THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

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EDITORIAL

SPIRITUAL BANKRUPTCY

For what is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul. Matt. 16:26.

In the foregoing words of our text, our Lord very clearly teaches that the wealth of this world alone has no power to save a man's soul, no matter how much wealth he may possess; and to this agree, the following words of Peter, "For as much as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things as silver and gold—but with the precious Blood of Christ." I. Peter 1:18-19.

Every unsaved, unregenerated, not-bornagain, person is spiritually bankrupt. He or she may be a church member, a respectable citizen, moral, kind-hearted, generous, etc., but without the saving grace of God, the soul is lost, "For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God: not of works lest any man should boast." Eph. 2:8-9.

No honest business man likes to go bankrupt. It is very distressing indeed for an honest hard-working man to fail in business and not be able to pay his bills—or meet his financial obligations to his creditors. We read that when the great slump took place in the stock market a few years ago, that several men who had invested heavily, and had lost all their savings, were so distressed and discouraged that many of them committed suicide.

But how very sad indeed it is for the masses to be spiritually bankrupt and lose their souls when in God's sight one soul is more valuable than the whole world.

When a business man becomes insolvent, it is necessary for him to make an assignment of what he owns to a trustee for the protection of his creditors and himself. Likewise the court of Heaven has appointed a Trustee, in the person of God's Son Jesus Christ, so that all men who realize that they are spiritually bankrupt, may through simple faith "come boldly unto the throne of grace that they may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Heb. 4:16.

One of the great difficulties that Christian workers seem to encounter in their efforts to save souls is first, to convince the unsaved that they are insolvent spiritually, that is, they have nothing whereby they may purchase God's favour: hence they now are lost: and

until men are convinced of that fact, they are not likely to seek salvation.

The language of one who realizes his spiritual poverty and need, is very beautifully expressed in the words of Toplady's hymn:

"Could my tears forever flow,
Could my zeal no languor know;
These for sin could not atone,
Thou must save and Thou alone;
In my hand no price I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling."

But in spite of our bankruptcy, or spiritual poverty, our God who is rich in mercy for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sins—hath provided a great plan of redemption whereby all truly penitent souls may come to him, through simple faith in the atoning Blood of Jesus, and have their sins cancelled, and receive the spirit of adoption whereby we cry Abba Father. The Spirit itself bearing witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God. Rom. 8:15-16. And we receive the unsearchable riches of his grace that lifts us out of spiritual bankruptcy, and we enjoy the true riches, the fullness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ. Then we sing:

My Father is rich in houses and lands,

He holdeth the wealth of the world in His hands;

Of rubies and diamonds, of silver and gold, His coffers are full, He has riches untold.

I'm a child of the King,
A child of the King;
With Jesus my Saviour,
I'm a child of the King.

(Continued in next issue)

IT IS LATER THAN YOU THINK

We live in a frightening age. World statesmen view with apprehension the future. Men's hearts fail for fear. Confusion reigns supreme. Can this be the end?

The complacency that characterized the forepart of the last decade was completely shattered by the explosion of the first atomic bomb on the white sands of the New Mexico proving grounds. Scientists hoped it couldn't be done. They wanted to go home and go to bed and forget about it. Alas, it was not to be. That first detonation was heard the world around and shocked a stupid world into frenzied terror. Came Nagasaki and Hiroshima! That third atomic bomb has got to be kept from being dropped, all agree.

Professor Harold Urey, a Nobel prize winning scientist, says pessimistically, "I am a frightened man. All the scientists I know are frightened men."

Dr. Hutchins, University of Chicago, one of the ten top scientists responsible for the creation of this monstrosity reveals that of the "top ten" one ONE was an American and the majority of them now reside in European countries.

Governor Earle, former governor of Pennsylvania, upon return from a European tour stated, "There is less than an even chance that ten percent of us will be alive in five years."

Professor Montgomery, University of Texas, is going up and down the land lecturing, "If our children are to survive us, we've got to make this a CHRISTian world." Against doctors orders, for his own well being, he is burning up the airlanes, railroads and highways in an intensive speaking itinerary to put Mr. and Mrs. America straight on the seriousness of the present hour in world history.

General Douglas MacArthur, at the signing of the Japanese surrender, warned, "Humanity has had its last chance."

Another great soldier-statesman, Dwight Eisenhower, has no illusions: "Unless there is a moral regeneration throughout the world, there is no hope for mankind. We'll all disappear in the dust of an atomic explosion. Through the church, the forces of good-will, tolerance and sympathy may be used to save the world."

This is our generation, a generation so frought with evils that we have now found, as the President of the University of California puts it, "the means to die together, perhaps to the last man, but no scientist has yet devised a formula to show us how to live together."

This brings me to the last quote, a statement by a contemporary great, H. G. Wells: "There is no way out or around this human impasse. Humanity has come to the end of its tether. The Red Flag will advance to the Rhine—perhaps to the Atlantic. Anarchy will seize these doomed United States. Mankind will take to the caves." These statements reveal what the great men of our times are thinking.

Is there no recourse? Has God forgotten to be gracious? Is He a disinterested spectator sitting on the side lines with no particular interest or concern in the present wicked scheme of things? What are His designs, in the affairs of men, if any? I am convinced the will of God, for our generation is a mighty, sweeping, world-wide revival of old fashioned religion in the power of the Holy Spirit.

How can this be accomplished? If this be God's will, how can it and the world's problems ever meet? What can we do? Where shall we begin? Can we expect results? How soon?

First, there is only one way out, that is up! It's either Christ or chaos! revival or ruin! now or never! The answer will not be found in the ERP, the UN or the North Atlantic Pact. Here, all legislation is null and void. Pacts and charters are but a pop gun to slay the dragon.

We must be spiritually awakened. Only God can send the revival we need, but everyone can make it possible for God to do what He otherwise could not and would not do. Sinners must confess and turn from the error of their ways. CHRISTians must cry mightily to God day and night, they must forsake things of lesser importance and wait upon God. We must pray with penitent hearts. When revival comes, down will go Communism with a sudden crash. The tidal wave of spiritual revival will sweep everything before it. Sinners will cry to God for mercy. CHRISTians will rejoice, God will be glorified, the way will be paved for the second appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ and then-"the government shall be upon His shoulders, and His name shall be called Wonderful-and of the increase of His peace and government there shall be no end." Isaiah 9:6-8.

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GOD SAVES BY PRAYER

The Gospel moves with slow and timid pace when the Saints are not at their prayers early and late and long. Where are the Christly leaders who can teach the modern saints how to pray? Where are the apostolic leaders who can put God's people to praying? Let them come to the front and do the work, and it will be the greatest work which can be done.—Sel.