

# The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —  
REFORMED BAPTIST ALLIANCE

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## EDITORIALS

### THE PASTOR AND HIS PEOPLE

The nature and aims of Christian service make the relations of the pastor and his people both vital and sacred. There should be mutual concern for the maintenance of good fellowship and a high degree of co-operation in the work of the Lord.

It is of the utmost importance that the people of the church realize what their pastor needs from them, and it is equally vital that the pastor appreciate his obligation to his people.

In the interest of happy relations and fruitful service during this New Year may we suggest:

#### To the Church

Your pastor needs your support. Without it he cannot possibly serve as he should or desires to.

He needs financial support. There are demands made upon him that can only be met as he has dollars and cents in sufficient number. Among the needs of the pastor that can only be met as he has adequate financial support are: Food, clothing, fuel, books, medical and dental services, and, most demanding of all, an automobile. These are some of the "musts" in the life of to-day's pastors. Every church should compute with care and concern the financial needs of his pastor and make arrangements that will enable him to attend to his financial obligations without strain or embarrassment.

The pastor must also have the moral support of his people. This is expressed in terms of personal loyalty to the appointed leader when he is under criticism, faithful attendance at the services of the church, and whole-hearted co-operation in promoting the programme of the church. There is no perfect pastor, and there are no perfect lay people. We are afflicted with weaknesses and frailties, but love will unite us in spirit and labour so that we may work to-gether with God in the service of the Kingdom. And we must work to-gether. Be a pastor ever so sincere and zealous, if his people do not stand behind and with him, he can accomplish but little.

Most of all the pastor needs spiritual support. His service is primarily a spiritual service, and spiritual support is absolutely essential to his success. Your pastor needs

your prayers. In your communion with God, remember him, and pray that God will give him grace, abundant grace, as he pursues the duties of his high calling. Happy is the pastor who has the sympathy and support of a praying people. Pray that your pastor may be kept pure in heart and devoted in spirit. Pray that he may have grace and wisdom as a shepherd of the flock. Pray that he may be "an able minister of the New Testament" in his pulpit service.

Yes, your pastor needs your support. Without it he will accomplish but little. Given the financial, moral, and spiritual assistance required, there is a good possibility that he will be a successful pastor.

And, may we suggest . . .

#### To the Pastor

Your church expects of you a faithful service. There are many duties associated with the ministerial office, and the church which calls and supports a pastor expects him to give diligent attention to those duties.

The work of the ministry in this twentieth century is a demanding task. Only as a man gives his best will he be able to render service satisfactory to his people and himself.

If a church provides, or endeavours to give the support a pastor needs, the pastor should, in turn, bend every effort to render the service a church has right to expect.

Our days are not our own. We cannot come and go as we wish. We owe our churches a full schedule of working days, and we are engaged for a year's service, with whatever arrangements for vacation and absenteeism have been or are agreed upon. The pastor has no moral right to render a two or three day service schedule per week, or to leave his church and constituency for protracted visits, evangelistic campaigns, etc., without the consent of his people or an official committee authorized to represent his people. Failure to respect this obligation will create misunderstanding and dissatisfaction. The pastor has a right to expect support from his people, and the people have a right to expect service from their pastor.

The fact that some duties of the pastoral office are difficult or distasteful, is no excuse for neglecting them. The God who has sent us forth into the harvest field, and the people who have called us to work in their particular area, look to us with expectation, and both alike require that we be faithful. We will do well to follow the example of the Master who said, "I am among you as one that serveth".

If the churches will take account of what they owe their pastor, and meet their obligations to him; and if the pastors will recognize what their churches have the right to expect of them, and faithfully labour in the pursuit of duty, we shall have a fruitful year in the work of the Lord!

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#### I HAVE A RENDEZVOUS WITH GOD

I have a rendezvous with God!

Upon His blessed day of rest,

To His loved house I go, and meet

With others on the Holy Quest;

Whose presence fills His holy place,

Our spiritual eyes behold

The radiance of our Fathers' face;

Then at the midweek hour of prayer

What strength flows down our need to meet,

As unto Him in prayer we turn,

United at the mercy seat!

How can I to my faith be true

If I keep not this rendezvous?

—The Challenger