Campbell, who is now in Africa busy learning the Zulu language.

Second, we have raised the salaries of both white and native missionaries.

Third, we have sent to Africa for extension work, not what we would have desired, but all that our financial position warranted. Again, as a Board we have been called upon to expend over two thousand dollars in providing a home for returned missionaries. All these sums which I have mentioned are as you readily understand, EXTRA EXPENDITURES.

I am confident that all our people will approve of each of these investments in the Kingdom of God, and that when I tell you that all this extra expense has caused our funds to shrink to what would be an alarming degree if we were to forget that God is with us, you will not be surprised.

As a matter of fact we have not sufficient funds now in our treasury to meet our present commitments. My dear friends, there is only one thing we can do about this situation, and that is to RALLY AGAIN AS WE HAVE IN THE PAST. Brother Anderson will be writing to you concerning our plans for the future, and I am sure that he will be able to make clear to the utter necessity of extra sacrificial giving, in order that God's cause may not languish in these days of plenty, but that we give as those who realize that "THE DAY" is fast approaching.

Yours in the Master's service,

F. A. WATSON