

THE MORAL AND SPIRITUAL BEAUTY OF HOLINESS

by E. A. Furguson

(Continued from last issue)

5. It is the beauty of activity.

Holiness is no mere luxury. It does not sit down and rock itself to sleep, nor sing itself away into everlasting bliss. It does not run off and hide itself in solitary confinement where the winds cannot blow upon it, nor the rain find it, neither the sun shine on it, nor the snow wreathe its beautiful brow; but it is most practical, most bracing, most active. The faith that purifies the heart is also a faith that works by love. Faith is a bride, young and beautiful; daughter of the skies. Her face, clear as the day, her garments, radiant as the light; and by her side stands one whose name is Action, a sinewy athlete with valor in his eye, and cunning in his fingers, and strength in his right arm. They are joined in wedlock, both in love and to obey, and "What God hath joined together, let NO man put asunder."

You know the legend in which three fair ones were disputing as to which had the most lovely hand. One sat by a stream, and dipped her hand into the water and held it up; another plucked strawberries until her fingers were pink; a third gathered violets till her hands were fragrant. An old woman passing by, asked a gift for the poor. All three denied her, but another maid, who stood near-her hand unwashed in the stream, unstained with fruit, unadorned with flowers-gave her a little gift. They asked the old woman to settle the dispute, and lifted up before her their beautiful hands. "Beautiful, indeed," she said, "but not her hand that is washed in the brook, nor the hand that is tipped with red, nor the hand that is garlanded with fragrant flowers; the hand that gives to the poor, that is MOST beautiful:" and as she spake her wrinkles fled, her staff was thrown aside, and she stood before them an angel from Heaven, with authority to decide. That decision stands the test of all time.

Kindred to this legend, is that of the Quest of the Holy Grail, the cup from which the Savior drank at the Last Supper. The brave Knight of the Round Table traveled over the mountains and across the desert, in search of this mysterious Grail, until, weary and disappointed, he was returning to Arthur's hall, when, at the gate of Camelot, he saw a poor man struggling in the last agonies of death. Moved with compassion, he dismounted and sought a cup of water and raised it to his lips— when, lo! the cup glowed and flamed as with the sapphire of the new Jerusalem. He had found the Holy Grail while doing Christ's work.

It is objected that the fully saved are no better than

communion with God, a constant inward triumph; it is a life, and the most ardent lover of Jesus will be the most earnest worker for Him. A man that lives so that men do not know that he is holy, is not holy.

6. It is the beauty of Completeness.

Is not sound, full, complete life, a thing of beauty? Why should any dislike it? It is our spiritual manhood. It is the resplendent constellation of any sparkling virtue. It is the blended fragrance of any flower of grace. It is the richness of complete harmony. The performer may sweep the keys of the instrument and though each key has a different pitch in tone, yet there is much beautiful harmony. So it is when God sweeps the harpstrings of the soul perfected in holiness. The deep thunder of the bass, the blending of the alto and the tenor, the exquisite soprano all unite in the majestic harmony of heaven and that holiness without which no man shall see God. It is the fruit of the Spirit in their most mellow stage.

7. Finally, it is the beauty of Christlikeness. God says "be ye holy, as I am holy," And God in Christ says, "Follow me." It is "putting on the Lord Jesus Christ." It is having "the mind that was in Christ Jesus." And how great in His beauty! He is altogether lovely!" The beauty of flowers is the crowning glory of the material world. He is the Rose of Sharon, and the Lily of the Valley, that has displayed His beauty, and loaded the centuries with His perfume. His personal character was without blemish; the law of kindness dwelt upon His tongue. There was no guile in His mouth. He was holy and harmless— undefiled. This is the image of the heavenly, we are to copy.

Holiness Echoes

NOTICE

PLEASE SEND MATERIAL FOR THE YOUTH PAGE TO THE EDITOR'S NEW ADDRESS: 39 Mountain Road, Saint John, N. B.

REPORT FROM MARYSVILLE

The slate of officers for the Marysville Young Peoples Society were elected at the termination of the church year. They are as follows:

President — Douglas MacCallum Vice-President — Bill Moore Secretary-Treasurer — Marjorie Banks Self Denial Treasurer — Maureen Doherty

other Christians. Every justified believer is called to live outwardly a holy life, but the vital difference is inward; the hidden life being steadier, purer, deeper; the strong defences of each besetting sin are broken down, the thoughts that direct the affections are chaste and pure. Here, in the heart experiences, they are better, and yet in the life around, they are to show forth those fruits of righteousness which are by faith in Christ Jesus, to the glory and power of God. Holiness is not set on a pedestal, like a piece of elegant statuary; not merely a happy experience—an uninterrupted, rapturous

The King's Highway

Highway Reporter — Joyce Moore

In early summer, pledges were made to the sum of \$131.00 monthly. This is above the tithe, and the amount pledged is continuing to grow. This money is to be invested in mission projects.

The Fall programs so far have been interesting and inspiring.

We are trusting God for a great year that our group may grow spiritually and numerically.

> Highway Reporter, Joyce Moore.

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