

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

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THE VICTORY MAY REPEND ON YOU

"While Peter yet spake . . . the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word." (Acts 10:44). The secret of that divine visitation was the coming together of a prepared preacher and a prepared people.

The preacher was prepared. Through prayer, and contact with God he was made ready in heart and mind. He was God's man with God's message, fitted to deliver it. Then the people were prepared. Their heart attitude was expressed in their words addressed to Peter when they met for worship: "We are all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God." With open minds and hearts they presented themselves before God to know and to do His will.

But I am thinking particularly of Cornelius and his contribution through prayer to the blessing of that hour. He evidently prayed and fasted until God gave him assurance that his prayers were heard and would be answered. Thus what happened before, and in, and after the service was largely due to his persistent prayer effort. To use a meaningful expression, he "prayed through" for his household and for the service. The truth we have considered needs little of application. Its message is clear. The great demand is for practice. That which Cornelius did needs to be done again and again if we are to have real visitations of the Spirit of God, making the evangelistic efforts of this summer abundantly fruitful. The experience of Cornelius ought to remind us that it is possible to pray through for services and for souls. Who then will do it? The victory may depend on you.

E. W. T.

AIM FOR SOULS

By J. B. Chapman

Christian, make the most of your life. Go after souls. Go after them the best way you know, but go after them. Do not listen to those who warn you that you will offend and drive away by your persistence. Go after souls. Go after them by public and private testimony. Go after them by service and prayer. But go after them. Go after them with love and a burdened heart. Go after them by kind deeds. Go after them by song and praise. Go after them when they are bereaved and in sorrow. Go after them when they are especially favored of God and men. But go after them. This soul-winning life is your life—make the most of it.

"TO THE WORK!"

A life of service, fearlessly and happily rendered; with a heart that belongs to Him, and conduct that glorifies Him; lived out in His conscious presence, and lasting to our last day on earth; that is the purpose He has for His people, that is the aim of His salvation, which must be ours if we would satisfy His heart, and fulfil His good will for us.—Hubert Brooke.

ZEAL!

A missionary in India writes: "I know a few Communist young men in India who are giving 55% and more of their incomes for the cause of Communism." Thus the Communistic plague spreads all over the globe, while the Gospel chariot rolls sleepily on or coasts slowly toward a standstill, because the Communists are more zealous, more active, more willing to sacrifice for the devil's business than most Christians are for the Lord's work.

'TIS HARVEST TIME . . .

The harvest plenteous is, today,
With millions lost in sin's dark day,
Without redeeming grace.

Their eyes are blind; they cannot see
The light of Christ who maketh free
Those who behold His face.

The winds that blow from distant lea
Bring tales of weeping hearts to me —
The cries of hopeless men.
They tell of souls in Satan's thrall
For whom Christ died (He died for all)—
To ransom them from sin.

Yea, many a tribe has never heard
The name of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
None else can make them clean.
Can we whose hearts have been thus blest
Refuse to go, and still have rest,
While millions die in sin?

'Tis harvest time; the grain bends low,
And many lost in sin and woe,
Ere long must meet their fate.
Then gladly leave thine all today,
Go! Bring to men the Truth, the Way,
Before it is too late!

—D. A. Needham

WEAKNESS IS NO EXCUSE

Mark 14:3-9

D. L. Moody tells the story of an Atlantic passenger who lay in his bunk in a storm, deadly seasick. A cry of "Man overboard!" was heard. "May God help the poor fellow," prayed the man, "there is nothing I can do." Then he thought, "At least I can put my lantern in the port hole," which he did.

The man was rescued, and recounting the story the next day said, "I was going down in the darkness for the last time when someone put a light in a port hole. It shone on my hand, and a sailor in the lifeboat grabbed it and pulled me in." Weakness is no excuse for our not putting forth all the little strength we have, and who can tell how God will use it?

Prayer is meant to be an infinitely important transaction between God and man, and has to be viewed as a work, involving labor, persistence and conflict, if it would be prayer.—Bishop Moule.

GOD'S PURPOSE IN OURS

The call of God came to us in the Gospel by which we were saved though it may be at the time we but feebly, if at all, realized that God had called us. Naturally our first concern was salvation from the judgment of God, and rightly our souls were filled with gratitude. Yet the call of God has in view the accomplishment of His purpose in us.—Hamilton Smith

GOD'S PURPOSE IN TRIAL

These earthly trials which we experience are the means of securing heavenly joy. The affliction is not merely light, compared with the weight of glory, and is not merely for a moment compared with eternity, but it actually worketh that very glory, and secures it. It holds a prominent place among the "all things" that "work together for good."—Dr. Newman Hall.

TRY HIM ONCE MORE

Some years ago in a manufacturing town of Scotland a young lady applied to the superintendent of a Sunday school for a class. At his suggestion she gathered a class of poor boys. The superintendent told them to come to his house during the week and he would get them each a new suit of clothes. They came, and each was nicely fitted out.

The worst and most unpromising boy in the class was a lad named Bob. After two or three Sundays he was missing and the teacher went out to hunt him up. She found that his new clothes were torn and dirty, but she invited him back to the school, gave him a second new suit, but, attending once or twice, Bob was again absent. Once again she sought him out, only to find that the second suit had gone the way of the first.

"I am utterly discouraged with Bob," she said, when she reported the case to the superintendent, "and I must give him up."

"Please don't do that," the superintendent replied. "I can't but hope there is something good in Bob. Try him once more. I'll give a third suit if he'll promise to attend regularly."

Bob did promise, and received his third new suit. He attended regularly after that, and became interested in the school. He became an earnest and persevering seeker after Jesus, and found Him. He joined the church. He was made a teacher. He studied for the ministry. The end of the story is that this discouraging boy—forn, ragged, runaway Bob—became the Rev. Robert Morrison, the great missionary to China, who translated the Bible into the Chinese language, and by so doing, opened the kingdom of heaven to the teeming millions of that vast country.—The Gospel for the Youth.

KEEP SWEET AND KEEP QUIET

To be in a storm of distress and sorely tempted and tried in manifold ways and yet not to advertise it, but tell it all out to God in secret prayer, and keep a calm, peaceful spirit, and to walk calmly before our fellows, and give them the sunshine even when the heart is bleeding and the mind is perplexed with manifold trials—this is proof of a truly humble, loving heart.—G. D. Watson, in Holy Living.