

The King's Highway

AN ADVOCATE OF SCRIPTURAL HOLINESS

VOL. XXXVIII

MONCTON, N. B., NOVEMBER 15, 1961

No. 522

THE SECRET OF POWER

by S. L. Brengle

"They that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength" (Isaiah 40:31).

If I were dying, and had the privilege of delivering a last exhortation to all the Christians in the world, and that message had to be condensed into three words, I would say—"Wait on God."

Everywhere I go I find backsliders by the thousands, until my heart aches as I think of the great army of discouraged souls, of the way in which the Holy Spirit has been grieved, and of the way in which Jesus has been treated.

If these backsliders were asked the cause for their present condition, ten thousand different reasons would be given, but after all, there is but one, and that is this: they did not wait on God. If they had waited on him when the fierce assault was made that overthrew their faith, robbed them of their courage and bankrupted their love, they would have renewed their strength, and mounted over all obstacles as though on eagles' wings. They would have run through their enemies and not fainted.

Waiting on God means more than a prayer of thirty seconds on getting up in the morning and going to bed at night. It may mean one prayer that gets hold of God and comes away with the blessing, or it may mean a dozen prayers that knock and persist and will not be put off until God arises and makes bare his arm in behalf of the pleading soul.

There is a drawing nigh unto God, a knocking at heaven's door, a pleading of the promises, a reasoning with Jesus, a forgetfulness of self, a turning from all earthly concerns, a holding on with determination to never let go, that puts all the wealth of wisdom and power and love at the disposal of a little man, so that he shouts and triumphs when all others tremble and fail and fly, and become more than conqueror in the very face of death and hell.

It is the heart of just such seasons of waiting on God that every great soul gets the wisdom and strength that make it an astonishment to other men. They, too, might be "great in the sight of the Lord" if they would wait on God and be true, instead of getting excited and running to this man and that for help when the testing times come.

The Psalmist had been in great trouble, and this is what he says of his deliverance: "I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my foot upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord."

The other day I went to a poor little church where

(Continued on Page 3)

THE SPIRIT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

by Mrs. Joanne Davis

"Charity (love) suffereth long, and is kind;...beareth all things..."

A DEEP HURT INFLICTED UPON THE heart of a Spirit-filled life is God's opportunity to glorify His Son in man. Here it is revealed, not only to the world, but just as important, to ourselves, that "we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." It is at this time that the heart, afflicted by deep hurt is as the rock smitten to ring forth streams of sweet waters to satisfy the thirst of a lost and dying world.

It is absolutely essential that a heart kept utterly tender, protected only by our Heavenly Father, remain in the state of "perfect love." As a "hurt" comes to the heart and opens up a painful wound, the sanctified person immediately turns to Jesus and lets the precious Comforter heal and comfort and bring peace. The love and tenderness of our hearts remain constant through Him.

The most precious treasure of the Spirit-filled life is "perfect peace." Our attitude is no more determined by outward circumstances. We know our whole purpose is to reveal Christ in His fullness. Whatever God allows, in the very midst of it—at that moment, we are to let the Lord Jesus Christ manifest himself in our beings, by the divine love given out through us by the indwelling Holy Ghost. How else will others believe there is a victorious state in Christ and realize they have a need of sanctification?

"When "hurt" comes to the heart of a person who is a possessor of the carnal nature, the reaction is to raise a wall of hardness by some attitude, to keep from feeling the pain so deeply and from fear of getting hurt again. This is, of course, a strong temptation to the Spirit-filled life, and only in His strength are we made "more than conquerors through him that loved us." "Self" comes to the defense of the unsanctified heart. Self-pity or bitterness, mingled with some phase of fear, takes possession of the heart, robbing it of all love, joy, and peace.

"Hurt" inflicted upon the heart of the unsanctified will stir up a defense of provocation. Adam Clarke reveals, in his commentary on First Corinthians 13, that charity (or divine love) "is not easily provoked" should be translated, according to the original Greek, "is not provoked." Webster's dictionary defines "provoked" as "roused; incited; made angry; incensed." "Divine love" is never provoked. "Divine love" loves and loves and loves, in spite of circumstances. This is impossible, outside of the grace of God, but absolutely possible in the grace of God.

God has no place for people who are made "lame" by gaping wounds in their hearts, which they are doctoring with their own remedies of self-pity and bitterness.

(Continued on Page 4)