

The King's Highway

AN ADVOCATE OF SCRIPTURAL HOLINESS

VOL. XXXVIII.

MONCTON, N. B., SEPTEMBER 15, 1955

No. 372

THE BLESSEDNESS OF HUMILITY

The most pleasing thing to God is a deeply humble heart. It is not our work, much or little, that pleases God, but the amount of humility and love that is in the work. The eye of God searches all our prayers, words and works, to see how much of His lowly Son He can find in them. Humility is the most fitting temper for a creature to render to its God, and it is humility that should especially fill and adorn redeemed sinners.

Humility is the sinking of our will at all times and places, into God; just as love is the sinking of our heart, and wisdom is the sinking of our minds, into God. Love, or the losing of our heart in God, is the most powerful thing in religion; wisdom, or the losing of our mind in God is the most useful thing in religion; but humility, or the losing of our will in God, is the safest thing in religion.

We need to take the heaviest insurance on the most dangerous piece of property; as the will is the most dangerous force in man, and as humility is the best security on soul wealth, we need the deepest experiences in humility as a protection of all our spiritual and eternal interests. How many seekers of Christ fail to find Him only for lack of humbling themselves low enough to enter the strait gate. Then how many converted people struggle and seek for entire holiness but do not find it only for lack of self-abasement and humility deep enough to grasp this "gem of purest ray serene." And then how many who have once been sanctified from inbred sin, failed to go boldly onward in the testimony and experience of true holiness, only for lack of that utter and far-reaching humility of spirit that consents to be nothing, and remain in self-abasement all our life.

And still again, have not some gone on gloriously in the path of holiness, working, winning souls into this grace, whose very success and power seemed to dazzle them, and partly divert their eyes from steadily gazing like little children, into the sweet face of their Lord; and only for lack of deeper humility, they have been shorn of the mystic look of power. And thus as we push out into these celestial currents and navigate these waters over which souls are sailing for heaven, we behold here and there, on rock, reef, or shore, wrecks or at least damaged craft, only for lack of deeper ballast of humility.

The word of God has linked the choicest favors of God in inseparable union with a meek and humble spirit. Deep, abiding soul rest is inseparable from lowliness.

"Learn to be meek and lowly in heart, and you shall find rest to your souls." "The meek will He guide in judgment." It would not be

safe for God to reveal His direct and special guidance to any but the deeply humble. Humility is the most lovely thing a soul can have. "He will beautify the meek with salvation," and again. "The ornament of a meek and quiet spirit," not a quiet dumb tongue, as some construe the passage; no, a joyous tongue, but a quiet spirit, for it often occurs that the dumb tongue Christians are the restless-spirited ones. Humility is an heiress, and it will some day have a fee simple deed put into its hands for the new heaven and new earth. "The meek shall inherit the earth;" "God shall save the humble person;" "He forgetteth not the cry of the humble;" "Lord, thou hast heard the desire of the humble;" "He giveth grace to the humble." God lives in eternity with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit. "He that humbleth himself shall be exalted." O, that on our knees the Spirit of God may show us the depth and unspeakable blessedness of all these promises which are interwoven with utter lowliness of soul.

Humility should especially be cultivated by ministers, by those of exalted sphere and power, by those who are successful and by those whom God has favored with rare gifts of body, speech, or mind. If we only esteem ourselves always as nothing it will save us a thousand pains. If we are diligent as to keeping ourselves nothing, God will see to making us something; if we keep empty and poor in ourselves, God will have thought enough to see to the filling and enriching. All the munificence of God is ours so long as we are beggars; when we lose the character of beggars, our supply is cut off. Our littleness and poverty constitute our admission ticket to the banquet of God, and if we want to retain the ticket it will be our wisdom to keep poor, self-abased, and lowly in heart.

—Selected

ARE YOU A TRANSLATOR?

Mr. and Mrs. George Archibald, campaigning for the British and Foreign Bible Society, began work in the coal fields. Everywhere they were welcomed by the miners and their families. In the villages other young people were won, and these, too, began to take responsibility. One young miner, frequently out with the team, was asked by his marra where he and his gang were going that day, and then: "What have you got to do with the Bible Society, anyway?"

"Oh," said George, "I'm a translator."

"What, you a translator?"

"Yes," said George, "I'm busy translating the New Testament into my daily life."—The Bible in the World.

THE STANDARD IS TOO LOW

It makes a great deal of difference whether the standard is low or high, for faith rules practice. If there be a low standard of faith, there will be a correspondingly low standard of practice.

Christianity is suffering today from a low standard of both doctrine and life. As surely as a stream will not rise higher than its source, so will not the everyday life of a people rise above their ideals.

Much has been said about our being extremists because we advocate and push the doctrine of entire sanctification as a second work of grace. People like to believe that it is a very high state, and that it reflects on regeneration as being a low state. But we make no such assertion. We know that regeneration is a very high state of experience, and so teach.

The source of the weakness of the church today is the pitifully weak conception of the regenerate life. The average notion of the requirements and blessings of the truly regenerate man and the Bible teaching on that subject are as wide apart as the poles of the earth. Multitudes of people have no idea that the Christian life means anything more than to be baptized, join the church and try to do right. The idea of having a heart experience of spiritual life and the witness of the Spirit is something unknown to thousands. Many people are in the church who do not claim such an experience. This is not uncharitable, for they are frank enough to say so, if questioned.

If the Bible teaches anything, it teaches the New Birth and the Witness of the Spirit. It teaches peace with God, a life free from the commission of sin, and separation from the world as the experience of all Christians.

A real Bible Christian is born of God, as Jesus required of Nicodemus; he has peace with God, the witness of the Spirit, power to keep from committing sin, is separate from the world, earnestly desires all God has for him, and has had begotten in him an intense desire for entire holiness of heart. We used to hear the old-fashioned church members sing:

"How happy is the man

Who has chosen wisdom's ways,

And measured out his span

To God in prayer and praise.

His God and his Bible

Are all that he desires;

To holiness of heart

He continually aspires."

—Heart and Life

"Will to be loyal — and give other people credit for being loyal, too."