

The brave pioneers of faith launching their souls out into the void may often seem to have lost themselves in the dark—their knowledge “but a torch of smoking pine, that lights the pathway but one step ahead” yet their faces were set in the right direction and their steadfast lives have done not a little to make for us a pathway, through doubts and fears, right on to the very feet of God.

Many religions have described themselves as “the Way,” “the Path,” “the Noble Eightfold Way,” and the like. But the religion which gathers up in a-sured fulfilment the dreams of all faith before it, the religion which is as superior to all others as belief in a Person is superior to belief in a System, is the religion of Him who calls Himself “The Way.” The System leaves our weary footsteps still on earth; the Person, Jesus Very God and Very Man, brings down the heavenly way as a ladder of sunbeams and makes it touch at our very feet.

It is to Him then the wayfarer looks. “I am the Way,” He said to Philip, and He meant that, beginning in the cold, dark region of human life alienated from God by sin He could take the human soul along a course of ever-increasing fellowship with God, through all stages of apprehension and experience and assimilation, until it found its rest in the bosom of God.

From that time the conditions of human life have fundamentally changed. The Way of the Spiritual life is no longer speculative but practical. For those who will, the way to the Highest has been made clear. The wayfarer, however simple, need not err. The direction of the road has been determined for all time. It is guarded by the Son of Man all along the route. It is made smooth by the example of His life, bright with His love. We need no longer to weary as we journey, but may go on “from strength to strength” until we appear before God in Zion.

Nevertheless, since each one of us is a part of the Body of Christ, a sharer through grace in His work, each one must necessarily be making in his own degree a path, a way for himself and for others in the journey of life.

As God Himself was the way by which captive Israel returned into its own land, yet, notwithstanding, He appealed to all the people, “Cast up a highway.” So Christ, who is “the true and living way” calls upon each of us to make His life a way ever moving onward toward the goal of the eternal purpose. Let us dwell upon this thought for a while.

First, let us think of the importance of our life being a Way, for our sake. By this we mean, let us resolve that life shall not be stagnant, stullified, ending in the night of chaos, but that it shall be progressive, purposeful, ever advancing out of narrowness into largeness, out of slavery and its limitations into freedom.