

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —
REFORMED BAPTIST ALLIANCE

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EDITORIALS

HUNGER FOR GOD

The February issue of "Christian Life" magazine introduces a series of articles under the title "Crisis Experiences in the Lives of Noted Christians". The editorial preface to the series reads: "Regardless of denomination, Christians across the country are hungering to know God more fully. The articles in this series tell how God 'satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness'".

The first article in the series is written by Dr. V. Raymond Edman, president of Wheaton College. Dr. Edman tells of how he entered into a "crisis of comradeship" in August of 1928, when he was returning by ship to the United States after a five-year term of missionary service in South America's Ecuador.

While studying the Word, and in particular the second chapter of second Corinthians, Dr. Edman was arrested by the statement of verse fourteen: "Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ..." "The words staggered me", said Dr. Edman. "I read them over several times, slowly, thoughtfully, a word at a time". Then, referring to Dr. Weymouth's translation, he read: "Wherever I go, thank God, he makes my life a constant pageant of triumph in Christ...". The writer continues: "The contrast between this verse and my life was complete. My heart therefore went out in a prayer. 'Dear Lord, be pleased to make my life that pageant of triumph, always to be led in triumph in Thee!'"

Dr. Edman then goes on to describe the crisis of consecration, when "I utterly abandoned myself. Everything was laid at His nail-scarred feet. How long my heart stood in His presence I don't know. Time was immaterial. The decision was made; and from that point He would make my life like that 'pageant of triumph'".

Hunger for God, for the fulness of God, is the normal longing of a child of God. The answer to this longing, the blessedly satisfying answer, is in the fulness of the Holy Spirit realized through full consecration and simple faith in the promise of God. "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled", said Jesus. "And when the day of Pentecost was

fully come, they were all filled with the Holy Ghost", the Word declares. "Be not drunk with wine... but be filled with the Spirit", is the word of counsel to the child of God.

We welcome this emphasis in an inter-denominational periodical of very wide circulation. We further welcome the increasing emphasis among preachers and people of many denominations concerning the need of a second crisis experience. It is our hope and prayer that a deep sense of need will lead to definite seeking and glorious victory for a host of hungry-hearted Christians.

The situation within evangelical Christian circles today is a challenge to individuals and groups believing in the Spirit-filled life. It would be most timely to pray very definitely that this nation-wide, or world-wide, "hungering to know God more fully", might lead to a mighty outpouring of the Spirit and a great holiness revival!

PLAN NOW FOR EASTER

Again this year our churches will be requested to have special offerings for foreign missions on Easter Sunday. We have about seven weeks to plan for these offerings. Last year some churches had wonderful success in this effort. Those churches planned and worked for weeks to reach their objectives. If every church would adopt some plan which would climax with the Easter Sunday (April 21) offerings, we would set a new record in missionary giving.

ABOUT REVIVALS

Rev. Paul W. Thomas in "Pilgrim Holiness Advocate"

The subject of revival is a current theme of interest. But there seems to be a wide divergence of views as to what revivals of religion are and how they come.

There are those who think revival lies largely in the realm of religious organization and promotion. If we will organize for victory this will insure it; and if our promotional efforts are skillful enough we shall be able to put the church's message across, win people, and build up the work.

Stemming from this idea is the persuasion that we can only have revival as we are able to find and employ outstanding talent. So the search is on, and the demand for those of special ability on the platform grows.

In the first place there is a great difference between a desire for the temporal prosperity of a church organization and a real heart-hunger for God and righteousness. The Word of God holds that there can be no blessing until first there is intense desire for God. "I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground" (Isa. 44:3). "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matt. 5:6).

To be sure there is no real and lasting revival that does not enlist the best efforts of God's people in spiritual exercises and evangelistic efforts, just as there is no corn crop without some one to plow and plant and cultivate. But the revival effort that does not recognize the basic need as being spiritual and does not identify the church with that need is doomed to failure.

As long as we think we can get along without the divine anointing, just so long does revival elude us. We may beat our drums and sing our songs and sow down the community with announcements, but our human self-sufficiency will defeat us. The lukewarm Laodicean people saw themselves as rich, increased in goods, and having need of nothing. But the Saviour saw them as "wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked" (Rev. 3:17).