

The King's Highway

Rev. L. K. Mullen, Nov. 62

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— Our Pastors Speak —



COUNSEL FROM CORINTHIANS

The Church — Its True Calling

by Rev. N. E. Trafton*

The Church at Corinth could well be called the problem church of the New Testament. Because Paul writes to correct abuses and inconsistencies among them, he sets forth in forcible style the true calling of the Church.

The Present Program of the Church is clearly defined in these words: "Unto the Church of God which is at Corinth". Today we would hesitate to call such a Church the Church of God. Immediately we would cross it off as an illegitimate child, a diseased plant or a withered branch. Divisions, contentions, immorality, lawsuits and carnal attitudes flourish without restraint, yet Paul despairs not of the outcome. Spending a period of time among them, he gave a spiritual leadership and an uncompromising ministry to strengthen their witness in a corrupt and decaying society. They were still the Church of God in Corinth, and he was determined that they should fulfill their task with distinction.

Their Spiritual Position is definitely stated in the same opening salutation: "To them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus". Unless we are clear in our interpretation of the term "sanctified" in this instance, we should be in danger of theological confusion. Here the word bears the thought of being set apart for holy uses, rather than that which has been made holy. This is the basic truth from which Paul draws his thunder. They must, as the followers of Christ, be separated from all uncleanness, and in harmony with christian principles.

The Spiritual Potential is clearly outlined: "Called to be saints". The term saint has been given such an unearthly atmosphere, or held up in ridicule, that many people shy away from the term. The Apostle is interested in living saints and makes their development the true calling of the Church.

The expression "saint" suggests holy character, a pre-occupation with spiritual and eternal values. This call precedes all others, and there are evidences, even among us, that this call is not too popular. Just plain, old-fashioned deep spirituality, is becoming a rare jewel. Who would argue the point that this superficial and materialistic age has not left a mark upon our spiritual concepts. Rather, we should admit that our practises are divorced from our precepts in too many instances. There is only one barrier to all phases of worldliness—true and genuine communion with God. Otherwise, regardless of our stated doctrines,

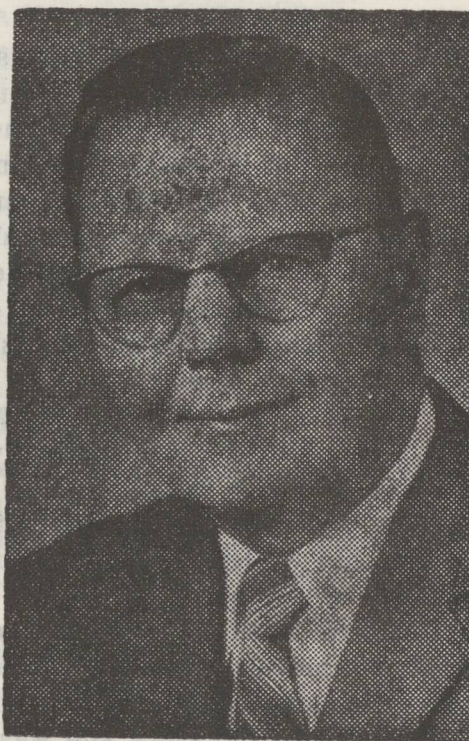
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BEULAH CAMP MEETING

BROWN'S FLATS, N. B.

July 6-15, 1962

EVANGELIST



Dr. H. K. Sheets

Dr. H. K. Sheets, General Superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, will serve as Beulah Camp Evangelist for 1962. Dr. Sheets comes to us with wide experience in Christian service, both within his own church and in a dozen or more other denominations. He has been an ordained minister and leader of his church for thirty-five years. Assignments have taken him around the world, in particular, Japan, Korea, and Australia.

Having ministered to our church in 1960 as guest speaker to Ministers' Conference and Denominational Youth Rally, we consider Dr. Sheets no stranger and we welcome him among us again.

Assisting with music at Beulah will be Mr. and Mrs. Howard Baker, Brampton, Ontario. The Bakers are singers and musicians, and will be making their first visit to Beulah.

Beulah Camp, having been held at Brown's Flats, N. B. every year since 1894, offers to our people the very finest in spiritual worship and Christian fellowship.

Dates for Beulah Youth Camp are July 20-29. Rev. N. E. Trafton will serve as evangelist and Bible teacher.