

THE BLESSING

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after that "happy day" when Jesus washed his sins away, and when he had declared, "I felt my heart strangely warmed, and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, and freed me from the law of sin and death."

Romans 7 may or may not depict Paul's life as a born-again believer, following the Damascus road. Even holiness theologians have not yet fully made up their mind on that point. But whether it depicts Paul as a legalist or a born-again believer, it most certainly **does** illustrate that state of inward warfare that abides within the heart of the born-again, before they know the sanctifying experience. And while Wesley may never have expressed it as "a Romans 7 all of my own," that is what he had. He was "much buffeted with temptation" the night of his conversion. And he had only just arrived home from his brother Charles' lodgings (he had gone there after he left the Aldersgate Street prayer meeting) where he had helped his brother to sing, as a duet, a hymn Charles had written to celebrate his own conversion, three days before (the hymn: "Where shall my wandering soul begin").

On Friday, May 26, he was again in much heaviness because of temptation. The day following, he realized that his own prayerlessness explained his joylessness. One week later he said he had definitely grieved the Holy Spirit by his lack of prayer. His real purpose in going to Moravia was to find spiritual help for himself.

His brother Samuel wrote to him about this time, asking him what he considered it meant being a Christian. He wrote back from Moravia, and told him in not so many words that a Christian was one who believed in Christ, "so that sin hath no more dominion over him." He was most definite in stating that he was not a Christian in that sense of the word until the experience of May 24.

But, he told Samuel, he lacked the witness of the Spirit.

He returned to England during September, and on the first Sunday evening at home said he was "troubled" and "doubtful" of his own spiritual state.

He did quite a bit of self-analysis during October, and said he had the marks of a new creature.

He withdrew that statement, writing in December 16, "I feel it not now"; "There is in me still the old heart of stone." "There is in me still," he wrote again, "the carnal heart." Yet again: "My eye is not single." He said he felt something of Christ and something of earth. Real rock bottom he had touched January 4, 1739. "I am not a Christian now," he declared.

Now he never denied his Aldersgate heart-warming experience. He received there and then a full sense of the forgiveness of sins. Now he spoke also of a hankering love for the world, the lack of peace, the lack of the joy of the Holy Spirit. Something happened at Aldersgate. And something else happened afterwards.

Bishop Marston says we are unable to pinpoint the specific time and the circumstantial details that marked his "second deliverance," but maintains it happened within a few months of his May 24 experience, and subsequent to the tragic lament of January 4, 1739.

He is of the conviction that it happened—really happened—between then and the occasion when Wesley received Whitefield's call to come to Bristol. Somehow or other it is a new John Wesley who arises from that Bristol incident when he threw to the four winds all the pride and prejudice he had had until then, and "consented to be more vile" by proclaiming the message of grace to the open-air masses there. The experience of "instantaneous sanctification," the "anointing with the Holy Spirit," equipped him for the task that was to occupy his time henceforth till his dying hour. The Lord Jesus told His first disciples to "tarry" until they had received the

DEATHS

Funeral services were held at Bristol, N. B., on April 15, for David Roland Schriver of Toronto. He was the oldest son of Roland Schriver of Bristol.

He is survived by his widow, the former Margaret Anderson of Argyle, his parents Mr. and Mrs. Roland Schriver, one brother Douglas and a grandmother, Mrs. Edith Duplissey.

The funeral services were conducted by Rev. L. W. Corey, assisted by Rev. Phillip Giberson, with prayers at the home followed by service at the Free Baptist Church, Bristol.

Interment was in the adjoining cemetery.

Rev. L. W. Corey

Mr. Henry A. O. Olsen passed away suddenly March 31, 1964. The funeral was conducted from the McAdam Funeral Home, Fredericton, April 2nd, by Rev. M. W. Bagley. To the wife and friends we pray the comfort of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev. M. W. Bagley

The funeral service was held for Burrell Kimball at the Reformed Baptist Church Ft. Fairfield, Me., on April 21, conducted by Rev. A. L. Stairs. Mr. Kimball was a licensed preacher with our Denomination for many years. There were two ordained men present that were converted under his ministry. Seven other Preachers were also present.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. B. F. Kimball, and two daughters, Mrs. L. Gardener and Mrs. W. Seymore. To the sorrowing ones we extend our sincere sympathy.

Rev. A. L. Stairs

NOTICE

All Treasurers are requested to have their books in the hands of the Alliance Auditor, H. K. Ingersoll, 458 Rothesay Ave., Saint John, N. B. by June 15, 1964.

Your co-operation in this matter is important and will be appreciated.

H. R. I.

NOTICE

Churches requesting the ordination or licensing of any ministerial candidates are asked to have their request in writing in the hands of the Secretary of the Ministerial Association, Rev. K. L. Gorveatte, Monticello, Maine, by June 15, 1964.

The Examining Committee will sit at 2:30 P.M. on Tuesday, June 30, 1964 at Beulah Camp Grounds when candidates for ordination and license will be interviewed.

H. R. I.

NOTICE

The seventy-sixth Annual Session of the Reformed Baptist Alliance will convene at Beulah Camp, Brown's Flat, N. B., July 1, 1964. The first meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. and the first business session at 2:00 p.m. Each Church affiliated with the Alliance is entitled to send two delegates and each Missionary Society one delegate.

L. K. Mullen

Alliance Secretary

WEDDING

Holman-Ellis: On May 9, at the Port Maitland Reformed Baptist Church, Cyril Alexander Holman of Sheet Harbour, N. S., and Nancy Ann Ellis of Port Maitland, N. S. were united in marriage by Rev. Jack W. Dow.

anointing of the Spirit. "Ye shall receive power," He said, "when the Holy Spirit is come upon you, and ye shall be my witnesses." And Wesley was just that!

The Free Methodist

The King's Highway