



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

THE LORD'S ASSEMBLY

If you'll come with an open mind,
You'll see we have no ax to grind;
For all we have in mind to do
Is save our souls, and we hope you.
By preaching and doing what we find
In the Bible, God's book divine.

If you think you hear us proclaim
What is not in the Saviour's name;
You should demand divine authority:
God's word must have priority.
We'll give you the scripture to authorize,
Or take it back and apologize.



Now this is our motto, rule and guide;
With God's word we are satisfied.
We extend to all a welcome sweet,
To come and sit at the Master's feet;
To learn His word and will and way
And be well-pleasing on the judgment day.

James P. Needham

2-16-76

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Sell your cloak, buy a sword

?????????????????
?
? Please explain Lk. 22:36,51, so ?
? I might better understand those ?
? two verses. IN. ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

First, let us read the verses under consideration, beginning with Lk. 22:35:

And he said unto them, When I sent you forth without purse, and wallet, and shoes, lacked ye anything? And they said, Nothing. And he said unto them, But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise a wallet; and he that hath none, let him sell his cloak, and buy a sword. For I say unto you, that this which is written must be fulfilled in me, And he was reckoned with the transgressors: for that which concerneth me hath fulfillment. And they said, Lord, behold here are two swords. And he said unto them, It is enough (35-38).

But Jesus answered and said, Suffer ye them thus far. And he touched his ear, and healed him (v. 51).

While the inquirer does not say so, I

am sure he is concerned about the Lord's having advised the disciples to "buy a sword." This is a question of long standing. Is it consistent with the non-violent, passive teaching of Jesus in other places?

I think the answer is a definite YES. The context will bear this out. After telling them to sell their cloak and buy a sword, they inform him they have two, and he says, "It is enough." Had he intended that they should arm themselves for violent conflict, two would hardly have been enough. Also, when the mob came to the garden to arrest him, Peter used his sword and cut off the ear of Malcus which Jesus instantly healed (v. 51). Had Jesus intended them to engage in carnal combat he certainly would not have healed the only wound they inflicted!

So, why the command to buy a sword? It is my conviction that this is a metaphorical expression. He told them of the easy time they had when he sent them on the limited commission without script, purse or shoes. He is now about to send them on a world-wide commission where they would be met with cruel persecution. "Buy a sword" is an expression indicating the nature of their reception as contrasted with how they were treated on the limited commission. If this be not the case, why would he say two is enough among 12 apostles? Notice the text says, "they (the 12) said, Lord, behold, here are two swords..."

It appears that they were taking his instruction about swords literally. They thus referred to two literal swords they already had. Jesus said, "It is enough," and went immediately into the garden to pray where he was then arrested.

jpn

NEWS...

about us 'n things

VOLUME VI, NUMBER 1

Yes, this is volume VI, number 1. We thus begin our 6 year of publication.

You will note the absence of the memory verse section from this issue. I originally planned to run this just one year. We will now use this place for something else. Variety is the spice of life. We have received comments from all parts of the country from persons who have vigorously participated in the memory program.

CHANGE IN PERSONAL WORK PROGRAM

At the last business meeting it was decided to change the personal work program. It will now be on Monday night instead of following the Wednesday night service. Rather than assign visitation cards, we will both assign cards and make visits on Monday evenings. Of course, visits may be made at other times, if this is more convenient. Why not get involved in this worthwhile activity?

EDITOR TO FIRST '76 MEETING

I shall begin my first '76 meeting on Mon. March 1 at Ft. Walton Beach. This will be my first visit there. I have good friends there of long standing. James O. Gabbard is the local preacher. I have known him for "a hundred years." Also, I have known other members there for a long time. I look forward to working with them again.

SICK AND SHUT IN

At this writing bro. MYERS is in Florida Hospital South. He has already spent several days in the hospital, and is expected to be there for several more. He is receiving daily radium treatments in an effort to make him more comfortable. He has endured much suffering of late. Pray for him and his family in this hour of trial...We have so many people sick with flu that I won't even attempt to name them. It was very evident at assemblies last Lord's day. We hope all will be better soon.

LYNN ROBINSON MISSED

Bro. Lynn ROBINSON is in Washington for an extended business trip. We don't know for just how long now, maybe as long as three months. We miss him, and look forward to his return.

OUR NEXT MEETING MARCH 21-27

We urge all members to get ready for our spring meeting, March 21-26, with Bill CAVENDER of Ft. Arthur, Texas. He will do an excellent job, and we should all be present at every possible service.

CHILDREN'S CLASS

We believe good progress is being made in the children's singing class on Sun. evenings at 5:30. The children are learning to sing, and learning something about singing. It is interesting to see how quickly they learn the notes. We would like to see better support from some of our parents, like having their children present on time, and more consistently. Can we count on you, parents? Childhood is the best time to learn these things. Let us not waste our opportunities.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 2-29-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Al Summers
Mike Farrington
O-O.J. Duer
Jack Farrington
USHERS-----Carl Weil, Ronald Carter

SUNDAY PM 2-29-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Al Summers
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Al Summers
O.J. Duer
USHERS-----Carl Weil, Ronald Carter

WEDNESDAY 3-4-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
READ SCRIPTURE-----O.J. Duer
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
INVITATION-----Al Summers

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---March 76

POST PROGRAM-----Steven Kapelka
MONTHLY SINGING-----Robert Gaines
CLOSE BUILDING-----Wayne Gey
IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE C A L L
BROTHER O.J. DUER AT: 644-6209.

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Springs, Florida.

EDITOR: JAMES P. NEEDHAM

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Church of Christ**

600 Palm Springs Drive
Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701
(Metropolitan Orlando)
Phones: 831-3230; 645-0450



JAMES COOPER
5794 BUTLER WARREN RD.
MASON, OHIO 45040

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Morning Bible study 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

BROTHER MYERS HAS GONE HOME

At 1:22 A.M. March 25, 1976, brother Henry Myers changed worlds. He was born June 19, 1903, at Berkely Springs, W. Va. Thus he exceeded his "three-score and ten." On Jan. 27th 1976, he and sister Myer's celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Brother Myers obeyed the gospel at the age of 18 and began preaching a few years thereafter. He continued so to do as opportunity afforded the remainder of his life. He preached in several states: W. Va., Penn., Ohio, Fla., and Ark. Many souls were led to Christ by his untiring efforts. Even during his long illness he never lost sight of his responsibility to share Christ with others, and from his bed influenced persons for

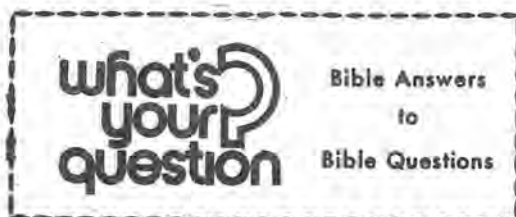
good. It was an inspiration to witness his concern for souls while many well churchmembers ignored them.



His final preaching was done at Umatilla, a few miles west of Altamonte Springs, where he lived for 3 years before returning to Altamonte Springs to spend what proved to be his final days, in the home of his daughter and son-in-law, Paul and Jean McGhee.

He was able to attend worship only a few times at Palm Springs Drive, but his membership and heart were with us. He was constantly concerned about the work, and always hoped to sufficiently recover to preach one last sermon here. We regret that he was never able

Continued on pg. 3



Lord's supper or common meal?

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 ?
 ? Does Acts 20:11 refer to a com- ?
 ? mon meal, or the Lord's supper? ?
 ? Ala. ?
 ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

Acts 20:11 is in the context of the Troas disciples' coming together on the first day of the week to break bread, (Acts 20:7) which references the Lord's supper (1 Cor. 10:16). Between vs. 7 and 11, Eutychus fell from a window and was killed. Paul went down and raised him from the dead, then "came up again" broke bread and ate, then departed.

I believe a common meal is involved in verse 11, since Paul had been up all night and was preparing to depart to Assos (v. 14).

Brethren sometimes try to use this as an example of eating a social meal in the church building. It hardly fits their practice. In the first place, the verse says "When HE (Paul) was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed" (v. 11). The subject of this sentence is PAUL, not the church. It says PAUL ate; it does not say the church ate. So, it is not an example of a church meal at the place of worship.

Those misusing this passage sometimes ask if the church just sat and watched Paul eat? I don't know what they did, neither does anyone else. The text says Paul ate, and that is as far as we dare go with this passage. To say that this was a church meal, is to say something the text doesn't say. I am content to stay with what the Bible says.

Secondly, this was a meal eaten by Paul in preparation for a journey after being up all night doing the work of the Lord, not a social meal eaten in preparation for an evening of fun and frolic. The purpose of this meal differs quite radically from those it is misused to justify!

If this example justifies the kind of social meals brethren sometimes practice today, then it contradicts Paul's teaching in 1 Cor. 11. He found the Corinthian church engaging in social meals at the place of assembly and said, "What? have ye not houses to eat in? or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What? shall I say to you? shall I praise you in this? I praise you not" (1 Cor. 11:22). "And if any man hunger, let him eat at home; that ye come not together unto condemnation" (v. 34) Did Paul at Troas contradict his teaching at Corinth?

I have seen the brethren practice all kinds of mental gymnastics in a vain effort to avoid the force of this vivid passage which directly condemns their much favored social meals in the church building, but all to no avail. After they get through, the passage still says, "What? have ye not HOUSES to eat in..." and "If any man hunger, let him EAT AT HOME..." That, my friend, is simply UNGETOVERABLE! jpn

Continued from pg. 1
to reach this goal.

MONDAY NIGHT VISITATION

Brother Myers was born to humble circumstances, but was blessed with the iron will that characterized much of early America. No challenge was too big for him in the church or in the world. He shunned pomp and circumstance and made his mark in the world in a humble way. Through diligence, good judgment, and dogged honesty, he attained good success in the construction industry in Altamonte Springs. He was a generous man who gave unselfishly of time, energy and money to the cause he loved more than life itself.

My wife and I spent many pleasant hours visiting with him during the last two years. We rejoiced and wept together as he told of hard times and good through which he and sister Frances had passed. He often wept for the lost souls he had been unable to influence for good.

Brother Myers' tenacious character was very obvious in his religion. He was a man of strong conviction, and shrank not from speaking them forthrightly. He could not allow what he considered to be wrong to go unchallenged. This gained for him the highest respect which is manifested in the places where he preached.

He will be greatly missed by the Palm Springs Drive members who concerned themselves with his welfare, but especially by his good wife and family. Beyond this, I think we feel relief that his frail body suffers no more the pain and agony it has undergone for two long years. Over and above this, we rejoice in the strong hope and confidence that he is comforted in "Abraham's bosom." And so we say, farewell, good friend and brother--we hope to meet you there!
jpn

We keep experimenting with a visitation program in an effort to encourage all of us to share the blessings of Christ with others. If you will excuse a quite negative note, we are having very little success. Would it be right to say that some of us are just not interested in the lost! that we don't care if they go to hell? Or, is it that somehow we have failed to realize the impact of those immortal words of the Saviour when he said, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations..."?

How can one who TRULY knows the blessings of salvation, and the glorious hope of heaven be either selfish with the gospel or indifferent toward the salvation of others? I am sure most of us who ignore the visitation program have our excuses, but we should tell them to the Lord. He won't believe them either! They are just the soothing salve we apply to our sore consciences that provides a little temporary relief. They won't justify us in the eyes of God at any time, or in our own eyes for very long.

I fear we are lacking in true conviction. Our faith is weak. We have just enough religious conviction to get us out to the place of worship once in a while, or maybe to all the assemblies, but not enough to realize the truth and consequences of the things we CLAIM to believe. If what we preach and claim to believe are true, then those who teach and believe otherwise are in error and lost. Think of that! All around us thousands of persons are entangled in sin and error, and are doomed for hell. But then, the real problem may be that we really think every person has a right to his own belief, so why bother? Think it over.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 3-7-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Carl Weil
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Clay Garrison
SERMON-----Guest Speaker
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Ralph Autry
Mark DuBose
O-Robert Gaines
Robert Carter
USHERS-----Ronald Carter, Carl Weil

SUNDAY PM 3-7-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Carl Weil
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Frank English
SERMON-----Guest Speaker
LORD'S SUPPER-----Ralph Autry
Ronald Carter
USHERS-----Ronald Carter, Carl Weil

WEDNESDAY 3-10-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Randy Summers
INVITATION-----Robert Gaines

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---March 76

POST PROGRAM-----Steven Kapelka
MONTHLY SINGING-----Robert Gaines
CLOSE BUILDING-----Wayne Gey
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Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

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(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

BACKSLIDERS
BEWARE

A backslider's love is cold;
He has departed the fold;
He has bartered his soul
For a pot of earthly gold.

He thinks he is quite bold,
But when he is getting old
Will have many sorrows untold
With a wasted life to behold.

Efforts to help he doth scold;
He's in perfect control,
But sin is taking its toll;
At the end there's no parole.

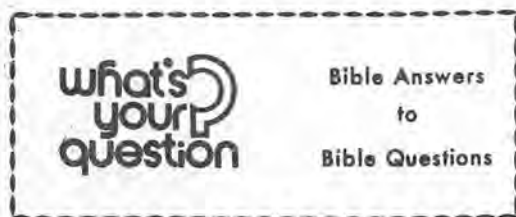
Sinners God won't enfold;
Backsliders He won't cajole;
Their doom is plainly foretold;
Their names are not enrolled.

Backsliders have missed the goal;
Their lives they've failed to mould,
And there will be naught to console
When they claim their grassy knoll.

James P. Needham

2-24-76





Shaking hands with erring brother

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
 ?
 ? Is it scriptural to refuse to
 ? shake hands with a brother who
 ? is in error? In other words, a
 ? brother who I believe to be in
 ? error offers me his hand; can I
 ? refuse to shake it? (The broth-
 ? er who offers his hand makes no
 ? stipulations of endorsement
 ? when he offers his hand). OH
 ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

The basis of this notion is found in Gal. 2:9, where Paul says,

And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship...

Upon this passage is constructed the idea that to shake hands is to extend fellowship. Some brethren have gone so far that they will shake hands with one they believe to be in error, but only with the LEFT hand!!!!

In the first place, it is a monstrous abuse of this passage to say to shake hands is to extend fellowship. The passage does not say "they gave to

me the right hand," but rather "the right hand OF FELLOWSHIP..." There is a vast difference. If simply giving the right hand is extending fellowship, then I automatically extend fellowship to everyone with whom I shake hands.

It is significant that the inquirer states that *"the brother who offers his hand makes no stipulations of endorsement when he offers his hand."* With that being the case, how could shaking his hand possibly be an extending of fellowship?

I would not shake hands with, or do anything else with an erring brother who would take it as endorsement of his error. I would not even speak to him, or offer him a drink of water, if such were understood by him to be my endorsement of his error. The point is, that in such acts the purpose must be either stated or understood for them to constitute endorsement or fellowship. They are not automatically so understood.

Concerning a brother in error, Paul said, *"If any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother"* (2 Thes. 3:14,15).

To the Corinthians, Paul said, *"If any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat"* (1 Cor. 5:11).

These passages would forbid our having regular social intercourse with the erring brother such as companying with him, eating, etc. but they would not forbid shaking hands with him. jpn

PHONE 831-3230

CHURCH OF CHRIST
600 PALM SPRINGS DRIVE
ALTAMONTE SPRINGS, FLA. 32701

PHONE 645-0450

AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR FRIENDS

Dear Friend:

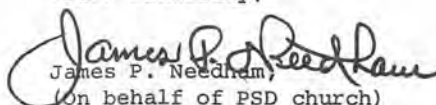


On the dates of March 21-26, 1976, the Palm Springs Drive church of Christ has planned an evangelistic effort designed to teach the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. To accomplish this, we have invited brother Bill Cavender of Port Arthur, Texas to lead us in a series of eight gospel lessons. Brother Cavender is well known for his hard-hitting scriptural preaching. He holds several meetings each year in all parts of the country. He preaches regularly for the Imhoff church of Christ in Port Arthur, Texas, where he has lived for many years. He also edits a bi-monthly, eight-page bulletin which has wide circulation and is very helpful.

We of the Palm Springs Drive church of Christ are very anxious to have you hear this series of gospel sermons. If you have visited us before, you know that we are very informal and friendly. We preach the simple gospel without any fanfare or frills. Our services are simple and uncomplicated. The singing is congregational and unaccompanied by mechanical instruments. We make no pleas for money. We offer no embarrassing propositions designed to apply any pressure to any person. We welcome and solicit all inquiries about anything the preacher says, or anything you witness in our assembly. We are not offended, but rather complimented, by such.

We sincerely hope you will accept our invitation to be present during this special effort. If you would like to attend but are without transportation, please call the numbers on this letter head, and let us help you. We look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely,


James P. Needham,
(on behalf of PSD church)



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 3-14-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Wayne Gey
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Clay Garrison
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O.O.J. Duer
Mike Farrington
O-Frank English
Randy Summers
USHERS-----Carl Weil, Ronald Carter

SUNDAY PM 3-14-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Wayne Gey
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Carl Weil
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O.O.J. Duer
Frank English
USHERS-----Carl Weil, Ronald Carter

WEDNESDAY 3-17-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Jack Farrington
SONG LEADER-----Steven Kapelka
FIRST PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
READ SCRIPTURE-----O.J. Duer
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
INVITATION-----Carl Weil

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(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study..... 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!

Volume VI, Number 4, March 15, 1976



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

GOSPEL MEETING

© Bob West

MARCH 21-27

**PALM SPRINGS DRIVE CHURCH OF CHRIST
600 Palm Springs Dr. Altamonte Springs, Fla. 32701**

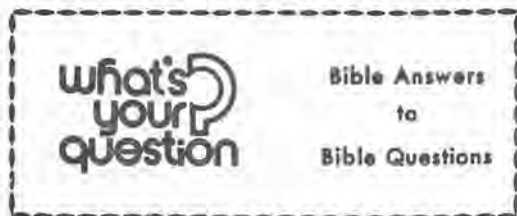
**PREACHING BY
BILL CAVENDER**

PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS

7:30 P.M. WEEK NIGHTS

10:00 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING



LORD'S SUPPER AND PHYSICAL ILLNESS

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
 ?
 ? Does 1 Cor. 11:33 have referen- ?
 ? ce to spiritual o r physical ?
 ? illness? FLA. ?
 ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

In order to get the full impact of the question, let's read verses 29,30:

For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

This is a very controversial question. One will find most commentators believe it means physical illness and death. It is true that the word for sleep (Greek: KOIMAOMAI) is sometimes used of physical death (Mt. 27:52; Jn. 11:11; Acts 13:36; 1 Cor. 15:20, 51; 1 Thess. 4:14) but it is also used of physical sleep (Mt. 28:13; Lk. 22:45; Acts 12:6). Vine affirms it is used of death only of saints (Vol. 1, p. 80).

The word translated "weak" (Greek ASTHENES) sometimes means spiritual weakness (Rom. 14:1,2; 1 Cor. 8:9, etc)

The word for "sickly" (ARRHOSTOS) means to be "not robust or strong"

(Young).

In view of all this information, one must certainly agree that the matter of how these three words are used in 1 Cor. 11:29,30 is subject to interpretation. However we interpret them, it must harmonize with all other Bible teaching as well as with the context of 1 Cor. 11.

With this in mind, and in view of the fact that Jesus taught that physical detriment is not the result of sin (Lk. 13:1-3), I firmly believe that the consequences of perversion of the Lord's supper are SPIRITUAL. I find no concrete evidence in this text, or anywhere that physical affliction and even death are the inevitable and direct result of perverting the supper. I most certainly believe that such neglect and perversion have dire spiritual consequences such as making one spiritually weak, sickly and dull.

If these terms are to be understood physically and literally, would it not logically follow that all dilenquent church members would be physically ill or dead? Yet, this is DEFINITELY not the case. We all know many dilenquent church members who are physically sound and many faithful ones who are physically weak and sickly.

The Lord's supper is a very important part of the Christian's life, and it cannot be neglected or perverted without dire spiritual consequences to the guilty. To me this passage is a strong argument in favor of weekly communion, and against the indifference some church members show toward it. We are very prone to forget. Weekly communion keeps us reminded of Christ's sacrifice. To fail to discern this significant matter is the beginning of spiritual death. jpn

NEWS... about us 'n things

SICK AND SHUT-INS

Sister VICKERS is in Winter Park hospital, having suffered a mild heart attack. She is making good progress and may be home by the time you read this. Inez ULICNY is sick with flu, as have been many others. Some are about recovered.

TORCH, A MONTHLY PERIODICAL

In addition to the teaching this editor does through this weekly bulletin, he also edits and publishes a 24-page monthly periodical called TORCH. It is just another effort to take advantage of a teaching opportunity. Like this bulletin, it goes to all parts of the world. It is supported by the readers on a subscription basis at \$4 per year. Perhaps some of the PSDB readers would also like to receive it. We think you will benefit.

BOUND VOLUME V

In a few days now, we will be shipping bound volume V of the PSDB to those who have reserved them. Others who have not spoken for one, can still do so, however, the number bound is limited. When these are gone there will be no more. Don't be like those who are now trying to obtain earlier volumes. All we have is a very few of #4. All bound volumes are at cost, \$5 each, and you order from me, not the church.

Ft. Walton Beach meeting

The Ft. Walton Beach meeting was a most enjoyable occasion. Exceptional interest prevailed all the way through, and many visitors came from miles around. Some from Alabama, Pensacola and Panama City. The church in FWB is relatively young, but is strong and growing. It has two good elders, and an excellent preacher in James O. Gabbard. It was good to work with this very fine group. One was restored.

Our meeting is here

Our own meeting starts this Sunday morning with bro. Bill CAVENDER. You can hear bro. Cavender three times Sunday, at the Bible study period, then at 11 o'clock and then again at 6:00 PM. You will not want to miss a single service of this meeting. Bro. Cavender is a powerful preacher.

FEEDBACK

We continue to receive wide response to the bulletin, both by mail and by calls and comments to me personally wherever I go. Some continue to express their appreciation by sending financial aid for the bulletin, which is appreciated, but not solicited. Here is a sample or two from our mail:

I like your PSD BULLETIN very much. I think your poetry is so good and the questions and answers are teaching me more of God's word. Thank you very much.

--Okla.

We enjoy the bulletin and believe you are doing some very good teaching through it. May God bless your every effort in His service.

--Tenn.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 3-21-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----James P. Needham
SONG LEADER
FIRST PRAYER-----Al Summers
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
SERMON-----Bill Cavender
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Mike Farrington
Steven Kapelka
O-Clay Garrison
Jack Farrington
USHERS-----Ronald Carter, Carl Weil

SUNDAY PM 3-21-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----James P. Needham
SONG LEADER
FIRST PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
SERMON-----Bill Cavender
LORD'S SUPPER-----Mike Farrington
Clay Garrison
USHERS-----Ronald Carter, Carl Weil

WEDNESDAY 3-24-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----James P. Needham
SONG LEADER
FIRST PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
SERMON-----Bill Cavender
USHERS-----Ronald Carter, Carl Weil

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---April 76
POST PROGRAM-----Randy Summers
MONTHLY SINGING-----Wayne Gey
CLOSE BUILDING-----Ronald Carter
IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL
BROTHER O.J. DUER AT: 644-6209.

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Springs, Florida.

EDITOR: JAMES P. NEEDHAM

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Church of Christ

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Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701
(Metropolitan Orlando)
Phones: 831-3230; 645-0450



JAMES COOPER
5794 BUTLER WARREN RD.
MASON, OHIO 45040

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Morning Bible study..... 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship..... 11:00
Evening worship..... 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study..... 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

A TRIBUTE TO BROTHER HENRY A. MYERS



(EDITOR'S NOTE: This poem and the one found on page three of this issue were written for and read at brother Henry Myers' funeral service. Due to the many requests for copies of them, I have printed them in the bulletin. Extra copies may be had for the asking. While these poems express my own personal knowledge of and love for brother Myers, they should prove inspirational and edifying to each serious reader. As the great poet has well said, "Lives of great men all remind us, we can make our lives sublime, and departing, leave behind us, footprints on the sands of time." jpn

He was a man with a will to win;
To life he gave his best.
He faught the fight for what is right,
And claimed a well-earned rest.

A peaceful night to take his flight;
That was his one request.
To take his leave, he would not grieve,
For this was God's bequest.

That hour he found with his family 'round;
He simply went to sleep.
The end of time was on his mind,
To him it was so sweet.

In his dying hour he was like a flower;
Fading beneath the light.
The final word from him I heard
Was, "everything's alright."

So sleep, my brother, we can go no further,
Your pain and sufferings past.
Your race is run and you have won,
And now you're crowned at last.

James P. Needham
2-27-76



Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

1 Tim. 2:11, 12 and worldly affairs

?? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
?
? Does 1 Tim. 2:11,12 apply out-
side the church and religious
matters? TN ?
?
?? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

These verses read as follows:

Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

In view of the context of the passage, I believe it has reference only to the church and religious matters. For instance, in introducing the subject of woman's behavior, Paul says, "I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting" v.8. Thus the subject under consideration is religious activity. His admonishing men to pray would not be directed to those who are not Christians, thus would be exclusively religious activity.

Since religious activity is under consideration in the context, it would seem that the teaching/learning and the exercise of authority would also be restricted to the church and religious matters.

Also a close reading of 1 Tim. 2,3, will show that Paul is discussing "How thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God" (1 Tim. 3:14).

This interpretation is corroborated by 1 Cor. 14:34,35, where Paul applied this rule to the Corinthian women in the assembly, thus applying it in the church and to religious matters.

If this is not a proper understanding of the passage, then a woman could not be principal of a school, a supervisor in a factory, a nurse in a hospital where she would be in authority over patients or other employees such as orderlies. She couldn't even be a supervisor in a factory that employed only women, if there be one man employed to do the heavy work for the women (for instance, a sewing factory).

If 1 Tim. 2:11,12 are universal in application, then an awful lot of brethren have misunderstood the passage for a long time, and to rectify our understanding of it would create a veritable revolution in the world. Which, of course, is simply a statement of fact and not an argument that we have properly understood it. If we have misunderstood it, then, by all means, we should back up and start over.

At this point, I cannot convince myself that it applies outside the church. I don't say, "Just in the assembly" but in all religious matters pertaining to the organization and work of the church.

This is admittedly a very difficult question, and one with which I have wrestled for many years. I shall continue to study it with an open mind, and recommend the same to all readers,

jpm

HOW I KNEW BROTHER HENRY MYERS

- I knew him,
I knew him as a BROTHER;
I went with him,
I went with him till I could go no further.
- I knew him,
I knew him as a SAINT.
I never hear him,
I never heard him say, "I can't."
- I knew him,
I knew him as a PREACHER.
I knew him,
I knew him as an outreach.
- I knew him,
I knew him, GOOD and PLAIN:
I never knew him,
I never knew him to complain.
- I knew him,
I knew him as a FRIEND.
I knew him,
I knew him to the end.

James P. Needham

2-27-76

NEWS... about us 'n things



We welcome into the membership bro. JIMMY SMITH who placed membership March 10. His address is Quality Inn-North, Room 208, P.O. Box 312, Longwood, Fla. 32750. Phone: Home 862-4000; Office 834-5505...We also welcome the HOWARD MARTIN family: Martha, Gary 12, Ritchie, 11, Oscar, 11, and David, 7. Gary and Ritchie are both members of the church. They live at 607 Lake Shore Dr. Maitland, 32751. Phone 830-6880. They come to us from Sumpter, S. C.

FEEDBACK " "

"In some of the literature I received from the Tyndale House Publishers, I found you had stated that it (THE LIVING BIBLE jpn) contains false doctrine...Did the church in Altamonte or you take a stand in any way against this version of the Bible? If so, I would very much appreciate hearing about it. Will be looking forward to your answer as soon as possible." (MO.)

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The above letter has reference to an advertisement which appeared in the May 1975 issue of CHRISTIANITY TODAY, a widely circulated Presbyterian periodical. They made reference to the series of articles I wrote in the PSD BULLETIN in opposition to the LIVING BIBLE. Such letters as these make the work and expense involved in the bulletin all worthwhile. We appreciate those who continually take the time to write us about the PSD bulletin. Glad we can be of help. jpn)





Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 3-28-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Clay Garrison
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Gene Mooney
Frank English
O-Ronald Carter
Jack Farrington
USHERS-----Carl Weil, Ronald Carter

SUNDAY PM 3-28-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Clay Garrison
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Jack Farrington
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Gene Mooney
Ronald Carter
USHERS-----Carl Weil, Ronald Carter

WEDNESDAY 3-31-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Al Summers
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Carl Weil
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Randy Summers
INVITATION-----Ralph Autry

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---April 76
POST PROGRAM-----Randy Summers
MONTHLY SINGING-----Wayne Gey
CLOSE BUILDING-----Ronald Carter
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Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

OUR GLARING HYPOCRISIES

We mumble our prayers and drag our songs,
And yet *pretend* we have no wrongs.
We come in late and sit at the back,
And still contend we have no lack.

While the sermon's preached we watch the clock;
But every mistake we're sure to knock.
We love the church for which Christ died;
But our shining lights we always hide!

We take the Lord's supper once a week,
But a word for Him we do not speak.
We give to God a portion of that
Which is left after we're made fat.

We go to classes we don't enjoy;
Play with our books as if a toy:
Endure teachers we can hardly stand,
But our hope of salvation is simply grand!

We talk of all we see that's wrong;
We sing it like it were a song.
We should be light and save like salt,
But whatever's wrong is not our fault!

A solution to the problem could surely be found,
If we would each just turn around,
And gaze in the mirror of God's own word
And see our image, grossly absurd!

James P. Needham
2-23-76



What's your question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Taking the L.S. to the sick

?????????????????
?
? Is it wrong to take communion ?
? services to the sick? OK ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

This is a question of long standing? It seems to have come more to the forefront in recent years. There was a time when it was widely practiced. Even now the Gospel Advocate Co. sells a small portable communion set designed for such a practice.

When one reads the N. T. in reference to the Lord's supper, he cannot help being impressed with such expressions as:

And upon the first day of the week when THE DISCIPLES CAME TOGETHER to break bread...(Acts 20: 7).

When ye COME TOGETHER therefore INTO ONE PLACE... (1 Cor. 11:20).

There is no denying that the Lord's supper was something the disciples CAME TOGETHER to do in the assembly, not something those who came together in the assembly did, then took it to those who could not come together to do it. There is no command, example, or inference for such a practice, thus it is without scriptural authority.

I have known preachers who purchased one of these portable communion sets and took the Lord's supper to patients in hospitals and to sick members in homes. One thing that bothers me about such a practice is that they almost always just have the Lords' supper. What about the other items of worship? If one item of worship is to be taken to the sick, why not all the others, like: singing, teaching, giving, and prayer. Is the Lord's supper more important than the other items of worship?

There would be a vast difference if the sick person's home were to be the designated place of worship and the whole church met at that place for all the items of worship, but for the church to come together to observe the supper, then some who have already had it to take it to someone out of the assembly, is just out of harmony with what I find taught in the N. T.

It is sometimes argued that it is edifying to the sick; they request it, and we should respond. It may be edifying to the sick, to be sure, but only because people have not been properly taught concerning the supper. I have heard persons ignorant of the scriptures say they were edified by instrumental music, priestly garments, and fellowship meals, but this does not make such scriptural.

That which is without scriptural authority could never edify a well-taught Christian. Too often we are governed by sentiment and emotion in absence of scriptural knowledge. I have, in the past, taken the supper to the sick and I must testify in all honesty that it always seemed to be a phrase to me, and anything but edifying. jpn

NEWS...

about us 'n things

**SECOND NEEDHAM—CHILDRESS
DEBATE**

The second half of my agreement with J. D. Childress for two debates will be fulfilled in his building in Jacksonville on the nights of April 5, 6, 8, 9. The propositions will be the same as we discussed here, namely:

MONDAY NIGHT, APRIL 5

Be it resolved that the scriptures teach that there is only one person in the Godhead and baptism is to be administered in the name of Jesus Christ.

Affirmative: J. D. Childress
Negative: James P. Needham

TUESDAY NIGHT, APRIL 6

Be it resolved that the scriptures teach that there are three separate and distinct persons in the Godhead, and baptism according to the wording of Matthew 28:19 is scriptural.

Affirmative: James P. Needham
Negative: J. D. Childress

Be it resolved that the scriptures teach that Holy Ghost baptism as administered on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2, together with the supernatural signs and miracles done by the apostles and disciples, as recorded in the New Testament, ceased on or before the second century.

Affirmative: James P. Needham
Negative: J. D. Childress

FRIDAY NIGHT, APRIL 8

Be it resolved that the scriptures teach that Holy Ghost baptism is administered today to all Christian believers in the same manner as on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2, and that the signs and miracles done by the apostles and disciples as recorded in the New Testament, are to continue throughout the gospel dispensation or Christian age.

Affirmative: J. D. Childress
Negative: James P. Needham

Mr. Childress' building is located at 10472 Atlantic Blvd. in Jacksonville. His group is known as the UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF ARLINGTON. We look forward to another clean and profitable discussion. We urge brethren everywhere to attend if possible. The Pentecostal people attended the PSD debate in large numbers. Let us now return the favor.

FEEDBACK

"For many months I have wanted to write and tell you how very much I enjoy your bulletins. The answers to all questions, in my opinion, are always according to the oracles of God. I am sure you will be rewarded greatly for work well done. I have several people, some relatives, some Christians, some who are not, that I would like you to add to your mailing list. I am sure they will benefit from them. Thank you so very much."
--Ohio

We continue to receive many letters of appreciation for the bulletin. Some readers continue to send monetary contributions toward the publication of the paper. While this is not solicited, it is appreciated and we believe it is an indication of the good people derive from this work. We are thankful to God for this opportunity to serve. jpn



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 4-4-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Clay Garrison
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Ronald Carter
Mark DuBose
O-Frank English
Randy Summers
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

SUNDAY PM 4-4-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Jack Farrington
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Ronald Carter
Frank English
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

WEDNESDAY 4-7-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Robert Gaines
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
READ SCRIPTURE-----Steven Kapelka
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Carter
INVITATION-----Al Summers

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---April 76
POST PROGRAM-----Randy Summers
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Morning worship 11:00
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WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

A NEW CONGREGATION IN KISSIMMEE

We would like to call the attention of all our readers to a new church now meeting in Kissimmee, Fla. This is very likely the church nearest to Disney World and many of our readers will be visiting there from time to time. This work has been talked about for some time, and has finally come to reality. We congratulate the brethren who have now launched out in this great venture.

They are having anywhere from 15 to 40 in attendance, if my information be correct. Brother Paul Willis, formerly an elder at Holden Heights church in the southern part of Orlando, is one who took the lead in beginning the new work. He is the one to contact about the work in Kissimmee, and his phone number is 846-4125 (Kissimmee). The church is presently meeting in the YMCA building on Thacker St. I am sure they would welcome your visit to their services when you are in the area. Be sure to call brother Willis before attending any service because the place of meeting may not be completely settled, and I believe at present Wednesday night services are being held in his home.

There has been a liberal church in Kissimmee all along, and every effort was made to work with them, but, of course, they refused to cease their unscriptural practices. Brethren cannot be expected to violate their consciences, so they had no choice but to start another church where they can worship and work in accordance with the word of God.

We appreciate this effort and offer our assistance in every way possible. jpn

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

SUNDAY NIGHT COMMUNION

?????????????????
?
? Do Acts 20:7, and 1 Cor. 11:33, ?
? teach that the whole church ?
? took the Lord's supper at the ?
? same time? Must a plurality of ?
? persons partake of the supper ?
? for it to be scriptural? Can ?
? one who believes it sinful to ?
? have Sunday night communion ?
? scripturally worship where such ?
? is practiced? --Va. ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

There is no way one can conclusively prove that all the disciples of Acts 20:7 partook of the Lord's supper at the same time. It says they did it "on the first day of the week." That embraces 24 hours. Let's not read into the passage what we want it to say.

1 Cor. 11:33 says, "*When ye come together to eat, tarry one for another.*" The Greek word for "tarry" is EKDECHOMAI and means "to expect, await" (Vine) "Cordially receive" (McKnight). Many leading scholars translate it "receive one another" (Meyer, et al). Paul is correcting the party spirit at Corinth, the practice of parties which excluded those not members of it. He is saying, "*Do not exclude one another, but receive one another cordially.*"

Everyone may have partaken of the supper at the same time, but that is not Paul's point in this context, and there is nothing in the scriptures to indicate that such is obligatory. Furthermore, everyone partakes of the supper in our services today, that is, everyone who is supposed to partakes of it at both the morning and evening services. Nobody is excluded. If there is any exclusion it is on the part of those who would not allow their brethren to commune who could not do so at 11 o'clock Sunday morning.

I know of nothing in scripture that teaches that there must be a plurality of participants before the supper can be observed. Mt. 18:20 is often abused to try to justify this idea, but the context of that passage is *discipline*, not the Lord's supper. According to this idea, a preacher going into a virgin field to preach the gospel could just dispense with Acts 20:7 since he is the only one there. A brother in the military separated from other brethren, would thereby be relieved of his responsibility to take the supper.

It is difficult for me to see how a person who teaches it is sinful to have the supper on Sunday evening can worship where this is practiced. Could he also worship where instrumental music accompanies the singing, or where human institutions are supported out of the treasury?

I respect the brother who sincerely refrains from Sunday night communion because of his own personal conviction. (After all, it is a matter between him and God. He will answer for himself), but I detest those who disturb churches by making a hobby of this matter. jpn

NEWS... about us 'n things

EXCELLENT MEETING

All agree that our recent meeting with bro. Bill Cavender of Pt. Arthur, Texas was excellent from every point of view. We had good support from our own members. Visitors came from miles around. The singing was excellent. The preaching was outstanding. One was restored, and one was baptized. We are thankful to one and all for whatever you did toward the success of the meeting.

Particularly, I would like to commend the congregation for your excellent hospitality to bro. Cavender (as well as the Needhams). Two meals per day were scheduled almost every day--the best record in the history of this church. This is as it should be. The visiting preacher is our guest, and the hospitality extended to him by the members is an indication of our interest in and support of the meeting. Let us make this a habit. I believe the general feeling that the meeting was successful has a direct relationship to this very thing. Think it over.

JAS. P. MILLER SERIOUSLY ILL

As we have announced lately, brother James P. Miller has suffered a serious heart attack with several other complications. I am happy to report, however, that he is now off the critical list, and is allowed to do a little walking. We are encouraged about his condition, and thank God for his progress. He told me when I visited him last week that he is going to preach the gospel another 20 years. Hang in there, Jim, you'll make it!!

Brethren, pray for me

I request your prayers in my behalf in the second Needham-Childress debate. I always enter such with fear and trembling. I pray God's truth will not suffer in my hands. I don't go out looking for such encounters, but neither will I back off when a false teacher challenges me as did Mr. Childress. Neither would I agree to debate him in our building until he agreed to repeat it in his. I will not knowingly give a false teacher unfair advantage. I will be separated from PSD moral support in this debate due to the distance involved (though some are planning to attend) and I have been informed by the South Jacksonville elders and preacher that I will be on my own so far as they are concerned. Thus I need your fervent prayers in my behalf.



We welcome MARLENE RAFFERTY, 603 Dea-rborne Ave., Altamonte Springs, Ph. 830-1493, who was baptized during the meeting. She is a niece to sis. Inez Ulicny. She was formerly a Catholic. She has been attending our services for several weeks. She is to be commended for her openmindedness and great interest in the study of God's word.

ONE RESTORED

We commend Janet Summers who was restored during the recent meeting. She is one of our many fine young ladies, and we thank God for each of them.

AREA MEETING

TITUSVILLE, Richard Weaver, April 25-30, 7:30 nightly.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 4-11-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Frank English
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-James Smith
Robert Carter
O-Clay Garrison
Steven Kapelka
USHERS---R. Gaines, Jack Farrington

SUNDAY PM 4-11-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Carl Weil
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----James Smith
Clay Garrison
USHERS---R. Gaines, Jack Farrington

WEDNESDAY 4-14-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Carl Weil
SONG LEADER-----Steven Kapelka
FIRST PRAYER-----Al Summers
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----James Smith
INVITATION-----Ronald Carter

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---April 76

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WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

A READER REQUESTS A CORRECTION

Bro. Mike Tune of Harrisburg, Ill. takes exception to our answer to a question on marriage between believers and unbelievers in Vol. 5, Nos. 45,47. I appreciate his thoughtful letter, but he must present more convincing evidence before I make any correction. At this point I am not convinced that I need to. I certainly am aware that I can be wrong, and will gladly make correction when evidence demands it. I want to reemphasize that I discourage Christians from marrying non-Christians, but I don't believe such is a sin in and of itself. Let this be clearly understood.

Bro. Tune's contention centers around 2 Cor. 6:14, which says, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers..." He thinks this applies to marriage. I say it could in some cases, but not in every case. It forbids a Christian's entering any relationship in which he will be forced to partake of evil. That all marriages to unbelievers do this is denied by the fact that Paul urged the continuance of marriages between believers and unbelievers in 1 Cor. 7:13-15. (A 11 of this was pointed out in the articles under consideration). Our good brother takes a modernistic approach to this passage, however, and says, "*Verses 12-14 (of 1 Cor. 7, jpn) are not inspired by the Holy Spirit and PAUL admits it.*" He has reference to Paul's statement, "But to the rest speak I, not the Lord..." (v. 12). Paul had just given the Lord's teaching in Mt. 5:32; 19:9, v. 10,11. In verse 12, he speaks of that with which the Lord did not deal in His personal ministry. In Jn. 16:13, the Lord said the Spirit would "show you things to come." Paul's instruction here is part of that.

All who take this position on 2 Cor. 6:14 flounder when it comes to telling us how a Christian should repent of a marriage with an unbeliever, if it is sinful. Our brother says, "*One repents by being sorry for the sin and by correcting the situation as best one can.*" That suits me alright, if it is what Paul said. Let's see if this is Paul's instruction. Well, hardly! Paul said, "*Come ye out from among them, and be ye separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you*" (2 Cor. 6:17). I believe that is more than just being sorry. According to our respondent's interpretation, no Christian (see pg. 3)

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

1 Cor. 3:9 and collective action

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
 ?
 ? Does 1 Cor. 3:9 authorize col- ?
 ? lective action of churches? It ?
 ? has been argued that this text ?
 ? a n d context authorizes such ?
 ? things as the Herald of Truth, ?
 ? and orphan homes. OKLA. ?
 ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

This passage reads:

*For w e are laborers together
with God: ye are God's husband-
ry, ye are God's building.*

The context o f this passage shows a contrast between Paul and Apollos on one hand, and the Corinthian church on the o t h e r: "I have planted, Apollos watered; but G o d gave the increase" (v.6). Now note the "we" and the "ye" in vs. 9: "For we (Paul and Apollos) are laborers together with God: ye (the Corinthians) are God's husbandry, y e (the Corinthians) are God's building."

Paul then proceeds to show how that Jesus Christ is the foundation of the church and warns, "But let every MAN take heed how HE buildeth thereon" (1 Cor. 3:10).

There is nothing here or anywhere else in the N.T. to justify the combining of many churches under one eldership, or the subsidizing of human organizations from the church treasury. Paul is warning us to take heed how we build the local church, thus the "w e," (the preachers) and the "ye" (the Corinthian church). It is not the idea of a combination of churches, but an admonition to be careful how we build the local church, God's only working unit.

There cannot be any scriptural combination of local churches under the eldership of one church, or under a human board of directors. Elders are to oversee the flock of God which is among them (1 Pet. 5:2), not a flock that is not among them. The Herald of Truth is a brotherhood work, thus the elders of the Highland church in Abilene, Texas receive and oversee the spending o f funds from thousands of churches over the country, thus they are BROTHERHOOD elders, something not remotely hinted at anywhere in scripture. The churches which send their funds to the Herald of Truth lose their autonomy since they surrender the right to direct how their money shall be spent to the Highland elders.

The same can be said for sending church funds to orphan homes or other human institutions for the doing of church work. The churches which so do surrender their autonomy to a human board.

Each church is to do its own work to the extent of its ability. There can be no organization or eldership of another church standing between the local church and the work it is commanded to do. This is God's simple plan. jpn

Continued from pg. 1

married to a n unbeliever will be received of the Lord until he divorces his/her unbelieving companion.

In an effort t o avoid this, bro. Tune argues:

In this case, could the marriage be dissolved? I think you agree that where there is no adultery, there can be no divorce. In this case, the sinner could only be sorry he had contradicted God's law and this would constitute repentance. A line o f reason similar to this is contained in Jn. 7:22,23. The case is similar to this in that one law has precedent over another. God's law on divorce takes precedent over 2 Cor. 6:14.

O u r brother's thinking, both here and on the inspiration of 1 Cor. 7:12-15, is extremely dangerous. I d e n y that Jn. 7:22,23 is a case o f one of God's laws taking precedence over another. The problem there is that the Pharisees had misinterpreted the Sabbath law. This is bro. Tune's problem with God's m a r r i a g e law. Jesus straightened them o u t, showing that the Sabbath law authorized doing good on the Sabbath (Mt. 12:12). The c o n - cept that some parts of the scriptures are not inspired, and that human judgment can decree that one of God's laws takes precedence over another, a n d thus one is suspended, opens up a Pandora's box which will eventually reduce the Bible to a piece o f useless junk with little or no value to modern man.

I share our brother's concern f o r marriages between believers and unbelievers. If it were left up to me, I could easily a c c e p t the law he has made, but I cannot bind where God has loosed. I cannot make my preference i n - t o divine law. I know full-well the dangers involved in such marriages, and realize that Christians frequently put themselves a t such a disadvantage in such marriages that they do not remain true to the faith. That is sinful, but the marriage is not sinful as such. Our brother hasn't proven that, and I doubt seriously that any man can.

We should all teach our young people to marry Christians. We should do our very best along that line. We can point out the dangers; we can show them examples where it has resulted in the apostasy of the child of God, but to teach them that such a marriage is sinful *per se*, is to pervert God's word and to turn our wish into His command. I know that is a sin, but I cannot prove that such marriages are sinful.

AREA GOSPEL MEETINGS

TITUSVILLE, Richard Weaver, April 25-30, 7:30 nightly.

PAR ST, W. L. Wharton, May 2-9, 7:30 nightly.

HOLDEN HEIGHTS, Melvin Curry, May 9-16, 7:30 nightly.

These meetings afford many opportunities for worship, study and fellowship with brethren o f like-precious faith. Take full advantage of them as you have opportunity. Remember the support these brethren gave us. jpn



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 4-18-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Al Summers
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Jack Farrington
Ronald Carter
O-Ralph Autry
James Smith
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

SUNDAY PM 4-18-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Al Summers
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Carl Weil
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Jack Farrington
Ralph Autry
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

WEDNESDAY 4-21-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
READ SCRIPTURE-----James Smith
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Randy Summers
INVITATION-----Carl Weil

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---May 76

POST PROGRAM-----Robert Carter
MONTHLY SINGING-----Jack Farrington
CLOSE BUILDING-----Gene Mooney
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MASON, OHIO 45040

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SUNDAY

Morning Bible study 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

THE JACKSONVILLE DEBATE

THE JACKSONVILLE DEBATE was held last week between this editor and J. D. Childress (Pentecostal). It was the fulfillment of the second half of the agreement made between PSD and Mr. Childress. The agreement involved one debate in our building and one in his. The propositions concerned: Holy Ghost baptism, miracles, the Godhead and what constitutes scriptural baptism.

The debate went off pretty well, though it was poorly attended. The largest attendance of any night probably would not have exceeded 100. Some local brethren were very faithful to attend the debate, and others remained aloof from it. Mr. Childress had only a very few persons there, and some few from other Pentecostal groups (not in fellowship with Mr. Childress) attended.

Mr. Childress is an experienced debater. He knows all the tricks of a professional debater, but his argumentation is pitifully weak, and he gets himself into so many dilemmas and contradictions that at times I felt sorry for him. At times he seemed to be visibly shaken by some of this. He claimed to have miraculous knowledge, but he couldn't keep Biblical facts straight! He contended through 3 or 4 speeches that "Paul left Peter's mother-in-law sick." I never could get him to tell us where he found this! All he ever said was, "It's in the Bible."

During both debates with Mr. Childress, his brethren, or related Pentecostal groups have challenged me for debates because they were dissatisfied with Mr. Childress' efforts. It remains to be seen whether anything will come of this. The group in Jacksonville which challenged me claims a membership of 300. They were very arrogant, and the good Hyde Park brethren who gave us good support during the debate and where I spoke on Wednesday night, have urged me to accept the challenge as their representative. Further announcement will be made later.

Brother Don Taafe of Dundee, Fla. served as my moderator, and my brother in the flesh, Warren Needham, who preaches at Titusville, Fla. served as my time keeper and visual aid operator. Both brethren rendered valuable assistance, and words cannot express my appreciation for their moral and practical support. jpn



Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Withdrawals and neighbor churches

?????????????????
?
? Do the scriptures teach that ?
? when one church withdraws from ?
? a person(s) that all o t h e r ?
? churches in the area are obli- ?
? gated to recognize the action ?
? and thus refuse fellowship to ?
? these persons without investi- ?
? gation? Should a church which in ?
? vestigates and concludes that ?
? the withdrawal was unjustified, ?
? and receives the p e r s o n s, ?
? be withdrawn from and marked by ?
? the withdrawing church? TN ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

The N.T. teaches that each local church is independent and autonomous (self-governing). This means that it cannot allow any other church to make any decision for it. (See Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:2). One of the things e a c h church must decide is whom it will fellowship. In Acts 9:26, we are told of Paul's efforts to "join himself to the disciples" at Jerusalem. But they were afraid of him, and would not receive him until Barnabas recommended him (v. 27).

Thus, o n e church cannot allow a neighboring church t o decide whom it will or will not fellowship. To do s o would violate its autonomy.

To say otherwise places one in some very awkward positions. For instance, I have known o f churches who withdrew from members because they opposed error. According t o the notion of some, other churches in the area must recognize the action and refuse to fellowship these persons.

Where withdrawn from members seek to place membership in a given church, the petitioned church should make a thorough investigation of all charges before deciding to receive or reject the persons. If they find the action scripturally justified, then certainly they should refuse to receive them without repentance. If they find the action not scripturally justified, they should receive them without regard to what the withdrawing church may say or do about it. To do otherwise would be to partake of the unscriptural action. Each church must jealously guard i t s autonomy. They must not be intimidated by pressure or an indifferent desire to stay aloof from local pressure.

I realize this is a pretty touchy problem, and it may not always b e as simple as it sounds here. A great deal of human judgment is sometimes involved in withdrawals, and this will vary from person to person and from church to church. Naturally, if the church where I worship withdraws from members who are received by a neighbor church, I am not going to like it. I might feel so strongly about it that I would not want to attend or announce special services there, but I must grant to each church the right to make its own decisions in all matters. I may not agree with its decisions and I have the right to say so, but I must not seek to interfere with its autonomy.

On the other hand, it is often the case that a congregation is so anxious

to have a large membership that it becomes the willing receptical of all the withdrawn from members in a given area. It never investigates charges, and just becomes a sort of a dumping ground for the worldly, the weak and the ungodly who refuse to obey Christ. Such a church becomes a partaker of the evil deeds of the persons involved (2 Jn. 9-11).

Thus we see a heavy responsibility resting upon a church who is petitioned for membership by those who have been withdrawn from in another church. To wave the hand and say we will receive them because these matters are unpleasant, and refuse to investigate or meet with the withdrawing church to discuss it, is really a "cop out" on a very serious matter. Again, to meet with the withdrawing church just to say we have made an investigation, all the while having already decided what will be done, is a dirty piece of hypocrisy. We must make an open-minded investigation. Get all the facts, carefully consider them and pray for wisdom (Jas. 1:5). It should be remembered, however, that regardless of the thoroughness or open-mindedness of the investigation, the withdrawing church is not going to like it when a neighbor church goes against its decision. So be it--congregational autonomy is more important than the good will of those who, in our judgment, have taken an unscriptural action.

Such matters as these have the potential of causing strong feelings between and among all the churches in a given area. They should be handled with the greatest care. For the withdrawing church to brand and constantly work against the receiving church only aggravates the situation and usually does nothing to heal the matter. To brand and oppose all preachers who hold meet-

ings for the receiving church is to be unjust and unfair. Such matters are local and extremely complicated and it is absurd to expect outsiders to investigate all such matters and make a decision on them before preaching for such a church. A preacher should preach anywhere he is invited as long as no restrictions are placed upon him. If the preacher finds error involved, then he should cry out against it. This has often resulted in the solving of such problems. A preacher's presence in and efforts with such a church are not a *per se* endorsement of anything. jpn

NEWS...

about us 'n things

SICK AND SHUT-INS

Sis. VICKERS is again able to attend some of the services for which we are thankful...The good brothers and sisters of this church have been doing a wonderful job of seeing to her needs. It is a beautiful example of "visiting the....widows in their affliction" (Jas 1:27). While sister Vickers has been helped, all who have assisted have been greatly blessed.

PARKING LOT SEALED

Several brethren under the supervision of Wayne Gey and Gene Mooney are in the process of sealing the parking lot. We should also mention that Gary Martin and Clark Gey (two of our fine young boys) have worked right along with the effort. They are to be commended for their diligence.

TITUSVILLE MEETING WITH RICHARD WEAVER
APRIL 25-30, 7:30 nightly.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 4-25-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Al Summers
Mike Farrington
O-Carl Weil
Clay Garrison
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

SUNDAY PM 4-25-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Howard Martin
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Al Summers
Carl Weil
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

WEDNESDAY 4-28-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Wayne Gey
SONG LEADER-----James Smith
FIRST PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
READ SCRIPTURE-----Howard Martin
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
INVITATION-----Gerald Durrett

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Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

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(Classes for all ages)

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bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

THANK GOD FOR THE RATTLE SNAKE, SEND FIVE MORE!!!



The story is told about a person who was bitten by a rattlesnake, and was very ill. Even though he had persistently ignored the preacher's efforts to convert him to Christ, he now wanted the preacher to come pray for him. The preacher gladly obliged, and this is his prayer:

"Our Father, we thank Thee for this rattlesnake which has so graciously bitten this our obstinate friend for it has caused him to be mindful of Thee for the first time in his life. And, now, Father, wilt Thou also send five other rattlesnakes just like him to bite his five brothers who also refuse to do Thy will?"

All of which is so typical of humanity in general. People would not want to abolish religion completely, but they want to use it like a fire extinguisher. They want it to hang around without any bother until an emergency arises. But religion is like a fire extinguisher, it won't work when the emergency comes, if we have not kept it serviced meanwhile! In short, it's too late to pray when the devil comes!

I recently preached a funeral for a person with NO religious affiliation. The family begged me to preach the funeral, because they said every other preacher they had called had turned them down! Well, I agreed. When the undertaker gave me the obituary card, it showed that the only thing the fellow was a member of was the human race and the Elk's Club! Think of that! And yet, they wanted a preacher to preach his funeral, and told me that they knew he was saved because his EX-WIFE and one of his sons had seen a vision of him in heaven!!! That makes salvation easier than getting a loan, doesn't it? At least to get a loan one has to fill out an application! This fellow had done NOTHING! I kept wondering what they needed with a preacher! But that's not the first time I have felt useless!JN



Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

CAN GOD FORGET?

?????????????????
?
? Ezk. 3:20 says that if a right- ?
? eous man turns from his right- ?
? eousness, God will not remember ?
? his righteousness, b u t Eccl. ?
? 12:14 says God will "bring eve- ?
? ry work into judgment...whether ?
? it be good or whether it be ev- ?
? il." The phrase "shall not be ?
? remembered" seems to violate ?
? one of God's attributes: Omnis- ?
? cience. Please help me to un- ?
? derstand. TN ?
? ?
?????????????????

REPLY

God's n o t remembering an apostate's righteousness does not mean that God will forget that he was ever righteous, but that He will not reward him for the righteous works he has abandoned. When we forgive another for sins against us, we are not to remember them. That does not mean that we are to forget that they were ever committed, but we are to cease taking account of them. This i s the sense in which God forgets the apostate's righteousness, and i t does not conflict with omniscience.

Eccl. 12:14 is saying that nothing will escape God's notice at the judgment. He *"will bring every work into judgment with e v e r y secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil."* Yes, even t h e righteous works

which the apostate has abandoned, b u t there will be no reward for them. There is a difference between *judgment* and *reward*. As stated before, God will *re-member* That these righteous works were done, and they will b e before Him at the judgment, but He will *not reward* apostates for having done them.

The problem in cases like this is that we go to such passages with a pre-conceived exclusive meaning for certain words which we then force upon these texts. Such will inevitably get us into trouble. It should be obvious that the word "remember" is used in various ways both in the Bible and in our every-day conversation.

A typical example o f this type of interpretation is an incident in Saul's conversion. In Acts 9:7, it says, *"And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, HEARING A VOICE, but seeing no man."* In Acts 22:9, it says, *"A n d they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they HEARD NOT the voice of him that spake to me."*

If one approaches these verses with one hard and fast definition of "hear" in mind, he will see a contradiction. But all reasonable persons know that we sometimes use the word "hear" in the sense of detecting sound, and at others in the sense of understanding what the sound signifies. In conversation w e sometimes fail to understand what someone says, so we say, *"What did you say? I didn't HEAR you."* It is obvious that w e heard a sound, or we wouldn't be asking him to repeat something. Then, sometimes a person will begin to repeat something he has just said, thinking we didn't hear, and we will say, *"Never mind, I heard y o u the first time."* (Meaning, "I understood"). Remembering and forgetting are similarly used both in and out of the Bible without involving a contradiction. jpn

NEWS... about us 'n things

FEEDBACK

"I have been receiving your wonderful bulletin for the past two years. Your answers to the questions you receive are helpful to me and they are scriptural..." TN.

"We enjoy the bulletin and believe you are doing some very good teaching through it. May God bless your every effort in His service." TN.

"I am very thankful for the teaching in your bulletin. May God bless you and your help and your readers in this work." MD.

These letters are typical of many we receive every week. Publishing a bulletin such as this is a lot of work, and these days, quite expensive. Knowledge that good is being done makes it all worth while. Some readers, realizing increasing costs, have sent financial aid for the bulletin. While the church here has given no serious consideration to abandoning this effort, we have had to curtail the mailing list a bit, and we are more careful whom we add to the mailing list. The financial aid sent in by the readers is certainly appreciated but not solicited.

AREA GOSPEL MEETINGS

TITUSVILLE, Richard Weaver, April 25-30, 7:30 nightly.

PAR ST. W. L. Wharton, May 2-9, 7:30 nightly.

HOLDEN HEIGHTS, Melvin Curry, May 9-16, 7:30 nightly.

SICK AND SHUT IN

MELYNN CARTER has been ill for several days with inflammation of a hip joint and is ordered to take complete bed rest for a few days... Little MELODY GEY has been very ill with an ear infection... Sis. VICKERS is still able to attend some of the services, and she thanks one and all for the many acts of kindness shown her by the members here. Bro. LYNN ROBINSON visited his mother on his way home from Washington and found her in exceptionally good shape considering her age and circumstance.

NEW DIRECTORY

We need to publish a new church directory soon. We have delayed because of changing phone numbers, and we have been in the process of losing & gaining many members due to the employment situation. We hope to get to this work in the near future.

BOUND VOLUME V

We have now mailed all bound volume fives for which we had orders. It is very possible that we have missed some one who wanted one. It is very possible for most anything to get lost on my desk!!! So, if you have been overlooked please let me know. These are \$5 each, and you order them from me, not from the church.

LYNN ROBINSON BACK HOME

It is good to have bro. Lynn Robinson back home after an absence of about 3 months which were spent in Washington D.C. in his business. We hope he will be around now. We missed him a great deal.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 5-2-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gerald Durrett
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Al Summers
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-James Smith
Mark DuBose
O-Frank English
Robert Carter
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

SUNDAY PM 5-2-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gerald Durrett
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Jack Farrington
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----James Smith
Frank English
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

WEDNESDAY 5-5-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
READ SCRIPTURE-----Steven Kapelka
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Carter
INVITATION-----James Smith

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Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study..... 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

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bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

WE GET LETTERS, RIDICULOUS LETTERS!!!

We get a fist full of letters every week. Some are good, some are ridiculous. How about these excerpts from a letter from the Northside church of Christ in Jacksonville, Fla.?

They have baptized "444 souls...within about two years and ten months." Their goal for this year is 250. They are holding about 65 or 70 percent of those they are baptizing. Their present building will only seat 130, so they are having 3 services on Sunday morning.

They have bought 6 acres of land for \$75,000, and plan to build a \$250,000 building on it. They are "just like a mission work," and they are asking brethren and churches over the country to donate to their project! They inform us that *"The story of the Northside church of Christ was printed in the Gospel Advocate, March 11...along with the picture of the purposed building on the front page."* (That ought to be enough to commend it to anybody!).

Using their own figures, 70 per cent of 444 amounts to 310 members they have left of those they have baptized in the last two years and ten months, plus those they already had, which let's say would run the membership to around 400. Now, a church with four hundred members is asking others to help them build a building!!!

I must agree that this is "phenomenal growth," and I realize that questioning it is like questioning mother love, or apple pie, but I do have some serious questions about it. I would like to know what kind of gospel is being preached by this church. I know, and every observant person knows, that people are just not flocking to the true gospel in these numbers today. I dare say there is a great deal of entertainment and other allurements involved in this kind of operation. I know that some brethren are selling baptismal jobs about like one would sell a paint job! They are making a big splash rather than preaching the plain truth that cramps the style of today's materialistic, fun-loving worldlings. I venture that a couple of hard-hitting gospel sermons would make their auditorium look like a lumber yard! They can prove me wrong by inviting me for a week's meeting. I don't have any money to give them, but I will give them a free meeting! They probably need that a lot worse anyway!

jpn

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Earmarked money in a savings account

?????????????????
?
? If someone gave the church a ?
? l a r g e sum of money, and re- ?
? quested that it b e spent to ?
? preach the gospel i n foreign ?
? fields, would it be scriptural ?
? to put this money in a savings ?
? account while it is being used? ?
? TN ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

First, I would question the right of the church to accept earmarked money. The church must be autonomous, that is, self-governing. It must make its own decisions regarding its work, and spending its money is part of its work. If it allows the giver to specify how it shall spend the money given, t h e n the church loses its autonomy. It is not making its own decision then, b u t allowing someone else to do so.

A giver might give a large sum of money and *express a preference* that it be spent in foreign work, and t h e church could *agree with the preference*, but it must be free to use the money in some other way, if the need arises.

Now, *would it be scriptural to put this money in a savings account while it is being used?* I believe it would be scriptural so to do. I believe it is right for the church to put money in a

savings account that is being held or accumulated for a specific purpose, like for a building. Not for the specific purpose of making money, but as a safe place to keep it, and to offset inflation. The rate of interest drawn on a savings account will hardly maintain the value of the money deposited because of the inflation rate. Let's say the inflation rate is 8 per cent. The highest interest I know of being paid on savings accounts i s under 6 per cent, thus there is a net loss of about 2 per cent. So, putting money on savings i s not really a profitable venture.

It would b e unscriptural for the church to enter the savings business *strictly from a profit motive*. T h e church is a *spending* organization, not a *saving* one. It is not a business organization by any stretch of the imagination or the scripture. It can engage in business, but it cannot do so purely from a profit motive. For instance, the church might need to build a new building, having outgrown the one it built several years ago for \$50,000. Now that the building is too small, and the lot not suitable for the new building, it sells the property for the market value of \$100,000; a n e t profit of \$50,000. But the motive was not one of profit. It bought the property at market value, and now it sells at higher market value. If this is wrong, then the church would have to sell a hundred thousand dollar property for \$50,000 so it won't realize a profit! (That would be a good deal for some old sinner who might build a whiskey store on it!)

The time will soon come when all banks will pay interest on checking accounts. (Some already do so). If it is wrong for the church to draw interest, then it will either have to refuse such interest, or keep its money in cash. Which will it be? jpn

NEWS...

about us 'n things

SICK AND SHUT IN

Sis. VICKERS is still able to attend some of the services, and appears to be doing very well...BETTY AUTRY has been ill for several days...JACK FARRINGTON and ANN were both ill last Lord's day (April 25), and unable to attend services.

WHY DON'T YOU CALL?

If you are going to be out of town, why not call the office, the preacher's home, or one of the members and let us know? It would contribute to a much more harmonious relationship between us. We are supposed to be a family, and it is always good to know the whereabouts of all family members. It would only take a minute, and would mean so much.

We continue to emphasize that you should call bro. Duer if your name appears on the program and for some reason you cannot serve. It would make his job so much easier. Don't most of us just take it for granted anyway? Do you know how the program of who is going to do what in the service is arranged? Have you ever thought about it? Did you ever think about how much work and planning are involved?

RESPONSE

Sis. BETTY DUBOSE was recently restored. She confessed unfaithfulness, and asked our prayers in her behalf. Sis. Betty is to be commended and encouraged. She is a very sincere and dedicated person.

FEEDBACK

"Thank you so much for sending us your bulletin. I especially like your questions and answers." --Australia

AREA GOSPEL MEETINGS

PAR S T., W. L. Wharton, May 2-9, 7:30 nightly.

HOLDEN HEIGHTS, Melvin Curry, May 9-16, 7:30 nightly.

LET'S BE MORE TIDY!

Let's take a little better care of the church property. Some of the classrooms are a disgrace following each class session. Bits of candy and gum wrappers and other assorted trash litter the floor, pews, and song book racks. One wonders what goes on in some of the classrooms, a Bible class or a picnic! Teachers can teach youngsters a much needed lesson by having them to clear away all trash before leaving the room. To fail to do so, is to miss an opportunity to build character in the child.

Howard Martin to Kissimmee

Bro. Howard recently preached for the new church in Kissimmee and reports that they had a good service. They had 30 on Sun. morning and 12 on Sun. night. We wish the new work well, and commend bro. Martin for helping out.

James P. Miller's progress

Many of our readers are interested in the progress of bro. Miller. He is now home and Bobbie, his wife, describes him as "doing great." He is on a rigid schedule of exercise, and makes frequent trips to the hospital for therapy. The Dr. says he might let him do some preaching in two weeks, if he continues to improve. jpn



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 5-9-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Lynn Robinson
Randy Summers
O-Mike Farrington
Al Summers
USHERS---R. Gaines, Jack Farrington

SUNDAY PM 5-9-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Clay Garrison
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Lynn Robinson
Mike Farrington
USHERS---R. Gaines, Jack Farrington

WEDNESDAY 5-12-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Robert Gaines
SONG LEADER-----Steven Kapelka
FIRST PRAYER-----Carl Weil
READ SCRIPTURE-----James Smith
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
INVITATION-----Howard Martin

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---May 76

POST PROGRAM-----Robert Carter
MONTHLY SINGING-----Jack Farrington
CLOSE BUILDING-----Gene Mooney
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EDITOR: JAMES P. NEEDHAM

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Church of Christ**

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(Metropolitan Orlando)
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5794 BUTLER WARREN RD.
MASON, OHIO 45040

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

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(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL !



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

CHRISTIANS AND ACADEMIC PRIDE

EDUCATION often substitutes arrogance for credulousness! Obviously these are two dangerous extremes. The person who is willing to believe almost anything gets a little education and becomes so arrogant that he believes almost nothing. The true and reasonable position has to be somewhere in between. It is often said that "a little learning is a dangerous thing." It may sound crazy, but in our day it is true that a lot of learning is often a lot more dangerous! I should hasten to add, however, that learning is not dangerous, but it is dangerous for some folks to learn because they don't know how to handle it. Their education goes to their head. (Say, that's good pun material, where else should it go? Oh, you know what I mean).

One of the most disgusting things of our time is academic pride. It sometimes finds its way into the church. The educated want to make an elite party of the educated, and they look down their academic noses at the "common" folk. They assume a superior stance, and nit pick every Bible lesson and sermon they hear. They claim to want the truth, but they want it delivered in pretty little oratorical packages wrapped in perfect grammatical constructions and decorated with intellectual phrases and philosophical gibberish. Everything else, regardless of how scriptural or logical it may be, is just below their level and insults their intelligence! They would not have found Paul to their liking because he "came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God" (1 Cor. 2:1). Not because he couldn't, but because he wouldn't!

Some swell up in proportion to the amount of education they have. The more they get the more arrogant they become. This is often very obvious on the campuses of colleges operated by brethren. Some faculty members are so puffed up that a pin puncture would cause an explosion! Their degrees at the end of their names give them an inflated sense of importance, and in their eyes, elevate them above the common herd! One such brother who has his Ph.d., informed me of the very small percentage of the U.S. population who hold Ph.d's. I tell you I was impressed!

All this is out of harmony with the spirit of Christ who said "one is your Master, even Christ; AND ALL YE ARE BRETHREN" (Mt. 23:8). To some brethren, not all, that means: unless you have a Ph.d. and are on the faculty of one of the colleges operated by the brethren, then you become something special. Evidently some would deny a clergy/laity distinction, but practice something just as bad. jpn

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

To withdraw or not to withdraw

?????????????????
?
? Can a member of the church be
? withdrawn from, or do we just
? continue to overlook their sins
? and let God take care of them?
? FL.
?
?????????????????

REPLY

The New Testament definitely teaches withdrawal. (Mt. 18:15-18; 1 Cor. 5, Rom. 16:17; 2 Thess. 3:6, 14; 1 Tim. 6:5). Some of these have reference to the action of an *individual Christian*, and others to *collective action*. 1 Cor. 5:4-5, speak of collective action, "In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ to deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus." 1 Tim. 6:5, obviously has reference to *individual action*.

Withdrawal is a controversial subject, and I am not at all sure that it is generally understood by brethren. It seems to me that it is often used as a *club to show folks who is boss*, rather than a *loving action designed to restore the fallen*. I know many brethren are very willing to sign a withdrawal letter, or sanction a withdrawal action who have not made a *single effort* to

help the fallen. They simply ride the tide of others' judgment and never get involved in the action in any way.

I am frank to admit that I don't see the common concept of "church discipline" (an expression not found in the Bible) as I once did. I have seen its abuses drive persons so far from the church that they will never be won back to the Lord. These abuses are sometimes committed so some "Diotrephes" (3 J n. 9:10) can realize his *sense of power*, and can have something to boast about to other churches about "what we do over at _____ church."

At this point I doubt seriously that the N.T. teaches us to withdraw from any brother who is not attending the services. What good can possibly come from withdrawing from some brother who has ceased attending and makes no claim to faithfulness? It is often argued that the withdrawal might bring him back. How? In some cases such a person couldn't care less what the church does in reference to him/her, because he has lost interest in spiritual affairs. In others he *resents* having his name brought up publicly and such will only build up a wall between him and the congregation making him harder to reach. So, how can "withdrawal" from such an one bring him back?

If a member is a fornicator, covetous, an idolater, a railer, or a drunkard, or extortioner, or refuses to work, all the while attending the services and claiming faithfulness to the Lord, then certainly the church must declare itself, and this is what Paul demands in 1 Cor. 5, and 2 Thess. 3. But these cases are definitely not parallel to a weak and indifferent brother who has lost his interest and become faint and makes no claim to faithfulness.

In 1 Cor. 5, the brethren were accepting the fornicator as a faithful member. They were "puffed up" and had not "rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from AMONG YOU" (v.2). In 2 Thess. 3, the disorderly brother to be withdrawn from was one who would not work, but yet wanted to eat out of the treasury. To carefully read 2 Thess. 3, is to be convinced of this. It evidently has reference to a situation like the one in Acts 6, where persons were being fed out of the treasury. Some always want to abuse this, so there were some who refused to work and yet were continuing to live from the church funds. So, here was a lazy brother who refused to work, all the while claiming faithfulness. Paul commanded withdrawal from such a person. The church must not feed him, or sanction his lazy ways--it must declare itself--withdraw from him.

The majority of brethren say they believe that absence from assemblies is sufficient ground for withdrawal. Yet, how many practice this? I can tell you, very few. I have known some churches which tried to practice it, but ran into trouble when they tried to decide how many absences from which services constituted a withdrawal offence. I knew one church that settled it this way: They said they would not withdraw from a member for not attending the Sunday and Wednesday NIGHT services, but would withdraw for not attending the Sunday morning service! (Evidently the Lord must have said somewhere that we are supposed to meet on the Lord's day at 11:00 A.M., but I haven't found the passage yet!).

This subject needs a great deal more study than I can give in this limited space. I am not at all sure that we have arrived at the whole truth on the matter.

jpn

NEWS

about us 'n things

MEMBERS AWAY

It is good to have MARGARET and little JASON DURRETT back after an extended visit with her parents in Ky. We missed them, and we think Gerald did too! Sis. LOPEZ is visiting in Atlanta and Boston, and perhaps Okla. for a few weeks, which accounts for her absence. She will be away for at least a month--We miss her...Vacations are beginning now and will accelerate as we reach the end of the school year. This calls for greater effort on the part of those who are at home. Let's all cooperate.

SICK AND SHUT IN

Sis. VICKERS is still able to attend some of the services, but continues to experience some difficulties with her heart...JAMES P. MILLER continues to do well at home, and should be allowed to do some preaching by the time you read this. We thank God for answering our prayers for him...OAKS GOWEN continues to do well also, carrying on nearly his normal full work load.

Continual requests for PSDB

We continue to receive requests for the PSDB from all parts of the country. Many have seen someone else's copy and would like to be put on our mailing list. We are glad to accommodate any who desire the bulletin, but we don't put people on in wholesale fashion. If you don't want to receive the bulletin, please let us know.

IF WE DISCONTINUED THE SUNDAY AND
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES, WOULD
YOU KNOW IT?



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 5-16-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Carl Weil
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Lynn Robinson
DISMISSAL PRAYER----Mike Farrington
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Howard Martin
Ralph Autry
O-Clay Garrison
Jack Farrington
USHERS---R. Gaines, Jack Farrington

SUNDAY PM 5-16-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Carl Weil
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----James Smith
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Howard Martin
Clay Garrison
USHERS---R. Gaines, Jack Farrington

WEDNESDAY 5-19-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----James Smith
FIRST PRAYER-----Howard Martin
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Randy Summers
INVITATION-----Gerald Durrett

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---May 76

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(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ



HE FINALLY GOT STRAIGHTENED OUT !

The story is told of a family that moved into a community, and like many others, just sort of forgot about their spiritual duties. They found a local church, but just never got started. The preacher and elders visited them several times, but all they got from the head of the house was, "I am going to come when I get straightened out."

Well, one day he had a heart attack and died, and his family, as usual, wanted the preacher to preach his funeral, which, of course, the preacher was willing to do, even though it was a difficult task. The preacher spent a great deal of

time preparing his sermon. He wondered just what he could say about brother John since he had been so negligent of his duty.

The time came for the sermon, so they placed brother John's casket in front of the pulpit and the preacher began his eulogy like this, "Well, brother John was always a man of his word. He and his family moved to this community and I visited them several times and urged them to attend the services of this church. He always said he would come once he got straightened out. I see that he meant what he said, he is now straightened out, and he is here!"

Certainly, being honest and keeping one's word are worthy traits of character, but this is going a bit too far! Hambone said an excuse is just a dressed up lie. Maybe that is an accurate description, but we can see that there is sometimes more truth in excuses than we imagine! Think it over and be present this Lord's day. jpn



Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Did Jesus use violence in cleansing the temple?

?????????????????
?
? In Jn. 2:14-17, Jesus made a ?
? scourge o f small cords and ?
? drove them all out of the tem- ?
? ple. Did he drive out the peo- ?
? ple with the scourge, or just ?
? the animals? GA. ?
? ?
?????????????????

REPLY

This is a question of long standing. I am not sure I can give a definite answer. I am sure I can't give one that will satisfy everyone. Several positions have been taken on the subject:

1. That the scourge was only a symbol of Christ's authority, since it is said that it was made of "small chords" I find this unacceptable because one can make a pretty dangerous instrument with small cords, and the scourge is not said to have been small, but the cords out o f which it was made were small.

2. Others say that Jesus used the scourge to drive out the animals b u t not the people. *"The rest of the verse shows that "all" does not refer to men, but to sheep and oxen"* (McGarvey, FOUR-FOLD GOSPEL, p. 122). *"There is no evidence that he used any violence to the men engaged in that unhallowed traffic"* (Barnes Notes, John, p. 196).

3. And yet others take the position that Jesus used the whip on both the animals and the men.

My own personal view is that had he used the whip on the men involved, it would not be out of harmony with God's law or with His own situation at the time. He lived and died under the Law of Moses, a theocracy, where God's people ruled both in religious and civic matters. Under the law physical violence was often the penalty for religious sins such a s profaning holy things, which these persons were certainly ~~do~~ing (The temple was holy). It is obvious that the priests were not enforcing the law in reference to the temple, so Jesus, being Divine, took the matter in His own hands; which he certainly had every right to do, and incidentally, no body questioned it!

It is a fact, however, that i n the Sermon on the Mount He indicated that a change would c o m e when His kingdom would be established. He forbade personal vengeance, and physical violence against those who persecuted his disciples or violated His law. This because His *"kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight..."* (Jn. 18:36) Under the New Testament there is no theocracy, but a definite distinction between the spiritual and civic institutions (Rom. 13). There are no physical penalties for religious sins.

Thus, those who prefer to believe that Christ used no violence on the men because it would b e contrary to the spirit of His teaching, have no point. His teaching of non-violence had reference to His own kingdom, and not to the "kingdom" of Moses under which he lived and died. An understanding of this fact will remove all misgivings about this incident. jpm

NEWS

about us 'n things

SICK AND SHUT IN

Sis. VICKERS is still able to attend some assemblies, but is still bothered with heart problems. We need to continue to check with her to see what we can do to help her with daily chores about the house...Sis. MILLAM, mother of our Helen Kapelka, now of Ft. Wayne, Ind., but soon to move to this area, is undergoing treatment for a malignancy. This is sad news, but we are all praying for her recovery. She and Helen request our continued prayers in her behalf.

ROBINSONS LEAVING

It is with sadness that we announce the departure of the Lynn Robinsons. They will be moving to Lakeland as soon as they sell their house. While this is bad for us, we have consolation in the fact that they won't be far away, and Sherry will remain with us. We will give her new address as soon as we have it.

The Robinson family has endeared itself to the brethren here. They are indeed an asset to any church. They are dedicated to the work, and most pleasant company. Lynn is a very able song leader and Bible class teacher. Sherry teaches a children's class, and Louise is faithful to help with the bulletin. Truly we will miss them, but certainly our loss is another's gain. We hope they will hurry back!

GAIN SOME, LOSE SOME

That is the story in every church I have ever known, but we seem to have

more than our share of it. We feel it too, because of our size. Our area is one of the newest areas of metropolitan Orlando, and we seem to have fewer permanent residents than the older communities, thus we seem to have more persons who come for 2 or 3 years, then are transferred. This year, however, we have made some gains. Perhaps the declining trend we have seen for about three years now, is being reversed. We think we can see some signs of stabilization in the whole area.

Editor to Merrit Island

My next effort away from home will be at Merrit Island. I am scheduled to teach the adult class and children's singing class in their vacation Bible school, June 14-18. I will not be gone on a Lord's day.

NEEDHAM-EPLEY DEBATE MAYBE

I spoke earlier of a challenge I received from a Pentecostal preacher during the Jacksonville debate. I sent Mr. Steve Epley signed propositions last week, and he called to try to make some arrangements. I get the distinct impression that he is not nearly as anxious as he first appeared. He tried to make a ridiculous arrangement to debate the Godhead, like having it on Saturday and Monday nights!! Of course I refused, and he seems willing to have it on Monday and Tuesday nights. He said we have several differences he would like to discuss, like instrumental music in worship, feet washing, etc. We shall see what we shall see, and I will keep you informed of further arrangements.

The Sterlings to Bellaire, Tx.

The Greg Sterlings are moving to Bellaire, Tex. (where the editor once preached). Greg has done a good work at Holden Heights, and we will miss them from this area. He has preached for us on occasions. We wish them well.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 5-23-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Lynn Robinson
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Carl Weil
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Frank English
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Gerald Durrett
Mike Farrington
O-O.J. Duer
Frank English
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

SUNDAY PM 5-23-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Lynn Robinson
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Howard Martin
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Gerald Durrett
O.J. Duer
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

WEDNESDAY 5-26-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gerald Durrett
SONG LEADER-----Howard Martin
FIRST PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
READ SCRIPTURE-----Carl Weil
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
INVITATION-----Wayne Gey

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--June 76

POST PROGRAM-----Mark DuBose
MONTHLY SINGING-----Al Summers
CLOSE BUILDING-----O.J. Duer
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(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



Volume VI, Number 14, May 24, 1976

bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

ARE WE COMMUNICATING?

Unity Missionary Baptist Church
Copperas Cove, Texas

Nº 0612

\$10.00

Building Fund Bond Drive

This evidences the fact that *Palm Springs Drive Church of Christ*
has invested the sum of \$10 dollars (\$10.00) towards the above
named fund for construction of a new church.

SOLICITOR

Rev. Corrie L. Jackson

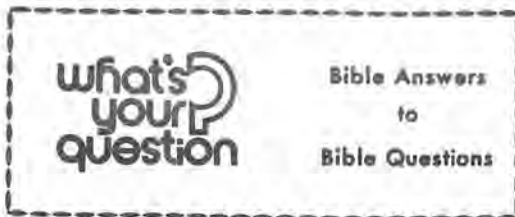
PASTOR

Rev. Corrie L. Jackson

Let it be known that this Bond will be redeemed in Eternity

I recently mentioned some of the ridiculous letters the church receives. Well here is another one--it takes the cake, platter and all!! It makes me wonder if we are properly communicating the message. There is a softness about a lot of today's preaching that would lead denominational people to think we are just one of them. There is no scriptural authority for the existence of the Baptist Church, or any other human denomination, and I am disturbed that any denominational group even thinks that we might contribute to help build them a building in which to propagate their false doctrines. Maybe we need to take another look at our preaching.

jpn



Questions about Jesus' last passover

1. "Did Jesus keep the passover in the year of His death Lk. 22:15; Jn. 13:1, 2? Yes. Jesus sent his disciples to prepare the passover (Mt. 26:18). (This was on Thursday afternoon). Then, "When even was come (which would be Friday because their days started at sundown. Friday was passover day) he sat down with the twelve." Thus, they prepared the passover, and he ate it with them.

2. "Did he keep it on the 14th day of the first month? Num. 28:16, or the 13th? Jn. 19:31?" He kept it on the 14th day of the first month. As seen above, it was eaten at "even" on the day it was prepared; that is, our Thursday evening, but the beginning of Friday for the Jews, since their Friday began after sundown on Thursday. John 19:31 refers to "the preparation" for the Sabbath. This refers to Friday afternoon, the day of the passover.

3. "Didn't Jesus keep the law perfectly?" Yes. And he kept the law perfectly in this case because he ate the passover supper on Friday, which was the 14th day of the first month. That he ate it earlier than was customary is immaterial, it was still on the right day according to the law. This comment by Adam Clark may be of some help in clarifying this matter:

It is a common opinion that our

Lord ate the passover some hours before the Jews ate it; for the Jews, according to custom, ate theirs at the END of the FOURTEENTH day, but Christ ate his the preceding even, which was the beginning of the same sixth day, or Friday; the Jews begin their day at SUNSETTING, we at midnight. Thus Christ ate the passover on the SAME DAY with the Jews, but not on the SAME HOUR. (Comments on Mt. 26:20).

4. "Now, if Jesus kept the passover one day early, can you help me to understand scriptural authority here and apply it to Acts 20:7 for the Lord's supper?" There is absolutely no problem when we understand all the facts. Jesus ate the passover here according to the law. He did not eat it a day early, but on Friday the 14th day of the first month. The fact that he ate it earlier than was customary does not change the fact that he ate it on the legal day for its observance.

With this being understood, there is no application of it to the Lord's supper, and it creates no problem therewith.

The Lord's supper is exemplified with apostolic approval on the first day of the week. The apostles delivered unto us what they received of the Lord (1 Cor. 11:23). Paul, being present at Troas in Acts 20:7, certainly knew when the supper should be observed. The fact that he and his company came to Troas and remained there 7 days is strong circumstantial evidence that they were waiting for the Lord's day to arrive so as to observe the supper with the Troas disciples on the first day of the week. Since first-day-of-the-week communion is the only revelation we have on the matter, it is the only authority we have for when to observe the supper. Any other day would be without authority. jpn

NEWS

about us 'n things

SICK AND SHUT IN

DERRON GEY has been very ill and in the hospital. He is home now and doing better, but still weak...MELODY GEY was ill at the same time and almost had pneumonia. At this writing is still not back to normal...Sis. VICKERS continues to be able to attend some services, but continues to suffer heart problems...MADELYN MELVIN has not been well of late, but able to attend most services.



Our congratulations and best wishes to PAULA FROST and QUINTIN COOPER who were married at the building Friday night, May 14.

Also, the same to KIM KAPELKA and DON BARTCH who were married Saturday, May 15.

We wish all much happiness and, above all, spiritual prosperity.

Make your contribution at home

Our contributions are fluctuating quite a bit--in fact, too much. It appears that some who are frequently out of town may be giving wherever they happen to be. While I am certain the Lord accepts such giving, it seems more expedient to make your contributions where you hold membership. Our work is based upon what contributions we think we will have based upon what we had last year. Thus, when all of us do not give at home, we fall below the budget and our work suffers. Let's all remember to make arrangements to leave our contribution at home.

Children too reckless after church

All of us can remember when we enjoyed playing and running off pent up energy after school and church. I think too, that most of us can remember that we sometimes did things that were unwise and dangerous. Children get involved in having fun, and don't think of the possible consequences of their actions.

It is certain that we can't put an adult's head on a child's shoulders, but we can caution our children and give them parental guidance. There is excessive running among the cars on the parking lot, and other "horse play" after services that is very likely to result in serious injury, then we will all be sorry we didn't prevent it. So, let all adults be aware of our children and let all parents make sure their children understand what they are forbidden to do.

While we are on the subject, let one thing be made clear to all children: THE OFFICES ARE STRICTLY OFF LIMITS. We have expensive and finely tuned machinery in the offices, and a little tinkering can cost us much time and money, and if one pushes the wrong button, he could lose a finger! Certainly none of us wants that.

We love all our youngsters, and we don't want to see any of them injured, or mistreated. So, with the loving cooperation of all of us, we can solve any problems we might have. And I think we will do so.

Out-of-towners, please call

If you are going to be out of town for a service, please call and let us know. It means so much to know that you are not ill. Also, be sure and call bro. Duer if you are on the program.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 5-30-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Carl Weil
Robert Gaines
O-Gene Mooney
Steven Kapelka
USHERS---R. Gaines, Jack Farrington

SUNDAY PM 5-30-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Carl Weil
Gene Mooney
USHERS---R. Gaines, Jack Farrington

WEDNESDAY 6-2-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Wayne Gey
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
READ SCRIPTURE-----Ralph Autry
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Howard Martin
INVITATION-----Ronald Carter

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--June 76

POST PROGRAM-----Mark DuBose
MONTHLY SINGING-----Al Summers
CLOSE BUILDING-----O.J. Duer
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MASON, OHIO 45040

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Morning Bible study 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

MY MOTHER, YES YOU ARE



MOTHER, God's gift to all our race;
Angels made the lines upon your face
And filled you with love so unique--
Beyond the tongue of man to speak.

MOTHER, who cared for me when I could not
And loved me more than I've forgot.
You kissed away my hurts and fears
And tenderly soothed my tingling tears.

MOTHER, who showed me right from wrong
And taught me to sing a happy song.
You stood by when temptations came
And helped me honor my father's name.

MOTHER, fondest companion of all my youth.
How I love thee in deed and truth.
You showed me how my pains to bear
And how with others my love to share.



MOTHER, how did I ever bring thee pain
When in my youth I acted vain?
You bore my follies without a scar,
For you are MY MOTHER, YES YOU ARE!

James P. Needham
11-25-74



Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Did Jesus rise on Sunday?

?????????????????
?
? Did Jesus rise from the dead on ?
? Saturday or Sunday? How was He ?
? in the grave three days? ?
?
? Address misplaced ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

These questions have been discussed for ages, and it is hard to understand why. It is amazing how people will concern themselves with such inconsequential questions, and ignore "the weightier matters" (Mt. 23:23). I can understand some concern about such matters, but to make a consuming hobby of such questions is to major in the minors.

The answer to these questions is determined largely by understanding Jewish idiom, expressions peculiar to a given language, and understood by those who use them. Such expressions as "three days and nights," "after three days," etc., are idiomatic expressions that we must understand as did the Jews in the first century. While I haven't the space to detail this here, it is a fact well established that the Jews counted a fraction of a day as a whole day in such expressions. Those who deny this are hard pressed to prove their

contention.

Idiomatic expressions are always difficult for foreigners to understand. Though many countries of the world speak English, each has its own idiom that other English speaking persons must have explained to them.

One can learn that Jesus arose on the first day of the week, however, without explanation of the idiomatic expressions. Mk. 16:9 says, "Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week." This is an inspired commentary on the idiomatic expressions, and leaves no room for doubt as to when he arose.

Involved in these two questions is the Jewish method of counting time. The Roman method was like ours. Midnight to midnight, but the Jews counted a day from sunset to sunset. Thus the crucifixion, burial and resurrection of Jesus looks like this:

ROMAN		JEWISH	
SUNSET THURS. TO SUNSET FRI.	→	FRI.	← CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL--1st DAY
SUNSET FRI. TO SUNSET SAT.	→	SAT.	← IN THE TOMB-- 2nd DAY
SUNSET SAT. TO SUNSET SUN.	→	SUN.	← AROSE--3rd DAY

As stated earlier, it can be irrefutably proven that the Jews counted part of a day as a whole, thus Jesus was in the grave three days and nights according to Jewish idiom. Those who demand the interpretation of Jewish idiom in the light of modern English are unreasonable and absurd, and cause one to doubt their sincerity. jpn

NEWS... about us 'n things

SICK AND SHUT IN

Sis. VICKERS is doing about as usual. Still able to attend some of the services...DERRON and MELODY GEY are back in church after illnesses.... CHARLOTTE DALTON was unable to be at worship May 23 due to illness.

FRONT PAGE POEM

The poem to MOTHER is reprinted on the front page by special request. I used it in a sermon recently, and it was requested that it be printed here. It has appeared before, but some do not keep their bulletins, and new members are coming in all the time who did not see it originally.

AREA GOSPEL MEETINGS

AZALEA PARK, Jerre Frost, May 24-28, 7:30 nightly. Sorry we didn't know of this in time to make an earlier announcement.

DELAND, James Shear, May 31-June 6, 7:30 nightly.

MERRITT ISLAND, VBS. This editor teaching the adult class, June 14-18.

PARENT TEACHERS

Parents, do you counsel with your child's Bible class teacher as you would with his school teacher? Don't you want to know how he/she is doing? Do you agree that Bible school is more important than public school? If so, then why don't we act like it?

Do you go the whole year without once discussing your child's work with his public school teacher? Do you make it your business to know whether he/she gets the home work. If you know your child is not behaving in class, do you admonish him/her, or just ignore it? Does it matter to you that your child abuses his public school books, leaves them lying around at school and never brings them home or looks at them out of class? Do you care whether your Children arrive at public school on time? Do you put forth extra effort to see that they are not late? Do you plan family trips without regard to what they will do to your child's school work? If you decide to go to the beach do you just take your kids out of school and go? If your children need help with their home work, do you tell them you don't have time?

If you don't have these attitudes where public school is concerned, and you admit that Bible school is more important than public school, then what about it? Why don't we act consistent with our profession?

AUDITORIUM CLASS

We are having a very fine study in the auditorium class. We are using THE FOURFOLD GOSPEL, by J. W. McGarvey. There is exceptional interest, and much participation. Each member of the class has purchased a copy of the text, and putting a lot into the study.

The book is now published only in a very poor paperback binding which soon comes apart. If yours has this problem, please give it to the editor, or sister Needham for repair. I will bind it in hardback, if you would like. I have so done several already. They are not as functional as an ordinary hard book, but much superior to the poor paperback. It is a book you will want to keep in your library.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 6-6-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Clay Garrison
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Frank English
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Ralph Autry
Mark DuBose
O-Ronald Carter
Randy Summers
USHERS---R. Gaines, Jack Farrington

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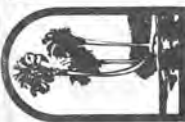
WEDNESDAY 6-9-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----O.J. Duer
SONG LEADER-----Howard Martin
FIRST PRAYER-----Al Summers
READ SCRIPTURE-----Steven Kapelka
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Randy Summers
INVITATION-----Robert Gaines

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bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

*When education substitutes arrogance for credulousness, it is a detriment rather than an asset.

*When one loses perspective, he begins to build on false values. Building on false values is like trying to build a house without a foundation.

*If absence makes the heart grow fonder, as is often said, some church members must really love the church!

*From the way some brethren give to the Lord, they really believe the old adage that "It's the little things that count"!

*IT'S ALL IN HOW YOU LOOK AT IT: A man said he had trained a pig to read the newspaper. Someone asked, "How long did it take you?" The man replied, "Twelve months." "Well, isn't that a long time?" responded his friend. To which he replied, "What's time to a pig." The moral of this story is this: time may not be important to a pig, but it is to a man for it is given him for the purpose of preparing to meet God. How are you using yours? Benjamin Franklin said, "Doest thou love life? Then do not squander time, for it is the stuff out of which life is made."

*Why is it that man is more concerned about what he WANTS TO DO, than about what he OUGHT TO DO?

*Changing the lives of men is effected by putting Christ in their hearts, not by putting a demonstration placard in their hands.

*Evangelism is more than putting a catchy bumper sticker on your car.

*Putting the weight of responsibility on one's shoulders is often the best way to keep one's feet on the ground.

jpn

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Women in 1 Cor. 14:34,35

?????????????????
?
? Does the "your women" in 1 Cor. ?
? 14:34,35 apply to the wives of ?
? gifted men or to women in gen- ?
? eral?" KY. ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

I realize this is a moot question, and it must be settled by the context. At the same time, whether it is the wives of gifted men, or women in general does not really affect the role of women in our assemblies. 1 Tim. 2:11-15 is the general rule governing the conduct of Christian women.

There is some reason to believe that this prohibition was specifically written to the wives of gifted men, even though the chapter has in mind a meeting in which "the whole church be come together into one place" (v.23). I say this mainly because the women prohibited from speaking in this assembly all had husbands, "If they (the women under consideration) will learn anything, let them ask THEIR HUSBANDS at home..." (v.35).

It is absurd to argue that a woman who doesn't have an husband can ask the elders, her father, brother, uncle, etc. To so argue is to accuse the Holy Spirit of speaking inaccurately. If He meant this, why didn't He say it? Or to

put it another way, if He didn't mean husband when He said husband, what would He have said had He meant husband?

Since the context is a meeting in which "the whole church" was "together into one place," it is very unlikely that all women present were married. But the prohibition was to women who had husbands. If we are going to allow the Holy Spirit to speak accurately, then this prohibition was specifically directed to women in the assembly who had husbands. Otherwise it is nonsense.

The usual objection to this is Paul's statement, "For it is a shame for women to speak in the church" (v. 35). This obviously must be understood in the light of other passages. It is a shame for a woman to speak in the church where she teaches or usurps authority "OVER A MAN" (1 Tim. 2:12). It certainly doesn't mean that a woman can't answer a question in a mixed assembly because Saphira did (Acts 5:8), and that under the prompting of the Apostle Peter. Did Peter prompt her to do that which it is a shame to do?

While I certainly don't know just what the situation was at Corinth, I can imagine that it was something like this: Prophets were receiving revelations, and their wives were interrupting them to ask the meaning of certain passages. This was causing confusion, and hindering the prophets. Paul is telling these wives to save their questions until they got home.

I don't think the language would permit women without husbands to interrupt the prophets. Such women were not causing the problem, so they are not addressed, but only the women who were the source of the problem. This harmonizes with all other passages on the role of women in the assembly. jpn

NEWS... about us 'n things

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the Collins family: Guy, Carolyn (Carrol), and Scott. They placed membership with us on May 30. They previously worshiped at the Concord St. church, but through study came to disagree with many of the programs, plans, and practices there. We welcome them to PSD, and trust they will find this a pleasant and profitable place to serve God. They live at 706 Milan Ct., Altamonte Springs, Phone: 862-6077. Scott is 13 years old, and is also a Christian.

SICK AND SHUT IN

The MOONEY children have had Chicken Pox...Sis. VICKERS continues about as usual, being able to attend some of the services...Reports from Helen Kapelka's mother continue to be encouraging...Georgia Weems' mother has been with her for some time, and has not been doing well. She is reported to be some better of late.

CALL IN RADIO PROGRAM

The Pine Hills call in radio program is aired daily Mon.-Fri. at 1:00 PM. The various preachers in the Orlando area appear on the program. I will be on the program most of the month of June. I will help on the program June 7-11, and will host the program the weeks of June 21 and 28. Listen if you can and tell others about it. 1480 on your dial, WCVF Windemere. It can be heard in most of the Orlando area, though not in all. Questions are received by telephone on the program and given immediate answers and discussion. It gets to be quite interesting.

BOUND VOLUMES OF PSD BULLETIN

We continue to be amazed and pleased with the tremendous interest in bound volumes of this bulletin from all parts of the country. They are hard to keep. Each year we bind more and more, and we keep running out. Volumes 1,2,3 have been gone long since, and fewer than a half dozen of vol. 4 remain, and not a great many of vol. 5 are left. These are \$5 each, if you want one, and you order them from the editor, not the church. You pay for binding and postage and the church donates the bulletins.

KEEPING UP THE BUILDING

A church building is easily neglected. Everybody's business is nobody's! While bro. Wayne Gey is in charge of building and grounds, and does a good job, there are always little things that each of us can do to keep the building tidy, and well maintained. When you see something that needs to be taken care of, do you say, "Oh, someone else will take care of it?" Or, do you take the attitude that this is your building, and as much your responsibility as the next person's? Why not take care of those items you see that need to be done? That's the real spirit of membership responsibility.

TRACTS

You will find a nice selection of tracts in our tract rack. These are excellent to use in your efforts to win others. They keep on teaching after you have gone. Use them wisely, and don't allow your children to waste them. They are very expensive. If you need a tract on some subject which we don't have, let us know. We can probably find one on the subject.

CAN YOU GIVE THE LORD A GOOD REASON FOR YOUR ABSENCE ON SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY NIGHT?



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 6-13-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Carl Weil
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Clay Garrison
Steven Kapelka
O-Frank English
Robert Carter
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

SUNDAY PM 6-13-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Carl Weil
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Howard Martin
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Clay Garrison
Frank English
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

WEDNESDAY 6-16-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----James Smith
FIRST PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
INVITATION-----Howard Martin

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bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

WE GET LETTERS

"I read about your debate with Mr. Childress, and I would like to say something to both of you. There are 3 billion people in this world and you're wasting your time arguing with another Christian. Couldn't you have used that time to witness instead of debate? Please do not pass this off as a crank letter. I am very serious, and I have reason to be. I belong to an upward bound project of 75 people. Out of the 75, only two that I know of are Christians, and they are hard to witness to. If any one of them were to go to one of those debates and if I tried to talk to them afterwards about their salvation, they would laugh me in the face. I need all the help I can get when it comes to witnessing and if that is the kind of help I get from other Christians, all I can say to both of you is thank you for nothing. Please show this letter to Mr. Childress."

I am sure this reader is very sincere, but sincerely wrong. Such thinking comes from the prevalent philosophy that truth is sort of like "silly putty," one can bend it to fit his particular brand of religion, and it is still truth. Mr. Childress teaches that there is only one person in the Godhead; the Bible teaches there are three. According to this gentleman, we should both go our own ways since both of us are Christians. Just ignore the difference. Mr. Childress denies 2/3's of the Godhead, but he is still a Christian?

Mr. Childress teaches that Christians today can perform all the miracles done by the apostles and early Christians, but he refuses to demonstrate. He wants to testify of what he or someone else has done over at "Podunk," and expects everyone to accept his subjective testimony without further proof. This reader thinks we should just ignore this vast difference and go our own ways.

What would he say to Paul who DISPUTED for three years in the school of Tyrannus (Acts 19:9)? What would he say to Jude who commands Christians to "Earnestly contend for the faith" (Jude 3)? What would he say to the CHRISTIANS at Jerusalem who engaged in "much disputing" (Acts 15:7)? (See page 3)

What's Your Question?

Bible Answers to Bible Questions.

Baptism: who performs? what say?

 * "Can an alien, an apostate, or a wo *
 * man, scripturally baptize one into *
 * the death burial and resurrection of *
 * Christ, if they use the Bible words?" *

REPLY

1. Concerning the qualifications of the baptizer:

The scripturalness of baptism does not depend upon the SEX, or the spiritual condition of the baptizer, but upon the knowledge and understanding of the one being baptized. The scriptures are absolutely silent concerning the qualifications of the baptizer. Since God gives no qualifications for this person, then we should not (1 Pet. 4:11). However, much is said of the qualifications of the one being baptized. He must have heard the gospel (Jn. 6:44-46; Rom. 10:17). He must be a believer of the gospel (Rom. 10:10, 17; Mk. 16:16). He must have repented of his sins (Lk. 13:3; Acts 17:30). He must have confessed Christ with his mouth (Rom. 10:10; Mt. 10:32). Those who have not performed these acts are not scripturally qualified subjects of baptism.

These qualifications of those to be baptized are clear, simple and easy to find in the scriptures, but no passage of scripture gives any information on the qualifications of the baptizer.

While the New Testament does not indicate that anyone other than MALE CHRISTIANS did the baptizing, it would be difficult if not impossible to indisputably prove that others did not, or cannot.

When Alexander Campbell realized that he had not been baptized, he persuaded a Baptist preacher to immerse him with the clear understanding that it was contrary to Baptist practice. Was Campbell's baptism scriptural?

To make valid baptism depend upon the qualifications of the baptizer would necessitate our establishing an unbroken chain of baptismal succession performed by Christians all the way back to the apostles. It would mean that each Christian must have been baptized by a Christian who in turn was baptized by a Christian, etc. etc. back through the centuries of religious error and historical records that are either inaccurate or non-existent. Scriptural baptism would thus be dependent upon fallible human records.

2. Concerning the words to be said by the baptizer:

The question mentions "using the Bible words" at baptism. What are they? So far as we know, NOTHING was said when people were baptized in the New Testament, and there is certainly no scriptural requirement that anything be said now. The validity of baptism does not depend upon what is SAID, but upon what is DONE. It is possible to baptize a person into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Mt. 28:18-20), for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38), and into Christ (Gal. 3:27) without saying that this is what is being done. While it is RIGHT and GOOD to say what is being done that all may understand it, there is no requirement that it be said.

This is not an encouragement for anyone to rush out and persuade an alien, apostate or female to immerse him without saying what is being done. Indeed not! The circumstance would be extreme and rare that would necessitate that! The point is, that we should be very careful not to take a position we cannot scripturally substantiate. Let us "speak as the oracles of God" (1 Pet. 4:11).

Continued from pg. 1

This reader's attitude is typical of many today. Many who claim to be Christians have no back bone. Nothing seems to matter except that people have some sort of belief that Jesus is the Christ. What He commanded is not important, just believe that He is the Saviour!

That's all very easy and convenient, but the fact is that Jesus said, *"W h y call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"* (Lk. 6:46). It is a fact that the Lord says, *"Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them"* (Eph 5:11). He also said, *"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening w o l v e s"* (Mt. 7:15). No man is pleasing to God w h o wants to ignore these commands.

Another false concept in our respondent's letter is quite prevalent today a l s o, namely, "witnessing." It comes from a misunderstanding of such passages as: Acts 1:8; 5:32, where the apostles were sent forth to be witnesses. They were witnesses of the resurrection. They testified to it. When we preach the gospel, we are not witnessing, but pointing persons to the testimony of the witnesses. Thus we are not witnesses, but preachers and proclaimers. But this false concept has caught on today, and every time anyone mentions Christ to others he is "witnessing." Such is not speaking as the oracles of God (1 Pet. 4:11).

My respondent reminds me of the fact that there are 3 billion souls in the world. I am keenly aware of that. F o r that reason I am set for the defense of the gospel w h i c h includes exposing false teachers w h o beguile unstable souls.

jpn

NEWS...

about us 'n things

SICK AND SHUT IN

Sis. VICKERS is still able to attend some of the services. We are happy she is able to be out...Chicken pox at the MOONEY household a r e improving...Al SUMMERS is suffering from a back injury that has kept him in bed...ANNETTE GARRISON suffered a bad cut on one hand...The AUTRY children have been ill of late...JANET SUMMERS had surgery on her foot last week.

CALL IN RADIO PROGRAM

I am on the Pine Hills radio program the rest of the month of June. It is aired Mon-Fri. a t 1:00 PM, at 1480 o n your dial. Listen and tell others.

VISITORS

We are having more and more visitors now as summer approaches and school is out. Let each of us make it a point to get to the back of the building as soon as services are over, and greet all our visitors. It means a lot to a visitor to find us friendly and warm. We never know what will come of it.

By the same token, many of our members are visiting other places. Be sure to enjoy your vacation, but don't forget God! There is no vacation from our spiritual obligations. Why not take along a hand full of our bulletins and spread them around. Be an ambassador of good will. It won't hurt a thing.

DON'T ALLOW FRIVILIOUS EXCUSES TO HINDER YOU FROM SERVING GOD. ATTEND ALL SERVICES OF THE LOCAL CHURCH. DON'T SKIP SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY NIGHTS.



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WEDNESDAY 6-23-76

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bulletin

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FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

*In response to our recent front-page article on Academic pride, brother James Thompson, an elder in the West Murray, Ky. church, and who, incidentally has a Ph.D, but who doesn't display it, sent me this humorous story which undergirds my little article:

A young Ph.D.er, who was quite proud, asked an older professor why he didn't have his doctorate? To which the older professor replied, "Well I guess it's because I'd rather have people wonder WHY I didn't get it, than HOW I got it!"

That's what I call letting a fellow down hard in a very easy way! I like that!

*If we are constantly pressing for our turn to speak, we are not listening to others because we are too busy thinking about what we are going to say. It is very hard for most of us to think and listen at the same time. But, being a good listener is important in human communication. Hambone said, "You ain't learnin' when you're talkin.'" Some sage said, "It is better to keep one's mouth shut and be thought a fool, than to open it and remove all doubt!"

*A preacher who received a lot of anonymous hate mail, once got a letter that contained only one word in large letters; it said F O O L! The preacher took it to the pulpit and displayed it to his audience with this comment, "Most of my mail has a message, but no signature, but this one has a signature, but no message!"

*We should be very careful about comparing ourselves with others. If the comparison shows us to be better than the other, we are liable to become arrogant. If it shows us to be inferior, we are liable to become resentful and discouraged. It is best to simply be ourselves, and let others do the same. Paul put it this way: "We dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, ARE NOT WISE" (2 Cor. 10:12). jpn



How many sons of Jesse?

 * "Why is there a difference in the *
 * number of sons of Jesse in 1 Chron. *
 * 2:13-15, and 1 Sam. 16:6-11? This *
 * was a jolt to my faith when I first *
 * heard of it. --Ark. *

REPLY

This type of question is difficult to handle. It requires tedious research, and close attention to the language used. There are some seeming numerical contradictions in the Old Testament. Before we allow any such supposed discrepancies to weaken our faith, we should be sure that we have given them sufficient study, that we are treating fairly the language used, and that there is no possible way to reasonably explain them. Before we push the panic button, we should seek all the help we can get from others, as our querist evidently is doing. It is still true, that when all circumstances are understood, there are no contradictions in the Bible, certifying it to be a production of an infinite and infallible God. (1 Cor. 2:13; 2 Pet. 1:21).

1. The problem stated: There are at least two places where Jesse is said to have had eight sons: 1 Sam. 16:6-11; 17:12. But 1 Chron. 2:13-15, states that he had only seven. 1 Chron. 2:15, has David the seventh of seven sons of

Jesse. 1 Sam. 16:6-11, has David the eighth of eight sons of Jesse.

2. The problem explained: Examination shows that 1 Chron. 2 is a genealogical table. PULPIT COMMENTARY suggests that the explanation may be that one of Jesse's sons "died early without issue, and would accordingly be the less wanted in a genealogical register" (vol. 6, p. 19). To this agree the following, ALLEGED DISCREPANCIES OF THE BIBLE, p. 383, JAMIESON, FAUSSET AND BROWN, I.S.B.E., KEIL AND DELITZSCHE, vol. 7, p. 62, and LANG'S COMMENTARY, vol. 7, p. 40. Genealogical tables frequently omit certain descendants who were not pertinent to said tables.

We frequently omit the deceased when speaking of our families, depending upon what we are seeking to establish at a given time, or circumstance.

It should also be pointed out that some of these seeming contradictions are rooted in textual problems, that is, what comes through to us in the english translation depends upon what was in the particular manuscript from which it was translated. Such falls into the field of "lower criticism" which "deals with the text of the OT, its transmission and condition" (Harrison, BAKER'S DICTIONARY OF THEOLOGY, p. 150). This is a very technical field, and must often concern itself with what is known as "variant readings," which are certain differences that occur among the ancient manuscripts. Many of these are attributed to "copyist errors," which are what we would call "typographical errors". These manuscripts were made by hand, and some times the copyist made inadvertent errors.

For instance, concerning the present problem, Lange says, "The Peshitoa

SEE NEXT COLUMN

NEWS... about us 'n things

SICK AND SHUT IN

JANET SUMMERS was able to be at worship on June 13, following surgery on her foot...SHARMAN MOONEY, at this writing, still has a severe case of Chicken Pox. We hope she will be better soon...Sister VICKERS continues to be able to attend some of the services...It was good to see Georgia Weems' mother out to church Sun. night, June 13. The first time in a very long time. She has not been well.

(which are the simple or common Syriac translations of the Old Testament JPN) has in our passage 8 instead of seven sons of Jesse, of whom it calls the seventh Elihu, the eighth David. The first 6 agree with the Masoretic text" (COMMENTARY ON THE HOLY BIBLE, Lange, vol. 7, p. 40)

CONCLUSION

The reader may think this answer too indefinite, but I cannot give a more definitive answer. I have given two reasonable explanations: (1) that latter genealogies omitted the deceased who had no children, or (2) that the difference comes about as the result of a scribal error. I cannot tell the reader which explanation is the most logical. My purpose is to suggest that there is no iron-glad evidence that these passages present an irreconcilable contradiction. This is never the case as long as there is even one other alternative that is sensible. In this case, we have two explanations that are neither fanciful nor frivolous, but plausible and credible. This being the case, there is certainly nothing here that should damage one's faith in the infallibility of the Bible.

MERRITT ISLAND VBS

At this writing I am engaged in a vacation Bible school at Merritt Island. I am teaching the adult class and singing with the children. We had 85 present the first night.

I am also on the Pine Hills call-in radio program all during the month of June. It is aired daily (Mon.-Fri.) at 1:00 PM, at 1480 on your dial.

Sherry Robinson's new address

Sherry Robinson now lives at 312-A Cherokee Ct., Altamonte Springs. Her Phone is 339-2950.

Welcome the Hicks family

We welcome the Hicks family: William (Bill), Marcelle, Emily 9, Bill 5, Jennifer 4, and little Matthew 18 mos. They live at 918-A Lake Destiny Rd. Altamonte Springs. They have no telephone. They come to us from Miami. Bill is the sales manager for Honda in Sanford.

Jim Poppel to hold fall meeting

Bro. Jim Poppel of Lake City will conduct our Fall meeting. Brother Poppel is an outstanding young preacher, and we look forward to having him. Dates will be announced when they are finally set.

WARNING TO READERS

If you fail to send us your new address when you move (which costs us .10), your name will be removed from our mailing list.

To get back on, you must make a new request. We ask for your cooperation and understanding.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 6-27-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gerald Durrett
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Al Summers
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-James Smith
Mike Farrington
O-Al Summers
Robert Gaines
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

SUNDAY PM 6-27-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gerald Durrett
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----James Smith
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----James Smith
Al Summers
USHERS---Jack Farrington, R. Gaines

WEDNESDAY 6-30-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Howard Martin
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Carl Weil
READ SCRIPTURE-----O.J. Duer
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Al Summers
INVITATION-----Gerald Durrett

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--July 76

POST PROGRAM-----Steven Kapelka
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MASON, OHIO 45040

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(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!

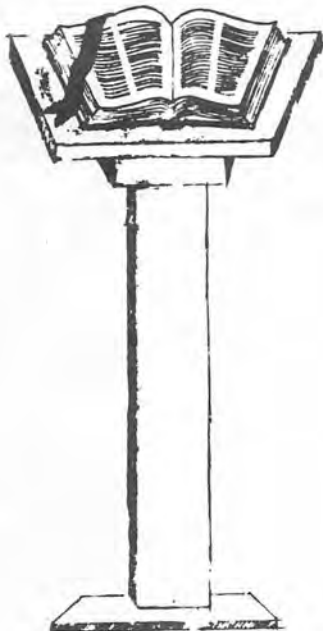
Volume VI, Number 19, June 28, 1976



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

AN OPEN BIBLE AND AN OPEN PULPIT



GUARDIANS

OF

TRUTH

AND

FREEDOM

jpn, 1966

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Scripturalness of business meetings

?????????????????
?
? Can we find scriptural authori- ?
? ty for a business meeting o f ?
? the men to take care of church ?
? matters? (Only MEN of THIS con- ?
? gregation allowed)? --Ark. ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

There is scriptural authority for a church business meeting in an approved apostolic example, Acts 6:1-8. Certain widows were neglected in the "daily ministration." Responsibility for these widows fell within the "business" of the Jerusalem church, so the apostles "called the multitude of the disciples (Jerusalem church jpn) unto them and said...look ye out among you seven men ...whom we may appoint over this business." (Necessity...need...duty or business" Vine p.160). This suggestion "pleased the whole multitude (church jpn)..." and they executed it; that is; they called a *business meeting* of the church, and selected the men (call it a committee, if you please) to implement this BUSINESS of the church.

Thus, there is no doubt about the scripturalness of a church having a *business meeting*, that is, a meeting for the purpose of implementing the scriptural work of the congregation. This principle is indisputably estab-

lished in the example of Acts 6. He who would question this, would have to question what was done under the guidance and supervision of the apostles.

It certainly is scriptural to allow only members of the local church in such business meetings. The Bible teaches that each local church is separate and independent of all other local churches. Each is autonomous, or self governing. The decisions each local church makes are strictly between it and God. To allow members of other congregations to participate in a local church's decision making process, is to violate its autonomy. The principle of local autonomy is well established in such passages as Acts 20:28, and 1 Pet. 5:1,2.

As to the scripturalness of not allowing the women in the business meetings, I have serious doubts, if they want to attend. Acts 6:2, says, "*Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples together...*" If you can exclude the female members of the Jerusalem church from this gathering, you can do more than I can! Were the female members of the Jerusalem church a part of the "multitude of the disciples"? To ask that question is to answer it! Well, if they were members of the "multitude of the disciples" then they were a part of the Jerusalem business meeting.

Let it be understood that women in such a business meeting would have to be governed by the same rules that govern them in other assemblies of the church. They could not "usurp authority over the man" (1 Tim. 2:12). To say that their mere presence is unscriptural is to say what the Bible does not say, or teach. How can one admit them to some church assemblies, and bar them from others? jpn

THE WEILS LEAVE PSD—MAKE FALSE CHARGE

For several weeks the Weil family has not attended the services. I tried to contact them, but was unable to do so until Sunday morning, June 20. Bro. Weil informed me that they would be attending the South Seminole church because *"PSD doesn't believe in supporting widows and orphans."* I very kindly asked him to cite just one instance of where PSD has failed to care for a widow or orphan that fell within our responsibility. He replied, *"You don't support Mt. Dora."* To which I replied that to support Mt. Dora is not to support widows and orphans, but to subsidize a human organization.

I begged bro. Weil to come and teach us the truth since he thinks we are in error. To which he replied that he was not that well informed, and he could not convince us. I then invited him to bring the preacher from South Seminole, but he didn't talk favorably about that either.

I tried to show him the unscripturalness of just abandoning the PSD church to what he evidently thinks is condemning error, without a single effort to teach us the truth. His only reply was that he couldn't convince us that we are wrong. How he can know this without a single effort is beyond me. I ask you, is this not a charge that we are closed minded and unwilling to learn? We deny the charge.

Bro. Weil was offended by an article in the BULLETIN May 3, 1976 in which I responded to a letter from a Jacksonville church of some 400 members soliciting financial help from PSD in the construction of a quarter of a million dollar building. Bro. Weil confessed that he knows nothing about that church. But in spite of that he KNOWS it is

not deserving of criticism! I might also note that he does not know how much I know about it, but he is willing to criticize me for criticizing it! I might also add that he confesses that he is not well enough informed in the scriptures to teach us the truth on the issues that caused them to leave, but he is willing to make the scandalous charge that we "don't support widows and orphans." He concedes the Jacksonville church the right to write this church a letter, but denies us the right to respond to it! I ask you, what kind of fairness is that?

PSD is a Bible believing church. We maintain that we are doing only what is authorized in the scriptures, and we invite bro. Weil, the South Seminole preacher, or anyone else to occupy our pulpit and tell us what is wrong with us. We are not angry with anyone, but that does not mean that we will sit idly by while persons circulate scandalous charges against us. When it comes to helping the needy, there is no more liberal church in the country than PSD. I challenge bro. Weil and the South Seminole preacher to a comparison of what they have done for the needy with what PSD has done. We will then see who is "supporting widows and orphans."

The truth of this matter is simple: What we have done for the needy matters not at all. (We have spent hundreds of dollars in our six-year history). But bro. Weil would fellowship us if we would make a token contribution to Mt. Dora, a human institution. This whole thing is based, not upon what the Bible teaches, (bro. Weil admits his inadequacy there) but upon partyism. The point is to get on the institutional bandwagon. No, thanks! We'll just stay on the "gospel wagon." jpn



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 7-4-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Howard Martin
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Frank English
Mark DuBose
O-Jimmy Smith
Scott Collins
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

SUNDAY PM 7-4-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Howard Martin
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Clay Garrison
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Frank English
Jimmy Smith
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

WEDNESDAY 7-7-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Robert Gaines
SONG LEADER-----Howard Martin
FIRST PRAYER-----Guy Collins
READ SCRIPTURE-----Steven Kapelka
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Randy Summers
INVITATION-----Al Summers

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--July 76

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Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

"But what will my friends say?"

"But I know I'm right"

ARE YOU A PRISONER?

"But I've always
believed this"

"But I'd have to admit I've been wrong"



ARE YOU AFRAID TO THINK for fear that you might discover that you have a flaw in your thinking process which has led you into error? Do you tune out everything that differs from what you already believe? Do you cover up your deep-felt insecurity by an arrogant boast that you KNOW you are right? Do you become hostile when you encounter opposition to what you have believed for so long, or do you calmly consider what you hear in the light of God's word?

These are questions we should all carefully consider. When we allow human pride to stifle our thinking process, we are *prisoners* whether or not we are willing to admit it. The Bible at no time sanctions or encourages a closed minded stance in any person. The person with a closed mind is wrong, even though the things he believes are right. Such a posture depicts an attitude of infallibility. I believe we have the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the Bible. I believe it is infallible, but I cannot afford to think my understanding of it is inerrant. I must always be willing to study.

Someone has well said: *"He who will not think is lazy; He who cannot is a fool, and he who dares not is a slave."* We all need to learn that nothing is right just because we believe it. It is certainly true that if we believe a thing it *seems* right, but Solomon said, *"There is a way that SEEMETH right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death"* (Prov. 14:12). Our thinking processes are our only means of discovering the truth, but the discovery of truth is a very rigorous and continuing endeavor. Eternal vigilance is the price of safety here. We can, through carelessness and prejudice, deceive ourselves into believing we have discovered the truth when, in fact, we haven't. A thing is right only if it comports with God's word. Everything else is error regardless of how antiquated or hallowed. God's word is truth (Jn. 17:17). Nothing else will do. Remember, a person who makes us think, can't be all bad! Don't be a mental prisoner: "Y o u shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (Jn. 8:32). Is it true that the most unpopular preachers are those who make people think? jpn



Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Origin of the term "Roman Catholic"

?????????????????
?
? When did the term "Roman Catho- ?
? lic" originate? Fla. ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

In researching the CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPE-
DIA, I found the following excerpts:

The combination "the Catholic Church" is found for the first time in the letter of St. Ignatius to the Smyrnaeans, written about the year 110.

...the technical use (of the term Catholic Church jpn) seems to have been established by the beginning of the third century.

In fact Catholic soon became in many cases a mere appellative--the proper name, in other words, of the true Church founded by Christ.
...

The one clear idea underlying all is orthodox as opposed to heretical, and Kattenbusch does not hesitate to admit that in Cyprian (250 AD, jpn) we first see how Catholic and Roman came eventually to be regarded as interchangeable terms.

From about the year 1580, besides

the term papist, employed with approbrious intent, the followers of the old religion were often called Romish, or Roman Catholics...Neither do the Catholics always seem to have objected to the appellation, but sometimes used it themselves. (pp. 449,450).

From these quotations we learn the following facts:

1. The term CATHOLIC was never applied to the church until 110 AD, thus after the last book of the Bible had been written, but then it was not the name of the church but an adjective describing its universal character (the word "catholic" means universal).

2. That the term "catholic" as a technical name for the church originated during the last half of the third century.

3. The interchangeable use of the words "catholic" and "Roman" seems to have been admitted in the writings of Cyprian, 250 AD.

4. That the term "Roman Catholic" originated in the legislative enactments in Protestant England to distinguish them from the Anglo-Catholics after King Henry VIII separated English Catholics from the Roman pope in 1534. (He did this because the pope refused to annul his marriage to Catherine of Aragon so he could marry the young beautiful Anne Boleyn.)

5. That the term Roman Catholic is the name of a denominational church which was originated by men when Boniface the III was crowned as the universal bishop of the church in the year 606 AD. The name is not found in the Bible, a fact admitted by official Catholic writers. jpn

NEWS... **about us 'n things**

SICK AND SHUT IN

At this writing we've had no report on the surgery of sis. M I L A M, Helen Kapelka's mother, of Ft. Wayne, Ind. We presume that no news is good news. Helen is with her for a few days...Sis. VICKERS continues about as usual. She is able to attend some services.

Note from sister Myers

We received a card from sis. DOROTHY MYERS during her visit with the Terrys. She was certainly enjoying her visit, and sent greetings to all from the Terrys. She was to go to Detroit from there, and perhaps on to W. Virginia before returning to us. We are happy she could get away. This is her first extended venture away from home since the death of bro. Myers. It should be a welcome and much needed change and refreshment for her.

Welcome new member

Sis. Genevieve Castle, Rt. 1, Box 78-A, Longwood, was baptized on June 24th. She is the mother of Georgia Weems, and has attended services here frequently. She has been ill at the Weems home for some time. We welcome her here, and wish her a long life in the service of the Lord. Her phone number is 323-4539.

Caution, readers, moving time

This is the time of year when folks begin to play musical chairs; moving from Maine to California and from Alaska to Florida. In the hustle, it is easy to forget to send changes of address to all publications, but remember, our policy is to remove you from the mailing list if you don't send us a change of address.

We mail 2500 bulletins per week, and that involves many address changes. When you fail to send us a change of address on a second-class publication, the post office returns your bulletin to us with a corrected address, and charges us 10¢ each. This adds to what is already an expensive operation, plus it becomes annoying to realize that the reader says he wants the bulletin, but will not take the time to keep us informed of his proper address. We don't want to send the bulletin to a single person who doesn't want it, and doesn't read it. We take a failure to send us a change of address as an indication of insufficient interest to justify our continuing to send the bulletin to such persons. Should you simply forget or overlook sending us a change of address and you would like to continue receiving the bulletin, just drop us a note and we will put you back on.

VACATIONS

Vacation time is here. We are having more and more visitors, and more and more of our members are out of town. We appreciate having visitors at all times and would admonish our members to find faithful churches wherever you go and don't neglect your spiritual obligations. Remember, take a handful of our bulletins along and pass them around. Be an ambassador of good will for PSD.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 7-11-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Wayne Gey
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Howard Martin
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Guy Collins
Randy Summers
O-Ronald Carter
Robert Carter
USHERS--Mike Farrington, Al Summers

SUNDAY PM 7-11-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Wayne Gey
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jimmy Smith
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Guy Collins
Ronald Carter
USHERS--Mike Farrington, Al Summers

WEDNESDAY 7-14-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Steven Kapelka
FIRST PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
READ SCRIPTURE-----Guy Collins
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Carter
INVITATION-----Robert Gaines

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(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Use of the term "brother"

=====

= "Will you tell me why it is that the =

= writers of TRUTH AND THE GOSPEL GURA =

= DIAN plus some of the other publica =

= tions always refer to those whom we =

= have known to be drifted off into the =

= apostasy of liberalism, not to speak =

= of Carl Ketcherside, as "brother". I =

= believe that the only brethren I have =

= are those who have been grafted into =

= the true vine. I believe that when =

= one who has been my brother drifts =

= into apostasy that the Lord removes =

= him from the vine and therefore he =

= can no longer be my brother. If we =

= are to obey the Bible wouldn't it be =

= better to obey 2. Jn. 10? This is as =

= binding as any other scripture."

= --Okla. =

=====

REPLY

Quite a few brethren share the above conception. It is not well grounded, and needs some serious attention. Not that it is fraught with any dire consequences, but just for the sake of our having a true concept of matters. Let us notice the following considerations:

(1) *Once a son, always a son:* I am the son of my mother. There is nothing anyone can do to change that. (Not even my mother!) I may live in such a way as to disgrace her name and everything she stands for, but I cannot be unborn. She may disinherit me, and refuse to own me as her son, but I am still her son. And as long as I am her son, all of her children will be my brothers and/or sisters.

The church is spoken of under the figure of a family. God is our father (Rom. 8:15) The church is our mother (Gal. 4:26). We come into God's family as the result of a spiritual birth (John 3:1-5). We are begotten by the word (1 Pet. 1:23) the gospel (1 Cor. 4:15). We are born of water and the Spirit (Jn. 3:5). We constitute the "household" (Eph. 2:19), or "family" of God (Eph. 3:15), for whom we are named (Eph. 3:15). We are all brethren.

PLEASE TURN THE PAGE

ren (Mt. 23:8). Nothing can change this. Once a child of God, always a child of God. We may live in such a way that we disgrace the name of God, and He may "disinherit" us (Num. 14:12), but we are still His sons, disinherited sons, and all His children are still our brothers and/or sisters.

From the standpoint of the church's being viewed under the figure of a family this is clearly what the Bible teaches, and to deny it would be to deny the Bible. This does not mean that all of God's children please Him, or that they will all be "heirs of salvation" (Heb. 1:14). It only means that regardless of how one of God's children conducts himself, he cannot be unborn! He may indeed be lost in the end, but he still be a lost child of God.

(2) *To deny one's right to the term "brother", is to question the legitimacy of his birth:* Our querist would refuse to use the term "brother" in referring to Carl Ketcherside and the "liberals". He is questioning the legitimacy of their spiritual birth, their baptisms? Is he prepared to prove that they failed to meet the terms of the plan of salvation? The point is not whether he agrees with what they do and teach now. That has nothing to do with their sonship. Sonship is determined by birth, not by what one does after birth. Indeed, so far as I know, Karl Ketcherside and our liberal brethren heard the gospel and obeyed it just like our querist and I did. That makes us all brethren in the family of God whether we like it or not. Whether we approve of one another's teachings and practices is beside the point in deciding whether or not we are brothers.

I believe I can prove this by our querist. If a family of people in the town where he lives and whom he denies are his brothers and/or sisters were to decide to leave the liberal church and join the conservatives, would he require

them to be baptized? If not, they must already be in the family of God, and therefore are his spiritual brothers. If he were to admit that they have already been scripturally baptized, and would yet require them to be baptized again, they would then be not twice born, but thrice born! Our brother's illustration of "the Lord removes him (apostate brother) from that vine" does not prove his point. The fact that "the Lord removes" a branch (apostate brother) does not mean he is no longer a branch. He is still a branch, after he is broken off, a broken-off branch! And when he turns from his sins and desires to be in the vine again, he does not have to become a branch, he has never ceased to be one; for once a branch always a branch! One may become a diseased, barren, broken-off branch, but still a branch nevertheless, and still a fellow-branch to every other branch.

(3) *The term "brother" does not necessitate sanction:* There seems to be the misconception that calling one "brother" means that we sanction his beliefs and practices. Our querist's use of 2 Jn. 10 proves that he has this concept. It says that if we bid one godspeed, we are partakers of his evil deeds. Hence, our querist thinks to call one "brother" is to bid him godspeed. Yet I dare say that he uses the term "brother" in reference to some of his own conservative brethren who are engaged in that which he would not approve. To apply his rule obligates him to tell us just how much error one can be guilty of and still deserve the term "brother". This is not intended to be either smart or humorous. It is serious. If our brother is right in his contention then certain writing brethren (and many others) are practicing error in unscripturally using the term "brother". If this be the case, surely there must be some rule of scripture to regulate it, and I have been unable to discover it.

SEE NEXT COLUMN + + + + +

NEWS

about us 'n things

NEEDHAMS TO BE AWAY

The Needhams will be away for about two and a half weeks beginning July 26. I will be in a meeting with the church in Gettysburg, Pa. July 27-Aug. 4. Then we will take a few days to visit relatives in Ky., and Tenn. We will be back home for services on Aug. 15, thus will be gone two Lord's days. This will be my second meeting with the church in Gettysburg. Last year they had about 15 members, and had almost decided to disband. Now they have bought a nice building of their own, and are having between 75 and 100 in attendance!!! How about that? Leo Rogol is the hard-working preacher there. We never know what we are accomplishing in God's work.

REMEMBER, when you send a change of address, we need BOTH your OLD and your NEW addresses and zip codes.

CONCLUSION

We should all exercise great care that we make not rules that have no basis in scripture. We sometimes stand up so straight that we lean over backwards, or we run past Jerusalem and bump our heads on the walls of Jericho! This very question is sometimes used as a criterion of soundness of others because they "call the liberals 'brother.'" Such brethren become unconscious creed-makers. They are making laws where God made none. This is serious business, and all of us need to be careful lest we fall into this error.

LETTER FROM THE GRANTS

In a recent letter from the Grants, they sent greetings and best wishes to one and all here. They continue to be deeply involved in the work of the Lord with many very unusual opportunities. We pray that their efforts will be fruitful.

Another note from sis. Myers

A note from sis. Myers comes from Detroit this time. She is still well and enjoying her visits with friends and relatives. She plans to go from Detroit to W. Va., and then to Ohio and home about the middle of July. We are happy she had this time and opportunity to get away for some much needed rest.

SICK AND SHUT IN

Sis. VICKERS was able to be at both services last Sunday. It is good to see her able to be out. She is always enthusiastic about the preaching and teaching of God's word...We have some younger people who could take a valuable lesson from her good example...It is good to have HELEN KAPELKA back home after visiting her mother who recently had surgery. Her mother, sis. MILAM of Ft. Wayne, Ind. is home now and doing well following major surgery. We look forward to having the Milams with us this summer, and we thank the Lord for her good recovery...ROLAND DALTON is in Winter Park hospital with further heart problems. He is improving, and should be home by the time you read this.

PSDB BOUND VOLUMES

We still have a few bound volume 5's, in case someone would like to have one. It is possible that we have misplaced someone's order for one, so we remind you that if you haven't received yours, please let us know. The price is \$5, and you order from the editor.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 7-18-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Guy Collins
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Howard Martin
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Robert Gaines
Mike Farrington
O-Gerald Durrett
Steven Kapelka
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

SUNDAY PM 7-18-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Guy Collins
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Al Summers
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Robert Gaines
Gerald Durrett
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

WEDNESDAY 7-21-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jimmy Smith
INVITATION-----Wayne Gey

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--Aug. 76

POST PROGRAM-----Robert Carter
MONTHLY SINGING-----Jack Farrington
CLOSE BUILDING-----Wayne Gey
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(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study..... 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

brain budget



ORAL ROBERTS HAS MEDICAL SCHOOL



ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY is establishing a MEDICAL and DENTAL SCHOOL!!! Figure that one out! I received a brochure in the mail which reads:

Especially at Oral Roberts University, where God is recognized as the Source of all healing--a Loving Presence who heals through prayer and MEDICINE. (Emp. mine)

In 1978, ORU will open a School of Medicine and a School of Dentistry. ORU's nursing program and undergraduate pre-dentistry and premedical programs are growing rapidly. Facilities are expanding...a venture in faith is under way!

In perfect harmony, the Prayer Tower stands at the center of the ORU campus--an ever-present symbol of God's concern for the healing of ALL men in ALL dimensions--spirit, mind, and body.

This will be quite amusing to all who remember the large Oral Roberts healing revivals of 15 to 20 years ago when he was a part of the Pentecostal church. (He is now associated with the Methodists).

The public surely hasn't forgotten the long prayer lines with Oral Roberts slapping folks on the top of the head and yelling, "IN THE NAME OF J E S U S CHRIST, BE HEALED."

Who has changed, Oral Roberts or God? I think we all know the answer to that. Roberts still says a lot about healing and miracles in his sophisticated T.V. programs, but we see no prayer lines, and no testimonials. I suppose this is a ploy to keep persons from detecting his change.

The other day I read of where a Pentecostal preacher cancelled a debate on miraculous healing "due to illness"! Imagine that! I heard a couple of Pentecostal preachers on a radio program making light of those who don't believe in miraculous healing, accusing them of claiming that it is God's will for persons to be sick. They affirmed that "God has a better way" than medical healing. Yet, the regular preacher on that program missed several days of the program due to "flu." At other times he has missed the program for persistent hoarseness! In fact, nearly every Pentecostal preacher I know suffers from hoarseness! Well, you figure it out!jpn



Are we children of Christ?

=====

= "In John 1:12, the word 'G o d' i s =
 = found. Does 'God' have direct refer- =
 = ence to Jesus Christ? Is it scriptu- =
 = ral for Christians to say that they =
 = are sons or children of Christ whom =
 = we find spoken of in the B i b l e as =
 = Mighty God, Everlasting Father?" --KY =
 =====

REPLY

1. Does 'God' refer to Christ in John 1:12? John 1:12 reads, "But as many as received him, to them gave he the power to become sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." The word 'God' here DOES NOT refer to Christ, but to God the Father. Christ gives those who believe on his name the right (power) to become sons of God the Father.

2. Are Christians sons or children of Christ? There is no passage in Holy Writ that establishes the idea that when one experiences the new birth (John 3:1-5), he becomes a child or son of Christ.

Two passages might lead some to think this, but not when they are properly understood. In Heb. 2:13, the prophecy of Isa. 8:18, is applied to Christ, and it reads, "Behold I and the children which God hath given me." In John 21:5 Jesus said to the disciples, "children, have you any meat?" Heb. 2:13, does not necessarily mean that we are children of Christ. The meaning is that God gave Christ His children. We belong to Christ by right of purchase (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 1:18,19), but we are not his children. In

John 21:5 Christ called the disciples children, but this does not mean they were his children any more than one's calling his class "children" would mean they are his children.

Rom. 8:16,17, says, "...We are children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ..." "We are heirs OF GOD" but "joint-heirs WITH Christ." There is a vast difference between "of" and "with". We are not heirs "of" Christ, but heirs WITH HIM.

This is explained in Heb 2:12, where we are called the brethren of Christ "in the midst of the church." We are heirs WITH him because we are brethren WITH him. It would be most difficult for us to be both his brethren and his children!

3. How is Christ "Everlasting Father"? With reference to Christ's being "Everlasting Father" (Isa. 9:7), Adam Clark says: "The Father of the everlasting age, or the Father of eternity. The Septuagint have 'the messenger of the Great Counsel' (Isa. p. 65). The idea seems to be that of Deity. Christ is God, he is DIETY. He was the Father's creative agent (Jn. 1:1,2; Col. 16,17). That he is not and was not God the Father is very evident from the fact that he was WITH the Father in the beginning (Jn. 1:1,2).

Hence, to say Christians are children of Christ is not speaking as the oracles of God (1 Pet. 4:11). It does not convey a scriptural idea.

WARNING TO READERS

If you fail to send us your new address when you move (which costs us .10), your name will be removed from our mailing list.

To get back on, you must make a new request. We ask for your cooperation and understanding.

Unearthed Ancient Syria Kingdom May Be Source For Old Testament

Los Angeles Times Dispatch

Beneath a dusty, sun-baked mound in northern Syria, a team of Italian archeologists has uncovered one of the most spectacular finds of all time — the remains of an ancient kingdom that may be the source for many of the figures and tales described in the Old Testament of the "Bible."

That kingdom was Ebla, a Semitic civilization that flourished more than 4,000 years ago — one that was known only by occasional references in ancient Sumerian, Akkadian, Hittite and Egyptian texts.

LAST MARCH, two Italian scientists — Drs. Paolo Matthiae and Giovanni Pettinato of the University of Rome — revealed that they had found more than 15,000 clay tablets at Tell-Mardikh, 30 miles south of the Syrian town of Hlappo. The inscriptions on the tablets seemed to establish both the existence and the exact site of Ebla and that, in itself, was exciting to the community of biblical archeologists.

But as they began scanning some of the 15,000 tablets unearthed — at Tell-Mardikh, that excitement soon gave way to a feeling bordering on delirium. For inscribed on the tablets, in a mix of logograms — (symbols that represent a whole word or concept, like "\$" stands for the word "dollar") and syllabic units spelling out Eblaic words, are names like Ab-Ra-Mu (Abraham), E-Sa-Um (Esau), Da-U-Dum (David), Sa-U-Lum (Saul), Mi-Ka-Ilu (Michael), Is-Ra-Ilu (Israel) and Ib-Rum (Eber).

Eber, incidentally, is listed in the Bible as the great-great-great-grandfather of Abraham and is generally regarded as the individual from whom the Hebrew people derived their tribal name.

THE TABLETS contain references to the cities of Hazor, Megiddo and Gaza — all familiar to students of the Bible. But the most startling reference is to "Urusalima," which is unmistakably Jerusalem. This mention predates any other known reference to the famous city by about 1,000 years.

The tablets also include stories recounting a great flood and the creation of the world. Both tales correspond to Noah's deluge and the account of the world's beginnings in the Old Testament.

Dr. David Noel Freedman, a University of Michigan Biblical archeologist, current president of the Society of Biblical Literature and a widely regarded expert in this field, was so intrigued by the first reports on Tell-Mardikh that he traveled to Rome to talk to Matthiae and Pettinato.

"**PREVIOUS** reports and rumors do not begin to indicate the true dimensions of the discovery and its importance for ancient Near Eastern and Biblical studies," Freedman wrote in a 15-page memorandum upon his return. The memo has been distributed widely throughout the community of biblical scholars and a copy was obtained by the Los Angeles Times.

In his memo, Freedman said that "a new chapter in the history of the Near East has been opened and it will not be closed for some time."

The Tell-Mardikh evidence clearly shows that a major Canaanite empire flourished in that part of the world between the 23rd and 26th centuries before Christ.

THE CANAANITES were a people who occupied what is today Israel, Lebanon and western Syria. Scholars usually describe them as "urban" and "sophisticated" and credit them with having developed the form of writing that eventually became the alphabet.

It is known that the Canaanites were in control of the part of the Near East around the 20th century B.C., when a nomadic people known as the Hebrews wandered into that land. As they had with other peoples and other cultures, the Canaanites accepted the Hebrews into their midst and eventually assimilated them into the Canaanite culture; indeed, experts can trace several Canaanite influences in the alphabet, poems and myths of the ancient Hebrews.

The Tell-Mardikh tablets will, in all probability, cast a bright new light on such influences. "We may say at this early stage of investigation," Freedman wrote, "that the new discoveries should tell us much about the background and origin of the people who later became Israel."

THOSE TABLETS with religious connotations have elated scholars, who have searched for the factors that led to the development of the Israelite religion — "a major mutation," in Freedman's words, "on all religions that had gone before it."

The mythological, cultic and ritual texts (such as incantations and spells) found on a number of the tablets should, Freedman said, "provide us with background information on the religion which the Israelites opposed so vehemently and (which they) nevertheless absorbed and adopted to some extent."

Thursday, June 19, 1976

Sentinel Star
Orlando, Florida



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 7-25-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Al Summers
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Guy Collins
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Gene Mooney
Frank English
O-Ralph Autry
Clay Garrison
USHERS--Mike Farrington, Al Summers

SUNDAY PM 7-25-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Al Summers
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Gene Mooney
Ralph Autry
USHERS--Mike Farrington, Al Summers

WEDNESDAY 7-28-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Al Summers
READ SCRIPTURE-----Gerald Durrett
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
INVITATION-----Jimmy Smith

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--Aug. 76

POST PROGRAM-----Robert Carter
MONTHLY SINGING-----Jack Farrington
CLOSE BUILDING-----Wayne Gey
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MASON, OHIO 45040

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SUNDAY

Morning Bible study 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ



ARE WE OPEN MINDED?

DID YOU HEAR about the fellow who was openminded, everything he heard went in one ear and out the other? Or, about the fellow who had concrete ideas: all mixed up and FIRMLY SET? Or, perhaps, about the judge who listened to only one side of a disagreement between two persons, one of whom was a relative? When his relative finished telling his side of the complaint, the other party stood to address the judge. Whereupon the

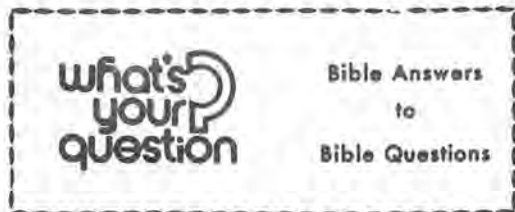
judge said, *"Sit down, I've made up my mind about this case, so don't confuse me with the facts."*

Do we realize that nearly all of us *think* we are openminded? How many persons have you known who said, *"I have my mind closed, I refuse to listen to anything different from what I already believe"*? Most persons will say something like this: *"I'm not closed minded; I just know I'm right, so there is no point in considering anything else."* It matters not what one calls this attitude, it is just plain old closedmindedness!

It is difficult to get most of us to listen. We are too anxious to talk. When the other fellow is speaking his mind, we are too busy concocting a reply to pay attention to what he says. Consequently, we often misrepresent the other fellow's position because we have not listened well.

Closedmindedness is most often a companion to prejudice. Prejudice really means to pre judge. Someone said, *"Prejudice is the lock on the door of a closed mind."* Prejudice springs from many sources: Traditionalism (*"But we've always done it this way"*), Emotionalism (*"If I changed, I would be saying my parents were wrong"*), Misrepresentation (*"Those persons believe in water salvation," "They don't believe in caring for widows and orphans"*), and personal dislike (*"Do you know what he did to me once?"*). Closedmindedness, regardless of its cause will rob us of many truths. Remember, closedmindedness is wrong even though the things we believe may be right.

jpn



Christians and public swimming

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
 ?
 ? Is it wrong for a woman to wear ?
 ? a bathing suit...Is there any ?
 ? way that women can go swimming ?
 ? in public? If so, how could she ?
 ? dress decently to go swimming? ?
 ? KY. ?
 ? ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

First, it is not wrong for a woman to wear a bathing suit, provided she does it in the privacy of her own home, or in her own secluded yard, etc. It is even permissible for a woman to remove all her clothes to bathe in her own bath room! What one wears or doesn't wear in the privacy of his own home is nobody's business but his own.

A woman can certainly go swimming in public, if she dresses modestly--that is, decently. I firmly believe that 1 Tim. 2:9 forbids a woman's appearing in public in provocative apparel such as a bathing suit, or short shorts. This because how one dresses in public involves others. The absence of others is why one can dress at home differently than in public.

As to how a woman can dress decently to go swimming, I am not sure I know. I suppose something like knee-length pants and some sort of blouse would be considered modest or decent, but these

might not be decent once they get wet. Furthermore, they would be ridiculed in most public bathing places, if that is important to one.

I heard of one preacher who was so hung up on the idea that a woman should never wear pants that he made his daughters go swimming in skirts and blouses when only women were present! I have not been able to imagine how a lady could modestly go swimming in a skirt!

Thus, as pleasant and wholesome as swimming is, it is quite difficult to find many ways that Christians can enjoy this wonderful recreation. Many Christians in Fla. find some secluded place on the beach, which is possible. Many others have built their own backyard pool. This pretty well solves the problem, but not all Christians can afford this solution.

In order to keep ourselves pure and to avoid involving others in sinful actions, we must often forego harmless and wholesome entertainments. We may often consider it a big sacrifice, but it is quite small to that sincere child of God who puts first the kingdom of God and His righteousness (Mt. 6:33).

In most areas it is possible to find a secluded place where Christian families can enjoy water sports. To be sure, it necessitates more effort and is less convenient than frequenting the public swimming places, but the sincere Christian cannot trade divine principles for personal convenience.

The attire of Christian women has always been an important thing, but especially is it important today when various degrees of nudity have become so widely accepted by the public and some church members. Let Christian women everywhere set the pace. jpn

NEWS... about us 'n things

ALL SERMONS RECORDED

Due to so many calls for recordings of sermons, the business meeting authorized the installation of a tape deck in the pulpit stand. All sermons will now be recorded for the use of those who would like to have them. Previously only some were recorded, and frequently the one most requested was not recorded. These recordings will be kept for about six months, then the tapes will be reused. In this way, we can supply most any lesson one might need.

Guy Collins to New Orleans

Brother Guy Collins has been assigned to New Orleans for 13 weeks. We regret this, but understand that this is part of life in our society. We will miss him, and shall anxiously await his return.

SICK AND SHUT IN

At this writing bro. ROLAND DALTON is home from the hospital, and doing well...Sis. VICKERS is about as usual. She continues to attend some services.

Bulletins prepared early

Due to the fact that the Needhams plan to be away for a couple of weeks, several bulletins had to be prepared early. This will account for the lack of up-to-date news, etc. On our second class mailing permit we must mail every week, so when I am to be away I prepare bulletins in advance. This is a lot of work, but we see so much evidence of good done by this effort.

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

STRANGE, ISN'T IT?

We can still be lost even though everything we do is right, that is, if we fail to do *everything* that is right. The sin of omission is the most common sin in the world. It, very likely, will damn more souls than anything else.

By the same token, a preacher can preach for a 100 years and never preach even one error, and still be lost because he didn't preach "all the counsel of God" (Acts 20:27).

It is sort of like gardening: To have weeds one need not plant them, just OMIT the hoeing. One doesn't have to tear down his house to destroy it, just OMIT maintenance. We can lose our houses, gardens and souls by the sin of OMISSION.

THE SOCIAL GOSPEL

In a word, the SOCIAL GOSPEL proposes to change society from a LEAN lost society to a FAT lost society! Now wouldn't that be a big improvement? It is still true that "*If IN THIS LIFE ONLY we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable*" (1 Cor. 15:19). It is also true that this is exactly what the social gospel does; it gives men hope in this world ONLY. Thus the end result of social gospelism is a world more miserable than before. I think we can do without that!

Bench-warming church members

It is a fact that bench-warming church members never fire up a church. But then some don't have enough heat to even warm a bench!



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 8-1-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Lynn Robinson
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Frank English
SERMON-----Guest Speaker
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Clay Garrison
Mark DuBose
O-Robert Gaines
Randy Summers
USHERS--Mike Farrington, Al Summers

SUNDAY PM 8-1-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Lynn Robinson
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jimmy Smith
SERMON-----Guest Speaker
LORD'S SUPPER-----Clay Garrison
Robert Gaines
USHERS--Mike Farrington, Al Summers

WEDNESDAY 8-4-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----O.J. Duer
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
READ SCRIPTURE-----Guy Collins
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Carter
INVITATION-----Gerald Durrett

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--Aug. 76

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bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

A PREVALENT CONCEPT OF PREACHING

Preachers sometimes think of themselves as the official interpreters of the Holy Scriptures; They are the "answer men." Everyone should put on his blindfold, open up the top of his head and let him fill his mind with "right ideas." Some brethren get terribly upset when anyone disagrees with their pontifications. Their judgment is infallible, their understanding inerrant. They glory in this position of prominence.

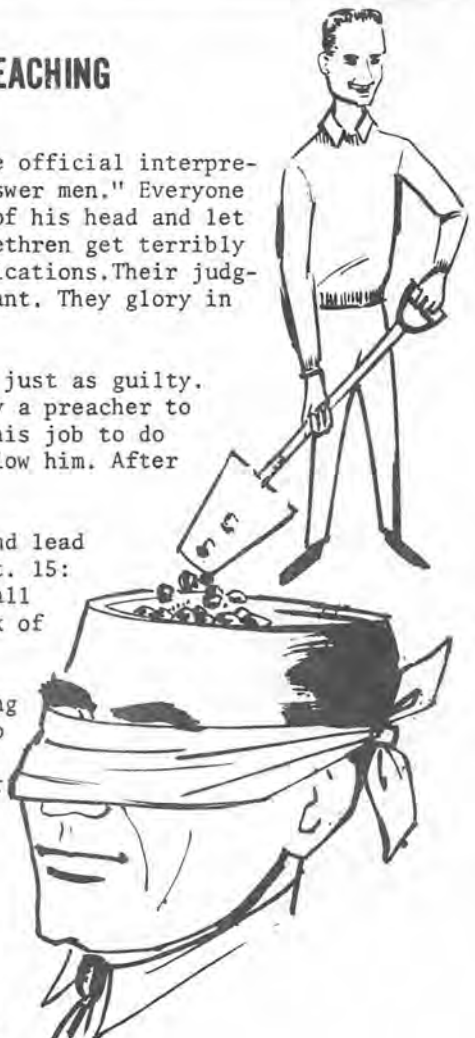
On the other hand, many church members are just as guilty. They don't want to think; that's what they pay a preacher to do! After all, he is trained to think. It is his job to do my thinking for me; it is mine to blindly follow him. After all, he is such a nice fellow.

Let us not forget: Jesus said, "If the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch" (Mt. 15: 14). Do we need to be reminded that we will fall into the ditch regardless of how much we think of our blind guide?

Do you ever really think about the preaching you hear? Do you ever search the scriptures to see if it is true? (Acts 17:11). Do you ever study your Bible school lesson, or do you just listen to what the teacher says, with not effort to think for yourself?

If a preacher or teacher provokes you to think, do you become angry? Do you check out what he says, or just check it off? Would you permit me a closing observation? The most unpopular preachers in the church are those who make people think! Sad, isn't it?

jpn





Who can baptize again

A reader sent the following response to my recent reply to a question on this subject. I said that the Bible does not list the qualifications of the baptizer. This reader takes exception to that reply, and I am anxious for you to see the argument.

We have a character here in _____ County that would make the out laws of long ago look like babies. He is the public figure altogether. He runs a house of prostitution for teen agers; he has been convicted as a head man of the dope ring; he drinks, runs an all-night beer parlor, and is open wide all day Sunday out on the public highway, and was necessary to bank robberies.

Now, let us imagine a scene in which he is the baptizer. Imagine on a Sunday afternoon a crowd of people are gathered, and some citizen asks, "What is he doing?" Someone replies, "He's baptizing for the church of Christ". I tell you, the whole county would roar! They would burst their sides with laughter. They would never stop laughing. I feel sorry for the intelligent man who will make such argument. It is utterly pitiful.

You may say you are not making this argument, but you have when

you say t h e r e are absolute-ly no instructions laid on the baptizer.

This is the gist of the letter received, and I want to deal with it because it is quite typical of a very prevalent idea about baptism.

First, I cannot imagine a scene like the one described, but even if I could, it proves nothing as to scriptural teaching. It is parallel to the argument that says baptism can't be essential to salvation, because a man got killed on his way to be baptized! What does that prove about divine revelation?

But, let's look at the other side of the coin. The first Christians of record in America were baptized by non-Christians. For instance, Alexander Campbell was baptized by a Baptist preacher! He then, in turn, baptized many others. But, if, as this reader affirmed in the letter, the baptizer must be of God, then she must either argue that Alexander Campbell's baptism was unscriptural, and so also were the baptisms of all those he baptized, or, take the position that a Baptist preacher is "of God." Which will it be?

The position espoused makes it necessary for one to be baptized by a Christian, who was baptized by a Christian, who was baptized by a Christian, etc. all the way back to John the Baptist! Any break in the chain renders invalid all baptisms from the broken link forward. This is very much akin to the false system of Baptist church succession, viz, that to be the true church, one must be able to trace a succession of churches back through the ages to the first church--must be able to shake a chain in 1976 and hear it rattle all the way back to the New Testament. It cannot be done.

The only alternative to this reader's position, is baptismal succession. This means that genuinely baptized persons must have existed in all ages of the world--all through the dark ages--and those who started New Testament Christianity on American soil had to have been baptized by such a person or all present-day Christians in America are victims of unscriptural baptism. This reader speaks of consistency and holding my feet to the fire! That's alright with me! I don't mind at all, I can take the heat! Can she? That's the question. Let her write another response and solve her self-inflicted dilemma. If the baptizer must be of God, then let her tell us how those early American Christians could have been of God when their baptizers were not of God. Can one baptized by someone who is not of God be "of God"? If so, then she has surrendered her argument. If not, then every "so-called Christian" in America must find a genuinely baptized person to baptize him.

This position smacks of a denominational sacerdotalism, that is, a belief that a divinely authorized person must mediate for one before God. In the denominational world, for instance, only a "clergyman," or "priest" is authorized to baptize or "administer" the Lord's supper. No such doctrine is taught or implied in the Bible. If so, I would be happy to learn of it. If this good reader knows of its whereabouts, she would do us all a great favor by sending it so I can print it in this publication and settle this question once for all. I assure one and all that I have no prejudice on the question. If I don't know the truth, I would be happy to learn it, and this reader will be considered a friend, if she will teach me. I need more, however, than emotionally charged illustrations.

jpn

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

Shorts stolen!!!

Ann Landers received a letter from a lady who complained that she saw her neighbor steal her husband's shorts from her clothes line. Maybe she got tired seeing him wear them!

Enemies

He has no enemies you say;
My friend, your boast is poor.
He who has mingled in the fray of duty
Must have made foes.
If he has none, small is the work he
has done.
He has hit no traitor on the hip,
He has cast no cup from tempted lip;
He has never turned the wrong to right,
He has been a coward in the fight.

-AUTHOR UNKNOWN

Someone said, "You can tell a man by the company he keeps." But it is also true that we can tell a man by the enemies he makes. In almost 30 years of preaching the gospel I have made enemies. A little inventory of just who they are will find among them: Fornicators, drunkards, liars, lukewarm members, church bosses, false teachers, and gossips. Now, I am not proud of any enemy I have, but considering the alternatives, I had rather have such persons as my enemies than to be counted as their friends as the result of compromise.

The Lord had enemies too: Self-righteous Pharisees, know-it-all Scribes, materialistic Saducees, and the old devil himself. How could it be otherwise?

jpn



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 8-8-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Clay Garrison
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
SERMON-----Guest Speaker
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Frank English
Steven Kapelka
O-Al Summers
Gene Mooney
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

SUNDAY PM 8-8-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Clay Garrison
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Bill Hicks
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Howard Martin
SERMON-----Guest Speaker
LORD'S SUPPER-----Frank English
Al Summers
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

WEDNESDAY 8-11-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Robert Gaines
SONG LEADER-----Howard Martin
FIRST PRAYER-----Jack Farrington
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Randy Summers
INVITATION-----Ralph Autry

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--Aug. 76

POST PROGRAM-----Robert Carter
MONTHLY SINGING-----Jack Farrington
CLOSE BUILDING-----Wayne Gey
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BROTHER O.J. DUER AT: 644-6209.

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EDITOR: JAMES P. NEEDHAM

Palm Springs Drive Church of Christ

600 Palm Springs Drive
Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701
(Metropolitan Orlando)
Phones: 831-3230; 645-0450



JAMES COOPER
5794 BUTLER WARREN RD.
MASON, OHIO 45040

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Morning Bible study 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ



"NEITHER WERE THEY THANKFUL"

GRATITUDE SEEMS TO BE SO NATURAL, but we all know it is anything but that. The title of this article is a statement made by Paul as he describes the Gentile world of the Old Testament. He goes on to say of them, *"but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened..."* (Rom. 1:21).

Our generation is like the girl who examines her engagement ring under a magnifying glass. The thought means nothing, only the value and size!

I recently saw the results of a survey in which persons were asked what was their greatest complaint in life. Those with grown children said, *"We worked hard and sacrificed much to give our children all the things we never had, mainly a good education. Now that they have good jobs, make good money and have homes of their own, we never hear from them."* I once read a reporter's story about an old folks' home he visited at "Christmas" time. He said dozens of the dear old people pressed their faces against the windows looking for their families to come and take them home for a visit. But he said, *"very few ever came."* This is gratitude!

The story is told of a person who was taking his father to enter him in an old folks' home. As they were driving into the parking lot, his little son asked a simple question, *"Daddy, is this where I will take you when you get old?"* Not a word of reply, but they took grandad back home!

Paul said, *"I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise and to the unwise"* (Rom. 1:14). Let us be more thankful.

jpn

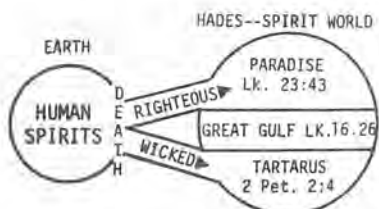


The soul between death and judgment

????????????????
 ? Is the soul conscious between ?
 ? death and the judgment, or does ?
 ? it sleep in an unconscious ?
 ? state? AL. ?
 ?
 ?????????????????

REPLY

The following chart will help to illustrate Bible teaching in reference to the soul between death and the judgment.



This little chart will demonstrate the location of souls between death and the judgment, and we shall now discuss the state of such souls; whether they are conscious or unconscious.

The Bible is very clear that souls are CONSCIOUS between death and the judgment. There are many Bible examples of souls being conscious after death to

believe otherwise. For instance, in Luke 16:19-31, we have several persons in the hades world who are very conscious: Abram, Lazarus, and the rich man. These persons conversed with each other, and the rich man was even conscious of the present state of his five brothers on earth. Also, the rich man was in a state of TORMENT (v. 23), and Lazarus was COMFORTED (v.25), both of which demand a state of consciousness. That which is unconscious is neither comforted nor tormented. It is capable of neither.

Furthermore, in Mat. 17:1-5 is recorded the transfiguration. In this scene Moses and Elias appear with Jesus and converse with Peter, James and John. Elias had not lived for almost 900 years, and Moses had not lived for 1500 years, yet both of these persons still maintained their identity and ability to converse with others.

There is no escape from consciousness. Man has an incorruptable spirit--it never dies, or loses consciousness. It is not possible in the very nature of things. Spirits are immortal; they cannot die.

God is "from everlasting to everlasting" (Psa. 90:2); He had no beginning, and shall have no end. Man is made in God's image (Gen. 1:27). Thus, from the time of man's beginning forward, he is as eternal as God. Thus, the only difference between God and man in terms of length of existence is in their beginning: Man had a point of origin, God did not, but always existed. This is one of the most startling realizations of my life. What soul searching it has inspired! What devotion to duties and responsibilities! What vehement desire to be saved. jpn

NEWS... about us 'n things

LOST

Brother Martin has misplaced a commentary by E. M. Zerr. It has a green cover, and is the first volume on the New Testament. He had it at the building, and cannot locate it. It has his name in it. If you know of its whereabouts, please contact him, or bring it to the office.

SPEAKING OF LOST AND FOUND

We are constantly amazed at the number of Bibles and class literature left lying around the building for weeks and even months at the time. How these persons can prepare their Bible class lessons escapes me. We should also be aware that the church spends a good deal of money for Bible class literature, and this is wasted when it is unused. Do we realize that our brethren in many countries of the world are begging for Bible class literature, even though it has been used? Yet, we indifferently leave it lying around the building, UNUSED! for shame!

WARNING TO READERS

If you fail to send us your new address when you move (which costs us .10), your name will be removed from our mailing list.

To get back on, you must make a new request. We ask for your cooperation and understanding.

REPORTS ON MILLER AND GOWEN

Two of our beloved preachers in central Florida have had serious illnesses: James P. Miller at Meritt Island, and Oaks Gowen of Holden Heights, Orlando.

Bro. Gowen recently had to have exploratory surgery to try to relieve unbearable abdominal pain. We are all elated that the doctor found only adhesions, and gave a very encouraging report on his other problem.

Bro. Miller, who has had brain surgery and a severe heart attack over the past couple of years, is carrying on his local work, and feeling real well. His doctor has told him there is no need to cancel his meetings for this fall.

We frequently pray to God for help in cases like these, but do we remember to be thankful for the help received?

TEACHERS' MEETING

For some time now, we have had a monthly teachers' meeting on the last Tuesday night of each month. For the most part, these have been well attended, and accomplished much good. They are usually held in the home of one of the teachers. Time has proven them to be very worthwhile, and we hope they will continue. The Bible class program in the local church is a marvellous opportunity to spread the gospel. We need to constantly up-grade it and give it our very best effort. If you are a teacher and have not been attending, why not start--attend our next meeting.

REMEMBER, when you send a change of address, we need BOTH your OLD and your NEW addresses and zip codes.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 8-15-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Lynn Robinson
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Jimmy Smith
Mike Farrington
O-Robert Gaines
Robert Carter
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

SUNDAY PM 8-15-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Bill Hicks
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Jimmy Smith
Robert Gaines
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

WEDNESDAY 8-18-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----Steven Kapelka
FIRST PRAYER-----Bill Hicks
READ SCRIPTURE-----Jack Farrington
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
INVITATION-----Howard Martin
MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--Aug. 76
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Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

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(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

Shhhhhh!



JAMES 3

6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

"THE TONGUE IS A FIRE"

SO SAYS JAMES in James 3:6. He says it can set on fire the course of nature, and is set on fire of hell. This is quite an indictment of the tongue. It should be sufficient to shock all of us into a very careful and prayerful use of the tongue. Maybe we should all paste this little prayer to our mirror so it will be the first thing we see each morning, "L O R D, TODAY, HELP ME TO KEEP MY BIG MOUTH SHUT."

The Bible is very clear on the misuse of the tongue: Jesus said, *"Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give an account thereof in the day of judgment; for by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned"* (Mt. 12:36,37). *"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers"* (Eph. 4:29).

It is so easy to allow the tongue to get out of hand. The human mind is a marvellous thing--capable of producing the most beneficial results imaginable, but also capable of inventing the most destructive devices. The mouth is an index to this great storehouse. Jesus said, *"For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things."* (Mt. 12:34,35).

The story is told of a wealthy man who ordered his chef to fix what he considered the best meat in the world. The chef fixed tongue. He then ordered him to prepare what he considered to be the worst meat in the world. Again he fixed tongue. When asked why he had fixed tongue both times, he replied that the tongue is capable of being both the worst and the best.

The poet said, *"I'm careful of the words I say, to keep them always nice and sweet; for I never know from day to day, which ones I'll have to eat!"* Let us make a determined effort that we will not be guilty of speaking things which we ought not (1 Tim. 5:13). A good philosophy is this, "If I can't say something good, I'll say nothing."



Church support of preacher students

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
 ?
 ? Is it scriptural for the church ?
 ? to support a person while he ?
 ? attends a school to learn how ?
 ? to preach? Fla. ?
 ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

This has become a common practice among the liberal churches. Schools of preaching have sprung up all over the country among liberal churches because of the rank modernism in the schools operated by liberal brethren. The attempted solution is for churches to conduct schools of preaching with a college-type curriculum, faculty, etc., and to induce other churches to support the students while they attend. (The PSD church recently received a letter from such a student soliciting support so he could keep his hospitalization insurance and pay for \$2,000 worth of "needed" books he has bought on credit)

I believe it is good for preachers, as well as others, to have a useful amount of education, but there is serious question in my mind that it is the responsibility of the church to provide it. The church is to preach and teach the gospel, not secular education; reading, writing and arithmetic. If so, where is the scriptural authority for such? I must confess that I have not found it.

The "school of preaching" concept is often like some other things of the past few years; it is a cosmetic solution to an unscriptural idea. For instance, brethren generally have condemned organizations separate from the church to preach the gospel; that is called the missionary society. To avoid this, brethren started the herald of truth; a national radio and T. V. program supported by churches everywhere under the oversight of one eldership. The argument is that it is scriptural because it is a local church at work. It is no such thing--it is a brotherhood work, not a local church work. The elders that oversee such a program may be local elders, but they become brotherhood elders (an unscriptural concept) because they *receive and disburse brotherhood funds*.

Many schools of preaching are operated by brethren who deny the right of churches to support the colleges because they are human organizations separate from the church engaged in education. Their cosmetic solution to this problem is to have the church operate its own school. The whole philosophy is that taking something that is unscriptural and putting it under an eldership transforms it into something scriptural. The idea of the church supporting secular education is unscriptural regardless of whether it pays someone to teach it in its own building, or in someone else's (a college).

If we were to admit that such schools of preaching are scriptural as such, there is still the problem of a local church doing a brotherhood work. Just who appointed a given local church to operate a school of preaching for the "BROTHERHOOD," that is, to train preachers for the "BROTHERHOOD"? I have not found it, YET.

There are some schools of preaching among CONSERVATIVE brethren that have this very questionable feature in them. If a congregation wants to pay a second preacher, who may be less experienced, to try to help him, that is fine. Or if a congregation has several men who are interested in intensive Bible study and they want to conduct classes for them, that is fine too, but just where do brethren find the scriptural mandate for a local church to conduct a preacher training school for the "brotherhood"?

The Bible teaches the AUTONOMY and INDEPENDENCE of local churches. Anything that tends to destroy this or infringe upon it smacks of DENOMINATIONAL thinking. Some of our brethren see some serious dangers in colleges operated by brethren, and are contending more and more that it is the duty of the local church to train preachers. This is all well and good, but the question is: *Is it the duty of the local church to train preachers FOR THE "BROTHERHOOD"?*

As I read the New Testament, I don't get the idea that it is the duty of the church to train preachers, if we mean by that a SPECIAL CLASS OF PERSONS. The church is a teaching organization, and those taught are to teach others. The idea of a special clergy is not found in the Bible.

I can find emphasis upon individuals teaching faithful men who shall be able to teach others (2 Tim. 2:2). *Preaching and learning how to preach, are individual responsibilities.* Certainly the church, being a Bible teaching organization, can provide opportunity for learning the Bible on any level, but the responsibility to learn and teach others remains upon the individual, not some special class in the church.

By the same token one could say that it is the duty of the church to train elders and deacons. Does that then make it scriptural for a local church to operate a school to train elders and deacons for the "brotherhood," and induce churches to support them while they learn? What about song leaders and Bible class teachers? Can a church also operate a school designed to train song leaders and Bible class teachers for the "brotherhood"?

Denominational thinking is an ever-present danger to New Testament Christianity. *Congregational independence and local autonomy* are scriptural concepts that live with great difficulty. There is a tendency for brethren to think of "us," a "brotherhood," or a sisterhood of churches--to denominationalize the church--rather than to leave it like the Lord ordained it: each local church separate and independent of all others; minding its own business, doing its own work. Somehow the Lord's way does not hold enough glamor as a NATIONAL or INTERNATIONAL organization with organizational structure that causes the world to take note of its size and power.

Let each local church think of its OWN potential and responsibility. Let it provide opportunities for its members to learn and encourage them to use what they learn for the good of others. Let us all cease to think of a UNIVERSAL CHURCH with national or international structure and power. Let's think of preachers as INDIVIDUALS who have applied themselves to Bible study and have the God-given talent and personal dedication to give their lives to full-time work in the gospel, rather than as a specially trained class of persons with a PROFESSIONAL calling. When we get to this point, we won't have any questions about the church supporting a person while he "studies for the ministry," a denominational concept. jpn



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 8-22-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Howard Martin
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Gerald Durrett
Frank English
O-Howard Martin
Clay Garrison
USHERS--Mike Farrington, Al Summers

SUNDAY PM 8-22-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Clay Garrison
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Gerald Durrett
Howard Martin
USHERS--Mike Farrington, Al Summers

WEDNESDAY 8-25-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Jimmy Smith
FIRST PRAYER-----Howard Martin
READ SCRIPTURE-----Steven Kapelka
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
INVITATION-----Wayne Gey

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--Sept. 76

POST PROGRAM-----Randy Summers
MONTHLY SINGING-----Wayne Gey
CLOSE BUILDING-----O.J. Duer
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(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

BROTHER OAKS GOWEN CHANGES WORLDS



At 5:50 PM on Aug. 15, brother Oaks Gowen laid aside the robe of flesh. It seems altogether appropriate that he did so 10 minutes before the beginning of the evening service at Holden Heights where he had preached for many years. Word reached the elders during the sermon, and the service was interrupted to announce that their beloved Oaks Gowen had gone home.

The Cause of Christ loses an able and dedicated soldier of the cross in bro. Gowen, but everyone who knew of his intense suffering breathed a sigh of relief that in death he had found the sweet rest that life could not afford him. He fought long and hard against unsurmountable odds, and while he lost the battle for life, we

believe he won the war, and nobody knew this better than he. Over a year ago when it was first learned that he had terminal cancer, he talked with me of the likelihood of his death. He said he was not afraid to die, that it was what he had lived for. He expressed a desire to live to preach the gospel and enjoy his family, but if it was not God's will, he faced the future with hope and confidence. In harmony with such anticipation, he spent much of the last three days of his life preaching, singing and quoting scripture to his devoted family.

In the death of Oaks Gowen, I sustain a great personal loss. I have counted him among my dear friends since the early 1950's. Four words describe Oaks Gowen to me: A Christian, a gentleman, a friend, and a scholar. He was a very close student of God's word. One word describes him as a gospel preacher, SOUNDNESS. He knew, lived and preached the truth with dignity and honor. The consuming interest of his life was TRUTH. He loved it. He was willing to die for it. Preaching it was the main thrust of his life.

(SEE PG.3)

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

How is Godliness Profitable?

?????????????????
?
? Do Mt. 6:33, and 1 Tim. 4:8 ?
? and similar passages promise ?
? physical material blessings in ?
? this life to a Christian by ?
? virtue of the fact that he is a ?
? Christian? Fl. ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

I can answer this question in the affirmative, but then it is necessary to explain what I mean. I do not believe that the Christian is promised material blessings like manna from heaven, but there are several senses in which material blessings result from a righteous life. Let's have a look at a few:

1. *Honesty*: The Christian is honest, a quality most people appreciate. So, if the Christian is an employee, his employer will appreciate the fact that he gives a day's work for a day's pay. If the Christian is an employer, his employees will appreciate the fact that they will be treated fairly. If the Christian is in business, his patrons will appreciate the fact that they get a fair deal, and will be anxious to patronize his business. All of these situations have economic factors in them that are directly related to the fact that one is a Christian.

2. *Frugality*: The Christian realizes his stewardship over physical blessings. He knows it is sinful to be wasteful. Naturally, a frugal person will automatically have more material blessings than a wasteful one, so from this point of view, Christianity results in material prosperity.

3. *Benevolence*: The Bible teaches Christians to be benevolent toward all people, but especially to other Christians (1 Tim. 5:16; Jas. 1:27, etc.). The congregation also has benevolent responsibility to its members who are unable to provide their daily necessities (1 Tim. 5:16; Acts 6, etc). Thus, from this point of view material blessings result from Christianity.

I am certain that these matters are involved in 1 Tim. 4:8. I don't believe Matt. 6:33 is dealing with the same thing. The context of that passage is being overly anxious for material matters to the neglect of spiritual duty. The Lord's point there is that we can meet all our spiritual obligations and still have enough time left to earn a living. The passage denies the common excuse that "I don't attend church, etc., because I don't have time..." The Lord guarantees that this is not so. We all have time to serve God and make a living. The problem is that too many want to make more than a living; they want to lay up treasures on earth. (Mt. 6:19,20). Many do not have the attitude demanded by Paul, "And having food and raiment let us be therewith content" (1 Tim. 6:8). Food and raiment are not enough for too many of God's people; they want a super abundance of earthly goods and are willing to trade their souls for them. They save their sick consciences by saying, "I just don't have time for church work..." jpn

He leaves behind a great legacy. His life touched many and influenced them for good. Bernadine, his beloved wife, is a great lady and a dear sister. Our own Brenda Gey, their only daughter and her family, are greatly appreciated by all at PSD. Glenn, their only son, lives at Sarasota.

Brother Gowen was a native Tennessean, but did much of his preaching in Florida, working with churches in Bradenton, Jacksonville, and for about the last 8 years, with the Holden Heights church in Orlando.

His funeral service was conducted by his life-long friend, B. G. Hope, of Beaver Dam, Ky. Bro. Hope was a strong influence in the life of Oaks Gowen. He encouraged him to become a gospel preacher, and looked upon him as a son. It was altogether fitting and proper that he should be present to speak at the funeral service. As usual, he did an outstanding job, though it must have been an unusually difficult task for him.

I shall never forget Oaks Gowen. He was the kind of person one delights to remember: Quiet, unassuming, kind, devoted, lovable. He is one of the very few persons I have known who never disappointed me. He was genuine, true, loyal.

We extend our condolences to all his family, and especially to his beloved Bernadine. May God bless each of them with comfort and consolation. And may the death of brother Gowen deepen his every impression for good made during his many years of faithful service in the work of the Lord. jpn

NEWS about us 'n things

CONDOLENCES to Carol Collins in the death of her grandfather in Arkansas... SICK AND SHUT IN: Sis. VICKERS is still able to attend some of the services, but is not well at all...ROLAND DALTON is now home after open heart surgery, and is doing remarkably well...LOUISE ROBINSON has been ill with some kind of viral infection...GUY COLLINS has had viral pneumonia, but is back at work... GETTYSBURG MEETING: The meeting at Gettysburg, Pa. was well attended. The work there has really grown since last year. In last year's meeting we probably averaged 25 in attendance. This year we must have averaged 60 or 70. Leo Rogol is the preacher there, and a diligent and effective worker. THE NEEDHAMS took a few days following the meeting to visit relatives in Kentucky and Tennessee. We drove 2500 miles and saw many relatives and old friends. I preached at Expressway church in Louisville on a Sunday morning where I lived for over 7 years before coming to PSD. I also spoke at the East Memphis church where one of my brothers is an elder, and where bro. Jack Holt is the preacher. We thank PSD for making all this possible.

GOOD REPORTS have been received of the preaching done in my absence. Bro. Gerald Durrett spoke one Sunday and bro Howard Martin one Sunday. It is good to have local brethren who can carry on in such a fine way. Thanks to these brothers for their contribution to the work here.

DEAR READER: The price of a returned bulletin due to incorrect address has now gone up to 25¢ each! It is urgent that you notify us of your change of address at least two weeks prior to such change. Otherwise we will remove your name from our mailing list. Inflation strikes again.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 8-29-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gerald Durrett
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Al Summers
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Mike Farrington
Jimmy Smith
O-Ronald Carter
Ralph Autry
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

SUNDAY PM 8-29-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gerald Durrett
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Bill Hicks
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Mike Farrington
Ronald Carter
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

WEDNESDAY 9-1-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Howard Martin
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
READ SCRIPTURE-----Jimmy Smith
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Al Summers
INVITATION-----Robert Gaines
MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--Sept. 76

POST PROGRAM-----Randy Summers
MONTHLY SINGING-----Wayne Gey
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EDITOR: JAMES P. NEEDHAM

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Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701
(Metropolitan Orlando)
Phones: 831-3230; 645-0450



JAMES COOPER
5794 BUTLER WARREN RD.
MASON, OHIO 45040

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Morning Bible study..... 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ



A WORD ABOUT PSD BULLETIN

The Palm Springs Drive Bulletin is a part of the teaching program of the Palm Springs Drive church of Christ. Its main thrust is the teaching of God's word. It carries no announcements of social affairs among the members, but a brief news section designed to inform the members of certain spiritual activities and other matters that involve membership in this local church.

From the mail we receive, the WHAT'S YOUR QUESTION column is the center piece of the bulletin, and the first part read. This column is likely the longest running question and answer column around. I started it in THE WEEKLY REMINDER, a bulletin I edited in Louisville, Ky. The first such column appeared in the issue of Dec. 16, 1965, and has hardly missed a single week since. For a short time after I moved to this area, and before the beginning of the PSDB, the column was carried in TRUTH MAGAZINE.

Readers are invited to send us any Bible question they desire. I always try to take questions in the order in which I receive them, but there are exceptions. At times I will answer a question out of order because it does not require the research that some other one would, the time for which I may not have at that particular moment. In such an event, I sort of take the easy way out!

I realize that some questions are controversial. I have never yet ducked a question because of this, but I do realize that many may differ with a given answer, and from time to time I have printed responses. Such, however, must be restricted to some extent, due to lack of space. We shun endless controversy on any one question due to the multiplicity of questions awaiting answer most of the time. In the eleven years of the column, I have never fabricated a single question. All have been supplied by readers either by telephone, mail or personally.



Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

How is edification accomplished?

?????????????????
?
? Please discuss 1 Cor. 14:26, ?
? "Let all things be done unto ?
? edifying" and explain how this ?
? edifying is accomplished in the ?
? church. --Fl. ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

I give the following outline of N.T. teaching on the subject of edification:

- A. DEFINITION: The primary meaning of edification is to build up, or to strengthen.
- B. "THINGS WHEREWITH ONE MAY EDIFY ANOTHER" (Rom. 14:19):
 1. In first century:
 - a. Apostolic power and authority (2 Cor. 10:8; 13:10).
 - b. Prophecy (inspired teaching) (1 Cor. 14:3-5).
 2. In all ages:
 - a. Charity (1 Cor. 8:1)--the context has to do with their conduct relative to meats sacrificed to idols, but charity motivates us to do for others what will edify--strengthen--them.
 - b. All things (1 Cor. 14:26)--the "all things" here is limited by the context referencing their handling of their spiritual gifts.

- c. Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers (Eph. 4:11,12).
- d. Work of every part (member of the body) (Eph. 4:16). Naturally, this work must be authorized work, not just any work (Col. 3:17).
- e. Wholesome speech (Eph. 4:29).

C. THINGS WHICH DON'T EDIFY:

1. Fables, endless genealogies, which minister questions (1 Tim. 1:4).
2. Trampling the conscience of the weak brother (Rom. 14; 1 Cor. 8).
 - a. The context has to do with running rough-shod over his conscientious scruples about meats sacrificed to idols.
3. Unknown tongues (1 Cor. 14:5,17)
 - a. Speaking in an unknown tongue in the assembly might edify the speaker, but not the hearer.

D. SOME LAWFUL THINGS DON'T EDIFY (1 Cor. 10:23).

1. The context has to do with Paul's right, under God, to eat meats sacrificed to idols. It was lawful, but he would refuse to exercise his legal right if doing so weakened or destroyed his brother or the work of Christ (1 Cor. 8:13).

CONCLUSION

It becomes obvious that scriptural edification is accomplished only by spiritual activity. It is not accomplished by social or recreational activity. Such activities certainly are refreshing, and cause one to feel better, but there is more to scriptural edification than this. It has to do with increasing ones knowledge and therefore his awareness of spiritual responsibilities.

SEE NEXT COLUMN

Continued

Edification, like fellowship, has been perverted to mean almost anything. The liberal brethren justify church built kitchens and recreation rooms because it is edifying for Christians to get together and associate. This is based upon the fallacy that the end justifies the means. Christians may be edified by association, but only if the word of God is taught. In and of itself, an ice cream social is not spiritually edifying. But if the church can sponsor and pay for an ice cream social because it gives Christian's a chance to edify one another, what else could the church sponsor and support for the same purpose? What about a ball team? bowling league? Symphony orchestra? What about a college? Certainly Christians really get together on the campuses of the colleges operated by brethren, and the Bible is certainly taught, so that would seem an excellent means to the end of edification? So, what about a church-owned and/or supported college?

One will search the scriptures in vain to justify carnal means to spiritual ends. We are all limited in our spiritual activity to that which is scripturally authorized either by direct statements, approved apostolic examples, or necessary inferences. One can find neither for using church funds for social and/or recreational purposes under the guise of "edification," or "fellowship." These words are not used in this sense in the New Testament. jpn

THANKS FROM GETTYSBURG: A note from Gettysburg, Pa. expresses appreciation to PSD for making it possible for this writer to hold their recent meeting.

NEWS...

about us 'n things

OUT OF TOWN: We have many members who are out of town for various reasons. Several are or have been on vacations. This cuts into our attendance figures, but several visitors help to offset it. Certainly, it is good that we can get away once in a while, but we exhort one and all to keep God first in our lives. Remember too, that the local church budget must be met, if we are to keep up our present program. So, either leave your contribution at home, or make it up when you return.

SICK AND SHUT IN: Bro. ROLAND DALTON is still recuperating nicely following open heart surgery. He is at home and getting better all along...SIS. VICKERS continues to be able to attend some of the services, and is doing about as usual. She is brave and energetic. We appreciate her faith. She came at the invitation on August 22, and asked for the prayers of the church. She felt guilty about having missed church one Sunday while on a trip. Would that all would take note of her attitude about this.

NOTE OF THANKS: The Gowen family wishes to thank one and all for every act of kindness during the illness and passing of brother Oaks Gowen.

OUR NEXT MEETING will likely be in the month of October. We are now trying to arrange schedules to accomodate such an effort. Bro. Jim Poppel of Lake City, Fla. will do the preaching. We look forward to having him with us.

REMEMBER: If you want to remain on our mailing list, you must keep us informed of your proper address and zip number.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 9-5-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Howard Martin
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Frank English
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Gerald Durrett
Mark DuBose
O-Mike Farrington
Randy Summers
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

SUNDAY PM 9-5-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Howard Martin
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Guy Collins
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Gerald Durrett
Mike Farrington
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

WEDNESDAY 9-8-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Howard Martin
FIRST PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
READ SCRIPTURE-----Jimmy Smith
DISMISSAL PRAYER----Jack Farrington
INVITATION-----Robert Gaines

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--Sept. 76

POST PROGRAM-----Randy Summers
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SUNDAY

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(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

A CURRENT COMMERCIAL says, "You go around just once, so get all the gusto you can." That pretty well sums up the worldly materialistic philosophy of our time. People are advised to live it up without any consideration of the fact that they will have to live it down! The profit hungry corporations who make these commercials with satanic philosophies care nothing for the consequences of taking their bait. They are careful never to remind the public of the high price of low living.

A much better philosophy would be, "You go around but once, so make it as sure as you can." Dealing with God is not like dealing with Sears and Roebuck; "satisfaction is not guaranteed, or your money back." God's word does not tell us to try out the consequences of our misspent life for 30 days, and if you are not completely satisfied, return it for an exchange or a complete refund of your life so you can give it another try. The Bible plainly says, "It is appointed unto man once to die, then the judgment." Nothing is said about a second chance simply because there won't be one.



The "get all the gusto you called a "rip off." It is the flam" artist the world has ever bait with a well disguised hook in the hook until we have taken the bait! then it is too late. We can't reverse the camera for a re-run. What is done is done. The only remedy for our mistakes is repentance and obedience to God's law of pardon. We can't take our misspent life back for exchange or refund, but if life is still in us, we can cash in our sins at the bank of heaven for a full and complete pardon. But once life is over and we have finished its little day, the bank will be closed and the vault sealed, never to open to us again.

We all need to be reminded that "now is the accepted time; now is the day of salvation." Put no trust in tomorrow, for it is only a probability, and yesterday is gone forever. We need to be convinced that life, like eternity, is for real. No second chance, no refund, no exchange.

jpn

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

What sin was unlike Adam's?

?????????????????
?
? In Romans 5:14, what is the
? meaning of "had not sinned af-
? ter the likeness of A d a m' s
? transgression"? Does this re-
? fer to Adam's violating a re-
? vealed law (Cf. v. 13)? -Tn.
?
?????????????????

REPLY

First, we need to make our language logical and sensible. The question "Does this refer to Adam's violating a revealed law?" is illogical, because the only kind of law anyone can violate is a revealed one. Verse 13, states this fact, "For until the law sin was in the world; but sin is not imputed where there is no law." Man cannot violate a law that is not revealed; in fact he cannot know what sin is without the law, "for by the law is the knowledge of sin" (Rom. 3:20).

The statement that "death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the likeness of Adam's transgression" means that from Adam to Moses man was under law. Death reigned because sin was present for the "wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). He is affirming that spiritual death as the result of sin existed between Adam and Moses, but the sin was "not after the likeness of Adam's transgression." Which means that it was a violation of a different kind of Law.

The law that Adam violated was a personal prohibition to him and his wife, and there is no evidence that it applied to anyone else. The laws that other men violated between Adam and Moses were applicable to the whole human race.

Between Adam and Moses we find several sins being committed. Cain violated the law of sacrifice (Heb. 11:4; Rom. 10:17). There was a penalty for murder (Gen. 9:6), etc. Thus there were universal laws that applied to all men between Adam and Moses, and those who violated them sinned, but "not after the likeness of Adam's transgression," that is, not in the same way, but the point is that the result was the same, for "the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23), and "death reigned from Adam to Moses" because of sin.

This is quite different from what many believe about the period between Adam and Moses. Many think there was no law during this time, so there was no sin; or even worse, that men sinned but there was no law to forbid what they were doing, which is impossible because "where no law is, there is no transgression" (Rom. 4:15), or "sin is not imputed when there is no law" (Rom. 5:13). Many take this to mean that there was no law between Adam and Moses, but it actually proves the very opposite.

Incidentally, this verse is a direct denial of inherited sin. The Calvinians teach that all descendants of Adam inherit his sin. If that be the case, how could those between Adam and Moses sin in a way that was not like his sin? Had they inherited Adam's sin their sin would have been identical to his. If not why not? Error cannot stand the light of truth. jpn

NEWS...**about us 'n things****Word from Philippine earthquake**

We have all been deeply concerned about the fate of brethren in the Philippines as the result of the recent earthquake. I have received word that many brethren were killed by the quake and resultant tidal wave, but no definite figure yet.

Last week I received a letter from bro. Ramon Carino whom we used to support, but who is now supported by the Par St. church. We had wondered about him and his family, and at last, we learned that they are safe. The letter was written the next day following the tidal wave. He said they were warned and fled to higher ground.

He says the tidal wave swept over his home and the church building and destroyed everything they had, though the buildings themselves stood. He said all their clothing, food, furniture and all his library were destroyed, and they are living off government assistance and some help from private agencies.

Announcement was made at PSD and individuals have given well over \$100 which we have sent to the Carinos. I plan to rebind some used song books for them, and send along some other religious books for bro. Carino in the near future. I will be happy to supply any information or assistance to anyone else who would like to help. Bro. Ramon Carino's address is: P. O. Box 1308, Pagadian City 7824, Republic of the Philippines. Let me know if I can help with further instructions.

SICK AND SHUT IN

Sis. VICKERS continues to attend some of the services, and continues to do fairly well...Bro. DALTON continues to improve at home following open heart surgery. His progress seems to be satisfactory.

Vacationers

We continue to have members on vacations and week-end trips. This cuts into our attendance, but visitors continue to come in large numbers. If all our members ever decide to stay at home on a week end, and we have the usual number of visitors, we are going to fill the house!

We know that some out-of-town trips are necessary and good, but let's all keep our local obligations in mind. The work here needs all of us. It is a fact that weekending weakens the church.

What about Sun. and Wed. nights?

Brethren and sisters, why do you not attend the Sunday and Wednesday night assemblies? Do you not feel a need for the inspiration provided by these services? Don't you like to sing, pray, and hear the gospel preached? If you attend Sunday morning for the right reasons, why wouldn't those same reasons make you just as anxious to attend all assemblies? How can a sincere Christian just write off an assembly where saints meet to worship?

Bound volume V of PSDB

Orders are still coming in for bound volume V of the PSDB. We still have a few left. They are \$5 each, if you want one. When these are gone, there will be no more. Order from the editor.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 9-12-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Lynn Robinson
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Frank English
Steven Kapelka
O-O.J. Duer
Jimmy Smith
USHERS--Mike Farrington, Al Summers

SUNDAY PM 9-12-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Al Summers
FIRST PRAYER-----Clay Garrison
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jimmy Smith
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Frank English
O.J. Duer
USHERS--Mike Farrington, Al Summers

WEDNESDAY 9-15-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gerald Durrett
SONG LEADER-----Steven Kapelka
FIRST PRAYER-----Jack Farrington
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
INVITATION-----Ralph Autry
MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS--Sept. 76

POST PROGRAM-----Randy Summers
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(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

Explanation of Pickup meeting

When you receive this PSD will be engaged in a gospel meeting with Harry Pickup, Jr. A failure on my part accounts for its not being promoted in the bulletin. The meeting had been booked since 1974, and we discussed several different dates before we decided on one. I thought I knew that the selected date was next spring, but I learned about 10 days before the meeting was scheduled to start that it was booked for this year. Thus, we got busy and got the word around and we are now in the midst of it. I apologize for my oversight. I think, however, that it will be an excellent meeting in spite of my "goof"!

Editor's meeting schedule

Sept. 27-Oct. 3, I am to be with the North Side church in Trenton, Fla. We look forward to seeing many old friends in the area. Bro. Talmadge Polk is the preacher at North Side.

Oct. 18-24, I will be with the brethren in Sumpter, S. C. for a meeting. Bro. Arnold Granke is the local preacher there. I spent the night with bro. Granke on Clark Air Force Base in Angeles City Philippines 4 years ago. He was then in the Air Force, and has since given up that career to preach the gospel.

SICK AND SHUT IN

Sister VICKERS is still able to attend some of the assemblies, but is not very strong. We appreciate her determination...ROLAND DALTON continues to recuperate from open heart surgery. He is allowed to do considerable walking now and is doing very well. He has some problem with "heart flutter," but this is normal in these cases.

Readers and new names for PSDB

Our readers are constantly sending lists of names to be added to our mailing list. We are glad to add names, if they are interested persons who will read the paper. But due to the high cost of publication, and now that all returns for incorrect address and/or refusal cost us 25¢ each, we ask that you send names *only if those you are positive will read the PSDB*. We must minimize the expense of this work as much as possible. Please don't send us church directories requesting that we add every member to the mailing list. This almost always includes several persons who don't want the bulletin. If you are receiving the PSDB, and had rather not do so, please let us know.



2 Cor. 9:13 and general benevolence

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
 ?
 ? Does 2 Cor. 9:13 teach that the
 ? church has benevolent responsi-
 ? bility to non-Christians? TN.
 ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

First, let us read the passage:

Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify G o d for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men.

1. It should be noted that the word "men" is supplied by the translators and is not in the original. While it is alright if one understands the grammar of the text, it likely accounts for the misconception a b o u t this text. The Greek actually says, "unto them, a n d unto all."

2. The key to understanding this passage is the word "all." If it is an unlimited all, and it literally means "all men," then the Corinthian church was the richest church in history, for it had liberally distributed benevolence to "all men." That's more than the treasury of the U. S. government could accomplish! Those who contend that this verse teaches general church benevolence must either accept this, or be guilty of teaching limited benevolence.

The key to understanding the word "all" is a little point in Greek Grammar. Thayer's Lexicon says, pg.491 "PAS, PASA, PAN...Any, every one...with the plural, ALL or ANY that are of the class indicated by the noun..." Now, note that the pronoun "them" is plural and that "all" is connected to it. A pronoun refers back to a noun, called its "antecedent." The pronoun "t h e m" refers back to verse 12 where Paul says this "administration...supplieth t h e want of the SAINTS." Hence, Thayer says that the nature of the "all" "is of the class indicated by the noun." The noun is "saints," so the nature of all is saints, not sinners.

That "all" is frequently a limited "all" will become evident from a few passages.

1 Cor. 6:12, "ALL things are lawful unto me..." Does this mean that robbery, rape and murder would be lawful for Paul? Certainly not! The context shows that he was discussing the eating of meats sacrificed to idols. To make all apply to things outside the context is to pervert the word of God.

Phil. 4:13, "I can d o ALL things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Does this mean that Paul could, with the strength o f Christ, rob a bank, take over the Roman Empire, lie and s t e a l? Absolutely not! The context shows that he is talking about physical suffering for the cause of Christ. To make this apply to that which is not in the context is to 'wrest the scriptures' (2 Pet. 3:16).

Those who want to put the church in the business of general benevolence, still need a proof text for church responsibility to the world. This is not it. Nor is there one any other place.

The primary work of the church is to preach the gospel and save souls. Its primary mission never has been to save bodies. Every Christian is to "do good unto all men, but especially unto them who are of the household of faith" (Gal. 6:10), and to "love thy neighbor as thyself" (Gal. 5:14), but every case of church benevolence recorded in the N. T. specifies "saints," "brethren," etc. If there be any exception to this, let someone cite us to it and we will print it in this bulletin.

Not only is church benevolence limited to SAINTS, it is even LIMITED AMONG THE SAINTS! There are some of its own members the church cannot care for: (1) Those who have families to care for them (1 Tim. 5:16), (2) those who will not work (2 Thess. 3:10). Now, if the church is forbidden to help some of its own members, then how can it help any who are not members?

The idea of general benevolence to the general public is part and parcel of social gospelism that gives the church a "this world" mission. Such an idea has arisen since the present wave of liberalism swept over the church, and came from the same source, denominationalism. In 1938, for instance, N. B. Hardeman said in his famous Tabernacle sermons, Vol. 4, "...the Bible is as silent as the stars about any kind of slumming work characteristic of the church of God. There was the city of Jerusalem, with its thousands of people in the valleys of the tyropean section, also the valley of Jehoshaphat, the vale of Hinnon, in dirt and filth and thickly settled districts, living in unsanitary surroundings; and yet neither Paul nor any of the apostles were ever engaged primarily in work of that sort. The city of Corinth, with its four hundred thousand people, contained its poor; and yet no apostle ever left the word of God and became en-

gaged in slumming or 'social uplift.' Why, the church today in the eyes of the populace is reduced to about a parallel with the Red Cross. I have nothing unkind to say of the Red Cross, but its function is administering purely to men's temporal and temporary necessities. ALL ought to be interested in lifting men's burdens and making them more pleasant; but the 'Good Fellows, even the best fellows organization, is about a parallel with the idea that many people have of the church' and hence it is reduced to a kind of social organization for social betterment and temporal advancement."

This was said by the most glorified preacher of the day before an audience of thousands of church members in the greatest stronghold of the church of the time. These Tabernacle meetings were extolled as the greatest in modern times, and yet this same scriptural teaching is called "anti" today, not only in Nashville, but over the world. The fact that N. B. Hardeman said it does not make it right, but he said it because it is right. I first learned of the errors of the social gospel at his feet, and I still believe what he taught me, and will continue to do so until someone cites the scripture which gives the church benevolent responsibility to any but its own needy members. jpn

WARNING TO READERS

If you fail to send us your new address when you move (which costs us .10), your name will be removed from our mailing list.

To get back on, you must make a new request. We ask for your cooperation and understanding.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 9-19-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Guy Collins
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Al Summers
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Lynn Robinson
Scott Collins
O-Ronald Carter
Robert Carter
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

SUNDAY PM 9-19-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Guy Collins
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
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LORD'S SUPPER-----Lynn Robinson
Ronald Carter
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

WEDNESDAY 9-22-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Al Summers
SONG LEADER-----Jimmy Smith
FIRST PRAYER-----Guy Collins
READ SCRIPTURE-----Ronald Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Carter
INVITATION-----Gerald Durrett
MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---Oct. 76
POST PROGRAM-----Steven Kapelka
MONTHLY SINGING-----Robert Gaines
CLOSE BUILDING-----Ronald Carter
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JAMES COOPER
5794 BUTLER WARREN RD.
MASON, OHIO 45040

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Morning Bible study..... 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ



They may not be as wise as the wisest,
They may not be clever or **strong**,
There'll be times when you think **that**
Their counsel is narrow or utterly
wrong.
You will think that when they frown upon
pleasure,
Which you are so eager to share,
That your father and mother who love
you,
Are merely an old-fashioned pair.

But this they would have you remember,
Whatever they say or do,
It is not of themselves they are thinking—
Their thoughts are all centered in you,
There are those who will flatter to please
you,
For something they are eager to gain,
There are those who will seem to
befriend you,
Who never will constant remain.

PARENTS

Some stranger will lead you to folly,
And leave you the moment it's gone.
Some not caring what harm may befall
you,
Will tempt you with dangerous fun.
You may question the motives of others,
But remember your whole life through,
Your father and mother who love you,
Have no other motive than you.

There is nothing of profit they're seeking,
There is nothing they want you to buy,
You've no reason to doubt what they tell
you,
They've nothing to gain by a lie.
Whenever they check or correct you,
It is not for themselves that they speak,
They would happier be could they praise
you,
But it is only your welfare they seek.
You may think them old-fashioned and
fussy,
And narrow, as children will do,
But remember your father and mother,
Have all their hopes centered in you.

--EDGAR GUEST



Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Marriage, divorce, and remarriage

=====

= "Matt. 19:9 gives the only scriptu- =
= ral reason for Christians to divorce. =
= "I have been told that though a man =
= has that scriptural reason for a =
= divorce, that according to verse 12, =
= he can not remarry. Would you please =
= explain verse 12 and its relation to =
= verse 9? If the above be true, then =
= h o w d o y o u explain 1 Tim. 5:11-14 =
= where Paul tells the women to re- =
= marry." --Florida =

=====

REPLY:

some understand verse 12 to mean that ALL divorced persons must become spiritual eunuchs, that is, abstain from marriage, or remarriage in this case. Others understand it to mean that ONLY those who are involved in a divorce that deprives them of the right to remarry should become "eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake." I accept the latter.

I have heard and read lengthy arguments designed to prove that NO divorced person has the right to remarry, but I am unconvinced. To me such a position rests upon flimsy "proof," and does not accord with the teaching of Jesus in Matt. 19:9 or 5:32. If the exceptive clause ("except for fornication") does not give the innocent party the right to remarry, language means nothing, and the scriptures can be made to say almost anything.

Furthermore, I cannot accept the unjust consequences of such a position, which are as follows:

(1) It would make the punishment of the innocent party identical with that of the guilty in this life. It says that both must abstain from remarriage.

(2) It would make the innocent party suffer for something with which he or she had nothing to do.

I know that some deny that there is ever an innocent party, and I understand the problems that are sometimes involved, but Jesus envisioned an innocent party. Hence, it is unjust for the innocent party to suffer the pangs of a celibate life as the result of what the guilty party did.

I see no connection between Matt. 19:9 and 1 Tim. 5:11-14. The KJV says, "I will therefore that the younger women marry..." A better translation would be "widows." It is so rendered in the ASV and NASV. This is also obvious from the context in which Paul was discussing the proper disposition of widows. I know of no place in the New Testament where a divorced woman is called a widow, so there would be no connection between 1 Tim. 6, and Matt. 19.

WARNING TO READERS

If you fail to send us your new address when you move (which costs us .10), your name will be removed from our mailing list.

To get back on, you must make a new request. We ask for your cooperation and understanding.

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

Our mixed up values

GENERAL OMAR BRADLEY SAID:

We have grasped the mystery of the atom and rejected the Sermon on the Mount. The world has achieved brilliance without wisdom, power without conscience. Ours is a world of Nuclear giants and ethical infants. We know more about war than we know about peace, more about killing than we know about living.

No wonder we think the world is so mixed up and decadent. The solution to the world's problems is not guns and tanks and atom bombs, but that which is much more powerful than all the arms the world has ever known, or will ever know: the gospel of Christ (Rom. 1:16).

In this time of recession and inflation, there is a tendency for churches to cut back on their efforts to bring this message to the world. This is sometimes necessitated, but we must make sure it is necessitated. Every church and every Christian needs to realize that teaching the gospel is one thing we can never over do.

Victims of the mischievous misses

W. J. BOETICKER SAID:

Most people in trouble are victims of the Mischievous Misses: Miss Understanding, Miss Information, Miss Interpretation, Miss Representation, Miss Conception and Miss Behavior.

We must all agree that these "Misses" explain many of our miseries!

Has evolution been proven?

Evolution is one of the greatest farces of our time. It is taught as a fact through all the media and in the public schools as if it has been proven beyond the shadow of a doubt. Much of evolution is based upon the work done by Charles Darwin. To discover the facts, it is often good to return to the scene of the crime, so let's see what Mr. Darwin had to say about evolution:

There are two or three millions of species on the earth... But it must be said today that in spite of all the efforts of trained observers, not one change of species into another is on record.

--LIFE AND LETTERS, Vol. 3, p. 25

Incidentally, the story is told of a Baboon seen in his cage with a Bible in one hand and the works of Darwin in the other. Said he, "I'm trying to find out if I am my brother's keeper, or my keeper's brother."

"Never lost a case yet!"

I once lived in a community where a certain Methodist preacher preached more funerals than one could possibly believe. Methodists as well as others. One day I heard a local citizen say that he wanted him to preach his funeral. When asked why, he replied, "Well, I have never heard him lose a case yet!"

I guess this would be quite comforting, but the real question is whether the Lord will honor the preacher's judgment--I don't think He will!

This reminds me of a story I heard about a preacher who, at a funeral, was eulogizing the dead: said he, "He was an outstanding citizen, a dedicated Christian, a loving husband, and a wonderful father." The dead man's widow, sitting on the front seat, said to one of her sons, "Go look in that casket and see if it's your pappy!"



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 9-26-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Guy Collins
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Howard Martin
Frank English
O-Wayne Gey
Clay Garrison
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

SUNDAY PM 9-26-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Howard Martin
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Howard Martin
Wayne Gey
USHERS--Al Summers, Mike Farrington

WEDNESDAY 9-29-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Wayne Gey
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
READ SCRIPTURE-----Steven Kapelka
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Randy Summers
INVITATION-----Al Summers

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---Oct. 76

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bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

CAUTION

THIS IS A CHURCH

NOT A COUNTRY CLUB !



FROM TIME TO TIME people come to PSD expecting this to be one of the modern fun-loving, entertainment providing churches with all the equipment of a gymnasium or a country club. They are soon disappointed, and some seek these things in other "churches of Christ" in the area. Some leave quietly, others satisfy an urge to fire a few parting shots as they ride out, like making false charges against this church and its members. We want to make a few things clear to all:

1. *Our pulpit is open:* We believe that truth has nothing to fear from investigation. What we preach and practice is what we believe the Bible demands. If any of our detractors think we are in error, we welcome discussions either publicly or privately, either with them alone, or with them and any representative they might choose.

2. *This is a church, not a country club:* When we started this congregation almost seven years ago, we purposely and intentionally started a church. That is what we have always been; what we are now and what we plan to remain. Those who are looking for church-provided entertainment, either for themselves or their young people, will not find it here. We come together to worship God and study His word, and we will not be diverted from these holy purposes, so help us God! We would like to keep a l l who come our way, if they are willing to let the church be the church, but we won't make it something else to keep anyone. HERE WE TAKE OUR STAND.

jpn



what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Schools of preaching

?????????????????
?
? Is it unscriptural for a church ?
? to offer classes for the pur- ?
? pose of training preachers, and ?
? making them available to other ?
? churches? OH. ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

The church is a teaching organization. The field is the world (Mt. 13:38). It has a teaching obligation to every creature to the extent of its ability (Mt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15,16). Teaching is something the church cannot over do.

To understand this is one thing, but for a church to *purposely* set up a program that involves the specific work of other churches, is unscriptural because it violates their independence (1 Pet. 5:2; Acts 20:28). One church has no right to *assume* a work that is equally the work of all churches; this is what is wrong with the Herald of Truth. The New Testament knows nothing about *brotherhood work*, or one church working for another, or *through* another. Each church must remain free to plan, support and execute their own work.

If a congregation has sufficient interest and personnel to set up some special classes for intensive Bible study, then certainly it should provide

them. If brethren and sisters from other churches want to attend the classes, that would be fine. It would be parallel to their attending a gospel meeting under the same circumstances. But that is a far cry from a church's deliberately planning special classes for all churches in a given locality, or for the brotherhood as some churches are doing. That this is the case is evident from the fact that some churches are advertising their programs in "brotherhood" papers.

What right does a church have to *assume* the responsibility for training preachers for the BROTHERHOOD, then advertise BROTHERHOOD WIDE for students? What would be the difference between this, and a church's assuming benevolent responsibility for the brotherhood then advertising BROTHERHOOD WIDE for indigents? Each church must meet its own responsibility, and it can't do so by or through another church. We have been fighting this battle for almost 30 years now, and it seems that even some who claim conservatism don't have the point yet.

It seems that we are constantly swinging from one extreme to another. We have fought to keep churches from supporting human institutions such as the colleges. We have convinced many brethren of the scripturalness of this. Then we have fought to teach the brethren of the dangers of dependence on colleges to train preachers for the church. We have convinced many of this. Now, some of those so convinced, and who rightly contend that training workers is the responsibility of the local church, are going off the deep end by encouraging local churches to *assume* brotherhood preacher-training responsibility. They fall right back into some of the same errors we have been fighting. It seems very difficult for some

brethren to be satisfied with God's plan.

One of the greatest dangers the church faces in every age is Christians who constantly think of extra-congregational activities. They can't be content to confine all work within the local church. They want "brotherhood" organizations or programs. The basic reason for this is a denominational concept of the church; something larger than the local church; something that ties more than one church together organically or in concept. In the very first issue of THE CHRISTIAN BAPTIST, (early 1800's) Alexander Campbell hit the nail right on the head along this line when he said of the New Testament churches, "*In their church capacity alone they moved...*" If there is any scriptural authority for churches to move in any other capacity, I certainly have not found it in almost 30 years of studying and teaching the word of God.

I once conducted an intensive Bible study program for two years because of interest within the congregation. Classes met for 4 hours per week. In the course of time, members of other churches heard about the classes and requested that they be allowed to benefit from them. The elders invited them to do so, but *the program was planned for our own members and to meet our own responsibility.* The same situation is true in gospel meetings. They are not planned for other churches, but members of other churches attend and benefit from them. The difference is found in the motive and concept in such programs.

It is great to see local churches seeking to meet their teaching responsibilities, but I hope and pray that they will do so scripturally. jpn

NEWS...

about us 'n things

THE PICKUP MEETING

Considering the fact of the short notice of the Pickup meeting, plus the fact that we had some sickness and members out of town, we had a real good meeting. Excellent preaching, and outstanding support from brethren in the area.

One fact needs to be mentioned and seriously considered, however. There were some members of this congregation who made no real effort to attend. I am sure some had good reasons, but some have only some weak excuses and anemic alibis. Don't try telling them to the Lord, He won't believe them either! All need to realize that attendance at such events as this helps each individual more than anyone else. If we think for one moment that such indifference and concern for such teaching efforts in the local church pleases the Lord, we need to go back and do some more reading of the Book! Maybe we have been reading the wrong book.

EDITOR IN TRENTON, FL.

When you read this the editor will be in a meeting with the North Side church in Trenton, Fla. where bro. Talmadge Polk preaches. Pray for this effort. I will be gone over one Lord's day.

HOSPITALITY

We had an excellent display of warm hospitality during the meeting. We have greatly improved along this line. Commendations and appreciation are very much in order.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 10-3-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Lynn Robinson
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jimmy Smith
SERMON-----Guest Speaker
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Frank English
Mark DuBose
O-Mike Farrington
Randy Summers
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

SUNDAY PM 10-3-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Lynn Robinson
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jim Milam
SERMON-----Guest Speaker
LORD'S SUPPER-----Frank English
Mike Farrington
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

WEDNESDAY 10-6-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
READ SCRIPTURE-----Guy Collins
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Carter
INVITATION-----Ralph Autry

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bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

IS MT. DORA THE CHURCH?



In a recent discussion with a brother over whether it is scriptural for the church to support Mt. Dora Orphan Home and School, I made the point that *"Mt. Dora is not the church, or any part of it, but a human organization, chartered under the laws of the state of Florida."* My respondent argued that Mt. Dora is a church organization because all board members are members of "the church of Christ." I replied that they are members of different churches of Christ, so if it is a church organization, it is a "brotherhood work," something that the scriptures know nothing about.

The only earthly organization the church has is the local church. It is God's only working unit. The universal church has no earthly organization, therefore no work to perform. The concept of universal church work is denominational. Nearly all denominations have universal "church" work like benevolent institutions, missionary societies, publishing houses, etc. The church of the Lord knows nothing of such an idea.

If my respondent's logic is alive and well, it pushes us to some rather absurd conclusions. I know of a bank which is owned by members of the church. All the board members are members of the church--is it a church bank, or is the bank a part of the church? It is if Mt. Dora is.

But let's notice what Mt. Dora is all about according to their charter: *"The purpose of said corporation is to establish, maintain and operate an orphan's home and AN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY INSTITUTION OF LEARNING under the said name of Christian Home and Bible School, for the care of orphan's AND children who could be benefited by the institution and for the instruction and education of MEN, WOMEN and CHILDREN, in which said institution shall be maintained a suitable home for children and STANDARD ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY COURSES IN EDUCATION in compliance with the standard of the department of education of the State of Florida. In the educational program of the Christian Home and Bible School special emphasis shall be placed upon VOCATIONAL and COMMERCIAL EDUCATION; and especially upon the teaching of the Bible, in which each student shall be required to have at least one daily recitation."* (From the Charter, p. 1. Emphasis mine, jpn). I ask you in all seriousness, IS THIS THE WORK OF THE CHURCH? jpn



What about the priesthood?

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
 ?
 ? Please explain the facts about ?
 ? the priesthood. They are men- ?
 ? tioned both in the Old Testa- ?
 ? ment and the New, and we see ?
 ? many people claiming to be ?
 ? priests today. Ky. ?
 ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

I. PRIESTHOOD CHARACTERISTIC OF A L L DISPENSATIONS: (1) *Patriarchy*: During the age of Patriarchy (from A d a m to Moses), the priesthood of Melchizedek is mentioned (Gen. 14:18). It was to him that Abraham paid tithes and from him received a blessing, thus acknowledging his superiority (Heb. 7:6,7). During this time Jethro, the father-in-law of Moses, is mentioned as "Priest of Midian" (Exo. 2:16; 3:1; 18:12).

(2) *Judaism*: During the Mosaic age (From M o s e s to Christ), the Aaronic priesthood functioned. To be a priest in this order, one had to be a direct descendent of Aaron, the brother of Moses (Lev. 8).

(3) *The Christ Age*: During this age (From Pentecost Acts 2, to the end of the world), ALL CHRISTIANS ARE PRIESTS. Christ is our HIGH PRIEST (Heb. 2:17, 18; 4:14). ALL CHRISTIANS are priests according to the New Testament. T h e y are called: (a) "a n holy priesthood"

(1 Pet. 2:5), (b) "a royal priesthood" (1 Pet. 2:9), and (c) "Priests (Rev. 1:16).

II. PRIESTLY DUTIES: According to Heb. 5:1, the duties of a priest are to function "*in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.*" This is true of all God-ordained priests. O l d Testament priests offered physical, earthly gifts and sacrifices for both themselves and others (H e b. 5:2,3). Christ offered Himself (Heb. 7:27). Priests under the Christ era (all Christians) offer gifts and sacrifices to God through Christ, the High Priest (1 Pet. 2:5; H e b. 13:15).

III. CONCLUSIONS: From what we have learned, we draw the following conclusions:

(1) *ALL special priests today are f r a u d s*: Since all Christians are priests today, we do not have, and do not need any special priests to perform our spiritual duties for us, and all who claim such an office are but frauds and false teachers. Hence, the concept of "clergy and laity" is foreign to the teaching of the scriptures, and pertains to the "doctrines and commandments of men" that render worship vain (M t. 15:9). The New Testament knows nothing of a sacerdotal system where one class of persons has special keys to God's storehouse.

Jesus forbids our calling men "Rabbi," "father," or "master." (M t. 23:7-10). He informs us that "*One is your Master even Christ; and ALL ye are brethren*" (Mt. 23:8).

(2) *A L L priestly and/or clerical garb is pharisaical presumption*: A n y individual seen wearing special clothing designed to portray him as some

kind of special servant of God, either claims to be a priest, or is acting like one. Jesus severely condemned this sort of pretentious presumption. In Mt. 23:5-7, He said of the Pharisees: *"They make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, and love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi."* This is a very clear condemnation of today's "clerics and priests" who pretend to be special servants of God.

(3) *All Christians are priests and are capable of offering their own sacrifices.* We need to be thoroughly convinced that there is no sacerdotalism in the New Testament order. He who thinks there is, has not understood the individual nature of Christianity. Some Christians want to make a priest of the preacher. They put him in a special class, and his title is "Brother," or "Minister." If they become ill, or get involved in wrong doing, they want the preacher to come pray for them. Evidently there is some thought that his prayers are more meaningful or effective than others'. This is really a sacerdotal, special priesthood concept.

Certainly, preachers should pray for the sick and sinful, but there is absolutely no scriptural indication that his prayers are any more effective than anyone else's. Preachers are not professional prayers. Your key will open the door to God's storehouse just as well as his. We desperately need to clear our minds of a growing preacher-clergy concept. Preachers are human just like everyone else, just Christians who give their full time to teaching and preaching the word of God, and therefore have their livelihood supplied by the church. jpn

NEWS... about us 'n things

EDITOR TO SUMPTER, S.C.

I will begin a meeting at Sumpter, S. C. on Oct. 18. (Our 29th wedding anniversary. Why am I always gone on it?) The Martins came to us from this small struggling church. Howard is responsible for my going for the meeting. (He arranged for me to come, then he left!) Bro. Arnold Granke, who married an Orlando girl, is the local preacher. This effort needs your prayers too! I am trying to get the Martins to go with me, how about you? Want to go along?

SICK AND SHUT IN

Sis. VICKERS continues about as usual. She attends some of the services, but still has her heart problems...The GARRISONS have a 11 been ill lately, some of them twice--nothing like doing it up right!

Carmen Crider has gone home

Sis. CARMEN CRIDER, widowed wife of a good gospel preacher, came to Orlando about 6 months ago for a kidney transplant from her daughter of Ft. Meade. Her body never accepted the transplant, and she spent about 6 weeks in the hospital in horrible agony before she died on Sept. 15. May God bless her family, and her memory.

NO NOTICE--OFF YOU GO !

Since bulletin returns for incorrect address have gone up to 25¢ each, we are enforcing our rule of "NO NOTICE--OFF YOU GO" without exception. If you cease receiving the bulletin, that's probably the reason. Think it over!



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 10-10-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Clay Garrison
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Frank English
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Ronald Carter
Steven Kapelka
O-O.J. Duer
Scott Collins
USHERS-----Gene Mooney, Wayne Gey

SUNDAY PM 10-10-76

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SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Jim Milam
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Ronald Carter
O.J. Duer
USHERS-----Gene Mooney, Wayne Gey

WEDNESDAY 10-13-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Howard Martin
FIRST PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Randy Summers
INVITATION-----Robert Gaines

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**What is
a man
profited if
he gain the
whole world
and lose his
own soul?**

THESE ARE THE WORDS of our Saviour. He never owned a home, or operated a business. He never held a job or learned a profession. He said he had not where to lay his head (Mt. 8:20). Once he had to borrow a donkey upon which to ride (Mt. 21:2,3). He never earned a college degree (Jn. 7:15). He had no rich ancestry; his father was a lowly carpenter (Mt. 13:55), his mother a humble peasant woman.

Thus, these words are from a teacher who lived what he preached. He did not call upon others to have the proper attitude toward worldly goods, while he lived in luxury and splendor. He had no hidden bank accounts, or preached to others what he himself did not practice.

disguised assets while he

One wonders, then, how persons today can claim to be his disciples and followers who make worldly goods their main concern. When they neglect their obligations to Him for every worldly excuse imaginable, and perform only minimal service to Him, and that only when it is *convenient*. Jesus called such a person a "fool" (Lk. 12:20). He told another such a person to "sell what thou hast and give to the poor" (Mt. 19:21). He warned, *"Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth"* (Lk. 12:15).

Today many of God's people have gone money crazy. They are willing to neglect their families, their bodies, and their souls to serve the god of mammon. Their meager service to God is altogether a sideline, and never the mainline (Eph. 4:1). If there is a choice between money and spiritual duty, God doesn't have a chance; the decision is foregone, and automatic. Money always wins!

A day of reckoning is coming. Every man will give account of himself to God (Rom. 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10). The result of that judgment is also foregone. Jesus said, *"Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations"* (Lk. 16:9). Man can gain the whole world--be the richest man of all time--and lose his own soul and die a pauper "For we brought NOTHING unto this world, and it is certain we can carry NOTHING out" (1 Tim. 6:7). "The love of money is the root of all evil" (Lk. 6:10). THINK IT OVER, have you "chosen the good part"? (Lk. 10:42). jpn



Baptized "in" or "by" one Spirit?

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
 ?
 ? Could you please explain 1 Cor. ?
 ? 12:13. How are we baptized "in" ?
 ? one Spirit"? --Al. ?
 ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

The Greek preposition "EN" is the source of some confusion in this passage; whether it should be translated "by" "in," or "Through." One can find translations in which all three are used. The KJV uses "by," the ASV uses "in," and "through" BAS. Personally and for contextual reasons, I prefer "in." It makes more sense to the English reader, and harmonizes better with the context as I shall show later.

Thayer says of this preposition, when it has reference to location, that it has the significance "*of the instrument or means by or with which anything is accomplished...where we say with, by means of, by (through...)*" (p. 210,5,d).

Meyer translates the passage, "*For even by means of one Spirit were we all baptized into one body--i.e. for even by this, that we receive one and the same Holy Spirit at our baptism, were we all to be bound together into one ethical body.*" (Com. on 1 Cor. p. 289).

I am convinced that 1 Cor. 12:13 has no reference to Holy Spirit or miraculous baptism because all of the previ-

ous part of the chapter is given to a discussion of miraculous gifts of the Spirit. Paul has shown how they had not all received the same gift (v.4). There were contentions in the Corinthian church over who had the best gift, and there were those who felt the Spirit had discriminated against them in giving others better gifts. But Paul offsets such an idea by showing that regardless of the gift received, it was for the profit of all (v.6), and then clinches his argument of the impartiality of the Spirit by showing that by the teaching (leading) of the one Spirit, A L L (without exception, whether Jew, Greek, bond, free, etc.) had been baptized into one body and made to drink into the same Spirit" (v.13).

They had been made to "drink into the one Spirit" because they had all been baptized into the "one body" where the Spirit operated, and where they partook (drank) of the benefits of His miraculous gifts through those in the body who had received them (cf. v.7).

1 Cor. 12:13 could not have reference to Holy Ghost baptism because it speaks of a baptism which puts all members into the body. If all members at Corinth had received Holy Ghost baptism then all members everywhere must have received it, but this is not so. The Samaritans were baptized (Acts 8:12), but did not receive the Holy Spirit until Apostle's hands were laid on them some time later (Acts 8:12,17).

If Holy Ghost baptism is the baptism that which puts one into the body, then all Christians have been baptized in the Holy Ghost today or else nobody is in the body today. Furthermore, if H. G. baptism is still being given, then there are two baptisms today, but the scriptures say there is but one (Eph. 4:5). (next column).

Continued

1 Cor. 12:13, is parallel to Jn. 3:5 and Acts 2:38. Let's read them all together and note the similarity:

1 Cor. 12:13--"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body..."

John 3:5--"Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

Acts 2:38--"Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Each of these verses has three common elements: The Father, the Spirit and water. The Spirit's part is teaching (Jn. 16:13); the water's part is conveyance (into, or in order to) and the Father's part is blessing (drink in to one Spirit, admission into the kingdom, remissions of sins and gift of the Spirit).

Simply put, 1 Cor. 12:13 says, *"For by the teaching of one Spirit were we all led to be baptized in water into the one body."* If this is not the case, then every member of the body became such by Holy Ghost baptism, thus is endowed with miraculous gifts. If not, why not? jpn

WARNING TO READERS

If you fail to send us your new address when you move (which costs us .25), your name will be removed from our mailing list.

To get back on, you must make a new request. We ask for your cooperation and understanding.

NEWS...

about us 'n things

THE TRENTON MEETING: We had an excellent meeting with Northside in Trenton. Some said we had the largest crowds they had ever seen in the building. Brethren from neighboring churches supported the meeting well, and some non-members attended...EXCELLENT REPORTS RECEIVED on the two lessons by bro. Howard Martin in my absence. We appreciate his talent and his willingness to use it for the Lord...MY NEXT MEETING will be in Sumter S. C. Oct. 18-24. I will be gone only one Sunday. I have held only one other meeting in that good state... S I C K AND SHUT IN: Sis. Vickers attends most of the assemblies; I won't say she is able to do so! She hangs in there! A good example for some younger members who miss services for a thousand frivolous excuses...B r o. Gaines has returned home from surgery, and is doing well...Little Wesley Poppel, son of Jim Poppel who will conduct our Spring meeting, is now home from the hospital following brain surgery. From all reports, he is doing well. We are thankful for God's blessings upon all the sick...Jim Miller is just concluding his first two meetings since his heart attacks. We will tell you how he did when we hear...Warren Needham is home from the hospital following further difficulties with his heart, and is now awaiting appointments for further testing to determine what can be done for him...

GROWTH: We continue to lose members due to job transfers. What can we do to offset this? Work for the conversion of our neighbors. Let's start some home Bible studies. How about you, will you be first? Let's get started! time is a wasting. Souls are being lost.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 10-17-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gerald Durrett
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Howard Martin
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Lynn Robinson
Robert Carter
O-Jimmy Smith
Mike Farrington
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

SUNDAY PM 10-17-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gerald Durrett
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Lynn Robinson
Jimmy Smith
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

WEDNESDAY 10-20-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Steven Kapelka
FIRST PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
READ SCRIPTURE-----Jim Milam
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
INVITATION-----Howard Martin

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---Oct. 76

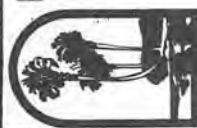
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(Classes for all ages)

Morning worship 11:00

Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?

IT DISTRESSES ME to see parents of young children indifferent about whether they get their children to all the Bible classes. They often come in late; don't have their lessons up; or don't come at all. Maybe they will come on Sunday morning after Bible classes, and skip Wednesday night altogether. Such parents are taking a big chance. The price of such indifference is usually greater than they will be willing to pay.

Believe me, we can be sorely disappointed in our children's attitude toward the church when we have done our very best. We greatly increase the chance of this when we exemplify this sort of attitude toward the work of the Lord. There is no sorrow to compare with the realization that your child is lost.

We live in a world that is filled with anti-religious allurements. When parents are drawn aside by such when

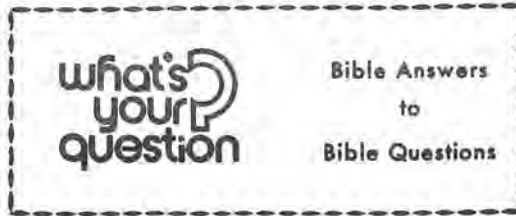


There was an old woman
Who lived in a shoe,
She had a lot of children
But she knew what to do.
The old shoe is empty--
Not a lad nor a lass--
For it's now Sunday morning,
And they're in **BIBLE CLASS**.

their children are impressionable, is it surprising that their children grow up to have the same attitude?

We have conscientious teachers who spend several hours per week preparing class material for your children. They are really sacrificing in order to **HELP YOU WITH YOUR CHILDREN**. It seems the least one could do is have his children present on all possible occasions.

Parents are commanded to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Eph. 6:4). There is no guarantee that our children will accept the training we give them, but we have the obligation to expose them to it. The old adage, "*One can lead a horse to water, but he can't make him drink*" is certainly true. But if the horse dies from thirst, he can't blame his owner. In parenthood, as in all other religious matters, God requires *effort, not results*. jpn



WHAT WE HAVE COME TO

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
 ?
 ? Please explain t h e things we ?
 ? have and have not come to in ?
 ? Heb. 12:18-24. --TN. ?
 ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

TO UNDERSTAND t h e writer's point in this passage, one must also understand the persons to whom this letter was addressed. The Hebrew letter was written to Jewish Christians who were discouraged because of persecutions heaped upon them by Jews who had rejected Christ and continued to cling to the old Mosaic system. The key word to understanding Hebrews is "BETTER." The writer uses almost the entire book to demonstrate t h e superiority of the New Testament system over the Old.

The section under consideration i s one of many which is given to a contrast between the Old and New Testaments in which the New is shown to be far superior to the Old. He shows the things we have not come to in contrast with what we have come to. To understand the contrast, one should recognize that the figure of speech known as METONYMY is used where a part or characteristic of the Old or New Testaments is used for the whole system. Keep this in mind as you read on.

I. WHAT THEY HAD NOT COME TO:

1. "The mount that might be touched, and burned with fire, nor u n t o blackness, and darkness and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words..."

(NOTE: A careful reading of Exo. 19 will s h o w that all these things occurred at Mt. Sinai when the law was given, so this part of the contrast simply says that the Jewish Christians had not come to the old covenant; t h a t is, it had been done away)

II. WHAT THEY HAD COME TO:

1. "Mt. Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and t o an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the first-born, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh BETTER things than that of Abel."

(NOTE: These are all characteristics of the new covenant. The main points of emphasis are t h e CHURCH, the JUDGE and the ATONEMENT, but in reality, he is just saying that the New Testament system is superior to the Old.)

This is one of the many contrasts between the old and new covenants in the Hebrew letter. Each one has the same purpose, but may be expressed in a different way. In view of this, how could anyone think we are still under the Old Testament.

NEWS... about us 'n things

CORRECTION ON SIS. CRIDER

In a recent bulletin I stated that sis. Crider died from rejection of a transplanted kidney from her daughter. Her daughter has informed me that this is in error, and requested that I make a correction for fear that it might discourage someone from having a kidney transplant.

Certainly, I am delighted to make such a correction. I visited sis. Crider several times in the intensive care unit. I never got to talk to any of her family. I received only sketchy information from a clerk or maybe a nurse. I was specifically told by one nurse that Carmen was rejecting her daughter's kidney. This accounts for my erroneous report.

Her daughter informs me that the kidney was working beautifully, and that the autopsy showed that she died from an enlarged heart brought on by extremely high blood pressure.

I am sorry that I gave the erroneous report, but I did the best I could. I was misled by personnel at the hospital. This irks me no little. I get weary of the high-brow attitude around hospitals where the personnel seems to be on some ego trip because they are privy to so-called privileged information which they jealously keep from interested parties who have a right to know. This case is a vivid illustration of the evil results of such policies. My apologies to one and all. jpn

PLEASE USE THE MICROPHONE

At the business meeting on Aug. 10 the brethren asked that all who make announcements or lead prayers use one of the microphones at the front of the auditorium. Either go upon the pulpit, or behind the "Lord's table." The microphone on the "Lord's table" is very sensitive, and you can be heard well by simply walking behind the table.

We come together to worship. Worship is an intelligent process. We cannot get the most from the worship if we cannot understand what is said. Let's use this very simple remedy for this situation. We know you will cooperate. Some brethren were surprised to learn that they were not being heard by those in the back of the auditorium.

SICK AND SHUT IN

Bro. GAINES was out to both services on Aug. 10--a rather quick recovery from his surgery! He's doing well. We are thankful...Bro. DALTON is now able to be at all services and has done some odd jobs following triple by-pass heart surgery--how marvellous! He looks good, and feels well. We thank God for His answering our prayers for Roland...Sis VICKERS continues to be able to attend most assemblies, and is about as well as usual...KIM GAINES' mother is not doing well. She lives in Holland, Mo. ...Sis. TAYLOR'S mother who suffered a stroke some time ago, is not too well. She has good times and bad. She lives in Ala....Sis. CASTLE, Georgia Weems' mother, is still not well. Sisters, why don't you call on her? She needs your encouragement. She is at the Weem's home...We never know just how much good a kind word will do. It only takes a minute, and costs us NOTHING. jpn



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 10-24-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Wayne Gey
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
SERMON-----Guest Speaker
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Jim Milam
Gene Mooney
O-Howard Martin
Jack Farrington
USHERS-----Gene Mooney, Wayne Gey

SUNDAY PM 10-24-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Wayne Gey
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Lynn Robinson
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
SERMON-----Guest Speaker
LORD'S SUPPER-----Jim Milam
Howard Martin
USHERS-----Gene Mooney, Wayne Gey

WEDNESDAY 10-27-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----James Smith
FIRST PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Howard Martin
INVITATION-----Gerald Durrett

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS----Nov. 76

POST PROGRAM-----Mark DuBose
MONTHLY SINGING-----Howard Martin
CLOSE BUILDING-----Gene Mooney
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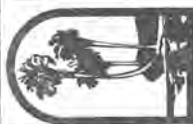
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MASON, OHIO 45040

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SUNDAY

Morning Bible study 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

ARE YOU GIVING GOD HIS RIGHTFUL PLACE

In Your Life?

The Invitation Is To You

GOD'S GRACE
+ YOUR FAITH
= HAPPY LIVING

WHAT REALLY MEANS THE MOST TO YOU? A large estate? A better home in an exclusive part of town? A prestigious position in this world? Or to be great in the kingdom of heaven which is acquired by being the servant of all? (Mt. 20:27).

Some persons think happiness is having. Having worldly possessions. But Solomon said, "*Neither is the eye satisfied with riches*" (Eccl. 4:8), and "*He that trusteth in riches shall fail*" (Prov. 11:28). He ought to know for he was one of the richest men who ever lived. Jesus said, "*A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth*" (Lk. 12:15).

True happiness is serving God sincerely and completely. Working for Him is the only road to earthly or eternal happiness. The rich man will say he is happy, but he is really miserable. He stays awake at night worrying about his investments, his employees, his money. "*But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows*" (1 Tim. 6:9,10).

No person has found true happiness who has not given God his rightful place in his life. That place is FIRST: "*Seek FIRST the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you*" (Mt. 6:33).

Modern man (including many church members) have no time for God. They are too involved in what is called "the rat race." The greatest disappointment about this matter will come when we wake up and discover that THE RATS HAVE WON! Remember this equation for a happy life: GOD'S GRACE+YOUR FAITH=HAPPY LIVING! jpn



VISITING A LIBERAL CHURCH

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
 ?
 ? What do you think about visit- ?
 ? ing with an institutional (lib- ?
 ? eral) church on vacation? One ?
 ? person claimed the conservative ?
 ? group in town was "dead as a ?
 ? door nail" and therefore chose ?
 ? to attend the liberal group be- ?
 ? cause they had more N.T. spir- ?
 ? it, though in error! What would ?
 ? be your response to the person? ?
 ?
 ? Ala. ?
 ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

This is a typical effort to rationalize one's encouragement and endorsement of and association with error. It is like some brethren did in the division over the instrument. The question then was, "Is it alright for me to attend where they use the instrument, if there is no sound church in town?" The spirit is the same.

These persons admit that the liberal church is in error, but they have "more N. T. spirit"! Imagine that! They are in error, but they have "more N. T. spirit"! Will wonders never cease? Maybe the "conservative" church is dead, I wouldn't know. Sometimes they are. If so, then they are failing to live up to their obligations, b u t that doesn't

justify identification w i t h and endorsement of the errors of liberalism. I believe I can personally worship acceptably with a deadheaded church, especially if I am just a visitor, b u t how can I worship acceptably where I know and freely admit they are preaching and practicing *doctrinal error*? Any one who cannot see the difference is willfully blind.

I have heard this story many times before. "More N. T. spirit" often means lunch in the fellowship hall, ping pong tables, etc. "More N. T. spirit" covers a multitude of s i n s. It is often a clever rationalization for one's desire to do something at church beside worship God.

Maybe the conservative brethren are deadheaded a n d discouraged because they receive such sorry support from so-called sound brethren who come to town and worship with the liberals. They might be i n d u c e d to be more active and enthusiastic if encouraged by sound brethren from other areas who come to town. It is a bit difficult to be enthusiastic when one realizes that his own half-converted brethren are associating and encouraging the enemy.

I have absolutely no encouragement for liberalism. I recognize my liberal brethren a s brethren, but as erring brethren. They have had sufficient time in our discussions to see the error of their way. Instead they have turned on us and drawn lines against us. I recognize the line they draw. I can have fellowship with brethren in error, if t h e y are openminded and willing to study. But when they thrust from them the word of God and judge themselves unworthy of eternal life, I must turn elsewhere (Acts 13:46). I will not bid them Godspeed in their evil deeds (2 Jn 9-11).
jpn

FEEDBACK

... our readers speak

From a preacher in N.C.

"...I enjoy your bulletin beyond words of expression; I look forward every week to receiving it, I have learned more than you will ever know from it."

And a sad one

"...I was in a bad car wreck. Lost my left eye. Completely paralyzed on left side. Just see enough to get around. I am in a home as I am not able to care for myself. No need to send me the bulletin any more as I can't see to read it. Have to get someone to write for me. You will never know how much I enjoy getting the bulletin. I learn good lessons and been closer to my Saviour by the good lessons...I will miss getting the bulletin each week. Remember me in your prayers..."

(EDITOR'S NOTE: We constantly receive a heavy response to the bulletin from all parts of the country. Every week brings new requests to be added to the mailing list. The printed page, when properly used, is a powerful medium for teaching God's word. I guess that is why He chose it as the method of revealing His will to us.

Out of necessity we have had to become more selective in adding new names to the mailing list. The cost of publishing this bulletin has at least doubled since we began almost 6 years ago. No longer will we add whole churches to the mailing list on the request of some person, and we ask that the reader not send us names of persons unless they KNOW they are definitely interested in this work. jpn).

ARE WE FRIENDLY ENOUGH?

It is very difficult to understand people! (That's an under statement!) We have had numerous visitors to write us and commend this church as being the friendliest they have ever seen. Yet, occasionally someone will say we are not very friendly! How does one explain this? How does one deal with it?

First, it may seem to be true to the person who makes the charge because of a given set of circumstances at that particular time. Perhaps people were occupied with someone else when the person went by, so overlooked them.

Second, it may be a true charge. It may be that a given congregation has accumulated members generally who are not outgoing, or just don't care to get involved with others. Maybe they don't sense the necessity of making others feel welcome.

Third, it may be that the person making the charge has not given folks a chance to be friendly. I have known of persons who sat at the back of the building and who rushed out at the last "amen," without really giving people a chance to be friendly. I once caught a lady in the vestibule leaving during the last song. When I tried to speak to her, she very curtly dressed me down because this was the third time she had been there and nobody had spoken to her! Think of that? How could they when she left before the services ended?

Let us all do better, and let us all remember: *"A man that hath friends must show himself friendly..."* (Prov.18:24).



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 10-31-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Howard Martin
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Jack Farrington
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Gene Mooney
Frank English
O-Clay Garrison
Jim Milam
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

SUNDAY PM 10-31-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Howard Martin
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Clay Garrison
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Gene Mooney
Clay Garrison
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

WEDNESDAY 11-3-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Jack Farrington
READ SCRIPTURE-----Steven Kapelka
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jim Milam
INVITATION-----Jimmy Smith
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WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ



PARENTS AND GLORIFIED YOUTH

MUCH OF TODAY'S YOUTH IS SPOILED! They have been petted and pampered until they think they are on a pedestal. They evaluate their problems as the most serious in history, and think all of them are caused by their bungling elders. They complain that they don't like the world into which their elders have brought them.

They have been mistakenly told that they are smarter than their elders, and that they are being exploited by their elders, all of which is just pure nonsense. Today's youth is not more intelligent than its elders, they just have more information than their elders had in their youth, but where did today's youth get this information? Did they develop it? We all know the answer! They did not! They got it from their elders. Today's youth doesn't have to discover the law of gravity, atomic power, or the internal combustion engine; their elders have done that for them. All they have to do is improve up-

on them and put them to the greatest use.

What much of today's youth fails to realize is that their elders felt about as they do when they were young. They probably felt that they were exploited by their parents, and disliked the world in which they found themselves.

Being a parent today is at least as difficult as being a son or daughter. Parents today are supposed to struggle to pay for the most expensive education in the history of the world, furnish expensive automobiles, pay outrageous insurance premiums, provide and furnish a decent dwelling and adequate food, all of which are more expensive than they have ever been. Both parents often have to work in order to maintain this standard for their children. And too frequently their reward is disrespect and inappreciation from the children for whom they slave.

I am positive that all the mistakes are not on the part of today's youth. I know for sure that I am not a perfect parent, and I have no reluctance to admit it. You see, this is my first time around; I have had no previous experience as a parent! I am trying to learn how to be a parent. The sad thing about it, however, is that once I learn how to be a good parent, my experience will be no longer needed, or wanted. My children will insist upon making their own mistakes as parents! jpn

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Christians marrying non-Christians

?????????????????
?
? Do the scriptures teach that it ?
? is sinful for a Christian to ?
? marry a non-Christian? TN ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

It would be a simple and easy thing for me to answer this question in the affirmative, but then I would be obligated to prove my answer by the scriptures and I have been unable to do that. Thus I must say that the scriptures do not teach it is sinful for a Christian to marry a non-Christian.

This is not to say that the scriptures or I encourage such a thing--by no means! I could never under any circumstances advise or sanction such a marriage, but I cannot find any scriptural ground to say it is sinful. Those who marry non-Christians are often drawn away from God and the church, but this does not prove that the marriage is sinful. Departing from God is sinful, but that doesn't prove that the marriage itself is so.

Marriage between believers and unbelievers is sanctioned in the scriptures. Read carefully the following passage: *"And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him. For the unbelieving hus-*

band is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean" (1 Cor. 7:13-16). This passage plainly says that marriage between believers and unbelievers is sanctioned by God, and binding in God's sight, for if it were not, then the children of such a union would be what we call "illegitimate."

Thus, the point is established that believer/unbeliever marriage is accepted in God's sight, and in this case God commands that they stay together, if the unbeliever be pleased to do so. If the marriage be sinful, then they could not stay together, and children born to this union would be "unclean" (illegitimate). Now, since God commands the believer to remain in such a marriage, how could it be sinful for other Christians to enter such a relationship? *I maintain that any Christian can enter any relationship that another Christian can remain in.* If not, let someone name the exception. I'd like to take a look at it. Such an exception would make God a respecter of persons which the scriptures deny (Acts 10:34). How could He avoid respect of persons, if He allowed one Christian to remain in a relationship which He forbids another to enter?

There is no question that marriages between believers and unbelievers are inadvisable and most dangerous, but that is not the question here. The question is whether or not such marriages are *sinful*. To say that they are sinful necessitates repentance of them, and how would one repent of the sin of marrying out of the church? Separation? No, God said, if the unbeliever be pleased to dwell with him/her, let him or her not leave. Thus, if such a marriage is sinful, so is the dissolving of it for such is here specifically forbidden. Let's not bind where God has loosed, nor loose where He has bound.

jpn

NEWS...

about us 'n things

**WARREN NEEDHAM HAS
TRIPLE BYPASS HEART SURGERY**

We have mentioned before that Warren Needham, brother of this editor, and preacher for the Hopkins St. church in Titusville, has been having some serious heart problems. Following a week in the Titusville hospital, he came to Orlando for further tests. An angiogram showed 100% blockage in t h r e e main heart arteries, and 90% blockage of the fourth. He was hospitalized until they could schedule surgery, which was performed on Oct. 19. Everything has gone almost perfectly! He came through the surgery in fine shape, and is well on his way to recovery. He should be home by the time you read this.

Many prayers have been offered in his behalf, and they have been heard by our loving Heavenly Father. The editor and all the family would like to thank everyone for all your prayers and concern for all of us during this difficult time. We solicit a continued interest in your petitions.

DALTONS ON VACATION

Brother Roland Dalton, who had this same surgery the first of August, and Charlotte are on vacation at this writing. Roland has made excellent progress and we are all thankful.

DUERS RETURNED

The Duers have just returned from a vacation to the mountains. We are glad they could get away, and are thankful for a safe trip.

JAMES P. MILLER DOING WELL

We are also glad to announce that brother James P. Miller has recovered nicely from his recent heart attacks. He has just returned from his first two meetings since his latest illness, and reports that he had no problems. We are thankful, and pray for his continued success. The Millers will be moving back to Tampa soon where brother Miller will have a slower pace and be free of the responsibilities of local work.

TWO RESPONSES

On Wednesday night October 20, sister Linda Melvin, who just returned from Germany, came in repentance of neglect and asked for the prayers of us all. We commend her fine attitude, and, Linda, it is wonderful to have you back with us. We missed you and Danny. Danny will be returning in December.

On Sunday morning Oct. 24, Mrs. Annie Alexander responded to heaven's call and was baptized into Christ for the remission of her past sins. She has been attending regularly for several months. She is a neighbor to sister Betty Du Bose and was influenced to come with her. This is a good example of what can be done when we make an effort. May this encourage more of us to take advantage of our opportunities.

We will publish phone numbers and address for these when we have them more definitely. Meanwhile, Welcome to both of them.

REMEMBER, when you send a change of address, we need BOTH your OLD and your NEW addresses and zip codes.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 11-7-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
DISMISSAL PRAYER----Mike Farrington
SERMON-----Guest Speaker
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Frank English
Mark DuBose
O-Ronald Carter
Robert Carter
USHERS-----Gene Mooney, Wayne Gey

SUNDAY PM 11-7-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ralph Autry
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Jim Milam
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jimmy Smith
SERMON-----Guest Speaker
LORD'S SUPPER-----Frank English
Ronald Carter
USHERS-----Gene Mooney, Wayne Gey

WEDNESDAY 11-10-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----Jimmy Smith
FIRST PRAYER-----Jack Farrington
READ SCRIPTURE-----Jim Milam
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Carter
INVITATION-----Gerald Durrett

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---Nov. 76

POST PROGRAM-----Mark DuBose
MONTHLY SINGING-----Howard Martin
CLOSE BUILDING-----Gene Mooney
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EDITOR: JAMES P. NEEDHAM

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600 Palm Springs Drive
Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701
(Metropolitan Orlando)
Phones: 831-3230; 645-0450



JAMES COOPER
5794 BUTLER WARREN RD.
MASON, OHIO 45040

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Morning Bible study..... 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

"SHARE, SHARE, SHARE"



After her first day in kindergarten, a mother asked her little daughter how she liked it? The little girl replied, *"I hated it. All I heard all day was SHARE, SHARE, SHARE!"* The honesty of children often exposes the realities of human nature. People are basically selfish. Sharing is something we all must learn. It is easier for some of us than for others.

One of the most amazing discoveries of my life has been that people are more willing to share other things than the gospel. If one knows a good health remedy, they will share it with everyone they meet who has the ailment! Nothing is more readily shared than one's opinions and political views, but we associate with people every day with whom we never attempt to share the greatest remedy on earth, the gospel. It is the only one that will work, and it never fails; yet, we keep it to ourselves.

We waste thousands of opportunities every day to share the gospel with others, and then say, "There is no use, folks won't listen." How do we know, if we don't try? There are many who won't listen, but the situation today is as it has always been: There are thousands of honest truth seekers among all the hundreds of thousands who will not listen. Our job is to find those who will listen. How can we do it, if we don't try? We must test everyone we possibly can. Sooner or later someone will say, "That's just what I've been looking for." I challenge you to try it.

We can't give up just because everyone won't listen. The majority rejected Christ and the apostles, but they continued to approach every possible person. We can't allow the size of the opposition to intimidate us and cause us to abandon the honest truth seekers. *"Will you not tell it today?"*

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Can Christians go to war?

?????????????????
?
? Is it wrong for a Christian to ?
? fight in war, or defend his ?
? house in a defensive matter? ?
? Al. & Th. ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

Two differing questions are involved here, and I believe it is a mistake to think they are the same. Fighting in a national war, and defending one's own home are not identical situations.

All should understand that the civil government is ordained of God (Rom. 13) and the Christian can act as an agent of his government. To contend otherwise is to say that a Christian could not teach school, because teachers are agents of the government. The question then is: Is there a limit upon what a Christian can do for his government? I believe there is. I don't believe a Christian can fornicate for his government, and I don't believe he can kill for it. Thus, I believe it is wrong for a Christian to kill for his government.

Now, I realize that some differ with this conclusion, and that is certainly their privilege. There are those who say that a Christian can act as an agent of his government to do any thing

the government has the right to do. If this be true, still individual conscience is involved. I am thoroughly convinced that I cannot kill for my government, though I would be willing to serve it.

Wars are such horrible things and are often motivated by material considerations, that the safest course for all Christians is to avoid involvement in them. Some time back it was stated that we would go to war to protect our oil interests in the Middle East. How could a Christian take the lives of others for such a trivial matter? The old adage that "it's the rich man's war and the poor man's fight" is too true to be denied.

As to defending one's home, that is a different matter. I believe a Christian can do what is necessary to stop a burglar, rapist, etc. from entering his home and injuring his family. The most desirable thing would be to call the police and let them protect the home, but this is not always possible. Until the police arrive, I believe one can protect his home and family by whatever means are necessary.

I don't think I could ever intentionally kill anyone, but I would try to do what was necessary to prevent harm to my home and family. If I killed such a person, it would be an accident and without intent. Therefore, it would not be murder.

The basic difference between these two questions is this: In war the fighting soldier frequently does not know the purpose for his killing. He is often given false information about the purpose of the war. In defending one's home, there is no doubt. jpn

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

OUR CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOR

We have a group of fine children at PSD. We love them all, and want what is best for them. Especially we want to give them every opportunity to grow up and be strong Christians. In order to do this, we must give them a good deal of guidance and teaching.

All of us know (from our own childhood) that when children get together there will be rivalries and alliances. There will be some who like to take advantage of smaller children, and some who will want to show out for others. All of this adds up to a situation that needs attention from parents and adults generally. Otherwise things can get out of hand and much mischief will result.

I frequently call attention to the fact that the church property is abused by children. This is very offensive to me, and obviously to others who mention it to me. The church building is a special place to most Christians. They like to keep it nice and as clean as possible. They resent its being abused by anyone.

It is easy for parents to get involved with other adults and forget to keep an eye on their children. In such a time children will get out of hand and unthoughtedly do damage. Just here I want to call attention to some recent incidents about which we need to caution our children, and for which we need to be on the alert.

1. There is some abuse of class rooms after services. One room shows evidence of an eraser war! Chalk dust on the upholstered pews is almost impossible to remove. There is an eraser print on the wall near the ceiling! Chalk dust all over the floor.

2. There is too much horse play in the building following services. Wrestling, running and jumping on the very expensive furniture.

3. Recently some young folks were seen throwing rocks at one of our neighbor's dog. He remonstrated with them about it after seeing them do it. This makes for bad relationships with our neighbors which we certainly don't need. Our neighbors do a great deal for us in watching and protecting our property when we are not here. Abuse of their property will eventually destroy this good relationship, and we will be the losers.

4. We continue to caution all parents to warn your children that the offices are STRICTLY OFF LIMITS. We have work laid out that must not be disturbed; expensive machines that can be turned on and damaged, and one or two that will amputate little fingers or even a hand. We wouldn't want that to happen, would we?

5. Then, there is the parking lot. Children like to run off energy after services. (I can remember those days! Only we were warned of being kicked by a horse, rather than being hit by a car! I know I don't look old enough to remember that far back, but, believe me, I do!) Persons often back out of a parking place without looking. If a child is there, we will have a tragedy! Perish the thought!

LET'S BE ALERT--AVERT TRAGEDY!



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 11-14-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Ralph Autry
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Clay Garrison
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Mike Farrington
Steven Kapelka
O-Jim Milam
Frank English
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

SUNDAY PM 11-14-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jimmy Smith
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Mike Farrington
Jim Milam
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

WEDNESDAY 11-17-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Wayne Gey
SONG LEADER-----Jimmy Smith
FIRST PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
READ SCRIPTURE-----Steven Kapelka
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
INVITATION-----Robert Gaines

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS----Nov. 76

POST PROGRAM-----Mark DuBose
MONTHLY SINGING-----Howard Martin
CLOSE BUILDING-----Gene Mooney
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SUNDAY

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(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

SO THE ELECTION IS OVER--WHAT DO CHRISTIANS DO?

THE ELECTION IS OVER--THINK OF THAT! No more childish charges and counter charges! No more dumb commercials that insult our intelligence! No more skeleton hunting! A decrease in the "junk" in the mail box and on the front door. No more impossible promises of utopia.

Did your man win? Did the best man win? You can answer the first, but none of us can answer the second. It will take a while to find the answer to that? So what do we do in the meantime? Let's say you loathe the man who won. Let's say you think he will make a sorry office holder. You think America has gone crazy, and we are in for the worst four years of our nation's history. What do you do about it? What does the Bible teach Christians to do? Let's take a look:

"I exhort therefore, first of all, that supplications, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings, be made for all men; for KINGS and ALL THAT ARE IN HIGH PLACE; that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and gravity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; who would have all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Tim. 2:1-4).

God ordained "the powers that be" (Rom. 13). We can but recognize them as "ministers of God" (Rom. 13:4). Strangely enough, this was written to Christians who lived under one of the most ruthless regimes in history, the Roman Empire. We may not like the office holder, but we must respect the fact that God has ordained that there should be one. We need also to understand that *"The sentence is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones; to the intent that the living may know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the lowest of men"* (Dan. 2:17). I am firmly convinced that whatever the outcome of such elections, God's will shall be accomplished even to the overruling of the decisions made in such elections when they are not in line with His purpose. jpn

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Parable of the tares

?????????????????
?
? Please discuss Jesus' explana- ?
? tion of the parable of the ?
? tares. (Mt. 13:24-30;36-43).Fl. ?
?
?????????????????

QUESTIONS AND REPLIES

1. Is the field the place in which we live (KOSMOS), or "this age"? Jesus said the field is the WORLD (KOSMOS) meaning the earth, the physical globe.

2. Are "tares" wicked people in the world (KOSMOS) or are they hypocrites in the church?" There is no way the tares can be hypocrites in the church because Jesus said in his interpretation, that the "wheat" and the "tares" should be left to grow together until the harvest which will be at the "consumation of the age" (vss.30,39). If it means that we are not to remove hypocrites from the church, then Paul misinformed the Corinthians because he told them that the fornicator, covetous, idolaters, revilers, drunkards and extortioners should be "taken away from among you" (v.2), "delivered unto Satan" (v.5), and "purged out" (v.7). (Read the whole chapter for the complete picture) If the "wheat" and the "tares" in the parable are both in the church, then 1 Cor. 5 contradicts it. Obviously, we cannot "let them grow together," and put them away (separate them) at the same time.

3. What is "the kingdom" in verse 41, the church or the world? Since the "reapers" (v.39) will certainly reap where the sowing was done, namely, in the "field" which is the "world" (v.38) and since these reapers are going to reap the tares out of the kingdom, then the kingdom has to be the world, and not the church. Certainly, the sowing will not be done in one place, and the reaping in another! And since the sowing is done in the field which is the world, then the reaping will be done in the world which is here called "His kingdom" (Mt. 13:41).

The world is the kingdom of the Son of man because it is His domain. He is "the king of kings and the Lord of lords" (1 Tim. 6:15), and the "head of all principality and power" (Col. 2:10). One must be careful here not to assume that the same word (kingdom) must always have the same definition. Never approach a passage with a preconceived idea. Let the mind be open.

4. Will all people face the judge in the final judgment scene, or just the faithful and unfaithful Christians? Jesus said in Mt. 25:31,32 that "all nations" shall be gathered before him when he sits "on the throne of his glory" and separates them as the "shepherd separateth the sheep from the goats." This is obviously the final judgment since the results of this event is "eternal punishment" or "eternal life" (v.46). Jude says the Lord is coming in judgment upon the "ungodly" (Jude 14). Are non-Christians ungodly? If so, they will be judged when Jesus comes with His saints (cf. 1 Thess. 4:14).

The parable of the tares is often misunderstood because of its unusual use of the word "kingdom." jpn

NEWS... about us 'n things

SUMTER, S.C. MEETING

The meeting at Sumter, S. C. came to a close on Sunday, Nov. 8. In many ways it was a very good meeting. As usual, there is always a certain negative note in that some members of the local church displayed an alarming indifference and showed up for the first and only time on Sunday morning. Yet, there are the positive aspects of the meeting. The members who faithfully attended the meeting are some of the finest one will ever meet. They were obviously profited by the teaching.

I spoke twice daily during the week, and three times on Sunday. Each morning I spoke for an hour on premillennialism. For the most part, these sessions were well attended. Some of the members formerly were deceived by this false system of Biblical interpretation, and thoroughly exposing this false doctrine can but do untold good.

The work in South Carolina is very weak, and somewhat discouraging. There are only 11 conservative churches in the state, and they are widely scattered, and only 3 or 4 have full-time preachers, and they are mostly supported by churches outside the state. Brethren drove long distances to attend the meeting.

Bro. Arnold Granke is the preacher at Sumter. He is moving to Columbia the first of December, but will continue to help with the work at Sumter. He has done and continues to do excellent work in the state. We need others like him. Churches everywhere need to become more interested in that part of the world.

Some are reluctant because they say it is a hard field. That may be, but we have a good start there. We need to capitalize upon it by more concentrated effort. Churches with money to spend in other places should give it serious thought. Should anyone be further interested, I would be happy to put you in touch with brethren there.

THANKS TO GERALD DURRETT

I continue to hear excellent reports from brother Durrett's work when I am a way. We commend him for his good effort and willingness to use his talent for the Lord. He and others consistently do a good job when the local preacher is at work in other places. I am appreciative of them and of the church for its willingness and support for me while I try to work where the need arises.

SICK AND SHUT IN

ELIZABETH ENGLISH has had major surgery but is home now, doing well....WARREN NEEDHAM has now had his first check up since his release from the hospital, and has amazed even his doctors! He is rapidly returning to normal, and feels like he has a brand new lease on life. We thank God for his wonderful blessings...At this writing JAMES P. MILLER, another central Florida preacher who has been critically ill, is in a meeting at Deland. Enough said!!!

WARNING TO READERS

If you fail to send us your new address when you move (which costs us .25), your name will be removed from our mailing list.

To get back on, you must make a new request. We ask for your cooperation and understanding.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 11-21-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Lynn Robinson
SONG LEADER-----Howard Martin
FIRST PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Gene Mooney
Mike Farrington
O-Gerald Durrett
Jim Milam
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

SUNDAY PM 11-21-76

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SONG LEADER-----Howard Martin
FIRST PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Frank English
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Gene Mooney
Gerald Durrett
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

WEDNESDAY 11-24-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----O.J. Duer
SONG LEADER-----Steven Kapelka
FIRST PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
INVITATION-----Wayne Gey
MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS---Dec. 76

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WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ



LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

THE LADIES OF THE CONGREGATION have arranged a Bible class to be held once each month in various homes. The discussions will be led by the various members of the class. The first meeting was held at the Gey home on Nov. 18, and was taught by Gerry Carter. The overall theme has not been decided at this time, but will be announced soon as possible.

All ladies are encouraged to participate in this worthwhile effort. We need more of this type of thing. Only good can come from a study of God's word. So, leave the dishes and the kids with "hubby" and have a night out with the girls!

Bible teaching is something we cannot over-do. We are happy to see the sisters initiate this effort and all should work to make it successful. In time we should be able to start other special interest classes similar to this. Why not one for the men, the teen agers, etc.? It is really no big deal, all we need is enough interest to get them going. We would be glad to learn of any interest in any type Bible class. We will be glad to teach, help teach, or anything else we can do to assist such a good effort.

If you have been asking, "What can I do?" Here is your answer. You can attend, conduct or help arrange a Bible class in your home or someone else's. jpn



Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Brotherhood work and Rom. 15:26,27

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
 ?
 ? Your bulletin of 4 Oct. 1976,
 ? carried an article, "Is Mt.
 ? Dora The Church?" I am not
 ? writing to discuss Mt. Dora,
 ? but rather the last sentence
 ? of the first paragraph. Quote:
 ? "It is a 'brotherhood work,'
 ? something that the scriptures
 ? know nothing about." If this
 ? be so, will you please ex-
 ? plain Romans 15:26,27," Fla.
 ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

These verses read as follows:

For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem. It hath pleased them verily; and their debtors they are. For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things."

Our respondent obviously thinks my statement is inconsistent with these verses, and that Rom. 15:26,27 present an example of a brotherhood work. There may be a remote sense in which helping the needy saints in Jerusalem was a brotherhood work in the sense that the

brotherhood at large was asked to help the Jerusalem church meet the needs of its own members, but it was not a brotherhood work in the sense that I was discussing in the article under question. I insist that we keep what I said in context. I was discussing the Mt. Dora board, which is made up of members of various churches, receiving moneys from the brotherhood and overseeing it in the doing of a "brotherhood work." The N. T. knows nothing of this type of arrangement, and Rom. 15:26,27 is not a 42nd cousin to this sort of thing. Note the difference:

1. In Rom. 15:26,27, money was sent from churches to a CHURCH to help the receiving church take care of its own needy saints.

2. In Mt. Dora, money is sent from churches to a BOARD OF DIRECTORS who spend it as they see fit to "operate an orphan's home and an elementary and secondary institution of learning... for the care of orphans and children who could be benefited by the institution and for the instruction and education of men, women and children..." (Charter).

The basic difference is that in Rom. 15:26,27, the money was sent from churches TO a CHURCH. In Mt. Dora, the money is sent from churches THROUGH a BOARD OF DIRECTORS. In Rom. 16:26,27, the contributing churches helped the receiving church do IT'S OWN WORK. In Mt. Dora, contributing churches send to a human board to help it do work which supposedly is the work of all the contributing churches. In Rom. 16:26,27, it was the responsibility of the contributing churches to help Jerusalem do IT'S OWN work, so, it was a "brotherhood" responsibility to help, but the work to be done was *peculiarly that of the Jerusalem church.* jpn

NEWS... about us 'n things

SICK AND SHUT IN

CHARLOTTE DALTON was unable to be at worship on Nov. 14, due to illness.... The same was true of GEORGIA WEEMS.... MARTHA MARTIN was unable to attend on that day due to the illness of DAVID. ...ELIZABETH ENGLISH is recuperating from successful surgery. She is now home and doing nicely...D O N N A BRAND had minor surgery on her hand on Nov. 11. She is doing well.

BUSINESS MEETINGS

Business meetings are held at 4:30 PM on the second Sunday of each month. In these meetings each brother is asked to bring up anything pertaining to the work at PSD for discussion and action. We believe this is a decent and orderly way (1 Cor. 14:40) to conduct the work of the congregation. Each brother has equal voice, and all matters are given equal attention.

We have always encouraged all brethren to attend these meetings, but we have always had a very poor representation. We believe that one's attendance, or lack of it, manifests the degree of one's interest in the work here.

I can assure you that the PSD business meetings are the most orderly and peaceful that I have witnessed in 30 years of preaching. There is a complete absence of tension, and all matters are dispensed with in an orderly fashion. We urge all men to make plans to attend all such meetings.

Jim Poppel to hold Spring meeting

We remind one and all that our spring meeting will be held by bro. Jim Poppel of Lake City, Fla. We hope to announce dates as soon as possible so you can make your plans accordingly. We want to make this an outstanding meeting.

NEW DIRECTORY

We are now preparing a new church directory. We have not published one in a couple of years due to the drastic changes being made in our membership due to the employment situation in this area. We hope things have stabilized now so that a new directory will be useful.

Please use the microphones

Over the past year or two, we have degenerated in the image of our public worship. We ceased emphasizing the need for those participating to go to the microphone at the Lord's table, and consequently, some of the public prayers are not heard by part of the audience. In the Oct. business meeting it was decided to REQUEST all participants in the public worship to go to the microphone at the Lord's table. This was re-emphasized in the Nov. meeting. It was also noted that some few are reluctant to do this due to stage fright. We understand this, and nobody is being pushed to the front against their will, but we would like to encourage all to take part in this, even if you are reluctant. Stage fright cannot be overcome by giving into it. But, understand, this is not a condition of your being used in the service. If you still insist that you had rather not go to the front, we hope you will try to speak loudly and clearly so all can hear. We thank you for your help. jpn



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 11-28-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Howard Martin
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jim Milam
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Clay Garrison
Jimmy Smith
O-O.J. Duer
Robert Carter
USHERS-----Gene Mooney, Wayne Gey

SUNDAY PM 11-28-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Howard Martin
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Clay Garrison
O.J. Duer
USHERS-----Gene Mooney, Wayne Gey

WEDNESDAY 12-1-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Robert Gaines
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
READ SCRIPTURE-----Jack Farrington
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jim Milam
INVITATION-----Howard Martin
MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS----Dec. 76

POST PROGRAM-----Robert Carter
MONTHLY SINGING-----Wayne Gey
CLOSE BUILDING-----James P. Needham
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BROTHER O.J. DUER AT: 644-6209.

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EDITOR: JAMES P. NEEDHAM

Palm Springs Drive Church of Christ

600 Palm Springs Drive
Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701
(Metropolitan Orlando)
Phones: 831-3230; 645-0450



JAMES COOPER
5794 BUTLER WARREN RD.
WASON, OHIO 45040

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Morning Bible study..... 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more as ye see the day approaching" (Heb. 10:25). "These going before tarried for us at Troas. And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days. And upon the first day of the week when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech

until midnight" (Acts 20:5-7). "Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come" (1 Cor. 16:1:2)

"And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread and in pray-

ers...And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple..." (Acts 2:42,46).

"And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ" (Acts 5:42).

How can 20th century Christians read these verses, plus many more, and be so

indifferent toward the assemblies of the church? It is obvious that the assemblies were an important part of the lives of early Christians.

It is most difficult for me to speak of attendance at worship as a DUTY. It just doesn't carry with it the spirit that should characterize such an event. To me, going to worship is a PRIVILEGE. How can we think of it as a DUTY? It is certainly commanded in the scriptures, and that makes it a DUTY, but it should be thought of as a PRIVILEGE.

How can one claim to love God when he neglects the assemblies? jpn

make
your move to

Regular
Attendance



what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Using denominational facilities

?????????????????
?

? Is it scriptural for a Chris- ?
? tian to use the services of a ?
? hospital which receives some ?
? of its finances from some church ?
? in town? Or, could one use ?
? an elementary school which re- ?
? ceives such as part of its in- ?
? come? --TN. ?

?
?????????????????

REPLY

I believe it is scriptural for a Christian to purchase from denominations any thing they sell that he needs and can scripturally use. Denominations operate a number of businesses: bookstores, hospitals, schools of various kinds, publishing houses, etc. I don't believe it is necessary for me to understand the complete financial structure of such an establishment before I can scripturally use it. With me it is strictly a business proposition.

I can buy tracts from the missionary society, Bibles from the American Bible society, or some denominational publishing house, education from some denomination that operates a school or a college without endorsing, or promoting the denomination. I can purchase medical care from a Catholic hospital on the basis of services rendered without endorsing or promoting the Catholic

church.

We frequently purchase Bibles from Bible societies, and denominational publishing houses. A good many books in most preacher's libraries are published by some denominational publishing house, and many of them contain the theology of that denomination. It makes no sense to say that we can do such things, but we cannot use a hospital or a school because it is financed to some extent by some denomination.

I understand that in all such cases we must be circumspect. There are probably some circumstances where patronizing such institutions might not be wise or expedient. Influence would also have to be considered in given situations.

I could not patronize a school which receives contributions from churches of Christ. I would draw the line there. The difference being that God does not regulate what a denomination can spend its money for, and for them to spend their funds to operate schools is no violation of the scriptures and no perversion of the church. But when churches of Christ so use their funds, that is another matter. I cannot patronize such schools without partaking of said perversion, because I would be a recipient of a part of such funds.

For instance, I just received a brochure from David Lipscomb College in which it is stated that for 48 hours of instruction it charges the student \$1440, but those 48 hours cost the college \$1920, thus a deficit of \$480 which must be raised from other sources, we know that churches of Christ make up some of that deficit. How could a Christian attend that college without benefiting from this misappropriated church money?

jpn

NEWS...

about us 'n things

THE LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

Those who attended the first session of the ladies' Bible class spoke of it enthusiastically, and look forward to the next meeting which will be held at the home of Helen Kapelka on Dec. 14 at 7:30. Some were prevented from attending the first session because of illness, but a good study session was held and all ladies of the congregation are urged to attend. There are some plans to have a second class during the day for those who cannot attend an evening class.

Sis. Gerry Carter led the discussion in the first class, and will do so in the second. The text will be GOD'S WOMAN by C. R. Nichol.

SICK AND SHUT IN

Bro. LYNN ROBINSON had minor surgery at Watson Clinic in Lakeland on Nov. 19. He came home the day of the surgery and was at worship the next Sunday. He is doing well...Sis. ELIZABETH ENGLISH is still recuperating from major surgery at her home. She is getting along nicely, but still has a minor problem which is being solved...THE MARTIN household has had some illness lately, but all are better now...Same is true in the MOONEY household...CHARLOTTE and ROLAND DALTON have both had severe colds lately and had to be absent from some assemblies...WARREN NEEDHAM continues to recover nicely from his recent heart surgery. He looks great and feels well. He is able to do some work

HOWARD MARTIN AT KISSIMMEE

Brother Howard Martin preached at both services at Kissimmee on Nov. 21, and reports two good services. The new work there seems to be getting off to a good start. Howard is to be commended for his willingness to help out.

BOBBY GARRISON BAPTIZED

Bobby Garrison was baptized at the Sunday evening services on Nov. 21. He is the eldest son of Clay and Annette Garrison. We rejoice.

SUNDAY EVENING SINGING CLASS

The singing class for the young people continues to meet at 5:30 on Sunday evening. It is wonderful to see these young children interested in singing spiritual songs, and to note how the young boys are improving in their ability to lead. We hope to increase the technical instruction as we feel the class is ready for it. We only wish all parents would see that their young people get to the class. We should have twice as many as now attend. This is a wonderful way to assure that your young people will remain interested in church work when they reach their teens.

THE UNSUNG

Every church has some unsung heroes. This church is no exception. We have some of the finest ones in this congregation, but just here I would like to call attention to the work done by bro. RONALD CARTER. He has been the treasurer of this congregation since its beginning seven years ago. He keeps the books up to date, and writes many checks. It requires much time, effort and ability. Have you thanked him yet?



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 12-5-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Lynn Robinson
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Howard Martin
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Frank English
Mark DuBose
O-Mike Farrington
Steven Kapelka
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

SUNDAY PM 12-5-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Lynn Robinson
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Jim Milam
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Frank English
Mike Farrington
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

WEDNESDAY 12-8-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----Jimmy Smith
FIRST PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
READ SCRIPTURE-----O.J. Duer
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Carter
INVITATION-----Robert Gaines

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS----Dec. 76

POST PROGRAM-----Robert Carter
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MASON, OHIO 45040

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Morning Bible study 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

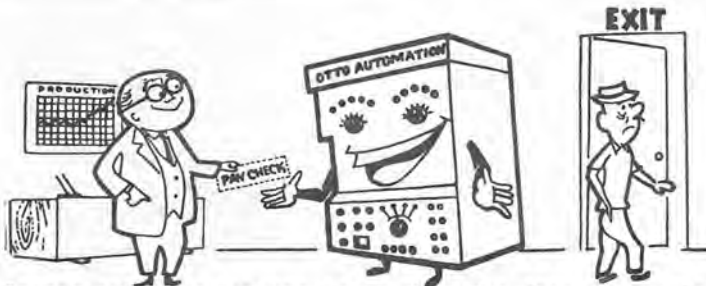
Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ



THE CHURCH

VERSUS

AUTOMATED SOCIETY

Sooner or later persons learn that the free enterprise system, so extolled by our society, is a cruel, heartless system when it comes to the individual. The corporation, the company, or management is primarily interested in one thing when it comes to the individual worker: IS HE/SHE PROFITABLE TO US? If you are, then you can keep the job. If not, you'll be terminated and turned out to "pasture." If some other corporation builds a *machine* that will be more profitable to the company than are you, out you go--a *thing* will take your place. That is how important YOU are to the company.

I feel that this money-grabbing, dollar conscious materialism accounts for much of the depression and loneliness that pervades our society. There is a feeling of worthlessness, of unimportance, that plagues the average day to day worker. His self-image suffers greatly in a money-mad world.

The solution to the problem is CHRIST and His CHURCH. His church is made up, first, last and always, of PERSONS. The PERSON is of *supreme importance*. There is no way that the PERSON will ever be replaced by a machine in the church of God. Every dedicated Christian has a wonderful self-image. He cannot feel unimportant, for he knows God loves him, and his brethren CARE. He is looked upon as one made in the image of God, immortal and of supreme importance. His value is not calculated in terms of dollars and cents, but in terms of a soul that is worth *more* than all the dollars and cents in the whole world (Mt. 16:26).

If you are feeling down and out, and unimportant, it is likely because you have not really come to know Christ and his church. TRY IT, YOU'LL LIKE IT! jpn

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

The filth of the flesh

?????????????????
?
? Please explain what is meant by ?
? "the filth of the flesh in ?
? 1 Pet. 3:21? --Fla. ?
?
?????????????????

REPLY

First we need to read 1 Pet. 3:21,

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Greek word translated "filth" here is RHUPOS, and denotes "dirt" or "filth" according to Vine. It has reference to what is washed from the body in bathing.

Peter's point is that baptism is an outward washing with an inward significance. It's purpose is not the cleansing of the physical body, but a means of contacting the blood (death) of Christ for the cleansing of the soul.

This was likely a necessary explanation to the Jewish population since it was accustomed to the "divers washings" under the law (Heb. 9:10) which literally cleansed the body for ceremonial purposes.

The Jewish population could, therefore, easily consider baptism just an extension of the washings of the Old Testament. Peter adds his explanation about the filth of the flesh parenthetically to prevent such a concept.

This passage is a direct denial of the accusation that if baptism is essential to salvation, then water is our saviour. Peter is saying that baptism has no direct physical purpose. Even though it is a complete immersion in water (Rom. 6:1-4; Col. 2:12), it is not designed as a physical bath to wash dirt from the body, but has a spiritual purpose of saving the soul "By the resurrection of Jesus Christ." To demonstrate this, let's read the passage without the parenthetical statement. This is perfectly permissible since the parenthetical statement is not essential to the completion of the sentence--it is thrown in as an explanation. Notice:

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

It does not say that baptism saves us *per se*, but it saves us *by the resurrection of Jesus Christ*. This is true because baptism is a graphic picture of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ and represents our own death to sin, burial of the old man and resurrection to a new life (Rom. 6:1-7). Baptism has absolutely no power in and of itself to save anyone. It must be in obedience to Christ's command (Mk.16:16) and connected with the resurrection of Christ. If baptism in and of itself would save, I would enlist the U. S. Army and baptize (by force) every citizen of our country, because then they would all be saved. A prerequisite to scriptural baptism is an understanding of its significance.

jpn

NEWS...**about us 'n things****HOW ABOUT A CLASS FOR
TEENAGE GIRLS?**

Last week I mentioned the possibility of our having various classes for any groups that might be interested. I now have a VOLUNTEER to teach a special series of classes for teen aged girls. She is an excellent teacher, and is very willing. All we need now, is for the teen aged girls to volunteer to attend. What about it girls? Let me know if you are interested, and what time would best suit you.

THE UNSUNG--O. J. DUER

Last week I mentioned the untiring efforts of bro. Ron Carter as our treasurer. This week I want to mention another such unsung hero! Bro. O. J. Duer has been a very diligent worker in this church since its beginning. He is in charge of the Bible class program to see that literature is on hand, secures teachers, and sees that they are in place at class time. He holds monthly teachers' meetings, and does an all around excellent job with our teaching program.

In addition to this, he addresses about 2500 bulletins each week, and is involved in just about every phase of the work here. He is indeed an UNSUNG HERO. We all love and appreciate him. Have you told him lately?

SUNDAY EVENING SINGING CLASS

I don't know if my recent reminder had anything to do with it, but we have had some of our largest attendances in this class lately. Keep it up.

SICK AND SHUT IN

We are sorry to report that ROLAND DALTON is still confined to bed with flu at this writing. He has had a slow recovery. We think he is improving, however...ELIZABETH ENGLISH is still recuperating from surgery. Her slight complication now seems to be passed, and she is feeling better...LOUISE ROBINSON was unable to be at worship on Nov. 28 due to illness...Several continue to enquire about the condition of my sister, EDNA MARGARET PASCHALL of Tampa. She entered the hospital recently and had an angiogram to check for heart blockage, but none was found. She still suffers from angina pains, but we know now that there is no blockage. She is feeling pretty well, and is able to work again. Complete diagnosis is still pending, however. We appreciate your interest.

**COMMUNION PREPARATION
LIST 1977**

Ladies, you are reminded that the list for preparation for the communion in 1977 is on the bulletin board. Please sign your name by the month you would like to take care of this matter. We should realize that this is a task some one must do, and each should gladly do their share. At this time only three names appear on the list.

SPECIAL MEETINGS

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING, second Sunday of each month; 4:30 P.M.

LADIES' BIBLE CLASS, Dec. 14, 7:30 P.M. at the home of Helen Kapelka. All ladies and young ladies urged to attend.

GOSPEL MEETING: Our next meeting will be next spring with Jim Poppel of Lake City doing the preaching. We want this to be one of our best of all time. Lets make big plans.



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 12-12-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gerald Durrett
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER----Jack Farrington
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Jim Milam
Robert Carter
O-Gene Mooney
Robert Gaines
USHERS-----Gene Mooney, Wayne Gey

SUNDAY PM 12-12-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gerald Durrett
SONG LEADER-----Lynn Robinson
FIRST PRAYER-----Clay Garrison
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Howard Martin
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Jim Milam
Gene Mooney
USHERS-----Gene Mooney, Wayne Gey

WEDNESDAY 12-15-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Gene Mooney
SONG LEADER-----Steven Kapelka
FIRST PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER----Mike Farrington
INVITATION-----Jimmy Smith
MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS-----Dec. 76

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Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

EVERYBODY NEEDS TO HAVE A MENTAL GARAGE SALE once in a while to get rid of all the psychological junk we accumulate from time to time, like: prejudices, hate, grudges, covetousness, evil surmises, and a host of hang-ups and complexes like "I can't," "you can't trust anybody," and "nobody appreciates me," etc.

None of us needs any of this junk, and it never did serve us very well, so why keep it lying around to clutter our minds, and take up space that can be better used? Old Satan who sold it to us in the first place is a shyster and knew from the start that his products wouldn't perform as promised.

None of us has room in our mental attic for this garbage. There are so many good things on the market that are so much more useful and beneficial, both to us and to others, like: "Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance," etc. (Gal. 5: 22,23).

We all need to realize that the furniture and appliances that occupy our mental attic are there by our own voluntary acquisition; nobody forced us to obtain them, and nobody forces us to keep them. We are the sole proprietors of our mental attics--there is no law against holding a mental garage sale! So

we have nobody to blame but ourselves for the evil results of keeping all this junk around.



GARAGE
SALE

Jesus said, "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil; for of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Lk. 6:45). Or, as Solomon said, "As he thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Prov.23: 7).

So, lets put up our signs and clean out our mental attics today!
jpn

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT RECENT ARTICLES

"I appreciate your bulletins very much, especially the last two, vol. VI, 38, 39 Nov. 8, 15. ('Can Christians go to war?' and 'So the election is over'). The articles are very good, but would like some questions explained more fully if possible:

1. *"The promises the candidates made why do you say impossible?"* REPLY: Because politicians always make impossible promises. If the newly elected ones fulfill all the outlandish promises they made, they will be the first in history to do so. Mr. Carter is already backing off on the amount of reduction in unemployment he promised during the campaign. He promised in the campaign he would reduce it to 5 or 6 per cent during his first term, but now says he will reduce it by 1 to 1 1/2 per cent during his first term. This will leave it much higher than 5 or 6 per cent.

2. *"You said something about the office holder, that God ordained one. Are we to respect the man or office?"* I thought I made it very clear one may not respect the person who won, but God commands respect for the office. (Rom 13)

3. *"What do you mean by government?"* I mean that organization which is provided for in the constitution: the legislative bodies that make the laws, the executive branch which carries them out and the judicial branch which enforces them.

4. *"What do you mean by fornicate for the government?"* During the Nazi era in Germany it was considered a signal honor for any young lady to bear a child by a S. S. trooper. That would be fornicating for the government. I don't believe a Christian can violate God's law just because it pleases the government, or the government commands it.

5. *"How far can you go with this conclusion?"* I can go as far as the firing squad or the hangman's noose! I would not fornicate or kill for my government under threat or death.

6. *"What if my conscience says to kill for my freedoms?"* What if my conscience says fornicate for my freedoms? Conscience is a creature of education. When it says do something contrary to God's law, it needs to be re-educated by diligent study of God's word.

7. *"In what way can you serve your government?"* In any way that is consistent with my profession as a Christian. I can teach school, work in the Post Office, be a medic in the military forces, or any other position where I would not take life.

8. *"Trivial matters, are the oil matters trivial?"* Absolutely! All of the oil in the whole world is not worth one human life! The world survived for thousands of years before the "black gold" was discovered, and it is foolish to think we couldn't do so again. The problem is that we are so spoiled by the luxuries which oil and other gadgets give us that we have determined to have them, if our sons and fathers have to die to secure them for us. It is all a bunch of materialistic nonsense.

9. *"Rich man's war, poor man's fight. Would you explain this?"* I am

saying that many of the world's wars have been fought to protect the financial interests of the millionaires whose sons seldom die on the battle fields. For instance, during the Viet Nam war one could stay out of the military if he was in college. Who goes to college? Those who have the money. What about the poor, underprivileged boy from the coal mining region of Eastern Kentucky, or West Virginia, who had to drop out before finishing high school? He was the first one drafted and the first one to die while the rich man's son basked in the academic light of Harvard, Yale, etc. flitting around in his foreign sports car. There is no point in trying to deny this, because it is too well known to be questioned. And who do we think made the college deferment law? The poor coal miners of West Virginia? Did they send a powerful, rich lobby to Washington to get such laws passed so their sons could die on a battle field 10,000 miles from home and so the rich man's son could enjoy his pleasures? I don't need to answer that!

10. *"I have heard that the 1st and 2nd world wars were over or for oil and that they were planned by rich people. Would this be premeditated murder?"* I don't know if these wars were motivated by oil, but if they were, then certainly somebody will be held accountable for every death inflicted.

11. *"Can a Christian support such a war in any way?"* Yes, he can and must pay his taxes. Paul directed Roman Christians to pay taxes, even though tax money supported idolatry. I maintain that a Christian can die for his country, but he cannot kill for it.

12. *"In defending one's home, family, property, secret papers and documents, would like these explained?"* I

believe a Christian can use whatever force is necessary to defend his home, property and family. If he killed someone in such an encounter, it would not be murder. It would be preferable to secure police protection, but sometimes this is not possible. Until the police arrive, I believe the Christian can defend himself. As I stated earlier, if I killed someone under such circumstances it would be an accident, and therefore, not murder. But this in no way parallels intentional wholesale killing for one's government in war to take someone else's property or life for trivial reasons. Surely, we can all see the difference.

13. *"How about the authorities on these matters?"* As stated, I think the first line of defense of one's rights and property is the government, but it may not be able to arrive in time to save my life, family and property; so I maintain that I can do what is necessary until they arrive. Not because I want to, but because I am forced to.

Christians need to make sure that the spiritual man dominates the carnal man. The Christian's predominant aim must be to save life, not take it; to save souls, not forever end their chances of being saved by hurling them into eternity unprepared to meet God.

It is said that man is the only animal that kills for vengeance. Killing is almost like a disease, an addiction. Man's penchant for violence is fearsome and disgusting. We see it very early in the lives of our children. It titillates their fancies on television and in the theaters. They love it. They imitate it in their play. They often practice it in their lives, and become addicted to it. This is foreign to the spirit of Christ who taught us to give our lives for others to save their souls. jpn



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 12-19-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Clay Garrison
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----O.J. Duer
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Lynn Robinson
Frank English
O-Wayne Gey
Gerald Durrett
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

SUNDAY PM 12-19-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Clay Garrison
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Ronald Carter
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LORD'S SUPPER-----Lynn Robinson
Wayne Gey
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

WEDNESDAY 12-22-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Wayne Gey
SONG LEADER-----Robert Gaines
FIRST PRAYER-----Jim Milam
READ SCRIPTURE-----Jack Farrington
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Gene Mooney
INVITATION-----Howard Martin
MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS-----Jan. 77

POST PROGRAM-----Steven Kapelka
MONTHLY SINGING-----Jack Farrington
CLOSE BUILDING-----Wayne Gey
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BROTHER O.J. DUER AT: 644-6209.

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EDITOR: JAMES P. NEEDHAM

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Church of Christ**

600 Palm Springs Drive
Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701
(Metropolitan Orlando)
Phones: 831-3230; 645-0450



JAMES COOPER
5794 BUTLER WARREN RD.
MASON, OHIO 45040

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Morning Bible study..... 10:00
(Classes for all ages)
Morning worship 11:00
Evening worship 6:00

WEDNESDAY

Evening Bible study 7:30
(Classes for all ages)

WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!



bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ

A
LOCAL
TRAGEDY

THE YOUNG DIE TOO!

THIS COMMUNITY HAS BEEN SHOCKED by one of the greatest tragedies any of us have ever known. A father took his two teen aged sons and two of their friends on a duck hunting expedition on Mosquito Lagoon near Titusville. They launched their boat before dawn, and capsized at dawn in rough water! The father managed to swim to shore

to summon help, but all four teenagers drowned and it took eight days to find all of them.

The hearts of the whole community have gone out in sympathy to all concerned. Large companies of citizens and especially the classmates of the boys from Winter Park High School spent many laborous hours combing the swamps in search for these young men. It has been a very sad week.

All of this points up a grim and sobering fact: LIFE IS SO UNCERTAIN, DEATH IS SO SURE. What citizen would not bring back those fine young men, if he could? But we all know this is not possible. All we can do is sympathize and emphathize with those bereaved.

This sad event should serve as a reminder to us all, but especially to our young people. It is easy to forget the fragility of life in the hussle and bussle of enjoying the pleasures our progressive society affords us. It is so often the case that we forget about death in the midst of it all, and in a moment when we think not, the swift hand of death clips the slender thread of life and hurls us out into eternity. What then?

We all need to realize that everything this world has to offer will look quite different if we will take a moment to examine it in view of death. Think of it: As enjoyable as sporting events are, what are they in comparison to the vast potential of four young lives? Let us all remember: THE YOUNG DIE TOO! jpn

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

WOMEN WRITING ARTICLES

?????????????????????
?
? Is it wrong as per 1 Tim. 2:11, ?
? 12, for a woman to write arti- ?
? cles for a religious paper. ?
? What about a woman teaching ?
? religious courses in a school ?
? room situation? Tn. ?
?
?????????????????????

REPLY

It is not unscriptural for a woman to teach in any situation where she is not in authority over a man. Paul says,

*I suffer not a woman to teach,
nor to usurp authority over the
man (1 Tim. 2:12).*

Aquilla was involved in teaching Apollos (Acts 18:26). Thus it is not wrong for a woman to teach a man under the proper circumstances.

It is not wrong for a woman to write articles for a religious paper since she is not in authority over men. Even when men read her articles, they are not under her authority, so it does not violate 1 Tim. 2:12, or any other passage that I know of.

I do not believe it is unscriptural for a woman to teach a religious course in a class room situation, provided she

does not teach over men--that is, she does not have adult males in the class. (Who is an adult male is another question, and is no part of this particular question).

1 Tim. 2:12 forbids a woman's doing two things: (1) teach over a man, (2) usurp authority over a man. We sometimes hear that "over the man" does not modify both verbs in this sentence, but that this is erroneous is obvious from the context. If this be the case, then this verse affirms that a woman cannot teach PERIOD, for then it says a woman is forbidden to do two things: (1) to teach, (2) to usurp authority over a man. Thus, it affirms that a woman cannot teach; she is *forbidden to teach anybody anything anywhere at any time!* And yet Acts 18:26 shows Aquilla teaching somebody something, and Titus 2:4 COMMANDS women to teach.

The usual reply to this is that 1 Tim. 2:11,12 have reference to the assembly, which is a specious argument. There is no possible way this can be proven. But, if such could be proven it would prove too much for this is the same context in which Paul said, "*In likemanner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel...*(v.9), so this would mean in the assembly only. Thus women could dress immodestly outside the assembly!

Furthermore, in the same context Paul says, "*I will therefore that men pray EVERYWHERE...*(v.7) which gives the context a universal application. This is why I said earlier that a woman can teach anywhere she is not in authority over a man. That may be in the church building on Sunday morning, or a class room on Monday morning, or the columns of a religious journal. jpn

NEWS...**about us 'n things****THE LIBERALS' DEBACLE OF THE CENTURY!**

The liberals recently promoted what they called "the debate of the century." To promote this affair, they spent \$48,000. Of this stupendous amount they paid Dr. Flew, a noted Atheist of England, \$3,000 plus expenses to come to Denton, Tx. to debate Dr. Thomas Warren, professor of religion at the Harding School of Religion of Memphis, Tenn.

Think of that! Church money was used to pay an Atheist \$3,000 plus expenses to come to America from England to stand before thousands of people to make fun of God and everything pertaining to religion. It is reported that he said "Jesus Christ is diabolical."

For a long time now we have been arguing with the liberals over the proper use of church funds. They have said that there is no scriptural authority for a church treasury, thus no scriptural regulation of how it can be spent. I guess they really believe what they have been saying!

Thomas Warren has been challenged to debate the issues with his brethren many times, but he refuses. He won't debate the "antis" for free, but he is willing to pay an Atheist \$3,000 plus expenses to call Jesus diabolical! That really takes the cake, platter and all!

I don't even claim to be a debater, but I will gladly meet any liberal now living for \$3,000 plus expenses!!! I will go them one even better--I will debate them for FREE!! In view of the Warren-Flew debacle, that is the bargain of the century!

jpn

DANNY AND LINDA MELVIN BACK

It is delightful to have Danny and Linda Melvin back with us. (You too, little Danny!). They have been away in military service for 3 years, two of which were spent in Germany.

Danny came at the invitation on Sunday evening Dec. 12, and asked for the prayers of the church in his behalf. We appreciate his attitude and dedication to the Lord, and we look forward to having the Melvins among us again.

SICK AND SHUT IN

SHARMAN MOONEY was ill on Dec. 12, and had to be kept in for the day....Sis. ANNIE ALEXANDER fell in her home on Dec. 6 and broke her left arm, rather badly. She has been released from the Seminole hospital in Sanford at this time and is at the home of her daughter in Sanford.

MICHAEL JOSEPH RAFFERTY WEIGHS IN!

MARLENE and MICHAEL RAFFERTY are the proud (and I mean P-R-O-U-D!) parents of a bouncing baby boy, Michael Joseph born on Thursday, the 9th of December, and weighing in at 8 lbs and 13 ozs! Marlene is now home.

NEW BUDGET

The 1977 budget was discussed and approved at the regular business meeting on Dec. 12. This writer was appointed to present it to the congregation the first Sunday of the new year. It shows that we are still running very close, and we need to do better, if at all possible. The Lord expects us to do our best when we "lay by in store... on the first day of the week" (1 Cor. 16:1,2). Let us all put the Lord in our personal budgets in 1977--that is, let's plan our giving like we plan our other expenditures.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 12-26-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Howard Martin
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Lynn Robinson
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Robert Gaines
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Ronald Carter
O.J. Duer
O-Jimmy Smith
Clay Garrison
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

SUNDAY PM 12-26-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Howard Martin
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Mike Farrington
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Frank English
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Ronald Carter
Jimmy Smith
USHERS-----Wayne Gey, Gene Mooney

WEDNESDAY 12-29-76

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Robert Gaines
SONG LEADER-----Howard Martin
FIRST PRAYER-----Wayne Gey
READ SCRIPTURE-----Steven Kapelka
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jack Farrington
INVITATION-----Gerald Durrett
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bulletin

Palm Springs Drive church of Christ



Mr. & Mrs. O.J. Duer



Brother O. J. Duer

Crosses Over

ON A TYPICAL FLORIDA MORNING Dec. 17, our beloved O. J. Duer crossed over the bridge to that other world. He suffered a massive heart attack on Thursday morning, developed complications from which the doctors could not save him. He died peacefully about 24 hours following onset.

This church has suffered a loss from which it will not soon recover. Our beloved O. J. belonged to everyone--he was "ours" in every sense of the word. He was a charter member of the PSD church, and the crowning joy of his life was the opportunity to be a part of this new work. He gave it his all. He very likely has made the largest monetary contribution to the building, and constantly gave unselfishly of his time and talent. He was in charge of the class teaching program. He coordinated the worship program at every service. He addressed the bulletin, and volunteered to do almost anything that needed to be done. He was always there when there was something to be done for the Lord.

I think no man was ever more attractive to those about him. O. J. had a personality that made one love him. He was kind, humble, and genuine. I think the most I could say about his character is that little children were attracted to him! He loved them, and they sensed it and responded. He had that strange mystic that caused almost everyone to consider him a SPECIAL friend. This was abundantly confirmed by the outpouring of emotion in our assemblies on Dec. 19. Every member felt the pangs of his absence, and public tears flowed freely. He was OUR'S! It will take some time for us to adjust to the emptiness and loss we feel. Pg. 3

what's
your
question

Bible Answers
to
Bible Questions

Concerning a baptism

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
 ?
 ? *There is a brother in the church here who has been "baptized"*
 ? *three times as follows:*
 ? *The first time was the next*
 ? *day after his wedding.*
 ? *The second was seven years*
 ? *later because he said he had*
 ? *not understood the first time.*
 ? *The third time because the*
 ? *preacher didn't take his confession the second time, and*
 ? *part of his body was never under water.*
 ? *I witnessed the third "baptism" and know that all of his*
 ? *body was not immersed on that*
 ? *occasion either. So, what*
 ? *should I do? Has this brother*
 ? *been scripturally baptized?*
 ?
 ? *W. Va.*
 ?
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

REPLY

This is a most unusual case. One would have to say that unless the body was immersed, it was not scriptural baptism. If so, then just how much of the body can be exposed before it is not scriptural baptism. Logically, such would lead one to say sprinkling is scriptural baptism.

We are told that baptism is a burial (Rom. 6:1-4; Col. 2:12). The original

word for baptism means to dip, plunge, submerge, immerse. It is obvious that the two times this person has been "baptized" since the one in which he said he did not understand what he was doing, do not meet the demands.

The enquirer wants to know what to do. I would advise going to the person whose baptism is in question and tell him what you witnessed, and urge him to be baptized and make the matter as sure as possible. The salvation of one's soul is nothing to play around with. I urge one and all to make it as sure as you can.

It is sometimes argued that in such cases everything is alright because the person's intention was to be immersed. That sounds good if one says it real fast and doesn't stop to think of its logical consequence. It takes more than good intentions to obey God.

Mormons say the use of water on the Lord's table is acceptable if one's attitude is right. One can be sprinkled with the good intention to obey God. The only thing wrong with such ideas is that they don't meet the demands of the law. One can mistakenly drive 50 miles per hour in a 30-mile zone with every intention to obey the law, but the judge won't take that into account at the hearing. He does not substitute good intentions for obedience.

I would say that in a case like this a hindering factor would be the negative view that many would take of such a baptism. They will likely say that it makes a mockery of baptism. But is it a mockery to do God's will in God's way? If the facts are stated correctly in this letter (and I don't doubt it) this person has never been baptized. He is yet in his sins. Let nobody overlook this fact. Consider it well. jpn

O. J. DUER (continued from pg. 1)

Nobody outside his family was as involved with him as I was. He retired about the time I moved here 7 years ago, and we "supervised" almost every nail that went into the new building. He was a great golfer, and got me interested in the game, and taught me all I know about it. We often played golf as much as five days a week at the Winter Park country club, "t-ing" off at the break of day, which kept it from interfering with our work. Those are now pleasant memories, and how I wish I had continued these pleasant associations, but other involvements hindered. Also, he and sister Hazel have helped with the bulletin from its beginning. So, they became like family to us, and his loss pains us beyond words.

Brother Duer was a native of Kansas. He obeyed the gospel as a young man. He knew the truth, and stood for it unashamedly. He had no time for error, and detested hypocrisy. I witnessed his loss of confidence in a man once because he lied about his golf score. O. J. said, *"A man who will lie about a golf score, will lie about anything!"* That made a deep impression on me, and I shall never forget it.

O. J. was a hard worker. He was a leader. He wanted to get things done. This was the secret of his character. Grass never grew under his feet. He was on the move. He never rusted out, he wore out. This made him successful in the business world, and in the church. He knew how to handle people, and how to make them like him.

We have no hesitancy in saying that he was one of God's great men who has left his mark upon the world. The loss would be unbearable without the hope that we shall meet again!

jpn

A Tribute to O. J. Duer



O. J. Duer was a special friend
Who was loyal and true to the very end.
He was lovable, cheerful, complete,
Kind, considerate and sweet.

All belonged to him, and yet he to all.
He could suffer none to fall.
His hand reached out to those in need.
He was untainted by selfish greed.

The other person was his great concern.
He loved much and got much in return.
His friends are many, his enemies few
For an unkind deed he could not do.

He was a man of special piety.
He loved life in all its variety.
Hypocrisy he could not stand.
He was a true and genuine man.

He made no pretense, had no facade.
From him falsehood received no nod.
Truth was truth and wrong was wrong,
And he gave not in to the passing throng.

Little children were his delight.
They sought him out both day and night.
He took them in with a winning smile,
For in him they could find no guile.

He never complained of grief or pain.
His disposition was ever the same.
His sense of humor made many a friend
Whose love for him will never end.

He loved the Lord and cherished His truth.
He knew Him well from the days of youth.
He served Him well with great delight
And dreaded not to take his flight.

James P. Needham
12-20-76



Programs Of Worship

SUNDAY AM 1-2-77

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Lynn Robinson
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Howard Martin
DISMISSAL PRAYER-----Jimmy Smith
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----O-Frank English
Mark DuBose
O-Ronald Carter
Clay Garrison
USHERS-Ronald Carter, M. Farrington

SUNDAY PM 1-2-77

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Lynn Robinson
SONG LEADER-----Wayne Gey
FIRST PRAYER-----Gerald Durrett
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Jack Farrington
SERMON-----James P. Needham
LORD'S SUPPER-----Frank English
Ronald Carter
USHERS-Ronald Carter, M. Farrington

WEDNESDAY 1-5-77

ANNOUNCEMENTS-----Ronald Carter
SONG LEADER-----Jack Farrington
FIRST PRAYER-----Jim Milam
READ SCRIPTURE-----Robert Carter
DISMISSAL PRAYER---Mike Farrington
INVITATION-----Wayne Gey

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