

Miss Viola Churchill, June

# 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 SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

Some Observations on Revelation Thirteen

Paul S. Rees

What now is the personal, practical challenge of such solemn matters as we have been considering? What shall we do with regard to these realities of the present and these developments of the future? The Bible is an intensely practical book. It calls for conduct to match its creed. Its truth implies a task. As Dr. Scroggie, of England, says, "The subject of the Lord's return is one of intensely practical import, and anything of the nature of curiosity-mongering, date-fixing, and star-gazing, are utterly condemnable." What, then, should we do as we move toward the crisis of all crises. Let me name three things:

1. We should be concerned about our will. "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Revelation 22:17. Have you willed to put your trust in Christ as your Saviour? Have you made your choice to renounce your own fancied goodness and your own vain efforts to save yourself, and, instead, to receive as the unmerited favor of God the saving grace and power of Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. We should be concerned about our walk. "Walk before me and be thou perfect," said God to Abraham long ago. (Genesis 17:1). "Walk as children of light," wrote Paul to the Ephesians and he added, "for the fruit of the spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth." (Ephesians 5:8-9). When the same apostle wrote to Titus and exhorted him to look for "that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ," he admonished him at the same time that he was to "live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world." And if anyone wants to know how far Christ can go in cleansing the human heart from sin, let him read further what the apostle says in this remarkable passage: "Our Saviour Jesus Christ . . . gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." (Titus 2:11-14). If you are less holy in heart and life than you are making full use of Christ's purifying power, why not ask Him to sweep out the "beast and last remains of sin" and to enable you to walk consistently in "righteousness and true holiness before Him."

3. We should be concerned about our work. When the Apostle Paul came to the close of his matchless discourse on the return of Christ and the resurrection of the body, he called upon those Christians at Corinth to make this prospect of splendid things to come a driving challenge to immediate and incessant endea-

our. Their hope of the advent was to be not a sedative but a stimulus. "Therefore," cried Paul, "my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." (I. Corinthians 15:58).

Then, with surrendered will and sanctified walk and self-sacrificing work, we may lift our eager prayer:

"Saviour, long Thy saints have waited—  
Centuries have passed away  
Since the promise first was given  
Of a glorious Advent day;  
Grey and old the world is growing,  
Loud the scoffer's boast is heard;  
But our hearts are peaceful, knowing  
We may rest upon Thy Word.

"Lo, the fig-tree buds and blossoms;  
Lo! the shadows flee away.  
Glad we lift our heads expectant,  
Brief will now be Thy delay.  
Thou to raise the dead art able,  
O'er the grave Thou didst prevail;  
Heaven and earth may prove unstable,  
But Thy Word can never fail.

"Precious, precious parting promise!  
Sweetly linger in our ears;  
Brightly gleam amid our darkness,  
Gently soothe away our fears.  
Ever nerve us for the conflict,  
Ever fill our souls with joy;  
Christ will come and will not tarry—  
Nothing can our hope destroy."

### THE TWOFOLD HOPE

By J. D. Chapman, D.D.

The hope of the world and of every man in the world is in the coming of Jesus Christ into the world as a sin-bearing Saviour, and the substance of that hope is within the reach of us all. Jesus Christ so died for all men as to make salvation possible to all. None need now perish. All may have eternal life. The deepest-dyed sinner may repent and live. The most empty-hearted Pharisee may be truly born again. The weakest Christian in the world may now have the sanctifying power from on high. There is hope for each, there is grace for all. Yes, there is full salvation for all. Christ is the hope of all men.

The blessed hope of the Church is in the coming of Jesus Christ in the glory of His second advent. Others suggest their panaceas for personal poverty, social insecurity, and cosmic evil, but the Church looks for the kingdom only in connection with the coming of the

King. If the suggested panaceas of men do good, it is but transient good. But when Christ comes He will "make all things new." The physical earth will get rid of thorns and thistles, of swamps and deserts, of seas and polar wastes. All shall be so changed that the ferocity of beasts will give way, the lion shall eat straw like the ox, the wolf and the lamb shall become friends, a little child shall play in safety near the den of cockatrice, and "Nothing shall hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain." Death among good men shall pass, moral evil shall be banished, Satan, the beast and the false prophet, shall all be incarcerated in the pit. God's tabernacle shall be with men. Righteousness and peace shall dwell in the new heaven and the new earth. Such glorious hope is fully justified, for help has been laid upon One who is mighty.

We would not pass the day of personal hope. "Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts." Today is the day of good tidings for all who will come to Christ in repentance and faith. Today is the best day of grace the world has yet seen. And no one can have a sound hope for the better day ahead who is unwilling to receive in full measure the blessings offered today.

But those who have brought today's hope into transforming faith have yet another hope—the hope of the Golden Day of the King's presence. Hail that glorious day! Sound abroad the joyous tidings that that day is at hand! Announce to all "The blessed hope and glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." As members of His bride, let us put on the virgin robes of white, and let us rejoice while we wait. "Lo, He comes! Lo, Jesus comes!"

### THE JOYOUS EASTER

Rev. I. M. Kierstead

The two greatest and most outstanding events of history are the marvelous Birth and Resurrection of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Our finite minds cannot comprehend the depths of God's infinite love for mankind which moved Him to give His only begotten Son (the best that heaven could afford) "to save the people from their sins." How amazing! How unparalleled! We do not wonder that a great many, hearing for the first time, cannot grasp the meaning of such love. Yet, when they fully understand and accept Christ to save them, they too have a joy that is unspeakable and full of glory.

Praise the Lord!