# THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

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by a Committee of the Alliance

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## **EDITORIAL**

#### "IF CHRIST HAD NOT COME"

A few years ago a striking Christmas card was published under the above title. It represented a clergyman falling into a short sleep in his study on Christmas morning and dreaming of a world into which Jesus had never come

In his dream he found himself looking through his home, but there were no little stockings in the chimney corner, no Christmas bells or wreaths of holly, and no Christ to comfort, gladden and save. He walked out of the house and into the street, but there was no church with spire pointing to heaven. He came back and sat down in his library but every book about the Saviour had disappeared.

Hearing the door bell ring, the minister went to find a boy who asked him to visit his dying mother. He hurried with the weeping child to the home and sitting down in the sick room said to the mother: "I have something here that will comfort you." He opened his Bible to look for a familiar promise, but it ended at Malachi and there was no Gospel and no promise of hope and salvation, and he could only bow his head and weep with her in bitter despair.

Two days later he stood beside the coffin of the dead woman and conducted the funeral service, but there was no message of consolation, no word of a glorious resurrection, no open heaven, but only "ashes to ashes, dust to dust," and one long, eternal farewell. He realized at last: "He had not come," and burst into tears and bitter weeping in his sorrowful dream.

Suddenly he awoke with a start and a great shout of joy and praise burst from his lips as he heard the choir singing in the church close by:

"O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels,

O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord".

The dream of a world without Christ and without Christmas is a grim reality to millions of people. They are the unevangelized who have never seen the Gospel light, who have never been thrilled with the news of God's great love Gift, and who have never heard the sweet music that gladdens the souls of the redeemed, the melody the angels sang to the shepherds: "Good tidings of great joy." In those lands to which the Gospel has not been

borne, there are no bright lights, cheery greetings and beautiful songs such as belong to our wonderful Christmas season. Children hear nothing of the beautiful story of the babe of Bethlehem and adults still wait to hear the heart-warming announcement, "unto you is born a Saviour which is Christ the Lord."

How favoured we are and how richly blessed! "Through the tender mercy of God . . . the dayspring from on high hath visited us to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet in the way of peace." Let us rejoice in the light. Let us lift our songs of praise and prayers of thanksgiving to God the Giver for the enriching Gift of His Son. Thus we shall enjoy and impart the true spirit of Christmas.

"There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!

There's a mother's deep prayer, and a baby's low cry!

And the star rains its fire, while the beautiful sing.

For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King! "In the light of that star lie the ages impearled, And that song from afar has swept over the world:

Every heart is aflame, and the beautiful sing, In the home of the nations that Jesus is King!

"We rejoice in the light, and we echo the song That comes down through the night from the heavenly throng.

Ay! We shout to the lovely evangel they bring, And we greet in His cradle our Saviour and King!"

### TRURO CHURCH ORGANIZED

A memorable meeting was held at Truro, N. S., Friday, Dec. 10th, when the Truro Reformed Baptist Church was organized.

A fine group of people braved the stormy weather to attend the service and the Lord was present to place His seal upon the service.

Rev. N. E. Trafton, pastor of the church presided and Paul Mullen was present to assist in the music. The opening prayer was offered by Lic. Bruce Bridgeo and the Church Covenant was read by Rev. B. C. Cochrane. The candidates for membership then came forward for the prayer of consecration offered by Rev. P. J. Trafton. Rev. B. C. Cochrane extended the right hand of fellowship to Rev. N. E. Trafton who became the first charter member of the church, and Brother Trafton then welcomed thirteen other charter members. Two candidates were unable to be present at the meeting due to sickness and the severe storm, but they will be recorded as charter members and given the right hand of fellowship later bringing the total of charter members of this new church to sixteen. The blessing of the Lord descended as the prayer of consecration was offered and the right hand of fellowship was extended to the fine group of candidates.

Following the singing of "Blest Be the Tie", Rev. B. C. Cochrane welcomed the newly-organized church into the denomination and expressed confidence in the future of the new Reformed Baptist Church of Truro.

Rev. F. A. Dunlop preached a fine message from I. Cor. 3:11-13 and all were blessed while the truth was given.

Special music of a high order was rendered by Paul Mullen and Bruce Bridgeo.

May God bless and lead the pastor and people banded together for the promotion of full salvation in Truro and vicinity!

#### PLEDGES AND THE BUDGETS

For the information of pastors and churches we print the following: All pledges made toward Missions, Home and Foreign, and Bethany Bible College, will be credited to the church from which the donor is a member. Pledges to the new Truro work, Doaktown church, etc., will be included in money raised for Home Missions and for Bethany, of course, on the school budgets. If individuals are sending their pledges direct to the various treasurers they should notify the pastor of the local church so that contributions may be credited to their church. Contributions should be forwarded as follows:

Alliance Fund and Truro Pledges to Rev. F. A. Dunlop, Bethany Bible College, Yarmouth, N. S.

Foreign Mission Fund to Rev. F. A. Watson, Marysville, N. B.

Home Mission Fund to Rev. G. R. Symonds, Perth, N. B.

Bethany Bible College Fund to Rev. H. R. Ingersoll, Yarmouth, N. S.

#### CHRISTMAS OR XMAS?

By Oliver Peterson

The streamlining hysteria of the age in which we live has by no means left unscathed the Christian church and its most holy days, reaching with its questionable influence even to the birthday of the Prince of Peace. CHRISTmas has been streamlined by a speed-crazed world into "Xmas."

In mathematics, X is regarded as the "unknown quantity" and, popularly, "marks the spot" which something has once occupied. We may well ask: 'Does X signify that some other object, known or unknown, has taken the place of the Christ whose birth we celebrate at this joyous season?

What does "Xmas" mean to the great masses in our land? To the business man it means the busiest and perhaps the most profitable season of the year, when the public is urged: "Do your Xmas shopping early." To a great multitude it means a season of gaiety, merrymaking and carousing, to be brought to an uncertain end only when the old year has passed into the new. To uncounted millions it means a time of lavish spending in the hope of getting; of the vain displaying of affection in the bestowal of gifts of small or great intrinsic value; of careless repetition and thoughtless singing of "Peace on earth, good will to men," without an understanding of the deep significance of that angel song.

But to a great redeemed host it is CHRIST-mas indeed, for they are reminded thereby that the great God became man in the Person of His well-beloved Son, that He might redeem a lost humanity. To them it is a day of rejoicing, for the Babe of Bethlehem, whose name is Jesus, has, as the Lamb of God, become their Saviour from sin. "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (I. Timothy 1:15).

Would that every soul in this war-torn world, at this Christmas season, might humbly bow in repentance and submission, and make the courts of Heaven ring with a united, earnest plea:

"O holy Child of Bethlehem!

Descend to us, we pray;

Cast out our sin, and enter in;

Be born in us today."

Is it Xmas for you, or CHRISTmas?