

# THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —  
**REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA**

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## EDITORIAL

### THE SIN OF SECTARIANISM

A church or denomination, to function efficiently and effectively, must have the loyal support and co-operation of its people. The welfare of the individual should be the concern of the group and the programme of the organization should have the concentrated interest of the individual. Only thus can a church or denomination successfully promote its work.

Every person who joins a church assumes moral obligation toward the work of that church and every man who is ordained to the ministry of a denomination is bound by holy vows to co-operate in the promotion of the various enterprises of the group that has thus honoured and commissioned him.

But we need to guard against the danger of church loyalty developing into a sectarian bigotry. There are church-men and church members who seem to be possessed with a love for their group, its programme and objectives, that all but displaces loyalty to Christ and destroys the "love of the brethren."

Some people will stand by the church with which they hold membership even though worldliness, spiritual coldness, and modernism have polluted the life-stream of that church. Denial of the fundamentals of saving truth,—the inspiration of the scriptures, the virgin birth, meritorious death, and miraculous resurrection of the Lord Jesus; the judgment of men and nations, and the eternal rewards to the just and the unjust—these and other important truths are being denied in the educational institutions of some churches and by many of the preachers they produce. To retain loyalty toward a group that tolerates such conditions is to sacrifice the Lord on the altar of sectarianism.

Another form of sectarianism, milder in form, but similar in character, is the spirit which refuses even moral support to any effort toward the salvation of souls and the extension of the Kingdom of Christ which is not promoted by our own particular church or denomination. This spirit may not manifest itself in open opposition, while it can and does reach that stage, but is discovered in the almost begrudging attitude toward the success of any venture which is not of our own creation and to our own advantage.

When meetings and movements professedly

dedicated to the salvation of souls are launched, we would be wise to be sparing in criticism lest we be found to "fight against God". If we cannot approve all the doctrines and methods employed, we may "glory that Christ is preached", and rejoice when men are turned from darkness to light. If the Lord Jesus is presented as the God-appointed Saviour of men, and people are called to repent and trust in Christ, the Spirit can and will do a great saving work.

Brethren, let us beware of the sin of sectarianism and the blight of bigotry. Let us be loyal to the church, but first to Christ, and let us rejoice in the work of the Spirit within and without our denominational boundaries.

### GUEST EDITORIAL

#### TRIUMPH IN SURRENDER

Editor, "Wesleyan Methodist"

To yield a point in argument, to surrender personal opinions for the sake of unity, to relinquish a right to another, to submit graciously, is most difficult, but no other thing can aid more in building character.

The life of Abraham is a profitable study in this field. Abraham's home country, Ur, one of the busiest and most prosperous of the cities of Chaldea, a place of high civilization and great learning, was renounced with positive determination. At the plain command of God, Abraham turned his back upon the place that stood for plenty, peace and pleasure; but by yielding, he entered a new relationship with God and received the promise of all Canaan for an everlasting monument to his name.

Abraham yielded to Lot, surrendering his rights for the sake of friendship. This must have been a difficult day filled with poignant grief for Abraham, but not a word of complaint or criticism escaped the lips of this man who had started on a journey with God. He yielded that which he had a right to claim as his own; but in the shadows, God was beholding. After the agreement was reached and the separation consummated, "The Lord said unto Abram . . . Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art . . . For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it," Genesis 13:14, 15.

When Lot was captured by invading armies and carried away into captivity, Abraham generously forgot his nephew's faults and heroically braved great danger at real personal sacrifice to help this one who had wronged him.

By the surrender of any personal feelings of resentment, which he may have felt, he received a blessing from Melchizedek, priest of the most high God. Then in the quietness which followed the return from the strenuous battle and when Abraham was alone and thoughtful, there came the voice of the Eternal, "Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward." Abraham had refused the rewards of earthly admirers and in so doing gained the rewards that are imperishable.

Abraham yielded Ishmael, the turbulent, lawless character to whom plunder was legitimate gain and daring robberies were valorous exploits. In return he received Isaac, the dutiful son, the man of peace, the digger of wells in a desert place, a devout man of God, and the superb type of the Christ.

Abraham yielded Isaac in sacrifice upon Mount Moriah. After waiting years for this

son of promise and after sending Ishmael away, a thing most grievous to Abraham, there came the command of God, "Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest . . . and offer him there for a burnt offering." To this strange and unusual requirement, he responded promptly and with no word of complaint. For the surrender of Isaac on the altar of sacrifice, Abraham received concrete evidence of the unchanging faithfulness and of the absolute sufficiency of God. To all believers in all the after years, the yielding of Isaac on Mount Moriah has stood as a supreme example of renunciation.

Men gladly journey to Mount Pisgah where fresh revelations of God are received, but far too few journey to Moriah the mount of utter renunciation. Let it be remembered, however, that it was on Mount Moriah where Abraham received his greatest revelations of the purpose and plan of God in providing a sacrifice for the moral recovery of a lost race. The way into the secrets of God is by the way of self-renunciation, submission and faith.

### THE HIGHWAYMAN

John Wesley, returning from preaching the gospel late one night, rode across Hounslow Heath—at that time a place of bad repute for highway robbers. It was a dark night, yet Wesley feared no evil, but, in the joy of his heart, he sang a favorite hymn as he rode along.

"Halt!" shouted a fierce voice, while a firm hand seized the horse's bridle. "Your money or your life."

Wesley humorously emptied his pockets, which contained only a few coins, and then invited the robber to examine his saddle bags, which were filled with books. Disappointed at the result, the robber had turned away when Mr. Wesley cried, "Stop! I have something more to give you."

The robber, wondering at this strange call, turned back, when Mr. Wesley, bending towards him, said in solemn tones, "My friend, you may live to regret this sort of life in which you are engaged. If ever you do, I beseech you to remember this, 'The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanseth us from all sin'."

At the close of a Sunday evening's service a stream of people poured out from a large building, many lingering around the doors to see the aged preacher, with his long white locks hanging down to his shoulders. This was none other than John Wesley, now grown old in his Master's service, but still telling out in earnest words the story of redeeming love. A stranger stepped forward and earnestly begged to have a short interview with the aged preacher, which was readily granted.

It was the highwayman of Hounslow Heath, now a well-to-do tradesman in the city and, better still, a child of God.

What had transformed the highway robber into the humble disciple of Christ? The precious blood of Christ, believed in, relied on, trusted. There is no other remedy, no other way of salvation for you, reader.—Selected.

### TRUST

"I do not ask that He must prove  
His Word is true to me,  
And that before I can believe  
He first must let me see.  
It is enough for me to know  
'Tis true because He says 'tis so;  
On His unchanging Word I'll stand  
And trust till I can understand."