

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —
REFORMED BAPTIST ALLIANCE

Published Semi-Monthly at Moncton, N. B.,
by a Committee of the Alliance.

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— SUBSCRIPTION PRICE —

Per year, in advance.....\$3.00

Ministers, per year.....3.00

Three months' trial subscription......50

Sample Copy.....Free

United States Subscribers.....3.00

Ministers, U. S. A.3.00

SPECIAL NOTICE

All correspondence for The Highway should reach
us before the 8th and 23rd of each month.

The King's Highway, Box 277, Moncton, N. B.

Printed by Moncton Publishing Co., Ltd.,
Printers and Publishers, Moncton, N. B.

AUTHORIZED AS SECOND CLASS MAIL

POST OFFICE DEPT. OTTAWA

MONCTON, N. B., NOVEMBER 30, 1955

EDITORIALS

DISCIPLINE OUR DEFENCE

In many respects the apostle Paul was a model saint and servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. The elements of Christian character were well blended in him. His spirit, outlook, devotion and faithfulness, the whole atmosphere of his life as discovered in the Word, was such as we would wish to discover in a true disciple of Christ and would desire for ourselves. Great in spiritual stature, tireless in spiritual service, the self-styled "apostle to the Gentiles," must occupy a lofty position among the spirits of just men made perfect. His pure life (I Thes. 2:10), his sacrificial labours (2 Cor. 11:24-28), and his triumphant testimony (2 Tim. 4:6-8) create within us a desire to follow him as he followed Christ.

The secret of Paul's holy life, fruitful service, and victorious entrance into the everlasting Kingdom of the Lord and Saviour is not to be found in a single reason but in a combination of reasons. We cannot select one quality or experience and make it the sole cause of his success, we must gather up a number found in his scripture biography and fit them together. If we would take the great apostle as an example or pattern, we must needs recognize the various experiences, attitudes, and life crises which contributed toward the production and development of so great a character. If we select one or a few of the contributing factors, and exclude the rest, the formula will be incomplete and the desired results will be lacking in our own lives. The Damascus road experience and the subsequent epoch of the Spirit's descent while the hands of Ananias were resting upon him, were a beginning, but only a beginning in the spiritual history of this chosen vessel. Without these crises the inspiring inscription of the divine record could not have begun, but this was just the first chapter. The account of his life as a disciple of Christ would have been brief, though colorful, if the question "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" had been a crisis query rather than a life attitude. Beside the wonderful account of Paul's conversion and infilling with the Holy Spirit, we have the equally colorful account of his years of faithful life and his fruitful labours for the Master, and the glory glow of a final translation. To a vital heart experience as a starting point, we must add a number of factors to find the answer to the ques-

tion of Pauline perfection. Willingness to endure physical suffering when it would cause him to enjoy a greater measure of the power of Christ; the choice of the glory of the cross as a goal in ministerial service; steadfastly refusing to preach any message but Christ and Him crucified; acceptance of hardship, privation, persecution and loss in the spirit of meekness and faith; these and other factors had their vital influence in the building of this great saint of God.

One of the very important principles of Pauline living is found in I Cor. 9:27: "I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." Here the apostle bares a secret we must learn if we are to follow him all the way as a servant of Christ. He discovered that self-discipline was necessary to spiritual survival. Physical appetites and natural desires must be regulated and controlled by self-denial and watchfulness must be employed and the natural man mastered or the God-blessed, God-called, God-led apostle would become a reprobate.

What a calamity it would have been, and what a wonderful last chapter to the story of Paul's life, if, through lack of discipline and self-control he had become reprobate! And yet, that is exactly what would have happened if he had not recognized the danger of self-indulgence and the necessity of self mastery. This I learn from the apostle on this point—After I am saved and sanctified I am still human. I have natural appetites and tendencies which grace does not destroy nor remove. These natural desires must be curbed and controlled when they seek to master and enslave me. If I do not set a strong watch at this point I will become the servant of my physical propensities and, though having experienced the blessing of redeeming grace and the joy of leading others to Christ, I may become a spiritual outcast and reprobate.

How many have failed and fallen right here! Lives that have been transformed by the glory light of the Lord's appearing and empowered by the Spirit's descent, have gone into spiritual eclipse and ended in darkness because of the indulgence of physical appetites. Men and women who have been spiritual giants have been found wallowing in ignominious defeat, having died by their own hands, victims of self-indulgence and physical servitude.

Discipline in our defence. As a safeguard against spiritual collapse we must adopt the Pauline standard: "I keep under my body and bring it into subjection." The man who is to have light at eventide and victory in the final stages of life's conflict but not only know a Master, he must be a master. Sin must be cleansed but self must be subjected.

FAITHLESSNESS in PRAYER

W. G. Scroggie

The habit of spasmodic seasons of prayer can never be substituted for fixed and regular times for prayer.

All our life must be and is carefully organized. We have our meal time, our work time, our rest time. No one thinks of leaving these to accident of mood or temperament.

Why should we subject prayer to our moods, and subordinate it to our inclination or disinclination, as the case may be? We do nothing else that is serious, on this principle; and yet, too often, we do not the most serious thing of all after this fashion.

EASTER BEFORE CHRISTMAS???

During these days and for the next two or three weeks most of us will be involved in preparations for the Christmas season. Christmas gifts, Christmas cards, Christmas music, Christmas greetings, etc., will fill our minds with thoughts of this wonderful season. Therefore, reference to Easter in the midst of the Christmas season may seem very untimely and premature. But, while Easter is still nearly four months away, it isn't too soon to think of and plan for the

Easter Offering for Missions

You read in this Highway of our plans to send a large missionary party to Africa next summer. This will involve many thousands of dollars. To meet this special demand, the Foreign Missionary Mission Board is asking the churches and friends interested in this missionary advance to plan for a great missionary offering for Easter Sunday with a goal of at least \$5,000. A really successful Easter offering cannot be promoted by making an announcement two or three weeks before Easter Sunday. The alert pastor and wide-awake church desiring to make a real success of that special effort will go to work immediately planning and promoting. One way that will help greatly towards a record-breaking offering for missions on Easter Sunday is to adopt a penny-a-meal plan from Jan. 1st to April 1st. The aim might be to bring the returns from this particular project into the Sunday School on Easter Sunday. An offering a month in the young people's meetings is another way of building up for the Easter offering. There are many ways in which we may work towards the Easter offering so that the money needed to send our missionaries out and equip them for service may be realized. In this sense it's not too soon to think of Easter.

SPIRITUAL PROGRESS IN HAITI

(Con'td from Page 2)

Our last visitors made up a party of four men from North Carolina. Three were from a Holiness Baptist movement in the south, and one was a Nazarene. In Haiti they dispersed so as to reach many points where their spiritual ministry was a blessing to pastors and people. I was at Gonaives when and where some of them visited that place and God manifested His presence and power. Good reports came from the other meetings.

God has been placing upon H. I. M. the burden of the urgent need for spiritual literature. The supply of Creole New Testaments has finished and such a need will affect all missionary effort in Haiti. In co-operation with the Haitien Bible Society, H. I. M. will concentrate on translating, preparing, and praying in funds that the needed literature may be produced as quickly as possible. We ask that you share this burden of prayer with us.

All H. I. M. missionaries expect to spend Christmas together at Port-au-Prince. I'll be thinking of you and wishing you all a joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours in appreciation of all prayerful interest.

Thelma Rose

"We need not make so much effort to defend the Bible as to practice it."

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