

# The King's Highway

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### What Holiness Means to the Christian

A. D. Cann

In this life values are often determined in terms of personal profit. Even personal friendships are sometimes rated by this low standard. Holiness is too great to be measured in this way. A man who has appreciation for "true holiness" thinks in terms of what he can give as well as what he can receive. A new born Christian is so grateful for salvation that he counts no price too great to promote holiness.

The strongest motive for holiness is to be like God. "Be ye holy, for I am holy." Normal children wish to bear the family resemblance. Being born of God we want to be like God. "God is love." Therefore love or holiness is the radiant expression of a Christ-like personality.

Holiness is more than a spiritual luxury. It is basic in Christian character. It is the central force in Christian living. The nearer I live to Christ, the more appreciation I will have for holiness. It is God's pattern for His people. It is a positive purifying power. It cleanses and challenges. It takes out carnality and pours in compassion. Holy men love their enemies and pray for them.

The love of God in the heart will control the outward life. The more I love God, the more my inward and outward life will resemble Jesus.

Holiness has its root in God. "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." Isaiah 57:15.

Christians are holy in a relative sense only. We are as dependent upon God for holiness as the branch is dependent upon the vine for life. There must be no separation. There must be no boasting. If we boast of holiness and fail to live it we cause the unbeliever to blaspheme and say there is nothing in it. Let us rather boast in Jesus and "the humble shall hear thereof and be glad."

We as holiness people need to be careful lest we develop our own brand of "eternal security." All the promises of God are through faith. Being sanctified does not destroy our will power. Every wakeful conscious moment we make choices. Our choices make us more and more like Jesus or less and less like Him. After we are saved and sanctified we must still deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Jesus. We must flee from temptation. We must suppress materialistic desires and ambitions. We must "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

A clergyman of my acquaintance from another church stated what he felt was the difference between the people

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### Revival: Do We Need It?

C. E. Stairs

The above question was posed in a preceding issue and a partial answer was given. It was suggested that a lack of love or an absence of the spirit of true worship indicated a need of revival.

Continuing to consider the question, we suggest that a need of revival may be evidenced also by a lack of zeal for souls. Thus arises the question: Do we need a renewed zeal for souls?

Our zeal has a tendency to slacken and our Christian service becomes neglected. Knowing human weakness, Paul exhorted the Romans: "Let not your zeal slacken. Have your spirits aglow as the Lord's own servants." (Weymouth's Translation, Ro. 12:11-12). "Spirits aglow"—that is what we need to be winners of souls and workers in His vineyard.

As physicists tell us, heat is a form of energy. Nothing less than heated spirits produce the spiritual energy for Christian service. We must keep the fire burning.

The great apostle's soul was so much aglow that at times he was "beside himself." (2 Cor. 5:13).

Do we know anything of this kind of passion? Are we personally and individually leading souls to Christ? Are our churches soul-winning churches? How about you and your church?

"The Minutes of the Alliance" for the past seven years give us some startling statistics. Last year over half of our churches reported no conversions; some of our churches have reported no conversions in three consecutive years or more; many of our churches have reported only a few conversions in several years.

Surely God has weighed us and found us wanting. We must humble ourselves before God and men. While we have prided ourselves in our holiness, we have not humbled ourselves in our uselessness and fruitlessness. We have not feared the curse of the Master of the Vineyard. We have not realized that God might set us aside even as He did Israel: "The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation (or denomination) bringing forth the fruits thereof" (Matt. 21:43).

It may be that many of us need to weep over our barrenness and plead for a renewal of zeal and passion for souls. In nature an absence of fruit may be a sign of death. Could it mean this in the spiritual realm?

"Herein"—in this—"is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples."

Let us finally ask ourselves another searching related to the need of revival: Do we need a renewed sensitivity to sin?

It is astounding what some of us can do without any apparent guilt of conscience. Our explanation is "It doesn't

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forward on this new field.

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