

Problem of Worldliness

This is the "glorious liberty of the children of God" — not simply a way of behaving in church, but a way of living one's whole life in the world. When I have appropriated into my life the privileges of the New Covenant, I shall have solved the problem discussed in last month's article. I shall be able to live in the world without being worldly. I shall have the principle of unworldliness established in my heart.

Problem of Church Standards

The problem of conforming to my church's standards will be solved, too. For the pattern of all church standards, imprinted in my heart, will be reflected as my natural way of life. And yet there are Christians like the Galatians who will try to approach the New Covenant life by way of rigid laws — who trust in an exterior righteousness. I suspect that it is because it is much easier to stop watching TV than it is to die to self. It is much easier to conform to a standard than it is to conform to a life.

Holy Spirit is Administrator

These New Covenant privileges were purchased by Jesus' death. They must be appropriated by our death to self. As Ezekiel (36: 27) and Jesus (John 17) show us, God's Holy Spirit is the administrator of the New Covenant life. Ezekiel makes the path of liberty clear: "I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them". It is one of several biblical paradoxes that we cannot enjoy freedom until we have surrendered to the Holy Spirit. Those Christians who do not enjoy Christian liberty, who are subject to worldliness, who have only a rigid negative righteousness, need to give the Holy Spirit free rein in their lives. In the spirit of Romans 12: 1, such Christians need a death in their lives.

Word of Caution

We must of course hold our Christian liberty in love, not in arrogance. I Cor. 8: 9, Gal 5: 13, and I Peter 2: 16 provide helpful notes of caution along this line. I firmly believe, however, that it is every believer's duty to press on into this glorious liberty — not to remain a spiritual weakling inhibiting the liberty of others. De you not think it gives the Spirit when we live beneath the privileges which have been provided for us?

Conclusion

This article will have performed its purpose if some readers find a new appreciation for their Christian liberty — if more and more Christians make that surrender which alone brings liberty. I pray that you may indeed "take your liberty in the Lord", and that the phrase may find a warm response in your heart the next time you hear it.

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NEWS FROM MONCTON

Special services were held at Moncton February 13-27. This campaign was "special" in many ways. We began with the purpose of a "Youth Week" emphasis, but from the first service we sensed the leading of the Lord in a more general direction. Very quickly we realized that this was a series of meetings designed to search, humble, and bless the whole church.

The evangelist for the campaign was Rev. N. E. Trafton. His messages were most timely and they were preached under the anointing of the Spirit. I have seldom, if ever, listened to a series of messages in an evangelistic campaign when I have been as deeply impressed with the plain leading of the Holy Spirit to and through the preacher. It was a revelation to pastor and people to listen to sermons that were

so exactly adapted to our local situation that it would seem that someone must be supplying the preacher with information. And Someone was. Such searching truth! And there was an encouraging response. We did not have any "landslide" or "downpour," but we were greatly helped. Brother Trafton was at his best, and that's pretty good! The quality of his ministry was excellent indeed.

We also had wonderful music throughout the campaign. Our Minister of Music, Paul Mullen, and his talented family, were a blessing and inspiration. We also had the privilege of having Dana Miller, the Bethany Quartette, and Miss Carolyn Pocock with us from our Bible College. Brother and Sister Trafton, and our church choir, made valuable contributions to the music of the services. In all, it was wonderful indeed, Gospel music beautifully rendered and richly blessed of God.

We praise the Lord for this time of spiritual quickening and refreshing. We look to the future with hope and expectation, believing that "a great door and effectual is opened unto us . . ."

"Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the Word of God may have free course . . ."

Yours in Christian fellowship,
B. C. Cochrane.

A VALUABLE VACATION

Just about a year ago I answered an advertisement in "Christianity Today". The ad told about a narcotic seminar to be held during the summer at Chautauqua, N. Y., and that some scholarships were available.

It was not long before I received word from the Canadian Woman's Christian Temperance Union that they were recommending to the New Brunswick branch that they provide a scholarship. The New Brunswick branch not only provided a scholarship to cover the basic costs of the course but they also recommended to the N. B. Temperance Federation that they provide a grant to assist with the travelling expense. This they did. For the generosity of these two organizations I am deeply grateful.

The seminar was held on the grounds of the famous Chautauqua Institute, which carries on an intensive program in religion, culture and recreation. Besides attending the regular class sessions I was privileged to attend the daily chapel services and Sunday worship in their great amphitheatre. On Sunday there were almost seven thousand there to hear the deep preaching of Dr. Elton Trueblood.

The actual course dealt with methods and materials for teaching the effects of alcohol, tobacco and other narcotics on the human body. The course was of two weeks duration and was under the capable direction of Miss Helen M. Allen, National Consultant, W.C.T.U. bureau of Narcotics. Miss Allen not only is well trained but also is possessed with a strong conviction that every boy and girl in North America has the right to be taught the facts relating to the harmful effects of alcohol, tobacco and dope, by a well trained person who is not being influenced by a multi-billion dollar business.

In a day when many educators are attempting to justify the use of alcohol, tobacco and dope, it was most heartening to find one who unapologetically proclaims the principles of temperance as the term is defined by the Funk & Waganall's Collegiate dictionary "specifically, the principle and practice of total abstinence from intoxicants."

The coupling of the scientific evidence, of the harmful effects to the human body by the use of narcotics; and the scriptural injunctions to sobriety, provide a strong and logical ground for the teaching of voluntary total abstinence.

It has been my privilege to speak to a number of groups, especially youth groups, during the fall and winter months and I count it a real joy to share some of the many facts which were gleaned during last summer's valuable vacation.

M. W. Bagley.

OBITUARY

The funeral service of Christopher Todd Peterson, 5 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Peterson, was held in the Marysville Reformed Baptist Church, Saturday, Jan. 8, 1966.

The service was largely attended. The large number of beautiful floral tributes were greatly appreciated. Chris was loved by many and was a fine little boy.

Rev. G. R. Symonds conducted the service, assisted by Rev. M. W. Bagley. The Gospel-aires sang three numbers. Interment was in the Reformed Baptist Cemetery, Marysville.

The death of Mamie F. Benson, widow of the late G. Calvin Benson, occurred suddenly on Wednesday, Jan. 12, in the St. John General Hospital. Born at Wood Island, N.B. on May 26, 1884 she was the daughter of the late Reuben and Sarah Wilcox. She was a resident of Seal Cove, Grand Manan where she moved with her husband following their marriage in Lubec, Maine.

While enroute to Grand Manan the body rested in the St. George Funeral Home where on Thursday, a brief service was held under the direction of Rev. A. D. Cann, pastor of the Reformed Baptist Church of Black's Harbour. Many relatives and friends in the area attended. Regular funeral services were held on Jan. 14, in the Reformed Baptist Church in Seal Cove, where she had been a faithful charter member, and was conducted by the pastor Rev. F. A. Watson.

The Royalton Church has lost its oldest member in the passing of Bro. William T. Burt. He left a clear testimony of God's saving power. The funeral was held at the Royalton Church conducted by the writer, assisted by Rev. Burnett. He is survived by his wife, two sons and one daughter. We extend our sympathy to the family.

H. M. Kimball.

Mrs. Preston Kirkbride of Royalton passed away recently after a long illness. She was a faithful and active member of the church for many years and will be greatly missed. The funeral was held from the church and was largely attended. Her pastor was in charge and spoke from the text "She hath done what she could." She leaves her husband, one daughter and two sons. Another son was killed a few weeks before. May God bless those that mourn.

Rev. H. M. Kimball.

Mrs. Eliza Davis a member of the Old Town Reformed Baptist Church, passed away on Sunday, January 23rd.

Funeral Service was from the church on Wednesday, Jan. 26th, conducted by the Pastor, Rev. W. L. Fernley.

To the sorrowing ones we tender our sincere Christian Sympathy.

Bro. J. Otis Zwicker 66 went to be with the Lord on Dec. 27, 1965 in the St. John Hospital. Mr. Zwicker was a victim of a car accident on Grand Manan. He owned and operated the Old Orchard Lodge at North Head and was well known both on and off the Island.

The funeral service was held at the home in North Head with Rev. S. F. Main officiating, assisted by Rev. M. V. Durling. Interment was at the family lot in North Head.

To the sorrowing ones we extend our Christian love.