

# The King's Highway

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### A Warning with a Reason

By F. A. Dunlop

"And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of Redemption," Ephesians 4: 30.

If you have taken time to read the articles I have already had published, you will have noted that we are emphasizing the supreme work of the Holy Spirit as Administrator of the Gospel and Grace of God during this Day of Grace. With this position very many of the outstanding Bible Scholars concur. I have at hand a number of Works supporting this view. It is out of this fact that the warning of the text finds a foundation. We shall write of this more fully in a later article.

In this present effort I want to write quite largely on an implied fact arising out of the statement: "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God." In the light of what we have already stated, and of very much more that could be said, here is a stupendous, soul-sobering fact: Man — carnal, rebellious, and foolish, to the point of the ridiculous, can thwart the saving, redeeming work of the Godhead. Paul was no Calvinist! He knew nothing of an "irresistible grace", or of "irresistible reprobation". Where is the consistency of the Third Person of the Godhead being "grieved" over the behaviour of men, if they are victims of an inescapable decree enforced upon them by the Godhead? Either man is free to accept or reject the saving ministries of the Holy Ghost, or He has no grounds for a quarrel with him. If, in this all-important issue of personal salvation, man is nothing more than a robot, in its total results he is no more responsible for his behaviour than are those silly little figures that are presented on TV programs.

The strength of Paul's warning must of necessity rest in this: The Holy Spirit is the one Agent in all the Universe that can make the saving Grace of God effective, and man is the one agent in all the Universe that can render the powerful ministries of the Holy Spirit un-availing and futile. Hence, the passionate appeal of the Apostle.

Paul furthermore traces the effects of this powerful voice in man in this present order. From verses 17-19 we have a record of men who saw nothing in Christ desirable and much in evil that they followed with intense desire. Paul describes them as having "given themselves over to work all uncleanness with greediness". This record is as old as Cain and as modern as tomorrow. Corresponding to men's rejection of Christ is their record of sin. Where rejection is found, sin is found. The word "rejection" is not a passive word, but a positive. What do men "reject" when they come under the influence of the Gospel? They reject the proffered mercies of God. Now, they could accept, under such circumstances, or God, the Holy Spirit, who influences them is only trifling; yea, more: He is acting the part of a tyrant.

Agreeably to above principle is the opposite experience known in the hearts and lives of men who, under

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### Prayer and Breathing

By A. D. Cann

"Prayer is as natural as breathing," Canon Clinton Warner declared at a Ministers' Convention in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

"We do not count the times we breathe, so Christians should not count the times they pray," he asserted.

Prayer is supernaturally natural. God breathed into man the breath of life. Spiritual life is prayer life. It is God-breathed.

Prayer is the measure of the man. We are no bigger than our prayers. Martin Luther said — "He studies well who prays well." Prayer gives color to all of life. It is the breath, the life of God in the soul of man. Prayer is God channelling Himself and His resources to His children. He gives faith, power and holiness. It is the heavenly indwelling the earthly, and the earthly taken up into the heavenly. It is God and man indented in love and purpose. It is not arbitrary, it is not forced. It is not man working with God's Almighty, but rather God working through man with His almighty power.

Prayer is invincible. It accomplishes the impossible. Dr. Oswald J. Smith says — "Problems are solved before I meet them. God hears and answers. Instead of letting my circumstances get on top of me and sending me to a sanatorium with a nervous breakdown, I am able to keep on top of my circumstances."

Prayer is trusting, not trying. Said a sea captain to Mrs. Charles E. Cowan off the coast of Newfoundland — "The last time I crossed here, something happened which revolutionized the whole of my Christian life. George Mueller of Bristol was on board. I had been on the bridge twenty-four hours and had never left it, George Mueller came to me and said, 'Captain, I have come to tell you that I must be in Quebec Saturday afternoon.' 'It is impossible,' I said. 'Very well, if your ship cannot take me, God will find some other way. I have never broken an engagement for fifty-seven years. Let us go down into the chart-room and pray.'

"Mr. Mueller," I said, "do you know how dense this fog is?" 'No,' he replied, 'my eye is not on the density of the fog, but on the living God, who controls every circumstance of my life.' Mr. Mueller prayed, the fog immediately lifted and he was in Quebec for his engagement."

Prayer roots back deeply into the Old Testament. The Prophet Isaiah wrote — "He giveth power to the faint, and to them that have no might he increaseth strength."

The resources of Heaven are available to the people who are aware of their own helplessness. The problem with many of us to-day is — we know all the answers. We do not ask God for guidance and strength, because we have those things ourselves.

Why is it that the strong and mighty faint and collapse? Why is it the faint and weak win the race and capture the prize? The answer is given by the Prophet. "They that wait upon the Lord renew their strength."

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