

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness
— THE ORGAN OF THE —
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— Editorial —

WHAT MAKES CHRISTMAS?

What makes Christmas, anyway? Is it only a calendar date, coming once every year to remind us that a New Year is less than one week away? Is it gaily decorated trees and lighted wreaths? Is it fun and yuletide fellowship? Is it food-laden tables around which families gather to feast in sumptuous manner? Can we have all this, and not have Christmas? Yes, indeed. Then what about holidays, bonuses, beautiful cards, and cheery greetings? Surely these make Christmas. Not at all!

Only one thing makes Christmas, and that is love. The absence of love leaves all else but mere trapping and meaningless tinsel.

Love made Christmas in its beginning, for Christ's birth was the unfolding of Divine Love. "God so loved . . . that He gave" — this is the essence of Christmas! The Eternal Word which became flesh was God's finest gift to man.

Love gives radiance to the most humble of Christmas celebrations. The gifts may be inexpensive, the setting may be modest, but carried out in love, the whole scene glows with glory and simplicity. Love makes peace, joy, and happiness. That is Christmas!

To love is to share. Here is the real spirit of Christmas. One couple has given to us the account of an unhappy Christmas in their home. There were no children, and so each had given to the other an expensive gift, feeling that this should be the extent of their sharing. The gifts were not entirely satisfactory and Christmas Day ended on a sour note. They prayed together and God showed to them the selfishness of their own hearts. The next Christmas was different. For that year their gifts to each other were modest, but they shared generously with a needy home that otherwise would have had no Christmas. The Christmas joy that year was inexpressibly wonderful!

For so many this year there will be no Christmas. Worship will be a formality, and home celebrations will be empty — for one reason only, that love is absent. The curse of sin has driven love from hearts and homes.

But there is Good News! To all men has come the heavenly message of "good tidings of great joy." To bow humbly at the feet of Jesus this Christmas can mean the dawn of a new day. For "The Dayspring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into

the way of peace." "The Sun of Righteousness" hath arisen "with healing in His wings." Glory to God in the Highest! Let there be "Joy to the World" this season as all men sing:

No more let sin and sorrow grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace.
And makes the nations prove,
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love.

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JANUARY SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN

The numerous cults and isms of our day have been making alarming advances. Not least among the reasons for such progress by false teaching, is a liberal use of the printed page. It is reported, for example, that communism is printing six billion pieces of literature to be distributed in hundreds of languages over a twelve month period. While we live in a day of remarkable inventions for communicating, yet the printed page remains a powerful tool.

We who are Christ's are responsible for the dissemination of the truth. Those employed by the powers of darkness are leaving no stone unturned in their campaign to bind the mind and soul of mankind. We who are the children of light can not do less in our effort to scatter the truth that makes men free. We must make use of every channel at our disposal.

Therefore, the promotion, of "The King's Highway" is a matter we should all take most seriously. Our church paper can carry the message of full salvation to numerous places that we are not able to go. It can be a regular witness to those we'd like to see won to Christ. It can sow seeds of truth to the casual reader in libraries, waiting rooms and institutions. It will perform an inspiring and challenging ministry in our own homes.

Because of the faithful labours of the editor and his associates, the quality and ministry of "The King's Highway" is such that it deserves an expanded circulation. One way to accomplish this is for every subscriber to renew AND give a gift subscription. Coupled with this, let every pastor and every Reformed Baptist make a conscientious effort to support the "January subscription Campaign" and enlist new subscribers. Rev. Stillman Cameron provided excellent leadership as chairman of our campaign last year and the response was good. I'm sure he will be as faithful in his responsibility this year and the response can be better — it will be with the co-operation of each one.

Pastors! . . . when the posters and material for the campaign reach you, make full use of them!

Laity! . . . when confronted with the challenge, let's go all out to put this year's campaign over the top!

H. R. Ingersoll.

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We know what we ought to do with Jesus Christ. We ought to crown Him King in our lives, in our home, in all that we are and do. It is the place of supremacy that belongs to Him who loved us and gave himself for us.—Wm. T. McElroy.

The editors of The King's Highway wish to extend to all readers cordial Christmas greetings and all good wishes for the New Year.