

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —
REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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EDITORIAL

TOO BUSY

It is possible to be exceedingly busy and yet neglect the particular duties and responsibilities committed to us.

An "unknown soldier" of Old Testament history was given the care of a prisoner and charged by his superior officer to guard the captive with the utmost care. Later the captain returned for the prisoner only to discover that he had escaped. When he asked the guard for an explanation of his failure, the soldier explained: "As thy servant was busy here and there, he (the prisoner) was gone."

"Busy here and there", doing nothing in particular, but so engrossed in that which was comparatively unimportant that the really important task committed to him was left undone.

It is a sin for a Christian to be idle when there is so much to be done in the Kingdom of Christ, but it is equally sinful to be busily engaged with this or that while the particular work God has called us to do is neglected. Perhaps the busy man gains some sense of comfort in the feeling that he is doing something, but if at the end of his busy day, week, or month, the sacred duty which God made his special assignment is left undone, the result is the same as in the case of the idler.

There are preachers who "haven't time" to pray, study, or give due attention to pastoral visitation, who yet find time to hunt, fish, spend hours with their favourite hobby or days at secular labour. There are people in the pew who are tragically neglectful of God's Word, who spend little or no time in the secret place, and never get around to calling on a friend who is ill or infirmed, because they're "just too busy", who yet find it possible to spend hours with the newspaper, the radio, or in the discussion of current events. I do not suggest that the activities of preacher or layman referred to are essentially wrong, but when we explain our lack of diligence in spiritual life and service by saying we haven't time to do the Lord's will and work, we must first be sure we are not giving precious hours to tasks that are comparatively unimportant.

In the early days of the New Testament church the apostles found themselves faced with the danger of neglecting their vitally important spiritual service while they were busily engaged with social duties. They made a wise decision—capable men were appointed to attend to the business of the church, and

the apostles said: "We will give ourselves to prayer, and to the ministry of the Word."

We need to get our activities arranged in the order of their importance. Perhaps all of us would profit from a careful inventory of our lives. Some things which are too far down on the list would be placed at the top and some things would be counted out altogether.

The man who is too busy is not he who works long hours and has many demands on his time, but he who is "on the go" but getting nowhere. From the sin of giving our strength to tasks of minor importance while the God-given duties are neglected, good Lord deliver us!

EDITORIAL GLEANINGS

OUR TIME OF OPPORTUNITY

The present moment is our moment of opportunity.

It is the time toward which we have been working through years of barrenness and drought. The deluge of Modernistic thought has overreached itself, and while the stream of apostasy will not be turned back, many sincere souls who were unwary and became engulfed in it are now questioning their position. Modernism has not met the need. It has failed to satisfy. Formal religion has little to offer.

Ours is the message for the crisis: Salvation through the Calvary Cure; a full and free forgiveness; a complete cleansing; the radical working of the sin-consuming Spirit within the heart. Certainly it needs to be sanely and sweetly stated but stated in its mighty fullness nevertheless: This is our time of opportunity!

This opportunity is not here to stay. It is a unique phenomenon of a temporary tenderness in the midst of growing hardness. It is a lull before an awful storm. Over many it will pass without recognition. The forces of darkness are gathering for their final onslaught—and what a terrible onslaught it will be. The waiting Bride is looking expectantly for her returning Lord who will soon be here. We are on the eve of the mightiest event this world has known—and the most terrible. The world has a strange "don't know what to expect next" feeling, or as one put it, it is "all churned up inside."

There can be no permanent revival. The dispensation is too far gone for that. There can be no world-wide revival. The apostasy is upon us. But even yet brands may be snatched from the burning—"snatched"—did you get that? The time is so short they must be literally snatched.

Brother, stop your wasting of time; sister, drop those trifles. Get busy. This is your moment. At this period minutes have the value of centuries. Waste them at your peril.

—Editor, "Heart & Life."

"WE DO CARE FOR NUMBERS"

Once in a while some self-excusing person remarks, "We do not care for numbers."

Does this mean that we are willing to gather into our Sunday school thirty-five or forty-seven or eight-five of the children, and leave for the movie and the beer parlor and the dance and the other of the devil's devices the two hundred or the thousand who ought to be in some Sunday school? Does this mean that we are content with a church membership of forty-five and an attendance of sixty

while the most of the people about us are without Christ and lost?

Where did we get this false idea that we should be content to save the few?

Small vision, low vision, is wrong! Let us arise and take this gospel to needy souls. This is our calling. By vision and aggressive action we shall save some.

God has never called any pastor or Sunday-school superintendent merely to "hold his own." God has never called any church or Sunday school merely to hold its own.

—Editor, "Free Methodist."

THE WARM HAND

John Hall, famous Presbyterian minister of the last century, left some real gems of gospel truth. He seems to be especially noted for statements which remarkably hold our attention and live in memory.

I have read excerpts from his writings which make the heart glow. Here is one: "The minister who would be most like the Master must go and, like Him, lay the warm, kindly hand on the leper, the diseased, and the wretched. He must touch the blind eyes with something from himself. The tears must be in his own eyes over the dead who are to be raised to spiritual life. Jesus is our great exemplar."

That is a hot heart passion for souls. Is it not true that if ever poor, wretched derelicts are to have new life, there must be the touch of one who will dare to pass the social barriers and physical plagues to offer concern like that of the Master?

In no sense can any mere human be compared with Christ Jesus—the One great mediator between God and men. Yet, there is the fact that all who follow Him may be like Him. We may as surely give all as He did. Beyond this, we may see Him as He is, because we have followed Him here. There will be those who will share His glory in heaven because they loved not their lives unto death in some of earth's dark places.

Some of us have a vague fear that many who never gave all, nor paid the last full measure of willing sacrificial service, may find themselves far down the line on the day of rewards.

Is your hand warm with Christ's love? Then, without discrimination, lay it on the fevered brow of some lonely, desolate soul. There is no promise that you will never suffer from that touch, but there are the unfailing promises that you will be blessed and kept from the blight of sin and rewarded on the crowning day. After all, that is what counts. Use the warm hand!

—Editor, "Call to Prayer."

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

(Continued from Page 1)

When your complaint gives way to song and praise.

Now if you like my rhythm then get chimin' And tune your heart to perfect trust in God, In fair and stormy weather, all things do work together,

And faith says it is all for our good.

Amen.