

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

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EDITORIAL

GUEST EDITORIAL

THE REVIVAL WE NEED

Dr. O. G. Wilson,
Editor "Wesleyan Methodist"

There is a positive revival of interest in religion on the campuses of American colleges. From *New York Times*, October 22, 1955: "Twenty years ago, except for small church colleges and groups of 'Christers' on the campuses of other institutions, undergraduates ignored religion or ridiculed it. A college graduate summed up his experience this way: 'None of us would be caught dead talking religion seriously.'"

"More than 1,200 of the 1,900 colleges and universities in the nation now have a religious emphasis week of some sort."

Nicholas McKnight, Dean of Students at Columbia College, summed the matter up thus: "There is not so much a religious revival as a religious search."

There is a revival in interest evidenced by the space given to religious themes by secular magazines and daily papers. Religion is "news." An outstanding example is *Life* magazine which carried a series of articles on "The Great Religions of the World." The special issue, combining the last issue of 1955 with the first issue of 1956, with the subject Christianity could be considered the conclusion of the series. It was an honest effort to present Christianity as it is taught in the world today. In this issue not a single liquor ad appeared; the whole tone of the issue was on the highest level. Other magazines as *Reader's Digest*, *Coronet*, *Atlantic Monthly* are placing emphasis on religion.

Industry is placing emphasis on religion. Many companies are hiring a chaplain whose duty is to minister to the spiritual life of the employees.

Religion, however, must go deeper than a laboratory investigation; deeper than a search for a new element, deeper than the examination of a series of experiments by a student of biology, deeper than a casual interest. The moral desires of the soul must be touched, the springs of

justice and truth must be purified, and the flame of divine love leap within the soul.

Religious concern is good, and every honorable man is glad for the revival of interest in religion on our campuses, but interest is not enough. A wave of religious emphasis in secular magazines is something for which we should be profoundly grateful, but it is a fickle wave; it needs to be displaced by a wide and deep flowing river of Scriptural convictions.

The Christian religion is more than a reform, it is a way of life ruled by the teachings of the Lord Jesus.

Religion is not: how can I use God to improve my pleasure, add to my comfort, and insure my safety? Rather the religion acceptable to God is: what adjustments must I make in my life so that God will be pleased to use me to advance His cause?

Religion is not a way of escape from the horrors of the cobalt bombs, but a way of escape from "the terror of the Lord."

Religion is not show and parade, but supplication and purity.

The revival we need is accurately described in II Chronicles 7:14—"If my people . . . shall humble themselves . . . and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways . . . I will forgive their sins."

This is the revival we need: A revival of humiliation, of contrition, of confession; a turning from sin because it is sin; a desire for God because He is holy, a love for humanity because they are men created in the image of God.

We need a revival that will put glow and warmth into our liturgies, that will transform professors of religion into twice-born believers, that will pierce the armour of self-righteousness of the evangelicals and holiness people, a revival that will take hold of the great needy, hungry, hopeless, helpless, despairing masses and light the fires of the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ within their breasts.

This is the revival that we can have if Christ is exalted, and the Holy Spirit's guidance obeyed. The Christ is the same yesterday, today and for ever. The Holy Spirit is as operative today as at any time in this dispensation. The promises of God are not yea and nay, but yea and amen to everyone that believeth. We can have a devil-driving, sin-exposing, Christ-exalting revival if we will.

This is our day. Interest in religion is manifest. Now is the time to use every available means to reach lost souls. Let there be strict personal sacrifice, that the money may be supplied for an enlarged program of evangelization. The Lord is at hand. Soon we shall hear the Trumpet. In this end time go all out for a revival.

A REVIVAL FELLOWSHIP

Would you like to enter into a revival fellowship? Each of us would be strengthened in spirit and inspired in faith to know that many others were praying for revival. Remember how Elijah was encouraged by the revelation that there were yet seven thousand true Israelites? (I Kings 19:18).

If you would like to enter into a revival fellowship, you may do so thus: If you have been making revival a matter of special prayer and heart searching, write us a letter. Or if a church has been having additional weekly or daily prayer seasons for revival, the pastor or clerk may write. (It will be impossible to make replies). If there is a response to this suggestion, a general report (without individuals' names) can be given in "The Highway." Some suitable, short quotations could be published for the inspiration of all. As in the case of Titus (2 Cor. 7:13), our spirits will be refreshed by you all.

"Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works." (Heb. 10:24).

Write: C. E. Stairs, Truro, N. S.

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