

# THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —

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## EDITORIAL

### A FRUITLESS SEARCH

"And I sought for man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none." Ezekiel 22:30.

In the chapter from which this verse is taken the sins of Jerusalem are listed. Bloodshed, adultery, Sabbath desecration, oppression, robbery, etc., were rife among the people. Moreover, the priests and the prophets were guilty of unfaithfulness and misdeemeanour, putting no difference between the holy and the profane, the clean and unclean, and allowing the people to incur the wrath of God by proclaiming false messages of peace when they should have warned of divine judgment.

Confronted with the demand of judgment against the guilty, the merciful God seeks a way of escape for the people. They cannot continue in their sinful course without suffering severe punishment and the only alternative is a spiritual awakening and a turning from sin to righteousness. To "make up the hedge and stand in the gap," God seeks for an intercessor, one who would plead for the transgressor but at the end of his eager search He declares, "I sought for a man . . . but I found none."

Sins of every kind are being committed freely and ruthlessly by people of this generation. Evil is flourishing and our people are making new records every year for drunkenness, divorce, adultery, etc. Moreover, the modern priest and prophets are guilty of unfaithfulness and deceit, standing idly by or prophesying "smooth things" when they should be denouncing evil and warning of divine judgment. As a consequence the whole land is under threat of severe punishment for its iniquity.

God is searching for intercessors, people who, realizing the moral and spiritual crisis facing the world, will be moved with compassion to pray mightily for a spiritual awakening and a turning to God. The world is in desperate need of a revival, and the only way revivals will come will be through the intercession of concerned Christians.

I'm sure that the Lord is visiting us in His search for intercessors. He is calling on our ministers and our people to see if He may find within us the spirit of love and self-sacrifice

which are necessary to the rendering of this high spiritual service. I wonder if His search will be fruitless?

### THE FORFEITED REWARD

By Rev. F. A. Daw

There is a reward from God very definitely promised to those who engage in secret prayer—a reward we may forfeit by neglect and disobedience. Jesus is specific about it in His teaching on prayer in the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 6:6). "When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which seeth in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." No one who obeys this injunction will ever fall from grace and become a nominal Christian or a hypocrite.

When we are truly born again by the Spirit of God, He sends forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, "whereby we cry, Abba, Father." Was it not the Spirit of His Son which caused our Lord to seek the solitary place where He could commune alone with His Father? and is it not the impulse of every new-born soul, possessed of the same Spirit, to engage in secret prayer? But there is danger of quenching and disobeying this impulse until we grieve the Holy Spirit and are found without the disposition, without the practice, and without the reward.

In a class meeting when the leader pressed the question as to whether the members of his class were making it a habit to engage daily in secret prayer, he found that all but one had, long since, neglected to do so. Here is the explanation of the church's loss of purity and her loss of power with God and men. Here is one of "thy first works" to which, in true penitence, the church must return. Here is clear evidence that "thou hast left thy first love."

A group of converts from heathenism, in their new-found love for the eternal Father, went out from their village, each to his own place of secret prayer on the edge of the jungle, until the paths worn in the long grass resembled spokes of a wheel. Sometime afterwards, when the grass had grown over the paths, the missionary was furnished with mute evidence that some of his converts were declining in grace.

How can anyone afford to forfeit the recompense of the promised reward, which consists of: The joy of intimate communion with the Father; the rest of the soul; the relief from the fret and friction of worldly engagements; the cleansing, purifying touch; the renewings of the Spirit; the girdings of power for service.

"What tho' the clouds have gathered o'er me,  
What tho' I've passed beneath the rod;  
God's perfect will there lies before me  
When I am thus alone with God.

"Tis there I find new strength for duty  
As o'er the sands of time I plod.  
I see the King in all His beauty  
While resting there alone with God.

"Alone with God, the world forbidden,  
Alone with God, O blest retreat.  
Alone with God, and in Him hidden;  
To hold with Him communion sweet."

To "shut thy door" which separates one from secular employments, from worldly scenes and from wandering thoughts, costs an

outlay of time and serious attention which flesh and blood do not relish. We must also expect that, right on the threshold of the secret chamber, our adversary the devil will wage his fiercest assaults to cut us off from the lifeline of our spiritual supplies; but to him that overcometh is the promise, "Thy father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." It will not be convenient nor easy for some of His children to find a solitary place; but He who bids us pray in secret will help us and guide us in this matter of obedience. A time, a place, apart from business, friends, social engagements and pleasures, apart from the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life, may always be found by those who will diligently seek for it. There "pray to thy Father which seeth in secret," and your reward is sure.

Dear friend! do not lay this article down with a sigh, saying: "Well, that's the truth," but begin now! Many will need to summon all the will power they have left to regain the practice of secret prayer. You are in danger of being utterly defeated right here; but, as you value your soul, your influence over others and your eternal inheritance, "fight the good fight, \* \* \* and lay hold" upon the promised reward.

"There is a place where God's resistless power  
Responsive moves to thy insistent plea;  
There is a place, a simple trysting place,  
Where God Himself descends and fights for thee.  
Where is that blessed place? Dost thou ask  
where?  
O soul, it is the secret place of prayer!"

### MY NEIGHBOR'S BIBLE

"I am my neighbor's Bible,  
He reads me when we meet;  
Today he reads me in my home,  
Tomorrow in the street.  
He may be relative or friend,  
Or slight acquaintance be;  
He may not even know my name,  
Yet he is reading me.

Dear Christian friends and brothers,  
If we could only know  
How faithfully the world records  
Just what we say and do,  
Oh! we would make our record plain,  
And labor hard to see  
Our worldly neighbors won to Christ,  
While reading you and me."  
—Selected.

William Colgate, whose name has achieved world fame in connection with soap, left home because the family was so poor. He started for New York City, and on the tow-path an old canal boat captain asked him where he was going, and had a word of prayer with him.

When they arose from their knees the old captain said: "William, what can you do?" "Make tallow candles and soft soap," he replied.

"Well," said the captain, "give your heart to God and ten cents out of every dollar you earn, and maybe God will make you a great soap-maker some day."

Young Colgate did this, then increased his "tithe" to fifteen cents on a dollar, and later to twenty-five, and on up until he was giving half his income to God's work.

—Thomas Cook