



Erroneous Religious Beliefs THE CAMPUS CORNER

By Rev. H. S. Dow

"WHERE ARE THE NINE?"

"Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God." Matt. 22:29.

Our good editor asked us to write something for The King's Highway, and whereas I want to be helpful in a good cause, I said, "I will think about it." So as I thought about the matter, I asked the Lord, would I try to write? and if so, what should I write? for I surely wanted to say something helpful to our readers. After some time spent in prayer and meditation, the Still Small Voice seemed to say, "Write", and also gave me the foregoing scripture as a basis for my remarks.

This scripture was spoken by our Lord when some religious people came to Him, asking several questions of a religious nature, by which, Matthew says, they were trying to entangle Him in His talk. Jesus told them that they were in error concerning religious things, because they knew not the scriptures, nor the power of God.

As we have read these words of our Lord we have often thought that they might explain one reason for so many religious bodies of people, all professing to worship the same God, and many professing to have the monopoly of scriptural truth. They claim to preach the Bible, and cannot worship with others who do not.

Now we admit that all evangelical churches are at least preaching and teaching a portion of God's Word, and yet there seems to be division among them, which we believe is a great hindrance to the promotion of the gospel, and to the salvation of needy souls, for whom Christ died.

Now, I expect to be very kind in what I shall say, and guarded in my statements, so as not to unnecessarily offend anyone, even though I feel I must be frank. In dealing with the text we shall try to point out several errors being taught by many religious teachers.

We believe that one reason for the many divisions among the churches is because emphasis on some portions of scripture is put in the wrong place. Jesus said, "Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God." Some people hold to certain scriptures that may appear to teach certain theories and doctrines, but forget that God gave us the whole Bible. They take a verse of scripture here, and one there, and one from another place, and put them together, seeking to prove certain doctrines. The late Rev. C. W. Ruth used to say that if one did that he could make the Bible teach anything. By placing together, "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn", and, "For of such is the kingdom of heaven", one might make it teach that there are oxen in heaven. Then in linking "Judas went and hanged himself", and, "Go thou and do likewise", one could make the Bible to teach suicide.

One reason for so many religious cults is that so few people know their Bibles. Nor do they have the Holy Spirit in their hearts to teach them. Jesus said, "When He, the Spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth." (John 16:13). With the Bible, and God's Spirit to guide us, knowledge of the Truth is possible.

Some time ago the writer met a preacher of

This week something happened which impressed me: Two of Bethany's missionaries in Africa sent donations to the library fund. Those gifts, unsolicited and unexpected, spoke of love, appreciation and sacrifice. They told a story about two who had not forgotten what Bethany had done for them. One said, "I wish I could do a lot more as Bethany means a lot to me." Those gifts were from the true alumni heart. Sending them was like coming back to say thank you.

But were not more helped? "Where are the nine?"

OUTSIDERS LOOK IN

What outsiders think of us is always of interest and should be of significance. A few weeks ago we of Bethany enjoyed the visit of Rev. Ronald McCormack, a native of Yarmouth, who has had a successful ministry in the United States. Brother McCormack, a graduate of Gordon College, showed keen interest in our buildings, classes, and program. His helpful message to us in chapel was on the topic of house-to-house evangelism. Rich illustrations were provided by the speaker's own experiences. Brother McCormack did not leave without expressing his delight in having a school such as ours come to his home town. His remarks brought encouragement; his visit will be remembered.

A Christian layman of the Yarmouth locality who visited a prayer meeting at Bethany commented thus in his testimony: "I always thought that the power house in Yarmouth was over on King Street, but now I think that it is right here on Beacon Hill."

May God grant that Bethany will be worthy of the confidence which many have expressed. May He grant, too, that the power which illuminates hearts and minds will not be lost or lessened.

CONTINUANCE IN PRAYER

There is nothing in the Christian's life that does not depend on prayer. **We must kneel to conquer.** From the case of the young convert just beginning the Christian life, to the preacher greeted by overflowing congregations wherever he travels, there will be tragic failure unless prayer is the dominant experience of life.—Lionel B. Fletcher.

a certain denomination, and asked him, "is it true that there is a dozen factions in the body you represent?" He replied, "You have under estimated them. There is a hundred." I then asked if that ought not to prove something wrong with their teaching since Christ prayed that His disciples should be one. (John 17). Like the people addressed by Paul in 1 Corinthians, chapters 12, 13, 14, these good people began emphasizing and seeking gifts instead of grace. A fairminded reading of these chapters in 1 Cor. should give us to see that Paul was contrasting the gifts and graces of the Spirit, discouraging the seeking of gifts, especially the gift of an unknown tongue and showing the grace of perfect love as superior to the best of the gifts. The gifts, he says, will fail, pass away, and cease, but faith, hope, and love will abide forever.

(To be continued)

ITINERARY FOR 1953 RALLIES

SUNDAY, APRIL 5th:

Saint John, N. B. 11.00 a.m.

Sussex, N. B. 3.00 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 6th:

Moncton, N. B.

TUESDAY, APRIL 7th:

Doaktown, N. B.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8th:

Barker's Point, N. B.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9th:

Meductic, N. B.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10th:

Perth, N. B.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11th:

Hartland, N. B.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12th:

Crystal, Maine.

Houlton, Maine. (Ricker Auditorium).

2.30 p.m.

Woodstock, N. B. 8.30 p.m. After-service

Rally with Woodstock, Meductic-South-

ampton, Hartland - Victoria - Lower

Brighton church co-operating.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16th:

Truro, N. S.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17th:

Halifax, N. S.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18th:

Woods Harbour, N. S.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19th:

Bethany Bible College (Morning).

Yarmouth, N. S. 3.00 p.m. High School

Auditorium. District 3 Rally.

Port Maitland, N. S. (Evening).

TUESDAY, APRIL 21st:

Black's Harbour, N. B.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22nd:

Calais, Maine.

THURSDAY, APRIL 23rd:

Old Town, Maine.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24th:

Beals, Maine.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25th:

Grand Manan, N. B.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26th:

North Head, N. B. (11.00 a.m.)

Grand Harbour, N. B. 3.00 p.m. Regional

High School. Rally for North Head-

Seal Cove-Wood Island Churches.

Seal Cove, N. B. 7.30 p.m.

To all interested in the advancement of the Work: PLEASE PRAY DAILY FOR THESE RALLIES.

STRONG IN FAITH

Let us have the faith that triumphs as well as the faith that fights; faith that purifies the heart as well as the faith that sanctifies the soul; faith that sanctifies as well as the faith that justifies. Let us have faith in its fullest power, faith in every department of life, faith for every gift that God can give us.—Dr. W. Y. Fullerton.