

# THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —  
REFORMED BAPTIST ALLIANCE

Published Semi-Monthly at Moncton, N. B.,  
by a Committee of the Alliance.

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— SUBSCRIPTION PRICE —

Per year, in advance .....\$2.00  
Ministers, per year ..... 1.50  
Four months' trial subscription ..... .50  
Sample Copy .....Free  
United States Subscribers ..... 2.00  
Ministers, U. S. A. .... 1.50

## SPECIAL NOTICE

All correspondence for The Highway should reach us before the 12th and 25th of each month.

The King's Highway, Box 277, Moncton, N. B.  
Printed by Moncton Publishing Co., Ltd.,  
Printers and Publishers, Moncton, N. B.

MONCTON, N. B., JANUARY 31ST, 1951

## EDITORIAL

### THE APOSTLE PAUL'S EXAMPLE AND ADVICE TO PREACHERS

I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. I. Cor. 9:22. "Yea, woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel." Verse 16.

The foregoing scriptures tell us why the Apostle Paul became a preacher of the gospel: A man may choose to preach the gospel as his vocation in life, for one of several reasons: He may preach because he wants to do good, and has a desire to help his fellow man, or he may choose that calling because it is a respectable and honorable profession, and perhaps it would add to his popularity. Again he may choose the gospel ministry just as a means of making a respectable, easy living.

We gather from what the apostle wrote that he was not preaching the gospel because of any of the above mentioned reasons; in fact, he did not have the privilege of choosing at all. He says: For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is me, if I preach not the gospel. I. Cor. 9:16. God evidently chose his vocation for him, and laid necessity upon him, to preach or perish.

It has been said, there are many men in the pulpit who ought to be doing something else to make a living, and there are many men doing something else, who ought to be preaching, and would be if they obeyed God. Men who are called of God as Paul was are not preaching to live, but they are living to preach; for necessity is laid upon them.

The Apostle puts great emphasis upon preaching as a means of salvation. He says, how shall they hear without a preacher, and how shall they preach except they be sent. He also wrote to Timothy: 'Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long suffering and doctrine.'

It takes the preaching of the whole gospel to save men and build them up in the faith; even thrilling and touching stories will not do. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. "And so we preached and so ye believed," said the apostle. Someone after listening to a preacher telling many stories in the pulpit, remarked, Well, if God's truth won't save men, it is certain that man's lies won't. Jesus said ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. John 8:32.

We heard a pastor praying in his regular service one night, and among other things he

said, Lord forgive us for preaching only half a gospel! This writer was a pastor in the same town at the time, and knowing some of his people, thought we could understand why he did not preach the whole gospel. Methinks that if a man preaches the whole gospel, he will preach two distinct works of grace, viz., Ye must be born again, for the unsaved, and the very God of peace sanctify you wholly to the converted. But this gospel of truth must be preached in the spirit, which is the Holy Spirit. Peter speaks of those who preach the gospel with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven. I. Pet. 1:12.

The Apostle Paul would also advise us to be careful while we are preaching the word of truth, that we do it in the right spirit, which is with a heart of love and compassion. He says, God hath made us able ministers of the New Testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit, for the letter filleth but the spirit giveth life. II. Cor. 3:6.

So we see by this that we may preach a gospel which is true, but preach it with a spirit that kills. Perhaps some of us have been guilty of such preaching some time in our ministry.

Perhaps we have allowed a little hardness to creep into our hearts, and then went into the pulpit and wielded the sword of truth with great power as we thought, but the effect of our preaching on our audience was disappointing, discouraging and killing. We tried to console ourselves by saying, Well, I preached the truth, but they would not accept it. Yes, we may have preached the truth, but it was that harsh spirit which accompanied it that did the harm. The poet said, We may miss the law of kindness while we struggle to be just.

Many years ago we heard some preachers talking about some people who came to church but would not respond to the preaching. One young preacher in the company who perhaps had more zeal than experience, said something like this: I would preach a sermon that would knock them out. Then an older preacher replied: Oh, yes! Young man, you can knock them out alright, but that kind of preaching won't bring them in, and we want to bring them in, into the fold of Jesus.

It was said of Jesus He was kind to the unthankful and evil. Be ye therefore merciful as your Father in heaven is merciful. Luke 6:35.

Hear Paul again: We were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children: and being affectionately desirous of you we were willing to have imparted unto you not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, etc. Thess. 2:7-8.

Dr Jowett said every preacher when preaching, ought to remember that there may be a broken heart in every pew. The Apostle also said in our text: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. That might sound like compromise to some, but Paul was not a compromising, patronizing preacher, but his great purpose in life was to get men saved, and to this end he worked and preached, and he was willing to sacrifice anything that did not involve right principle and the approval of God.

He said, though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all that I might gain the more, then goes on to say he was a Jew to the Jews, and without law to them not under law, etc.; to the weak he was weak, etc. I. Cor. 9:19-22. Perhaps his most outstanding characteristic, like his Lord, was

his mercy toward those who disagreed with him. Perhaps some of us could improve some at this point. We wonder sometimes if God might bless some folks whom we would not bless. For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath showed no mercy. James 2:13.

"The quality of mercy is not strained;

It droppeth as the gentle dew from heaven  
Upon the place beneath: it is twice blessed

It blesseth him that gives, and him that  
takes."

### ONCE GREAT JOCKEY DIES ALONE IN ALLEY

According to International News Service, the body of Paul Neal, one-time top jockey, was found in an ice-crusted Chicago alley at the end of his last and longest losing streak.

It was a far cry from the years—more than 15 of them—when Neal drove to the track in flashy cars and rode to the cheers of thousands of fans and well-wishers.

In 1929 the jockey—then a teen-ager just a year out of grammar school—rode 26 winning horses in the first 27 days of the Washington park meeting in Chicago. In the seasons that followed, he earned up to \$15,000 a year as a contract rider.

At 32, his luck, as they say, ran out. In 1947 he lost an eye and quit racing.

His wife and baby were killed in an auto accident. His funds disappeared. He worked as a dishwasher. Then he contracted tuberculosis. Later, after a period in the hospital, he applied for relief, saying he had long ago lost touch with his family.

We relate the incident to show that success, wealth and applause can be very short-lived.

Good-weather friends may also forsake one in the hour of need; but there is "a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother." He is the Lord Jesus Christ.

He not only "died for our sins," but "ever liveth to make intercession" for those placing faith in Him. He has promised, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." (Hebrews 13:5). Happy the person who can truthfully say:

"I've found a Friend; O, such a Friend!

He bled, He died to save me;

And not alone the gift of life,

But His own self He gave me.

Nought that I have, mine own I'll call,

I'll hold it for the Giver:

My heart, my strength, my life, my all,

Are His, and His for ever." —Sel.

### WATCH YOUR WORDS

A careless word

May kindle strife;

A cruel word

May wreck a life.

A bitter word

May hate instill;

A bitter word

May smite and kill.

A gracious word

May smooth the way;

A joyous word

May light the day.

A timely word

May lessen stress;

A loving word

May heal and bless.