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EDITORIAL

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

By the time this issue of the "Highway" is received, the pleasant greeting, "Happy New Year," will have been spoken, or written, and received by us all. But actually, good wishes and friendly greetings alone can do little to make the new year a happy one. They may express sincere desires, but they have no power to bring happiness. Nor will the passing from one year to another be any guarantee of any greater happiness than we may have known in the past. Even should the new year be a prosperous one, we cannot thus be assured of being happy. It is written of Jay Gould, the famous millionaire, who had abundant wealth, that his last words were: "I suppose I am the most miserable man on earth." Nor will a year filled with sinful or worldly pleasure give to us the secret. Lord Byron, the author of "Hours of Idleness," who, it is said, revelled in pleasure almost all his life, wrote on his last birthday:

"My days are in the yellow leaf,
The flowers and fruit of life are gone,
The worm, the canker, and the grief,
Are mine alone."

Not even a year without sickness, or sorrow, or bereavement can assure us of true happiness, although we would wish for all our readers, prosperity, health, and freedom from sorrow. But many have health without happiness, and many who are deprived of health and live much in the furnace of affliction are radiantly happy.

The true secret of real and lasting happiness is not physical or material, it is spiritual.

It is what we are within and without. "Happy is he whose transgressions are forgiven." "Happy are the pure in heart." "Happy are the undefiled . . . who walk in the law of the Lord." "Happy is the man that endureth temptation." "Happy is the people whose God is the Lord." Those are some Bible statements concerning the secret.

In other days I knew a business man in London, England, who often testified: "I have tapped the source of perpetual joy," and his life and spirit gave proof of the fact. He died while still in middle life, with these words on his lips: "My soul is right with God." And there was the secret of his perpetual joy. He

suffered through business reverses and other trials, and in his last years through failing health, but the knowledge that his heart was right with God gave to him abiding happiness, the minimum of which was peace passing understanding.

My Christian business friend also lived for others. Much of his time, and strength, and means, were given in the service of God and for the spiritual and eternal good of others. And that, too, was the secret of his lasting joy.

Happiness cannot be obtained through seeking it. Seek it alone and it will evade you. Your search will be in vain. True and lasting happiness can only be ours as we are right with God, as we do His will, and as we live for others. A little motto we have sometimes seen reads:

THE SECRET OF JOY

God First

Others Second

Self Last

Knowing the secret, let us also know the happiness throughout the new year 1955.

E. W. T.

EXAMPLES

"The word Christian implies not only being familiar with religious terms and Bible truth, but also a day-by-day outliving of an in-dwelling Christ. Workers are greatly needed in the field of example. We are to be "an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" I Timothy 4:12. Christ wants followers who will be workers in their daily lives. The last two lines of Lewis' poem, "The Living Sermon," is very fitting:

"I may not understand the high advice you give, But there's no misunderstanding how you act and how you live."

NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIVE

By Leland Wilcox

Nineteen hundred and fifty-four Has passed away to be no more; And hastening on we now arrive In nineteen hundred and fifty-five.

God bless you all this glad new year, With wondrous words of hope and cheer, As to God's promises we cling And labor for our coming King.

The Bridegroom soon will call His bride, To be forever at His side; Then watch, ye faithful saints of light, And keep thy garments pure and white.

O, faithful one, be of good cheer: That glorious day is very near, When from this world we shall arise To meet our Saviour in the skies.

Our Blessed Lord is waiting still:
"The marriage table must be filled";
Then hasten forth at His command,
And bear the news to every land.

Proclaim to sinners far and wide: The cleansing power in Calvary's tide To wash away the guilt of sin And give men peace and joy within.

To nations far across the wave Tell of God's wondrous power to save, And of that feast He doth prepare That Heaven's blessings all may share.

Lord, help us now, we humbly pray, Thy great commandment to obey: To win the lost ones may we strive In nineteen hundred and fifty-five.

Have You the Burden?

Dr. Oswald J. Smith

Alexander Duff, that veteran missionary to India, went home to Scotland to die. In great feebleness he stood before the Scotch Presbyterian Assembly and pleaded for missionaries for India. In the midst of his appeal he fainted, and was taken into another room.

After physicians had worked over him for some time he finally recovered consciousness and when he realized where he was, he said, "I didn't finish my appeal; take me back and let me finish it." But they told him he could do it only at the peril of his life. He said, "I'll do it if I die."

So they led the white-haired veteran into the assembly hall, and as he appeared at the door they sprang to their feet as one man to greet him, and then sat down and listened in tearful and breathless silence to the grand old hero of the Cross.

With trembling voice he said, "Fathers and mothers of Scotland, is it true that you have no more sons to send to India? There is money in the bank to send them, but where are the laborers who will go into the field? When Queen Victoria calls for volunteers for her army in India, you freely give your sons and say nothing about the trying climate of that land. But when the Lord Jesus calls for volunteers you say: 'We have no more sons to give.'"

Then turning to the moderator of the assembly, he said, "Mr. Moderator, if it is true that Scotland has no more sons to give to Christ for India, then, although I lost my health in that land and came home to die, I will be off tomorrow and go back to the shores of the Ganges and lay my life down as a witness for Christ, to let them know that there is at least one Scotchman who is ready to die for them."

Why did he act so? What was it that made Alexander Duff create such a scene? Had his mind failed? Was he mentally deranged? By no means. Well, then, what was it? Ah, it was his love for souls. The burden of India's perishing millions lay heavily upon him and the love of Christ constrained him. How then could he do otherwise?

And in the thrilling episode you have the result of the anointing, the evidence of the fullness of the Holy Ghost. For when a man has been "endued with power from on high" he will have a burden for souls. This then, is the climax, the acid test. Say not that you are filled unless you have this bruden. Boast no more of your anointing if you love not souls.

O my brother, tell me; nay! tell God: have you the burden? Do you know the passion of which I speak? Are you haunted day and night with the thought that millions are perishing on every side? that multitudes are going down to the regions of despair? For, mark you, if you have been truly anointed of the Holy Ghost, such will be your experience.

It was thus that the Spirit came upon John Knox and made him cry: "O God, give me Scotland, or I die!" So also He came upon John Wesley, causing him to write, "You have nothing to do but to save souls," and giving him such a burden that tens of thousands were snatched as brands from the burning.

Later He anointed Charles G. Finney, anointed him so mightily that everyone to whom he spoke that first epoch-making day, turned to God; and then made him the center

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