

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —
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Editor and Business Manager - Rev. E. W. Tokley
Contributing Editors: Revs. H. S. Dow, B. C. Coch-
rane, F. A. Dunlop

Other members of Committee: Revs. W. L. Fernley,
A. D. Cann

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EDITORIAL

PENTECOST AND CHURCH GROWTH

"And there were added to the church daily such as were being saved" (Acts 2:47). Those words speak of a continually growing church, the growth resulting from the steady addition of new converts. The secret of such growth is given in the record preceding Luke's statement.

First, the growth was the outcome of a Pentecost. The church was a Spirit-filled, Spirit-baptized church. Second, its leaders and people engaged in strenuous soul-saving efforts. It was a witnessing and working church. Then, its new converts were genuinely saved. From verses 37 to 41 we learn that they were deeply convicted, earnest enquirers, clearly enlightened, gladly obedient, and they publicly confessed.

Further, it was a steadfast and progressive church. Its people continued steadfastly in doctrine, in fellowship, in the means of grace, in church going, and in home religion. Verse 45 would suggest that it was a liberal and self-denying church, and verse 47, that it was a worshipful, joyful, God-honoured and man-respected, and a growing church. Other things could doubtless be said, but let these occupy our thoughts. We believe that we have here a New Testament pattern for church growth.

Particularly at this time would we stress the importance of the Spirit's presence and operation. There can be no real church growth apart from that.

May 29th is Pentecost Sunday. Let us give ourselves to much prayer for another outpouring of God's Spirit upon His people. Let ministers preach on the Person and work of the Holy Spirit, and let them call their people to wait upon God for the Spirit's mighty presence and powerful working. A Spirit-baptized church is a growing church. E. W. T.

MOCK HUMILITY

"There is," said Phillips Brooks in his famous sermon on "The Curse of Meroz," "there is such a thing as a 'false humility' which accounts for the uselessness of people who might be useful. Humility," he added, "is good when it stimulates, it is bad when it paralyzes the active powers of a man! It may do either! We have noble examples of humility as a stimulus—the sense of weakness making a man all the more ardent to use all the strength he has! But if conscious weakness causes a man to believe that it makes no difference whether he works or not, then his humility is his curse."—Quoted by Dr. P. R. Frothingham.

THE MANAGER'S MOTTO

A certain minister in a well-known church was attracted by the continual happy, radiant appearance of one of his congregation, who attended worship regularly and conscientiously. So attractive was the man's whole personality that the minister, speaking to him at the conclusion of one service, remarked upon the noticeable degree of his happiness, and inquired if there were any particular reason for it. Somewhat surprised at the question, but willing to answer it to the best of his ability, he invited the pastor to visit him at the earliest possible moment, which invitation the minister accepted the following morning. Upon arrival he found himself at one of the largest shoe factories in that country, of which his parishoner was owner-manager. After formal greetings were over, he said to his visitors: "There is the secret of my happiness—for I am truly happy;" and he pointed to a large sign over the door of his office, which said: "God first; * * Shoes last. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

—R. B., in Christian Herald (London).

Checking Up on My Home

Is my home distinctly Christian? As friends come and go in my home, are they conscious that the spirit of Christ dwells therein?

Is our family united in a bond of Christian love? Is each one treated as "precious in the sight of the Lord."

Do we have grace before each meal? "Jesus took bread and gave thanks . . ."

Do we have family prayers together? "Families that pray together stay together." Is our family knit together with bonds of prayer?

Are the children in our home receiving Christian instruction? "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Does love or strife predominate the atmosphere of our home? "Better is a dry morsel and quietness, than a house full of sacrifices with strife."

Would Christ be welcome at ALL times?

Are we constantly seeking the guidance of God?

Choose you this day whom ye will serve; as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15).—First Church Bulletin, Philadelphia, Pa.

It was once the custom at every household altar to pray definitely and fervently, for the pastor. Is the custom going out? Do we hear the heart-warming petition offered for the minister, that his work may be blessed, his hands strengthened, his endeavors abundantly prospered? If not, we who love our Church do not love as we ought those who are its ordained priests. In the delicate duties of his office your pastor should be sustained by your prayers.

—Dr. Roland

IMPORTANT DATES

Beulah Camp Meeting—July 8-17.

Rev. William Pratt, Evangelist.

Riverside Camp Meeting—August 12-21.

**Rev. Oliver G. Wilson, D. D.,
Evangelist.**

Alliance—July 6-8.

THE DIVINE OUTPOURING

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set up for a new order, a new type of society. God here seals His covenant with the patriarchs and prophets by endowing the believers with his own Spirit.

II. Consider, also the IMPORTANCE of Pentecost. What significance does it have for us today? If the facts stated in the foregoing section are true, then to neglect the Spirit is to be thrown back on our own resources. Our religion is one of human effort, we have naught but our own inadequate impulses. Professor Hadfield in his book, "The Psychology of Power," has this to say, "Looking at the Church today one cannot but be struck with its powerlessness. This want of power is associated with the fact that men no longer believe in the existence of the Spirit in any effective, practical way." Indeed, in many circles are found people akin to those at Ephesus who have not so much as heard whether there "be any Holy Ghost."

The coming of the Spirit guarantees that every Christian may become a channel of divine life and energy. All that God is may be ours, is available today. As Emerson said, "If a straw is laid parallel to the Gulf Stream, the Stream will flow through it. So is it given to us, if we will, to be conductors of the mighty grace of God, "pipelines" by which the Father can dispense His blessings to a needy world.

Moody used to say, "Columbus discovered America; but what did he know of its great rivers, its lakes, and forests? So, many of us have discovered something of the love of God; but there are heights and depths that we do not know. Like a great ocean, we must plunge in before we can really know, and be filled with all the fulness."

III. Let us think of the POSSIBILITIES of Pentecost. There are some who think that God is now exhausted, that with the establishment of the early Church the source of the new life of the Spirit spent itself. It is our conviction that Deity is still holding out to man the challenge: "Prove me now." The early Christians thought of the Spirit as Christ present. He had gone away from them that He might come in power unto them. Thus they were given an inner force to do "greater works." A Spirit-filled believer, a Spirit-fired church has the "last word." Such a life, or such a church will be able to do exploits, to overcome hatred, prejudice, fear, and faithfulness. We are driven to the conclusion that the world will still "turn aside to see" the supernatural even as Moses did, or as the people that come to witness that which was taking place in the upper room.

Great areas of life are yet untouched by the Spirit. We are told that Christ could do no mighty works in Galilee; he had no channels through which to work. It is not more machinery, more publicity, more learning, or more engaging personality but a new realization of the Spirit's power that is needed. We sing about it, talk about it, but are willing to do without it. We can take it or leave it, and while we take this attitude we usually leave it.

We have come to times so drear that many ask, "Where is God?" We are eye-witnesses of crumbling civilizations, religious apostasy, lawlessness, and war. Yet the Church, which holds the only hope for mankind's sin and misery, is content with less, far less, than Pentecost. We

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