



The Young Highway

39 Mountain Rd. Saint John, N.B.

"Let No Man Despise Thy Youth, But Be Thou An Example..."

THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS

by E. A. Ferguson

In the twenty-ninth Psalm, and the second verse, we have these words: "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

In this majestic Psalm is celebrated the mighty strength of Jehovah, and His great power is exemplified by an Oriental storm. His mighty thunder-peals which shake the everlasting hills, shiver the great cedars of Lebanon and cause them to skip like a calf; His voice that shakes the wilderness, yea, His powerful voice "full of majesty," are but His trumpet-calls to the universe, summoning angels and men to worship the Lord "in the beauty of holiness."

While the services in the ancient temple were beautiful beyond measure, yet they were only typical of Gospel times and that beauty of inward purity, so precious in the eyes of the Lord. In our worship of heart holiness there are no flashing sunbeams reflecting burnished gold; cedars do not cast their fragrance; no priests in festal attire, nor clouds of incense filling the air. Notwithstanding, in the fuller sense of the term, we have a greater revelation of God's glory and more abundant influences of the Spirit — we behold a beauty that far surpasses the beauty of the ancient Church, that is, the beauty of the Lord; yea, "THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS!"

Among all the Scriptures most used by the Holy Spirit to make holiness attractive to men, there is none more in accord with our tenderest and noblest feelings (for nothing so gratifies and fills and hallows the soul of man) than BEAUTY.

Ideas of beauty are the noblest that can be presented to the human mind; and it would seem that our Heavenly Father intended that we should be constantly under their influence, for beauty is an all-prevailing presence in the universal cosmos that surrounds us everywhere.

Let us ask the questions: First, "What is beauty?" Second, "What is the beauty of holiness?"

What is beauty? Who can define it?

It may be called the assemblage of graces or qualities that delights the aesthetic faculty; that which pleases the mind, eye, or moral sense, etc. Aesthetic is a love of the beautiful in nature, art, literature and life, etc. But when we turn from the beautiful in nature and the fanciful and sometimes false, we find in the spiritual realm the true aestheticism that belongs to the noblest attributes of the soul. God has made the beautiful world around us and has given us a taste for it, and He has endowed us with the faculty of that sensibility of beauty, by the exercise of which we partake of the most refined delights. To the person of true culture, beauty is as essential to the soul as sunshine is to the flower.

THERE IS A MATERIAL BEAUTY

The visible creation that surrounds us ministers to our sense of beauty. All men are impressed with the beauty of the world. "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His handiwork." The heavens above and the earth beneath, with their gorgeous array of pomp and purple and gold; the sunset, the twilight behind the purple hills, the sombre beauty of the jeweled night, the blazing galaxy of myriad stars, the scarlet arch of dawn, the dew of the grass, the flash and

MARRIED COUPLES RETREAT

"This is the most wonderful event I have ever attended," was the comment of many of the thirty couples who attended this year's Married Couples Retreat at Beulah Camp, August 24-25, 1963.

Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Mullen gave us wonderful messages which were practical and most helpful. These messages centered around "Making Decisions", "Christian Maturity", "The Home" and "Controlled Parenthood".

Sunday afternoon Dr. and Mrs. Mullen met with the husbands and wives separately. Their talks and discussions which followed were personal and helpful to husbands and wives in learning to understand each other. In addition to the moral and spiritual benefits, there was a great deal of social enjoyment at the retreat which made it possible for the young couples to enjoy a corn-boil Saturday night in the dining hall.

Although the retreat has an emphasis quite different from Beulah Camp, or the Youth Rally, there was a real sense of the presence of God in every service.

—Merle E. Smith

glint of the stream, the tints of the flowers, the commingled sunlight on summer foliage and graceful field, the shining sea, and the gigantic mountains—all overflow with beauty. The divine Artist has spread out on the earth and sea and sky the grandest display of colors and grace of motion, with fair folding of beautiful lines, that divine imagery could invent. How the landscape overflows with beauty EVERYWHERE?

What lines of grace are seen in the delicate folds of the clouds! Break a pebble and you find a sparkling crystal in it. Sad, indeed, that persons having eyes yet see not.

We once read somewhere that in one of the galleries of Florence is a little octagonal room, which is the inner sanctuary, "the holy of holies" of art, filled with the masterpieces of sculpture, and pictures which haunt the memory with their loveliness. Suppose one were to live in a room like that and never cast an eye on those miracles of art. Yet how many live in this beautiful world with its oriel windows, its spacious walls lined with the most exquisite pictures, its air thrilling with the most delicious music, and every nook and corner filled with shining forms, and yet see not and feel not the beauty around them.

THERE IS AN INTELLECTUAL BEAUTY

The idea of Plato was that the mind only is beautiful. The eye, the most kindly endowment among the senses, conveys only impressions. The sense simply stares at nature. It is the mind that discerns the beauty. It feels itself surrounded with beauty, and seeks to embody it in all kinds of new forms. In fact, the creation of beauty is art. We see the operation of mind upon the body in the fine cutting and chiselling of the features. The fairest face is utterly spoiled by the absence of mind, in the vacant lips, and the deadened stare, and the insipid brow; while culture gives a sparkle to the eye, and a fine moulding to the brow, and impresses a new fairness upon the features, until the forehead outshines the coronet that may be placed on the head above it.

—Holiness Echoes