

The King's Highway

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No. 1

MY IMPRESSIONS OF EVANGELICAL HOLINESS BIBLE SCHOOL

by Rev. K. E. Gorman

In order to write my personal impressions regarding our Bible School at Altona Station, I would like to use a figure of speech known as personification, giving to this Institution of ours the characteristics of a human personality.

Unknown to me are the details of planning and the preparing for the addition of this newest member of our African Church Family. However, he was born in February, 1955, and made the responsibility of Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Morgan, Louwsburg. It would be difficult to find more beautiful natural surroundings than were to be found in that rugged area of Northern Natal, but the Political Climate, and Financial Diet did not favor rapid growth and development there, so after three years he was moved to his present home.

It can be said of E. H. B. S., as it was of the boy Jesus, that "... the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon Him".

The last four years have witnessed a remarkable change in the appearance of the Bible School, and the entire Altona Station. Under the capable leadership of Rev. and Mrs. Glendon Kierstead, and a dedicated African staff, several new buildings have been added, others repaired, and some completely demolished.

The increasing student body, in addition to creating the need for more and better facilities, has made it necessary to introduce new subjects, revise and correct the established Courses, and broaden the Schools Ministry in many ways.

It is impossible to properly evaluate the contribution that this Bible School has made, not only to the work of our Church, but to the work of God and other Denominations as well. Perhaps it would enlighten many people if they realized that at one time, the best educated Native Preacher we had was a man who had the equivalent of Grade 4, with no formal Bible Study. The situation is different today, and while there are still some who need to be taught the elementary subjects of secular education, the greatest burden is to impart a good knowledge of the Word of God, and how to preach it!

Having attended at least part of the Closing Exercises for the last 4 years, and observed the quality of the Graduates, their zeal for the word of God, and their personal Devotion to the Saviour, I can whole-heartedly endorse this part of our Missionary Program and urge that greater Prayer and Financial Support be given. The White Missionary is still very much needed in the African Church, but it has been proven conclusively that a trained NATIONAL MINISTRY is VITAL to the SUCCESS of the Great COMMISSION.

Our "boy" of only 7 years is doing well. The next 5 years may be the most important in the History of this Dark Continent. Let us Pray and Work together that it

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VANISHED POWER

B. H. Pearson

The tragedy of vanished power is the tragedy of living on a memory.

"And the Lord shall judge His people, and repent Himself for His servants when He seeth that their power is gone." (Deut. 32:36).

We are familiar with God's gift of power to His people. "Thine enemies that rise up against thee . . . shall come out against thee one way and flee before thee seven ways" (Deut. 28:7). "There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life" (Josh. 1:5). "Be thou strong and very courageous" (Josh. 1:7). "Behold I give unto thee power to tread on serpents and scorpions over all the power of the enemy" (Luke 10:19). "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you" (Acts 1:8). From Joshua's conquest to Jehovah's victorious armies of the apocalypse, power is given unto God's people.

But with what amazement we read that God will judge us if we have no power, or if our power "is gone." At first sight, nothing could seem more unfair than to judge a person for his weakness. It would seem that weakness and lack of power would appeal to sentiment and sympathy, but how much more astonished are we when we learn that a Christian's spiritual weakness is self-imposed. Power is available to faith. One is responsible before God for what he might be if utterly yielded to God.

God puts no premium on weakness. Weakness is not humility. It is sin. God judges us, not for what we are, but for what we might be. His perfect will, His mighty power, His abundant grace could be made perfect in our weakness, if we would only "trust and obey."

The tragedy of vanished power is not alone weakness. The tragedy of vanished power, in addition to weakness, is the withdrawal of the PRESENCE, the stilling of the VOICE, except it be to "judge" us.

"Couldst thou in visions see

The man God desires of thee,

Thou never more couldst be

The man thou art."

But such a condition need not continue another hour. Help is available. His power can be yours once more.

Is your power gone? Quick! There is not a moment to waste. Before the Lord shall judge thee, run to the secret closet of prayer and begin living once more in the Word of God. Take hold of the Lord from whence thy strength is drawn. Recover the vanished power. Go from "strength to strength," from "glory to glory." "This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord."

It is a command. We can, we must obey, "Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might". (Ephesians 6:10).

may be said of E. H. B. S. as it was said of Jesus at the age of 12 years, "... 'he' increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man".