THE KING'S HIGHWAY

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EDITORIAL

A GOOD WORK MAY NOT BE GOD'S WILL

That David was made to realize when he purposed to build God a temple. Sharing his desires and plans with Nathan, the prophet, he found full support. "Go do all that is in thine heart, for the Lord is with thee," said the man of God. But at night God spake to Nathan this message: "Go and tell David my servant, Thus saith the Lord, Thou shalt not build me a house to dwell in."

Why God's "Thou shalt not?" Surely David's plan was most commendable. It is evident that he desired only God's glory and man's good. The answer is, David's good purpose was not God's purpose. At a later date, and through another person, a temple would be built. For David, God had another plan.

And may we not learn from David's experience the importance of doing God's will, and not just a good work? Many are doing the latter who are missing the first.

Good desires, and encouragement from a prophet of God, are not sufficient guide. The first may lead you astray and the prophet may be as mistaken as was Nathan. The thing you desire to do may be God's work for another, while for you He has some other plan. The need is for divine directions, lest notwithstanding a deep desire to build something for God we miss His will.

But on the other hand, many have no strong desire to build anything for God's glory. They are content with the performance of their good works, while they are missing God's special appointment for them. Someone has written: "What if I do with ardour what a thousand could, maybe, and leave undone forever what was meant for only me?"

"Lord, what wilt **thou** have **me** to do?" was a question wisely asked. Many ought to ask it today. Ought you?

E. W. T.

THE SECRET

A marble cutter, with chisel and hammer, was changing a stone into a statue. A preacher, looking on, said, "I wish I could deal such changing blows on stony hearts." The workman made answer, "Maybe you could, if you worked like me, upon your knees."

SANCTUARY WORSHIP

There will always be a place in the life of a Christian who knows the meaning of true worship, for quiet waiting upon God. A place where there is an inner sanctuary in his life, in which there is a stillness and from which service, work and a thousand and one other duties are excluded. Here is the secret of all power in Christian living.—Alan Redpath.

HE KNOWS—HE CARES

Where do we take our griefs, our disappointments, our losses? If we tell them into the ears of sympathetic friends we get to love them for their sympathy. And why not tell them all into the ever-ready ear of the great Comforter of souls? Then we shall learn that "He is touched," and as He shares our grief we shall get to love Him more.—S. M. Warner.

CONSECRATED TO BE SPENT

The consecrated Christian places himself unreservedly at God's disposal. Thus dedicated, he waits to be spent. In losing his life, he actually saves it. Nothing in the spiritual economy provides for the conservation of self.

We are stewards of our lives. Fleeting moments are precious. It is our responsibility to "redeem the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:16).—The Defender.

FISHERS OF MEN

What is your gift—song? You shall sing for Him! You shall become a preacher of salvation. Sympathy? You shall minister to His sick and poor. What are you—a builder? You shall help to build the temple of God. A soldier? You shall fight the good fight of faith. A servant? You shall be a bondservant of Christ. Our Lord never destroys a faculty. He consecrates and exalts it.

"Fishers of men!" And that is what we all ought to be; we are saved that we may become saviours. Notice how these men at once began to fish for others. Andrew went and called his own brother Simon; John went off and fetched James. Have we begun to fish for men? Have we ever laid hold of a soul for Christ? The joy of "catching a man alive"—there is nothing on earth to equal it.

How shall we become "fishers of men"? Not by our own cleverness or skill. "I will make you to become fishers of men," says our Lord. "I will make you"—that is the equipment. If we want to be successful fishers of men, we must go to Jesus Christ for the necessary qualifications.—J. D. Jones.

TRAVAIL

Isa. 66:8

A friend I had—far spent in sin. I prayed that God would save his soul, and PLEADED LONG before the Throne, that God would make him whole.

My friend went deeper still in sin. He struck rock bottom of despair. Then I AGONIZED for his soul, before my Father's throne in prayer.

At last I SPENT A NIGHT in prayer. He felt its "PULL," its drawing might. Somehow it drew him UP to God. My friend was saved that very night.

LET CONSCIENCE SPEAK

Remember from whence you have fallen. You were once full of zeal for the glory of your divine Deliverer, and the salvation of those for whom He died. You could then reprove sin, and weep over and expostulate with sinners. You could deny yourself almost your necessary sleep and food, in order to promote the interests of your Redeemer's kingdom.

Where is now your zeal for the Lord of Hosts? Can you deny self, sacrifice your ease, honor, reputation or wealth for His glory, as you once did? Remember! Compare your present state with your former one. Let Conscience speak, let facts speak, and honestly admit the truth; and if you are condemned, write yourself down—backslider in heart.

Too many Christians have far too light an estimate of heart unfaithfulness. I have sometimes heard them speak of five or ten years' half-heartedness as a very light thing, slurring it over, as it were, with a very thin and superficial sort of confession.

But our Lord does not so regard it. He looks upon it as a very serious matter, a very heinous sin, a most God-dishonoring experience. So much so, that He threatens the Ephesian backsliders that unless they repent, notwithstanding all their good works, He will come unto them in judgment and remove their candlestick out of its place.

-Mrs. Catherine Booth

A HOLY CENSER

Perfume is the sweetness that naturally exhales from the flower. Incense is the fragrance that comes from the touch of fire and tells of a great transformation. There is in the personal character often the perfume naturally, sweetness of temper, and acquired charm of manner. But this is not incense. This is but the glory of the flesh.

Incense is that heavenly touch that comes to the heart that has been surrendered to God, crucified with Christ, that has gone through death and resurrection, and that has upon it the marks of the fire from God's altar. It is not sweetness of natural temperament but of divine love. God make each of our hearts a holy censer breathing out of the fragrance of His peace, His patience, His chastened joy, His all-enduring love.—A B. Simpson.

WHAT WE GET

When we rely on organization, we get what organization can do. When we rely on education, we get what education can do. When we rely on eloquence, we get what eloquence can do. Nor am I disposed to undervalue any of these things in their proper place. But when we rely upon prayer, we get what God can do.

—A. C. Dixon.

DEDICATING

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heart." What power a man has with God when
he says, "You may have me for any task, any
journey, any field, any duty." And what a
power he has in the world!

—Copied from The Free Methodist.