

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —
REFORMED BAPTIST ALLIANCE

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—Editorials—

DO WE MAKE ENOUGH OF DIVINE HEALING?

As a Church, we believe in divine healing. Our Manual states: We believe in the Bible doctrine of divine healing and urge our people to seek to offer the prayer of faith for the healing of the sick."

Most of us can recall instances when God has seen fit to hear prayer on behalf of the sick. That sick person may have been a member of our family, a saint of the church, or simply a friend. At the time of crisis we exercised mighty concern and our faith reached out desperately. God came and a miracle happened. The sick was made whole. Evidence of the divine touch was indisputable. The heavenly presence was indescribably real.

But is it not so that we have been all too quick to forget such miracles and to forget to give God the glory for them? There are instances in which we even may have bargained with God, saying that if He would heal us, we would forever give Him praise. After God has healed us, have we kept our part of the bargain? I believe we have been all too reluctant to give God the praise for his wondrous works of healing among us.

Because some have made so much of divine healing, making it their main theme and subject of denominational emphasis, are we justified in going to another extreme wherein the subject of divine healing is scarcely mentioned? How often as pastors do we preach about healing or make even a passing reference to our declared faith in God's ability to heal?

The array of Scripture to support the case for healing is overwhelming. The record of Christ's ministry and the ministry of the Early Church is studded with countless instances and references to divine healing. Emphasis on a healing ministry has gone hand in hand with many of the most remarkable outpourings of the Spirit upon the Church.

Dr. Maynard James, outstanding holiness evangelist of the British Isles, has stated: "In our most fruitful revival campaigns in Britain in the 1930's, when virile holiness churches were raised up in quick succession, we witnessed many miracles of divine healing. God confirmed His Word with signs following. It was our privilege to see the lame walk, the dumb speak, and the incurably diseased made whole. We dare not gainsay what the Lord has been pleased to do before our eyes."

Healing is always a miracle, whether it occurs as a sudden and dramatic event or as a process of prolonged development. The Harvard Medical School has this in-

scription over its door: "We dress the wound; God heals it." But it is our firm conviction that God, for His own divine purposes, chooses occasionally to supersede so-called natural laws and perform a definite miracle for His glory. It is conceivable that some have suffered and died, simply because we lacked the faith to pray for their healing.

It would please the Lord, I believe, if we examined our thoughts on the subject of healing. It is not our purpose to suggest what our thought should be, but rather to encourage an open-mindedness for the leading of the Lord.

"—AND THEY SHALL BE AS THOUGH THEY HAD NOT BEEN"

(Obadiah v. 16)

The announcer: Obadiah. The subject of his declaration: Edom. What a desperate indictment to bring against a nation! We stand in awe at the announcement of such Divine judgment. We wonder why this particular time was God's time to bring destruction? When he had tarried so long, why did He not tarry yet longer? True to Obadiah's prediction Edom fell. Literally, the Edomites were as though they had not been.

Other nations and empires much greater than insignificant Edom, have risen and fallen. An over-ruling sovereignty has been at work. God operates "in the fulness of time" and though His presence may not be felt or recognized in any particular moment of history, yet He never loses contact with the current of affairs and men. The tides of judgment often move slowly but they move surely.

We stand this moment in the black shadow of a frightening foe. The sinister face bespeaks the intent of bloody terror and heartless destruction. Is it possible that in this enlightened generation sin and ignorance hold such sway that the very existence of man on earth is threatened? The facts dictate that conclusion.

Then where is God? Let us say with full assurance that God still lives; He has not left us. Nothing will happen beyond His permissive will and providence. Zion shall not be moved! Thank God for some unshakeable realities!

Obadiah's prophecy has relevance today. We are tempted to think, "This is the end," but only God really knows. That nation or nations, so proud today, may well be the subject of God's wrath again. "and they shall be as though they had not been."

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SPECIAL MEETING AT SAINT JOHN

A meeting of possible significance for the cause of holiness in the Maritimes took place in Saint John on Friday, September 29, when the Alliance committee, appointed in 1960 for the purpose of communicating with other holiness denominations relative to closer fellowship and unity, met with a committee representing the Canada Atlantic District, Church of the Nazarene.

Composing the Nazarene committee were Rev. Robert Woods, Superintendent Canada Atlantic District, Rev. Bruce Taylor, Superintendent Canada Central District, and four pastors.

Rev. H. R. Ingersoll, Alliance Superintendent, served as chairman of the meeting which convened in the morning and part of the afternoon.

The discussions, which were carried on at the invitation of the Canada Atlantic District Union Superintendent, centered around the possibility of church union and ways and means of promoting the cause of holiness more effectively.

The hope was expressed that future negotiations might result in a united holiness church, serving the interests of the Kingdom of God in this area.

L. K. Mullen

Alliance Secretary

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