

# - Guest Editorial -

## BACKSLIDING FROM HOLINESS

It is a sad fact that many who enter into the experience of heart-cleansing, after going on rejoicingly for a season, get lukewarm and spiritually inert, and do not become established in the interior habits of holiness. A brother said he had years ago entered into the promised land of holiness, but he had been captured in the land. After the death of Joshua and his contemporaries, the people were led into bondage right in their own promised land. This is too often the case with those who enter the experience of full salvation. The deep peace and joyous liberty that ensues upon finding heart-purity is apt to superinduce a laxity of self-denial and a love of spiritual ease which is ruinous to deep and continued holiness. I have heard some professors of holiness speak lightly of fasting, of cross-bearing, of self-denial; as if perfect love was only a holiday song, and freedom from holy battle and earnest toil.

Remember, O soul, that, if you want to continue in holiness, you are to aim at following your Lord in all His mind and spirit; Remember that as the baptism upon Jesus in Jordan introduced Him to His lifework, so the baptism of perfect love upon thee puts thee into intimate companionship with thy Master, in which thou art to walk with Him a life of love, it is true, but yet a love that is marked with the deepest humility, long-suffering, cross-bearing, self-abnegation, and the utter death of self.

There are a few who form too rigid notions of piety, who carry self-denial into a gloomy asceticism; but when the soul is thoroughly sifted, it will be found that extreme asceticism is in reality a disguised form of self. There are not many, but a few professing holiness, to whom nothing on earth would be so great a crucifixion as for them to consent to be sweet and loving to their fellows. Their greatest cross would be in giving up their selfimposed cross. But while some fail to live a life of pure love through self-imposed burdens, the great majority who fail to get all the land in possession do so through love of ease. Testimony languishes, long and earnest pleading at the mercy seat is neglected, frequent heartsearching and keeping all devoted to God is overlooked, the reading of holy literature is gradually slighted, fasting, and abstinence is ignored, soul sluggishness is indulged, and the soul that was shouting over the falling walls of Jericho is now a feeble captive paying tribute to the enemies in the land.

It is next to an impossibility to arouse a dull, sluggish, lazy, easy-going professor of holiness. Some holiness people fail because, having fallen into sin, they get discouraged, and Satan gets them into Doubting Castle; others fail because they adopt a new and erroneous theology; others fail by being switched off into fanaticism; but more fail through spiritual sloth than anything else.

—Holiness Echoes

#### SELF DENIAL FUND

We have received word from the Young People's Association Treasurer to the effect that the funds in the Self Denial Fund are low.

You will remember that our Young People's Association has agreed to support our Bible School in Africa in the amount of \$1200.00 for the present church year. Our

treasurer makes monthly payments in the amount of \$100.00 toward this project. It is therefore urgent that Young People's Societies forward Self Denial money to the treasurer regularly.

Please send all Self Denial money to Mr. Charles Owens, Bethany Bible College, Yarmouth, N. S.

#### NEW Y. P. SOCIETY

The Doaktown Reformed Baptist Church is pleased to announce the formation of our Young Peoples Society. On September 14 about twenty young people met at the parsonage. The main object of the meeting was to elect officers for our society, which are as follows:

We have held a number of meetings since our formation and are pleased to say that the attendance has been good and the interest high. We hope and pray that this organization will be a success in the months to come.

Yours in Christ,
Beverley Mitchell,
Highway Reporter.

#### FIRST YOUTH CAMP IN RHODESIA

Beuloh Camp from May 1-

September 17, 1961, marked the close of the first youth camp held in Rhodesia. The total enrollment was 74 with other young people coming in for services when they had opportunity.

The evening services were especially well attended and at the closing service on Sunday afternoon, the Rosamond Dow Church was full and overflowing.

The young people enjoyed sports and Bible games as well as the Bible classes and preaching services. One of our native preachers, Elias Moyo, served as evangelist for the camp. Several of our young people made decisions for the Lord for the first time and many rededicated their lives to the Lord.

Preacher Moyo, Preacher Muuka and a number of our native women worked hard to help the young people have a good camp. Several highlights of the camp included Kraal visitation in which the Young People visited a nearby village putting to use the verses they had learned in their class in soul-winning, a panel and question night in which the young peoples prepared questions were answered by a panel of native preachers and missionaries, an illustrated message with slide projector by Rev. Harold Kierstead, and a closing campfire and testimony service.

We were all greatly encouraged at the close of the Camp with this work among the Young People and seek renewed prayer that our Young Peoples' work in Rhodesia will continue to grow.

W. Emmett, reporter.

### PROMISES TO PONDER

He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it — Matt. 10:39.

If any man serve Me, him will by Father honour. John 12:26.

All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and His testimonies. Ps. 25:10.