

# The King's Highway

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### The Man God Uses

By Comm. S. L. Brengle

I was talking with a Christian merchant a while ago, who expressed a great and important truth. He said: "People are crying to God to use them, but he cannot. They are not given up to Him; they are not humble and teachable and holy. There are plenty of people who come to me and want work in my store, but I cannot use them; they are not fit for my work. When I must have someone, I have to go and advertise, and sometimes spend days in trying to find a man who will fit into the place I want him for, and then I have to try him and prove him to know whether he will suit me or not."

The fact is, God is using everybody that he can, and using them to the full extent of their fitness for his service. So, instead of praying so much to be used, people should search themselves to know whether they are usable.

God cannot use anybody and everybody who comes along any more than the merchant could. It is only those who are "sanctified, and meet for the master's use," and "prepared unto every good work" (II Tim. 2:21); that he can bless with great usefulness.

God wants men and women, and he is hunting for them everywhere; but, like the merchant, he has to pass by hundreds before he finds the right individuals. The Bible says: "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him!"

Oh, how God wants to use you! But before you ask him again to do so, see to it that your heart is perfect toward him. Then you may depend upon it that God will show himself strong in your behalf. Glory for his dear, dear name!

When God searches for a man to work in his vineyard, he does not ask, has he great natural abilities? Is he thoroughly educated? Is he a fine singer? Is he eloquent in prayer? Can he talk much?

But, rather, he asks, is his heart perfect toward me? Is he holy? Does he love much? Is he willing to walk by faith and not by sight? Does he love me so much, and has he such childlike confidence in my love for him that he can trust me to use him when he doesn't see any sign that I am using him? Will he be weary and faint when I correct him and try to fit him for greater usefulness? Or will he, like Job, cry out: "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him?" Does he search my Word, and meditate therein day and night in order to do according to all that is written therein? Does he wait on me for my counsel, and seek in everything to be led by my Spirit. Or is he stubborn and self-willed like the horse and

the mule that have to be held in with bit and bridle, so that I cannot guide him with mine eyes? Is he a man-pleaser and a time-server, or is he willing to wait for his reward, and does he seek solely for the honor that cometh from God only? Does he preach "the word," and is he "instant in season, out of season"? Is he meek and lowly in heart, and humble?

When God finds such a man, he will use him. God and that man will have such a friendly understanding with each other, and such mutual sympathy and love and confidence that they will at once become "workers together."

Paul was such a man, and the more they whipped him and stoned him and tried to rid the earth of him the more God used him. At last, they shut him up in prison, but Paul declared with unshaken faith, "I suffer trouble, as an evildoer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound," and so he spoke God's Word. And neither devils nor men could put shackles on it, but it pierced right through the prison walls and flew across oceans and continents, and down through the centuries, bearing the glorious tidings of the blessed gospel, overthrowing thrones and kingdoms and powers of evil, and everywhere bringing light and comfort and salvation to dark, troubled, sinful hearts. Though nineteen hundred years have passed since they cut Paul's head off and thought they had done with him forever, yet his usefulness increases, and his mighty words and works are today bearing such fruit to the good of men and the glory of God as passes the comprehension of an archangel.

Oh, how surprised Paul will be when he gets his final reward at the general Judgment Day and enters into possession of all the treasures he has laid up in heaven, and the everlasting inheritance prepared for him.

Poor troubled soul, cheer up! Be of good courage! You think you are useless, but you don't know. Trust God!

Paul saw dark days. He wrote to Timothy one day and said: "This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia he turned away from me." Study his life in the Acts and the Epistles and see what conflicts and discouragements he had, and take courage!

Jesus said: "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of the belly shall flow rivers of divine water. But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive."

See to it that you are a believer. See to it that you are "filled with the Spirit," and Jesus will see to it that out of your life shall flow rivers of holy influence and power to bless the world, and you, too, will be surprised at the reckoning day to behold the vastness of your reward, as compared with the littleness of your sacrifice and your work.

### Get Out The Scissors

Rollo O. Swisher, in "The Gospel Trumpet"

Charles H. Spurgeon was once visited by a woman who felt that Spurgeon's cravat was too long. To her it was a sign of worldliness. (Ministers of that day wore what the dictionary calls a stock—a broad, stiffened band worn as a cravat.)

Spurgeon listened patiently, took off the offensive cravat, handed it to the woman, and told her to adjust it to the length she thought it ought to be. "But," he added, "dear sister, may I perform a service for you, too?" "Certainly," she replied, "I shall appreciate it very much."

"Well," said Spurgeon, "you also have something which is too long to be in accord with Christian humility, which has caused me and others a great deal of grief. I should like to cut it down to its proper length." "Indeed," she inquired. "What can it be? Here, use the scissors as you please." With calm friendliness Spurgeon said, "Dear sister, will you stick out your tongue, please?"

Those wagging tongues (and men are as guilty here as women), how much evil could be avoided if they were not so long! Many of us need to have our tongues trimmed down to size.

James 1:26 speaks of the danger of an unbridled tongue. People not only lose their spiritual power through wrong use of the tongue, but by means of an untamed tongue poisoned arrows are sent to other people's hearts. "Death and life are in the power of the tongue" (Prov. 18:21).

Who of us has not suffered in some way by this "little member," the tongue? This suffering perhaps makes us more careful for a time, but how easily we slip back into the old way of speaking! If we lived in God's presence consciously, we would weigh our words by His standard and not by our faulty human measures.

Slander is one of the evils of tongues that are too long. Joseph landed in prison because of the slanderous report of a sensual woman who gave his act a wicked twist. John the Baptist came "neither eating nor drinking" in the common manner; he lived on uncommon food, and the people said he had a demon. Jesus ate and drank like other men, and they said He was a "glutton and a winebibber." Men twisted the words He spoke about His body to say He advocated breaking down the temple, and used this as an argument to have Him condemned to crucifixion.

Paul preached the gospel of the forgiveness of sins by free grace, and enemies made it appear as if He had preached that we should do evil that good may come of it. Luther, Cal-

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