

# THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

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## SPECIAL NOTICE

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## EDITORIALS

### "UP FROM BANKRUPTCY"

Recently I had the privilege of hearing R. G. LaTourneau, "God's Business Man," tell the soul-thrilling story of the Lord's guidance and blessing upon his life, and I felt our Highway readers would be inspired and edified by reading the tale as told by Mr. La Tourneau himself:

"Job said, 'I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear; but now mine eye seeth Thee.' What we need is to see God. It is too bad that we wait many times until trouble swoops down upon us before looking up to God. As I look back upon my life, at the times of stress, God has always been there and I have seen Him and seen His hand work in a marvelous way. I would like to tell you about four times in my life when I really saw God.

#### Up from Moral Bankruptcy

"At the age of sixteen I found myself on the verge of moral bankruptcy. I had been brought up in a Christian home and I knew the way of salvation, but the devil was fast getting the upper hand. Just to show you the direction in which I was headed, my chum, with whom I ran continuously, landed in jail shortly after God saved me and snatched me as a brand from the burning. But I became very troubled about my soul and I knew hell would be worse for one who had had the light as I had seen it. One night I responded to the appeal of the evangelist. He said to me, 'If your father promised to do a certain thing for you, would you believe him?' And I said, 'I certainly would.' He said, 'Then why don't you believe God?' I couldn't seem to grasp it.

"I went home and went to bed, but had only slept a few minutes when I awoke with the thought on my mind, 'I am on my way to hell! I must do something!' And right then and there I said, 'I will believe God. I can't afford to take the chance of going any further without Him.' Realizing that the Saviour was mine because I trusted Him, immediately the joy of salvation burst in upon my soul and I jumped out of bed and ran to tell my mother, thinking that perhaps she might be still awake praying for her wayward boy. And that night, although I had heard about the Saviour all my life, I saw Him and others saw the change in me.

#### Up from Spiritual Bankruptcy

"I went on for another sixteen years or so,

living as many Christians do. I knew I was saved and on my way to heaven. I was trying to serve the Lord, but was making a very poor job of it. I wasn't exactly what you would call a backslider, but I came to realize that my life was not counting for Jesus. I was on the verge of spiritual bankruptcy.

"My younger sister used to say to me, 'Bobby, don't you love Jesus?' And I realized that she had a love in her heart for her Saviour, a passion, that I did not have. Her love was strong enough to take her out to the Indians in Arizona to tell them about her Saviour, and then to China.

"I knew that I ought to be witnessing for my Lord, as He had done so much for me. I tried to speak for my Saviour, but I seemed unable to do it. The man working alongside of me in the shop would take the name of my Lord in vain, and I would say nothing. I said to myself, 'If someone made fun of my mother or my sister I would not stand for it, and yet I am allowing the name of my Lord and Saviour who died for me on Calvary to be taken in vain and I make no protest.'

"One night I went to the altar again. I said, 'Lord, I need victory. I know the love that ought to be in my heart is not there. If You will give me the backbone that I need and fill me with Your Spirit so that I can witness for You, I'll do whatever You ask me from this day on.' And my Saviour took me at my word. Once again He heard my prayer and I saw Him face to face. I rose from my knees feeling that God had heard and answered. You may call that experience by any name you wish, but I say God heard and answered my prayer.

"It was so real to me that I went to the pastor the next morning and I said, 'Brother, do you think I should go as a missionary?' For I had two sisters in China at the time and our people believed in missions—believed in getting the gospel out to those who have never heard. I said, 'I suppose I am too old, but I promised God last night I would do what He wanted me to do, and I want to make good that promise.'

"My pastor said, 'Let's pray about it.' After we had prayed he said, 'You know, God needs business men, too,' and I replied, 'All right, I'll try to be God's business man.' I have been trying to carry out this commission ever since and I find it a glorious life to live. I believe if every business man could realize what an opportunity he has to serve God in business, things would be different, because I believe God has a place for every one of us, whether it be serving Him in business, in the workshop, in the home, behind the sacred desk, or on the foreign field; and we will be happiest if we find that place. How things did begin to go in the business after I made it God's.

#### Up from Financial Bankruptcy

"I sought to honor the Lord with my substance in a new way and I found that I could not beat Him at giving. I proved the fact: 'God will not be any man's debtor.' Everything went fine for several years, until one year I failed Him again. It was not a case of backsliding, but I got off on the wrong track. I said, 'It will take all my finances to handle the program I have set this year, and next year I'll have a lot of money for the Lord.' I was wrong, because God wants the first-fruits. It doesn't take much faith to count up what's left and give God a portion of it.

God expects us to let Him have the first-fruits and trust Him that the harvest will be sufficient to meet the needs; for without faith, we are told, it is impossible to please Him.

"You can guess the result. At the end of that year (and by the way, it was right at the beginning of the depression) I found myself with several hundred thousand dollars of debt to pay and no way to get the money! Many firms who were in better shape than I was went down, never to rise again. But I struggled along, not knowing from one day to the next whether the sheriff was going to put the lock on the door or not, on the verge of financial bankruptcy, once more I met God face to face. I said, 'Lord, how can I pledge for missions now, when it is all gone and no chance to get the money to pay it—?' But the still small voice said, 'Better make the old pledge again and trust Me.'

"We were running a small factory and the pay roll was about five weeks behind. I made a little deal with God that whenever I was able to meet the pay roll I would save out His part. Strange as it may seem under such circumstances, within a few weeks the pay roll was coming through on time. What a wonderful God we have! Why don't we believe Him more?

#### Up from Physical Bankruptcy

"I have been very much interested in the Book of Job these past few months. I don't know whether the devil got to saying things about me as he did about Job or not, but I do know I found myself once more in desperate circumstances, this time on the verge of physical bankruptcy.

"We were travelling on the highway in Tennessee, on the way to a service to give my testimony. I had a marvelous male quartet with me, and my wife—six of us in the car. But a head-on collision occurred which killed outright five of the nine occupants of the two cars, three in the other car and two of the quartet in ours.

"There was no excuse for the accident. It happened in the middle of the day on a good road, no turns and no traffic, we had a good driver, and when I say a good driver I speak from experience on the race track and all. But the man in the other car, driving a Chevrolet at a furious rate of speed, turned around to talk to the folks in the back seat and swung over on to our side of the road. Our driver took the shoulder to the right, intending to give him the road and let him pass, but he shot clear over to our shoulder and there was a head-on.

"One member of our party was practically unhurt, the only one of nine. He dragged me out of the wreckage first—one foot crushed, leg broken, both hips out of joint, pelvic bone fractured, a piece of bone broken off the side of the hip socket, and chest crushed. One would not believe it possible, but, strange as it may seem, I did not lose consciousness. Then he laid my wife, unconscious, on my right-hand side. She was bruised and cut from head to foot. He laid the other living member of our party—with broken arm and collar bone—unconscious on the other side.

"I looked up to heaven and said, 'Lord, this could not have happened if You had not permitted it because I know 'all things work together for good to them that love God.' and I said, 'Lord, it's all right with me. Though I may not understand, I have confidence enough to know that it will be all right.' God was so