

Our purpose is to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," and to "prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

OLD PATHS ADVOCATE

To continue "speaking the truth in love," "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace;" "keeping the ordinances as delivered."

"Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.'" (Jer. 6:16) "And they that be of Thee shall build the old waste, places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in." (Isa. 58:12).

Vol. XXXV

LEBANON, MISSOURI, JANUARY 1, 1964

No. 1

SENSELESS DIVISION

By Ronny F. Wade

Division is a terrible thing, a work of Satan and the result of following the flesh. Whenever division occurs, sin is involved. I can think of no division in which all involved are free from guilt. Instead of being looked down upon and detested by all believers, it has become quite popular in some quarters. Many brethren, it seems, are taking the attitude of some young married couples, who, when they discover they have differences, instead of trying to work them out, just divorce and look for another mate. I am afraid there are far too many senseless divisions among us today. In fact, I am sure if we tried harder and loved more fervently, greater unity could eventually be achieved.

There are some brethren who are so intolerant of another's views, that the minute they discover he has such views, they do not rest until he is either driven away or the church is divided. This all being done in the name of "seeking a pure church." They immediately brand all as heretics who do not see things as they do; that is, if the subject happens to be a "certain thing." Many in a very charitable way can forbear and work with others even though they might disagree on such things as "The Gift of The Holy Spirit," "Worldliness," "The Ordination of Church Officers," etc., but when it gets to something else, well, that's a "horse of a different color." I say it is senseless. There is no reason, logic, or consistency in it; and what is more, it is sinful.

Seldom does a month pass but what some notice crosses my desk about a division in some part of the brotherhood. In many instances, the sin of division is not the only one committed. Hatred is fostered in the hearts of many and feelings are harbored, which are never forgotten. Whereas, at one time brethren met, sang, prayed, and worked together, they now hesitate to speak to one another when they meet on the street. Again, I say this is not only senseless, it is sinful. When will it stop? What is more, what will happen to us if it does not? Brethren, if this continues unabated, we will eventually end up a fragmented society with little or no saving power at all. Think what all of this does to the church, and its influence. Instead of being the shining example of unity that we should be to a divided religious world, we are presenting and offering them the very thing we condemn and say is wrong—division.

There are many, and I am sure that they are honest (although not very consistent), who foster and encourage

(Continued on page nine)

A EULOGY TO PAUL D. TRIPLET

By Clovis T. Cook

Paul Devern Triplett was the victim of a serious heart deflection, and expired at St. Luke's Hospital, in Kansas City, Mo., while undergoing a lengthy operation to repair two heart valves. His illness was a long one, from the 5th day of May, until the day of his death, Dec. 6th.

During these trying times his life hung in the balance by only a thread. Paul gallantly fought on day and night, in and out of the hospital, never despairing, but ever hoping that in some way the attending physicians, with a stroke of genius, and the special surgeons with trained and skillful hands, could give him a few more days on this earth. But, this he was denied. His brave heart, crippled by disease, aged by overwork, refused to respond after repairs had been made. So, his spirit goes back to God who gave it, and his body back to the dust, and we are left with a memory of a great and good man.

Paul, in the latter month of his life, with clearness of mind, re-affirmed his faith in God by reading His word. His perception of spiritual matters was keen. He ceased not, night and day, to encourage us all to read more, study more, and pray more. He went to worship many times, being carried to and from the building. Such courage! Such faith! Such love for his fellowman! Such conviction! Seldom equaled, perhaps never excelled. His courage and faith at the brink of death made impressions upon many of us that will not soon be forgotten. The Church has lost a staunch supporter. Paul preached its gospel with conviction, sang its praises with energy and melody, and kept its laws with respect. To say that he will be missed would be one of the greatest understatements of our time. He was one of the best friends I ever had.

Comment

The foregoing eulogy was written by the writer, and read at the funeral service for Paul Triplett, at Lebanon, Mo., conducted by Lynwood Smith, Dec. 9, 1963. Paul requested that I write his obituary while he was alive. It was easy to write, but difficult to read, because of our close relationship through the years. The family asked that we print what I wrote in the O. P. A., because so many in our brotherhood knew him.

—809 Lyons,
Kansas City, Kans.

THE PAUL TRIPLETT I REMEMBER

By Roy Bill Modgling

I remember one cold bitter night in February, 1936, Brother Homer L. King arrived at Seminole, Oklahoma to begin a mission effort for a few Christians who lived there. We were surprised to see two young men arrive with him. We were introduced and informed that these lads wanted to become gospel preachers. One boy was Frank Cope, the other was Paul Triplett, Brother King's nephew. Thus I met Paul and began a long, warm friendship.

I later visited the Ozark community where Paul lived and spent more pleasant hours with him. One memory that stands out in my mind when I think of Paul is his good nature. He wore his sunny side out. He was a good singer; I remember a song he sang a lot—"Give the World a Smile Each Day." Paul in his short life time did this very thing. Another song he sang was "Wayside Wells." He strived to make the congregation where he met another "wayside well" where travelers might be refreshed that passed his way.

I had not seen Paul for many years. It is a sad thought to me that one among us who was such an asset to the church, so agreeable, who spread sunshine wherever he was, had to leave us in the prime of life. Surely brethren like Paul are sorely needed in the church today. I am sure that those of us who knew him can truly say that the world is a little brighter, a bit warmer because Paul Triplett passed this way.

—204 N. Cornell
Fullerton, Calif.

"GOD IS ABLE"

By Edwin S. Morris

To do exceeding abundantly—Even though many times we think that we know and understand what God is able to do in His power, we are not fully able to understand the many wonderful things that God can do for us. We fail often times in our prayers to ask God for certain things because we think that it would be useless. We must remember that God is able to do more than we ask or think. In Eph. 3:20, Paul said, "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us—." Exceeding is over, beyond, away over, more than. Above (i.e. more and greater than (all)). Abundantly is exceeding some number or measure, over and above, more than necessary, supremely. This speaks of the ability of God to do something, that ability having more than enough potential power, this power exhaustless, and then some on top of that. Thus, Paul says that God is able to do super-abundantly above and beyond what we ask or think, and then some on top of that. God is able to do far "above what we ask," for our asking is limited and feeble. God's ability to answer prayer transcends not only our spoken petitions, but far surpasses even such thoughts as are too big for words, and too deep for utterance; and still our desires are insignificant requests compared with the power of God. We know so little of God's promises, and are so weak in our faith in His promises, that we ask not, as we should for their universal fulfillment; and even though we did not understand their depth and power, all the imaginations of His blessings toward us would fall far short of the power and resources that exist in God. Paul says further

that it is "according to the power that worketh in us." God is able to do for us and answer our prayers according to the efficiency, richness and power of the working of the Spirit in our lives. This latter is determined by the yieldedness of the believer to the Holy Spirit. Thus, the saint determines what God is able to do for him. In His inherent ability, there is no limit to what God can do in and through the saint, but the saint limits the working of God in and through him by the degree of his yieldedness to the Spirit. Unless we desire knowledge He cannot enlighten us.

To make grace abound—Again, we find that God is "able to make grace abound" In 2 Cor. 9:6-8, Paul said, "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." Giving is not a sacrifice, but rather a sowing. As the farmer gives his seed to the earth, and then reaps as he has sown, so giving is a sowing. The lesson of verse 6 is, give generously. The next verse teaches how to give. Giving is not loss, but a sowing which will bring a harvest, if only it is done in the right spirit. Purposeth means to bring forward, bring forth from one's stores, to choose beforehand. What is given must be the purpose of the heart, not having it forced from him so as to cause him pain to think of the sacrifice made; each man, just as he has determined in his heart. Not grudgingly means not in sorrow, pain, grief; with a sour, reluctant mind; literally, "out of sorrow." God will not accept a gift grudgingly or unwillingly made. Necessity is compulsion as if it were like pulling eye-teeth. Cheerful giver means joyous, prompt to do anything. It is one that gives with delight. God blesses a man who is cheerful and a giver. It is a joyful giver that God loves. Now, notice verse 8 carefully. God is able to give us an abundance of temporal good; that, having sufficiency, you may abound in every good work. This refers to the sowing plentifully. Those who do so shall reap plentifully—they shall have abundance of God's blessings. Sufficiency means the necessities of life. Where there is the spirit of giving, the power to exercise giving is sure to be given. Here the point is that the less a man wants, the greater his self-sufficiency and his power to help other people. The more we give, and in our hearts we have the spirit to give, God will provide us more to give. Many times we do not have more to give because we do not have the spirit of giving; but God who requires us to give and be of that Spirit will bless us so that we can carry out His will and fulfill that desire within us. If He requires us to have the Spirit of giving, then He is able to cause us to have more and prosper so that we might have more to give. In congregations everywhere, if we had more members who had the spirit of giving, God would bless them to the point that we would have everything we need to do everything God requires us to do. It is a sad fact that generally speaking our brotherhood does not have the spirit of giving. You just take notice that those who give and have the spirit of giving God is blessing them so that they will have to give. Will you not think this over? Yes, God is able to do far above what we ask or think.

—905 Bluewood Drive, Dallas, Texas 75232

THINK SOBERLY (Rom. 12:3)

By Freddie Lay

No doubt it was extremely important that Paul should say to the Romans: "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." Here we have a plain commandment of God to which men give very little attention. Paul said twice it was for every man. Bible teaching on sobriety and humility is not very popular.

In a time of material prosperity, people live in such luxury that they are not deeply impressed with teaching on sober thinking. It seems that material success lifts a person up with the respect to the way he thinks of himself. When some men have more money than their neighbors, they think it is because they are smarter than they are. He is effected with an excess amount of pride. Job, Abraham and Nicodemus are examples that we might cite of men who did not let material success come between them and their humility.

Long ago, the Pharisees engaged in hypocritical conduct. They would take great pride in showing men and telling God how good they were. Their prayers were long and loud in extolling their assumed virtues. Sober-minded Pharisees were hard to find. It was true then, as it is now, he who tries to attain distinction for righteousness by boasting about himself is a spiritual failure. The Jews had great zeal for God, "but not according to knowledge;" they had a lot of power to do the wrong thing. They were like the boat that develops a lot of power, then is lifted out of the water, and all of its power is wasted.

In running the Christian race, it is more important to stay where our power can be used, and observe the rules of the race, than it is to make speed. This generation seems to be caught up in a world of speed. God's people should not catch the spirit of the world. Christians should never try to get inspiration from the world to improve their devotion in the Christian life. Christians should take time to be holy while the world rushes on, as goes the song we so often sing. One step at a time is the way God wants His people to go. This will cause less reason to stumble. If men think soberly, they will live soberly.

Men should think soberly about yielding to temptation. Salvation does not imply freedom from temptation. God saves man from sin, but does not immune him from temptation. God provides a way to escape temptation, but many fail to use it. When a man experiments with his own morals and spiritual strength, he usually fails. You have probably heard people say that they play with temptation just to see how much they can bear. This is not sober-thinking. Some people permit their children to drink a little, dance a little to see the evil of such things. This is the devil's way. Paul says in 1 Cor. 10:13, "There hath no temptation taken you but such is common to man—" Those who play with temptation do not try to find the way of escape. Those to whom Paul wrote were tempted by the idols that were around them (verse 14). It would be dangerous to play with idols. It is man's duty to flee all temptation; he must find the way of escape.

Enduring temptation does make men stronger. James wrote about this in the second and third verses

of the first chapter. We also find that such men as Abraham and Job were stronger after their temptation. Let us all try to think soberly and endure 'til the end, where we will receive the reward.

—7844 Rancho Fanita Dr.,
Santee, Calif.

THIS WE BELIEVE

Though there are many groups of people that wear the name Christian, or call themselves the church of Christ, God only ordains and will keep His promise to the few who follow the examples and commandments set forth in the New Testament. It matters not what we, as weak and sinful as we are, may think is good or helpful in the church, if the Bible does not authorize that thing which we allow, it is sin.

The Bible tells us in 1 Cor. 3:19: "For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness." When men add such things as Sunday Schools, women's Bible classes and social functions to the Lord's church, they choose to follow their own wisdom instead of the wisdom of God.

We believe that the Bible teaches by direct command, statement, examples set forth for us by the early church, and by necessary inference. We are commanded to forsake not the assembly (Heb. 10:25). We are told what day to assemble in Acts 20:7: "And upon the first day of the week when the disciples (early Christians) came together to break bread—" That is the purpose for the assembly. That Paul preached to them, ready to depart on the morrow, (as do other passages) proves to us that Paul was not a located pastor in the modern sense.

We believe that the Bible authorizes prayer, both standing and kneeling.

We believe that it is our privilege to sing (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16) with no musical instrument involved.

We believe in a collection for the poor saints, widows and orphans, and that members of the Lord's body give only on the first day of the week (1 Cor. 16:1-2).

We believe that on the Lord's table there is of necessity one cup (drinking vessel), and in communion, all Christians present partake, examining themselves. Read Matt. 26:26-29; Mk. 14:22-25; Lu. 22:15-21; 1 Cor. 11:23-26. We also believe that on the Lord's table there is of necessity one loaf from which all Christians in the assembly break.

We furthermore believe that there is an almighty God; He left for us a perfect law. Those who keep that law will inherit eternal life; those who break it or change it will burn eternally. Even though simple man cannot live perfectly, he can worship perfectly, if he is a hearer and a doer of God's word.—(Adapted from a leaflet, "The Church of Christ, Labadieville Hwy., Thibodaux, La.," submitted by Bro. John H. Lemmon, Rt. 1, Box 270, Hammond, La.)

If we were half as anxious to be saved from sin as we are to be kept from sorrow, it would be a wholesome fear.

The home field is often the most barren.

Old Paths Advocate

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THIS AND THAT

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Do you need these?

Old Paths Pulpit, 33 sermons and essays:
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Old Path Hymnal (240 gospel songs, most of which are either old or tried songs—65 cents per copy; 2 or more copies—50 cents.)
Send all orders to Old Paths Advocate, 1061 N. Pilgrim, Stockton, Calif.

"The Communion"—This tract by Bro. J. Ervin Waters has been re-entered in the above list. The supply that Bro. King had in Calif. was exhausted some time ago, so he requested it be removed from the list. Recently, Bro. Ronny Wade was helping take inventory of Bro. King's belongings in Missouri and reported to him that he had found a little over 400 copies of the tract. It is therefore re-entered for 35 cents a copy.

New Song Book—Brother King wishes to inform interested brethren that he is now in the process of

preparing the 1964 song book. It will be on the same order as previous books; there will be a good selection of old and tried songs that have stood the test through the past several years, as well as a good selection of the latest songs published. It will be an all-purpose book, designed for all religious services.

"This Do in Remembrance of Me"—Bro. Bob Strain, Harrodsburg, Ind. requests that we mention to our readers this tract that was written by Bro. Ronny F. Wade. It is free of charge. Bro. Strain mentions that he must for the present limit the number of copies. If you are interested in a very good tract on this all-important subject, and can find good use for it, why not communicate with Bro. Strain or Bro. Wade your desires. Sometime ago, through this journal, Bro. Strain offered another free tract, "Church of Christ, in Faith and Practice." It is a compilation of several brief, pointed articles by various brethren. We ran the full text in two of our issues. He states that he has printed over 8,500 of them. This is such a commendable and needed work. God bless men like Bro. Strain who are willing to spend and be spent for the cause of Christ.

"Senseless Division"—This is the title of the very good, timely, candid article on the front page of this issue, by Bro. Ronny Wade. May I commend it not only as good reading matter, but good matter to read and re-read as well. Preachers play a key role in the unity of the body of Christ. This is why I repeatedly advise brethren that if my coming into their midst is going to cause them and the cause difficulty, not to call me, and upon being advised of such, I will immediately notify you that I am not available, that I will not come under such circumstances. I am thankful that preachers who view this otherwise are few and far between. I am aware that in some congregations there may be those who object to most all preachers and would be unjust in their opposition, and prejudicial; I admit that this is a most difficult situation. We, at my home congregation, for years, have followed the practice of calling only those preachers upon whom we can all agree. This is still our practice, and it works. We do not bring a preacher in over the protest of those with sincere and unprejudiced opposition. None oppose just to be opposing. I feel that we have been an example through the years, are yet, and will continue to be in using all the preachers we can, which are many. For example, we already have two different ones engaged for future work; and are in correspondence with three more.

The masthead—Again, we call the attention of our readers to the masthead. A few months past, I entered my wife's name under mine as assistant. This is not construed by me to mean that she is on the editorial staff or is assistant publisher. All work and responsibility of publication has been mine; she has done no editorial work whatsoever. She has most accurately kept records that are needed in such an endeavor; her arduous labor every month in keeping subscriptions straight, handling funds, keeping address rolls straight, etc., runs into hours. Without her help, we would have to hire much of this done. I do not know what I would do without her. It was against her wishes that I enter her name in the masthead in the first place. She has even insisted since that it be removed. I see no scriptural principle involved nor violated. This is an individual endeavor; it is not a work of the church. Prohibitions

placed upon the woman in the public assembly of the church can not apply in such a case as this. I am willing to disregard my own wishes in this matter, and am asking the printer to remove her name with this issue. Brethren Cook and Wade feel that it would be best to do so. My wife will, however, continue to function as always, as my helper; she will continue to carry the same load and be my mainstay. Wherein I am able, I am willing to remove any and all impediments in the progress of this work.

Our new address—We have moved again and are now at home at 1414 North Albertson Ave., Covina, Calif. Would our correspondents please take note and direct all matter for publication, subscriptions, etc. to this address. —D. B. McCord

OUR HELPERS

You will find listed below the names of those sending subs from Nov. 20 to Dec. 20, and opposite the name the number of subs sent. We want to express again our deepest appreciation for your continued interest in behalf of this journal. May we count on you to continue the good work? Please check the following and report any errors to us immediately.

Elizabeth Byford—20; Howard Hickey—6; Robert Potts—5; Chapman Grimes—4; Harold King—3; Mrs. Mary Daniel—3; Edwin S. Morris—3; Ron Alexander—3; Clovis Cook—3; Marie Bagley—3; Mrs. Bob Hanson—2; J. J. Mahaffey—2; Johnny Elmore—2; Mrs. D. O. Ercanbrack—2; J. F. Graham—2; Larry Robertson—2; Mrs. L. J. Early—2; Allen H. Miller—2; Neomi Moore—2; Jim Hickey—2; Dell Bumbalough—2; Mattie Lloyd—2; Ronny Wade—1; Mrs. Lester Veatch—1; S. J. Fulton—1; Marion Byrd—1; T. J. Curtis—1; Leon Hill—1; Frank Lunn—1; Mrs. M. F. Cisco—1; I. A. Strait—1; J. C. Franklin—1; Ray Fox—1; Tom Ward—1; Mrs. Lurana McCluskey—1; G. M. Everett—1; Dennis Cox—1; Leon Lindell—1; Tim Dougherty—1; R. L. Chapman—1; Elmer Rose—1; Mrs. F. W. Satterfield—1; Cicero Goddard—1; Johnny R. Miller—1; Jerry Cutter—1; Mrs. L. L. Permenter—1; Mrs. Grace Roe—1; Veta Wissinger—1; J. H. Sharp—1; Ben Frentrup—1; W. H. Kaley—1; Ralph Kitson—1; Don Rowland—1; Paul Mackey—1; Wesley Boek—1. Total—110.

PROGRESS REPORT ON AFRICA

Preparations are being made to leave for Africa. Brother Orten and I hope to leave about March 10th for our six-months stay in Africa. We plan to fly from New York by way of London on our trip over. Some details are yet to be worked out, but it might be well to remind the supporting brethren that a complete report will be given at the conclusion of the work on all support received and on how it is used.

At the time of last months report, I lacked \$950 of the proposed \$4500. Since that report, I have received or have been promised the following: Brookhaven, Miss. (Hillcrest)—\$100; Paris, Texas—\$150; Flint, Michigan—\$50; Arlington, Texas—\$25; Olive Wilburn, Sanger, Calif.—\$10; Total—\$335.

Our sincere thanks again to those who have shown such a deep interest in this great work. According to the above figures, I now lack \$615 having the proposed amount.—Jerry Cutter, Rt. 1, Crescent, Okla.

AFRICAN PROGRESS REPORT

Since last reporting the progress of funds, enough money has been received so that I lack only a small portion of the goal. At the present I have \$3645.00 on hand and another \$500.00 promised. To quote exact figures, this means I lack just \$355.00 of the \$4500.00 we feel will probably finance this six-months trip. Enough churches have told us they would contribute more if necessary that we have little worry about attaining our original goal. From the start, however, we have wanted as many churches to have a part in the work as possible. If there are others who want to contribute but have not done so, you may do so this month. Any amount we receive over the \$4500.00 will be returned. I plan a complete report to the contributing churches next month and perhaps also through the papers.

As our date of departure (about Mar. 3rd) looms closer, Bro. Cutter and I feel very keenly the responsibility for making this work successful. You brethren have commendably done your part. We could not have done it without your help, but even now we cannot do it without His. Please pray God will give us the courage and wisdom necessary for the task ahead.

As well as some discouragements, there have been some real inspirations in the work thus far. For example, one sister, who is not wealthy, has contributed twice to both Bro. Cutter and myself. Another sister who is 87 sent a check and a letter of encouragement. Such devotion to the cause of Christ makes me feel small by comparison; nevertheless, I find it inspirational.

We have no word from the people in Tripoli. We have been in touch with people in England. It appears many of the churches there still observe the communion as Jesus instituted it. Some are beginning to use a leavened loaf (of all things); also, most of them still have only one assembly on Lord's Day morning, but many meet in the afternoon for another assembly which may not be conducted scripturally as we see it.

The digressive brethren here have preachers there converting them more fully to their view. Why could we not send men to bring them completely back to the Bible?

—James D. Orten
3025 Lakeshore Dr.
West Monroe, La.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The church meeting in Indiana, Pa. hereby acknowledges with thanks the following contributions for our building: Harrodsburg, Ind.—\$100; Flemington, Pa.—\$100; Grand Rapids, Mich.—\$10; St. Albans, W. Va.—\$50; Mozier, Ill.—\$25; East Ridge, Pa.—\$350; Butler, Pa.—\$100; Tulsa, Okla.—\$5; Baton Rouge, La.—\$25; Healdton, Okla.—\$50; Imperial, Calif.—\$25; Cincinnati, Ohio—\$25; Love Joy, Pa.—\$100; Manteca, Calif.—\$50; Brookhaven, Miss.—\$200; Total: \$1,215.00. We hope the contributors will feel that they have a part in whatever good this congregation may accomplish for the Cause of Christ in the future.

—Tommy Shaw

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The congregation on Denley Drive, Dallas, Tex., is building a new building at 3822 Boulder Drive. It is located in the south part of Dallas just off of Loop 12

South near Kimball High School and T. W. Browne Junior High School. We plan our first service for Lord's Day, Feb. 2. We will worship at 10:30 A.M. There will be basket lunch at the Community Bldg. in Kiest Park which is only a short distance from the building. There will be a singing at 3:00. We will also have a service on Sat. night, Feb. 1st, at 7:30. We take this opportunity to invite and encourage all from far and near to make plans to be with us at this time. Several have already promised to come, and we are anticipating a large crowd. Won't you come and enjoy this spiritual feast with us. For further information you may contact the writer at 905 Bluewood Dr., Phone CA 44745, or Bro. H. D. Hinton, 1934 St. Augustine Drive, Phone EX 16601. Be sure and come.

—Edwin S. Morris

NOTICE

There is a congregation now meeting in its new place of worship at 3733 East Latimer Place, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Tomorrow, December 15th, is our third Lord's Day to make use of the building, and we expect to arrange for an "opening day" soon. All brethren of good will, peaceable ways, and safe religious habits will be welcome.

—Leonard Hendrickson
11351 E. 36th St., N.
Tulsa 15, Oklahoma

AN ENCOURAGING REPORT

By John L. Reynolds

(In our day, we hear so much, too much, about spiritual decay, and retrogression in Zion, it is always an inspiration to read such a report as Bro. John L. Reynolds presents here. It gives me a great deal of pleasure to pass it on to our readers, for I believe it will be an inspiration to you, too. It was my privilege several years ago to work among these people of whom Bro. John writes; they continue as some of my dearest friends. Bro. Reynolds is a living monument to God's goodness and care of His children.—D. B. McCord).

It has been some time since I have reported to my brethren. I know that I have many true brethren who would like to hear from me and the congregation where I worship. I shall first speak briefly of myself. For the past three weeks, I have felt real well; I eat hearty and sleep well. I am still under the doctor's care; my feet give me a lot of trouble—they are swollen all the time. I have a skin disease that is incurable.

The congregation here is one of the finest to work with that I have seen. It is one of the largest in number in the brotherhood. We are all in one accord; there is not one "crank" among us; we have good singing and teaching. Our teachers are men who grew up in the congregation. I consider the Lord has been very good to me in sparing my life and giving me such a wonderful church to work with in my last days. We have a working membership; they visit the hospitals and rest homes; they are always cheerful and inviting people to church. Almost every Lord's Day, we see new faces in the assembly. Most people like good singing, so they come back to hear the singing and hear these young men teach them the gospel of Christ.

We have at least two men who are very good preachers; they are prepared to take the evangelistic

field if they choose, but it seems their plans are to become elders. They are Brethren Howard Hickey and Billy Boyd. We have others who are very good, too. They are very humble. In 1962, they baptized 15 here; at this writing there have been about 26 this year. We have a good house in which to worship. I do not think I have ever seen more brotherly love manifested. Thanks to the Lord.

—3434 9th St., Ceres, Calif.

AN OPEN LETTER

December 7, 1963

Dear Brethren in Christ:

This letter is written in the hope that my part in the trouble at Waterford, Calif., which occurred some 14 years ago, will be cleared up. Although I still hold the same convictions that I did at that time, I want to say that I am sorry that my family and I left the Waterford congregation. If I were confronted by these same circumstances again, I would not leave.

I sometimes think of how all of the brethren enjoyed fellowship one with another and how the church once grew. I heard a brother say that he would be willing to give his life, if the unity in the brotherhood existed now as it did at one time. Brethren, there is no need for anyone to give his life, for Christ gave His life for all of us, and to have unity in the brotherhood; all we need to do is to forget our own wishes and ideas and be led by the word of God. If we put forth as much effort in trying to please God as we do in trying to please ourselves, we will have unity in the church. Remember, brethren, we can not improve upon the word of God.

Yours in Christ,
Roy Arnett, Rt. 2, Purdy, Mo.

Comment

I would like to say that I believe the letter written by Bro. Roy Arnett, concerning the division at Waterford, Calif., and what he may have contributed to it, has been written in all sincerity. He states he is sorry for it, and I believe he is. I think the brethren who have held him a party to the division should accept his statement, admitting as much, by pulling off from the church at Waterford, and take him back into your fellowship. Forgive him, brethren, as God for Christ sake has forgiven you. See Eph. 4:32. If he wishes to retain his convictions, but will never divide the church, or disrupt its unity over the matter, which he states he will never do, and since it is not a matter of scriptural or unscriptural worship, who can say he cannot have them? See Rom. 14:22. When will others learn that it is wrong to divide the church of our Lord over opinions or matters that do not make our worship to God unscriptural? When will others who have taken part in a useless division somewhere, at some time, over matters that do not effect our worship, see fit to do as Bro. Arnett has done?

Velma and I recently visited in the hospitable home of the Arnetts. Bro. Arnett asked me what I thought he should do. I told him. He has done it. Others advised the same. May God bless him and his family.

—Clovio T. Cook

Self-righteousness is the devil's masterpiece to make us think well of ourselves.

"BE YE SEPARATE"

By W. H. Hawkins

In the Bible, what is meant by the word "separate?" Basically, it means a complete separation, a parting asunder. I find an illustration of the word in Gen. 13; let us look at it for a moment. Abraham was a very rich man in gold and silver and livestock; he had many servants. Lot, his nephew, was also a very rich man. In fact, both of them had so many livestock, the land was unable to bear them, and their servants began to fall out with each other over the grazing. Notice, please, how Abraham conducted himself when he went to Lot and suggested that they have no quarrel over the matter for they were brethren. Abraham told Lot that the land lay before him, and to choose which way he wanted to go; if Lot chose to go to the right then Abraham assured him that he would go to the left; or if Lot chose to go to the left, Abraham would go to the right. Lot lifted up his eyes and saw the land was well-watered and a good grazing ground for his stock in the low lands, so he decided to go that way. Abraham went into the hill country (I imagine the grazing was not so good over there). Abraham was very considerate of Lot; so should all Christians be of each other. But, what has happened in these men's case? They have separated one from the other; this is a complete separation. We can thus see in this case what the word in our caption means.

Now, I have said that in order to say this: God wants all who obey Him to be separate from sin. It is sad to see many brethren and sisters in the body, but not of the body; that is, not completely separated from sin, not completely converted to the truth of God's word. They continue to dabble in sin; they go to worship, that is true, but as quickly as the worship is over, they, in a sense say, "Good-bye, God, I will see you next Lord's Day." They are in a hurry to get back to the "pleasures of the world." They seem to be as the prophet said of Ephraim: "Ephraim is a cake not turned" (Hos. 7:8). (Be sure to read it!). I tell you, there is a big difference in being in the body and in being of the body (Eph. 5:30). Paul said that it is not everyone that is in Israel that is of Israel (Rom. 9:6).

When God washes our sins away in the blood of Christ, separating us from sin, it is a complete separation; the old life is gone, and Satan, the man of sin, is crucified with Christ (Rom. 6:6). In Numbers 6:2, God told Moses to speak to the children of Israel and say unto them, "When either a man or a woman shall separate themselves unto the Lord to vow a vow of a Nazirite, to separate themselves unto the Lord: He shall separate himself from wine and strong drink, and shall drink no vinegar of wine, or vinegar of strong drink, neither shall he drink any liquor of grapes, nor eat any moist grapes or dried." Here, we see and understand, that the man and woman who had taken a vow was required to strip themselves of every vestige of wine and liquor, which of course, is a type of the pleasures of the world. They could not hold to any part of this law and get by; no, they had to come clean with the Lord. The one who makes the vow in obedience today must come clean with the Lord, too; it is all the way or none, for God does not mix with sin in any form. He does not compromise with the devil. When Jesus was baptized, He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil (Matt. 4), and he spent forty

days and nights without food and water. At the end of these days, he was hungry and the devil came to him and said, "If you be the Son of God command that this stone be made bread." Listen to His answer! "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth from the mouth of God." Friend, we must accept it all, every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. It is all the way or none. We must turn loose of all sin, all unrighteousness in all forms. Why do I say this? Because Jesus taught me through His Holy Word. Hear the writer in Heb. 7:26: "He was holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners," Everyone who has obeyed the gospel God has cleansed and made free from sin; He requires everyone to keep himself free. In 1 Peter 2:21, we read: "For even hereunto were you called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example that you should walk in His steps." Can we, as the children of God, walk in His steps and continue to besmear our lives with the pleasures of the world? I say not!

(To be continued)

—4 Rocky Branch Dr.,
Raleigh, N. C.

AN INFIDEL'S CHALLENGE

If I firmly believed, as millions say they do, that the knowledge and practice of Christianity in this life influences destiny in another world, Christianity would be to me, everything. I would cast aside earthly cares as follies and earthly thoughts and feelings as vanity. Christianity would be my first waking thought, and my last image before sleep sank me into unconsciousness.

I would labor for its cause alone.

I would take thought for the morrow and eternity alone.

Earthly consequences should never stay my hands or seal my lips.

I would esteem one soul gained for heaven worth a lifetime of effort.

I would go forth to the world and preach Christ in season and out of season, and my text would be: "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"

—Author Unknown

BONDS OF MATRIMONY

Boek-Lewis—Bro. Wesley D. Boek, of the Covina, Calif. congregation, and Sister Janice Louise Lewis, of the Highway City, Calif. congregation, were united in marriage at Fresno, Calif. on Nov. 23, 1963. Wesley is the son of Sister Walter N. Boek, also of the Covina congregation, and the late Bro. Walter Boek. Janice is the daughter of Bro. and Sister Glenn Lewis of Highway City. We wish them a fruitful life together. The writer officiated.

—Luther Boek

Goad-Burgess—On Nov. 9, 1963, it was my privilege to assist Robert Carl Goad and Sandra Kay Burgess in the exchange of their wedding vows. A beautiful candle light setting added to the solemnity of the occasion. Both are members of the church, and we hope that they, as expressed in their vows, will love, honor and cherish each other, and so live together in faithfulness and patience; in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace forever. They will reside in San Diego, Calif.

—C. A. Smith

OUR DEPARTED

Watkins—Walter Raymond Watkins was born Nov. 2, 1942 in Andrews, Tex. and departed this life Dec. 1, 1963 at Manitou Springs, Colo. He leaves to mourn his passing his wife Mary Watkins of the Andrews, Tex. congregation; his father, A. M. Watkins; grandmother, Mrs. Susie Wooley; four sisters, one of which Mrs. Nelson Hitch, is also a member of this congregation; and four brothers. The writer was called upon to speak words of comfort.

—C. A. Smith

Parks—Coral Elizabeth Parks was born Jan. 3, 1883, and departed this life Dec. 5, 1963, being over eighty years of age. She was married to W. L. Parks in Nov., 1916. She was a faithful member of the congregation meeting at So. Third and Atlanta in Davis, Okla., having lived in that city since 1937. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Parks; one daughter, Sister W. S. Cummings, of Davis! two step-daughters, three sisters, and one brother. The writer was called upon to conduct the services.

—Johnny Elmore

Triplett—Bro. Paul Devern Triplett was born Dec. 23, 1915; died Dec. 6, 1963 at St. Luke's Hospital, Kansas City, Mo. His survivors are: his wife, Shelah Wanda Triplett, 6425 So. Benton, Kansas City, Mo.; three daughters, Mrs. Phillis Gassen, Mrs. Connie Walters, and Miss Joyce Triplett all of Kansas City; his parents, John and Ora Ella Triplett; two brothers, Kenneth and Earl; two sisters, Mrs. Pearl Meents and Mrs. Ruby Ruebush, all of Route 1, Phillipsburg, Mo. There are many cousins and friends and brethren and sisters in Christ. Paul was loved by all who knew him, and will be greatly missed in the work of the church which he loved so much. Services were conducted by the writer with the able help of Bro. Clovis T. Cook, who was very close to Paul and the family, and Bro. Ronny Wade who is presently living in Lebanon, Missouri. The beautiful singing was afforded by members of four churches. Our heart-felt sympathy certainly goes out to the brave and faithful members of the family.

—M. Lynwood Smith

Akers—On Nov. 7, 1963, we, of the Stockton, Calif., congregation, paid our final respects to our brother in Christ, John A. Akers. He was one of the oldest members here. He was born Dec. 8, 1877 to John and Sarah Akers in Parker Co., Tex. In 1943, he moved to 1311 So. Golden Gate Ave., Stockton where he was to live and be associated with the congregation here the remainder of his life. On Nov. 2, 1963, at the age of 86, his life slipped away. He leaves to mourn his passing his daughter, Sister C. W. Farrar, Los Angeles; 4 sisters, Minnie Hill and Della Akers, Weatherford, Tex.; Maude McQueens and Lizzie Ellier, Banning, Calif.; two grandsons; eight great grandchildren; three nephews and one niece. Services were conducted from the building here. Songs were by Howard and Don King, Era Smalling, Ida Garrett; bearers were Roy Smalling, Oscar Golden, Everett, Johnny and Coy Agnew, and Vol Garrett. The writer spoke words of comfort and warning to the sorrowing audience.

—James Winchester

Bedingfield — Sister Ethel Miranda Bedingfield passed over the river to her eternal home Oct. 29, 1963. She was born in Euology, Bosque Co., Texas, June 12, 1886, the daughter of Zeph and Julia Mickey. She came

with her parents to Lockney, Floyd Co., Tex. at the age of 6 years. Her grandparents on both sides were Christians, so from the cradle she was taught to love and read the Bible. She obeyed the gospel April 26, 1900 and was a faithful child of God for over 63 years. She attended Lockney College, and later taught there to help pay tuition for younger brothers and sister. She married the late John S. Bedingfield, July 13, 1907. To this union 6 children were born; one died in infancy. Surviving are: Lurana McCluskey, Dorothy Sage, Reva Luster, Sylvia Tibbs and J. S. Bedingfield, Jr.; three sisters, Ruth Dees, Viola Potter and Naomi Wood; a brother, S. W. Mickey; twenty grandchildren, and 19 great grandchildren. Throughout their married life, they traveled a lot, teaching the word where it was not known, principally; then going their way leaving a worshipping congregation behind. They worked to support themselves and their children as they moved about through Tex., N. Mex., Ariz., Calif., and Ore. They especially loved teaching and working with young people. When father died in August, 1959, she continued alone serving the Master she had loved so long. When she had to go to the hospital Nov. 6, 1962, she decided, "Maybe I can put in more words for the Lord there, where there are more people." One of the last things she did was to help save the marriage of one of her young nurses by teaching her her duty as a Christian and giving her a list of scriptures to study with her husband. She was confined to her bed for eleven painful months with a very weak heart, but her sweet smile and patient Christian manner made many friends for her there. "They are gone, but their memory will linger, twined 'round our hearts like bright golden threads; And in life's tangled net-work which death cannot sever, will over the future a radiance shed." (The obituary was submitted by the daughters, Lurana McCluskey and Reva Luster. Sister McCluskey wrote a note which reads, in part, "Dear Bro. McCord: I hope you can find space for part or all of this. I want to thank you all for your warm Christian kindness in giving my parents lifetime subscriptions to the "Old Paths Advocate." I feel sure that Bro. King will appreciate this note of thanks, and I share it with our readers, too.—DBMc).

MY POSITION ON CARNAL WARFARE

I cannot participate in military service in any form, directly or indirectly, in combatant or noncombatant service, because:

1. My duty and obligation to my God is superior to all other obligations (Acts 5:29; Matt. 22:37).

2. My God in the Bible forbids that I engage in carnal warfare in the following references:

"Put up thy sword," "For all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword" (Matt. 26:52)—Jesus.

"My Kingdom is not of this world" (Jno. 18:36).

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal" (2 Cor. 10:3, 4).

"Love your enemies" (Matt. 5:44); "Turn the other cheek" (Matt. 5:39).

"Recompense to no man evil for evil" (Rom. 12:17).

3. To enter any military branch or service, combatant or noncombatant, I would be compelled to "swear" (take an oath), but the Bible forbids that I do so ("Swear not at all"—Jesus, Matt. 5:34).

4. To enter any military service I would be compelled to be yoked with unbelievers, which is forbidden—"Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (2 Cor. 6:14).

5. To be in any branch of military service in any way, I would be a part of the organization and would therefore have fellowship in the service, but such is prohibited; thus: "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:11).

6. To serve in any way in the military service, I would be deprived of obeying the command to assemble on Lord's day to worship God in the Bible way, at least part of the time, hence would disobey God (Heb. 10:25; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1, 2).

Therefore, I cannot conscientiously engage in carnal war in any form or branch, and for the above reasons, I authorize my name to be listed in support of the above principles.

—Richard Boek, 416 N. Pasadena Ave., Glendora, Calif.

—Larry Lay, 7844 Rancho Fanita Dr., Santee, Calif.

SENSELESS DIVISION—

(Continued from page one)

age division for the sake of what they call purity. Since purity is a very broad term, I hardly see how it can be limited to one specific sin, but seemingly satisfaction is had by them if the church is free from this one sin. To show you, however, how such a position leads to radicalism, I merely call your attention to the following facts. I can show you any number of congregations where division has occurred, not because immorality was there, but because brethren refused to allow others to differ with them, or because they forbade the use of any preacher who did not hold their views on certain subjects. I personally have begged and plead with brethren to work with me and my former home congregation only to be told that "this could never be," as long as I believed as I did. I have seen and witnessed the heartbreak, pain, and tears that result in such division. I know what they are. I have also known and worked with those who in the aftermath of such a tragedy pick up the broken pieces and try to make the best of it, but to the sorrow of all, much like "humpty dump-ty," it was almost impossible to do.

The best way to prevent a division is to stop it before it starts. The only way this can be done is to eliminate the cause. What is the cause? Well, I am sure there are many, far too many in fact for us to mention in this brief article. However, we mention what we consider to be a major cause of division today, and that is preachers. Since I am a preacher, I had rather not mention this but, I am afraid it is true. Brethren, know your preacher. Is he a peace maker or a trouble maker. I shall never forget what Bro. Gay said one time. The gist of it is as follows: "It is possible that sometime a preacher might get involved in trouble, however, if trouble follows a preacher around everywhere he goes, you better mark him." I say amen! Check up on the preachers you use. Do they ever have any trouble where they come from? Are they ever involved in division? Do they preach for those who are factious or who have caused division? You may say, "Well, what does this have to do with it?" Simply this: The fact that divisive brethren call a certain preacher or preachers to the exclusion of all others is evidence that he condones

their actions. If he did not he would not go; and if he went in all good conscience and condemned them for their division and they failed to repent he would cease then and there to have fellowship with them in it. Do not be deceived by pleasing personalities or good public speaking. Many times the seed is sown in private only to spring forth unexpectedly months or years later, after the preacher is gone. Beware of those who work undercover or who preach loud and long about a certain subject at one congregation, but who are as silent as the tomb on it at the next one. Remember what Paul said, "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them" (Rom. 16:17).

In conclusion, brethren, let us all back off a few steps and take another look at the situation. Can we not solve our problems without division; hear Paul: "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment" (1 Cor. 1:10). Remember, too, that in the works of the flesh Paul lists seditions (divisions into separate factions) and heresies (party spirit, dissensions arising from differences of opinions and aims. Factions) and they that do such shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

The above is submitted in the spirit of love, hoping that it will cause us all to think, and then act—with the help of God.

—Box 564, Lebanon, Mo.



W. H. Kaley, 930 Leon, Delta, Colo., Dec. 13—We certainly enjoy reading the OPA and pray that it will always remain faithful to God's Word. Here is my renewal.

Ralph Kitson, Mozier, Ill., Dec. 10—We are having some real winter here. Our crowds are good at the assembly. Bro. Miles King preaches for us every 4th Lord's Day of the month.

F. H. Lichapa, Namlenga Mission, Mkalongwe, Nyasaland, Africa, Nov. 23—We need your help. Some brethren are leaving us for others because of pay and clothes. My wife has been in Zomba hospital; she is alright now.

P. Kalongonda, C/O Nkoko Vlg., P. O. Palombe, Nyasaland, Africa, Dec. 5—This is to let you know in America how the work goes here. In Oct. in my travels, 33 were baptized; so far in Nov., 5 have been baptized.

Lloyd P. Cox, 4434 Sisk Rd., Wichita Falls, Tex., Dec. 18—The congregation at 2900 Lawrence Rd. is doing fine. Bro. Edwin Morris preached for us last Lord's Day—wonderful, inspiring lessons. Here is our renewal.

J. A. Baze, Rt. 2, Box 690, Midland, Tex., Dec. 3—The congregation here is doing pretty well. Bro. Orville Lee Smith is working part time with us and we hope to build up the church more in this area. We hope Bro. King continues to improve. Please send us 100 "Hymns of Love."

G. O. Schultz, 6675 S. W. Varnes Rd., Tigard, Ore., Dec. 10—After the first, we will be meeting with the Forest Grove, Ore. congregation, if it is the Lord's will. We are moving near our son; we have been meeting with the Kennewick, Wash. congregation. Bro. Bill Roden is conducting a meeting here at this time.

C. A. Smith, 1312 Alpine, Andrews, Tex., Dec. 15—The church here is doing real well. We have grown considerably and look forward to the coming year with a great deal of optimism. The paper has been a great help to me of late; thanks for the good articles by our capable brethren. Pray for us.

Jesus Rodriguez, Calle Venezuela No. 5142, Col. Matamoros, N. Laredo, Tamps., Mexico, Nov. 27—The work of Christ's church is progressing more and more here. Nov. 10, one was baptized; the sister's name is Hermelinda Aranda. We do hope that all of our brothers will pray for the church here. We invite you to come and visit us here.

Carlos B. Smith, Rt. 1, Box 150, Wesson, Miss., Dec. 19—We have a family from digression (cups and fermented wine in the communion) worshipping with us now; one has been baptized recently. I hope the OPA will continue to come to us without enticing words of man's wisdom, but with simplicity as it has done in the past; Bro. McCord is doing a good job with it. Remember me when you pray. Here are 2 subs.

James R. Stewart, 312 E. Nugent, Temple, Tex., Dec. 10—The work at 29th St., Temple, Tex. continues with good interest. We had two new families attend our service last Lord's Day. Others have promised to be with us next Lord's Day. It is wonderful how all are working together in peace and unity. The singing, reading and teaching have improved wonderfully. Thanks to those who have helped keep the work going. The Lord will richly bless.

Gary Macy, Rt. 3, Anderson, Mo., Dec. 16—The work here in Milford, Mich. is progressing very nicely. Visitors are numerous and the spirit of the people seems jubilant. There have been two restorations; hence, God has blessed us. May He continue to give an increase. It was our privilege to hear Bro. A. L. Adams of Va. at the Pontiac congregation one week ago. May the Lord bless his work. May the Lord's richest blessing be upon the faithful.

R. L. Chapman, Box 252, Hebronville, Tex., Dec. 2—A couple of months ago we reported that we were buying a lot and moving a house on to it in which to worship. Some of the heirs to the estate involved could not be contacted, so we are unable to do this. We are disappointed but not in despair. We are still meeting in the court room where we have been for years. We hope to find something else suitable. Here is our renewal; we do not want to miss a copy.

G. M. Everett, Rt. 1, Box 442, Richland, Wash., Dec. 15—We of the Kennewick, Wash. congregation wish to thank again the congregation at 64th St., Sacramento, Calif. for sending Bro. Bill Roden our way. We also want to thank Bro. Bill for being willing to come and work with us. Our meeting at Thanksgiving time was good. Three other congregations were represented. We were made to rejoice the closing night when the husband of Sister Hazel Briggs of Yakima, Wash. was baptized. Here is a renewal.

W. P. Capps, 536 Ford Ave., Solana Beach, Calif., Dec. 1—The Carlsbad congregation is progressing very well, not large in number, but stronger in the faith than ever before. Much credit is due Bro. Luther Boek who has been laboring here since the first of this year. His constant visiting and informal teaching in the homes have induced some to attend the regular services to hear more of the gospel taught. Thanks to all the many visiting brethren who have come from far and near to worship with us.

Donald Brittain, 20 2nd Ave., N. E., Ardmore, Okla., Nov. 28—The month of Nov. has seen four very fine preachers pass through this part of So. Okla. We have heard Brethren Edwin Morris, Jim Hickey, Jimmy Terrell and David Macey. Bro. Macey held the meeting at Thanksgiving in Healtton. At the present the church here at Ardmore is in the process of acquiring land for a new building which we need very badly. Please pray for us.

Otis L. Osburn, 1952 Warmlands, Vista, Calif., Dec. 3—The church at Carlsbad is beginning to show some progress; we have been having several visitors and our influence is increasing steadily for which we are thankful. We have had Bro. Luther Boek here for about a year and through his earnest and uncompromising efforts much good has been done. His unrelenting and conscientious efforts should be recommended to the brethren everywhere. He is thinking about leaving the last of this month; I do not know what we will do. Brethren, pray for us.

J. J. B. Malowa, Vlg. Pelusi, C/O F. E. H. Reavy, Box 12, Cholo, Nyasaland, Africa, Dec. 3—The work of the Lord is going on well here. Nov. 3, I was at Maoni church; Nov. 10, at Nameta church; Nov. 17, at Pelusi church; and Nov. 24 at Chinchuli church. 36 were baptized during the month. Brethren J. Mbera, N. Tuanje and Siliya were with me at Chinchuli; some days I visited sick Christians in the villages. May God bless you in America; Christians here send greetings.

John Modgling, 204 N. Cornell, Fullerton, Calif., Dec. 18—Since last report I have preached at the following congregations: Norco; Covina; Siskiyou St., Los Angeles; Montebello; El Cajon and National City, all in Calif. There was one restored at the latter place. Lord's Day, I will be at ElCajon. The 27th, I will travel with Bro. Don McCord to Stockton, Calif. where he will begin a meeting and I will be preaching at several congregations up there. Please continue to pray for me. Let us sow the precious seed of God's word into what ever good and honest hearts we can.

Jim Hickey, 2419 Leafdale, El Monte, Calif., Dec. 12—At the present time, I am in Calif., preaching at every opportunity. Since returning from the East, I have taught at El Centro, Covina, Manteca, Highway City, Modesto, and Sonora where I am planning to do some extended work this winter and spring. We, at the Covina congregation, recently enjoyed a fine gospel meeting held by Bro. Wayne Fussell. The last four days were largely devoted to the interests of the young people of the church. Several young men participated in making talks and many more assisted in various other ways. Brethren, if we want a sound church tomorrow let us encourage and help our youth today.

A. J. Mason, 488 Beck Ave., Watsonville, Calif., Dec. 12—I wish to notify the church to not send me any more money. The welfare for the old aged has agreed to pay for my medical expenses and doctor bills, beginning this week. With my wife working part time, I believe we can get by. This is a relief to me. The receiver has no right to accept any more than he or she needs (Acts 2:45; 4:35; 20:35; 1 John 3:17; James 2:15-16). The giver is more blessed than the receiver. Anyone depending on the church for support is on the receiving end, and is not worthy of more than he needs, according to the teaching of the Holy Spirit. I want to thank everyone for the support given me. I hope that Bro. Carl Nichols will receive his sight again. Pray for me and my wife.

Lee Boek, Rt. 3, Box 183, San Luis Obispo, Calif., Dec. 15—We continue to work with the congregation here. We have some good prospects, although we are sorry to see few visible results the last few months. I have been canvassing nearly every day during the week. This method of meeting the outsider has brought several prospects. We must remember that we are to take the gospel to the lost. The last week-end in Nov., we

certainly enjoyed our visit in the Los Angeles area. It was wonderful being with Bro. Wayne Fussell again, and hearing him teach several wonderful lessons. We always enjoy being with our loved ones in that area. The young men who gave talks showed good improvement. Our love to fellow Christians everywhere; please pray for us.

Ronny F. Wade, Box 564, Lebanon, Mo., Dec. 16—The old year of 1963 is almost gone, and e'er long another will be upon us. As I review the events of the past one, I am filled with mixed emotions. Satisfaction and thankfulness for the little good done, and sorrow and remorse for the failures and lost opportunities. With the help of God let us all resolve to make the coming year the greatest yet, in His service. The work here moves along fairly well. There have been several confessions of late and prospects for the future are bright. The association of several preaching brethren of late has been enjoyable; among them, C. T. Cook, Lynwood Smith, and Jack Cutter. We were all saddened by the passing of Bro. Paul Triplett, and even though he is gone, his influence still lives on in these parts. Best wishes to all.

James D. Corson, Rt. 2, Mahaffey, Pa., Dec. 11—In spite of the winter weather, the cause in Penna. continues. I have been driving to Washington, D. C. and Butler, Penna. quite often since my return home; bad weather hinders some now. Nov. 24, our hearts were made glad to have a very loving and able brother restored to duty in the Butler congregation. By the time this reaches our readers, another year will be born. The one just past will go down in history as bloody and cruel since the nation and others was rocked and bathed in sorrow over the loss of this country's leader. How much more we should be in fear and sorrow because of our great leader, King and Prince Jesus whom they slew in more cruel fashion than any other. We do not know what lies ahead. We do know that we should do more to build stronger forces; our work from now on may be put to a stronger test.

Miles King, 2610 Brown, Alton, Ill., Dec. 11—We have just received the OPA and really enjoyed it. The paper stands for the same things we do. I will continue to mention its merits. The church in St. Louis is growing. Our building is now started; our crowds are good, and we have outsiders in attendance. We work some with the church at Mozier, Ill. They are doing well and have a desire to work. They have two meetings and a singing school planned for '64; their meetings are two weeks long. In Nov., we visited with the brethren at Harrodsburg, Ind. It was a joy to be with them; the association with Bro. Jerry Cutter and family means much to us. I appreciated Bro. Don McCord's remarks in the Nov. issue on "Preacher Obligations." That is certainly the way I feel. Next summer, we will spend some time in Calif. We have a meeting scheduled at Manteca.

Jesus Rodriguez, Calle Venezuela No. 5142, Col. Matamoros, N. Laredo, Tamps., Mexico, Nov. 18—Work for Christ's church is progressing here. There are a lot of wolves in these last days; we have them here. Some say if you do not keep the Sabbath, you will not make heaven; some say if you do not greet each other with a kiss with the mouth, you will not make it; some say, too, we are on the wrong road by baptizing in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost; some say that Christ came in 1914, and ask us what are we waiting for; some say that the church should wear the name Baptist because John the Baptist was more intelligent than Christ. All of these are not good workers. Thanks to God they have not been able to take any from the Lord's church here. Visit us if you can.

J. R. Tidmore, 311 W. 5th St., Broken Bow, Okla., Dec. 14—The church here is doing quite well even though some have moved away and some have quit. We have had 3 meetings this year. In June, Bro. Edwin Morris held us a good meeting; 2 were baptized

and one confessed faults. Bro. Morris did a fine job; he is a wonderful preacher. In Sept. Bro. Freddie Lay conducted us a very good meeting. He is young in years, but does extra well; you will not go wrong in calling him. Bro. Orville Lee Smith held us a real good meeting this month with two confessions of sins. He will return in Aug., 1964 for another meeting. We are so thankful that Bro. King is improving. We pray he may soon be able to return to the field. The OPA is real good. Pray for us, and may God bless all the faithful.

A. L. Adams, 1616 - 19th, N. E., Roanoke, Va., Dec. 10—Since last report, I have preached for the faithful at Clintonville, W. Va., Chesapeake, Ohio and Pontiac, Mich. We were happy to have many of the faithful from Milford attend Lord's Day night when we were at Pontiac; it was a pleasure to meet Bro. Gary Macy and his family while at Pontiac. At this time, I am spending one week-end a month with the faithful at Clintonville, W. Va. They are now meeting in their new building, and extend an invitation to all who may be passing by to worship. Bro. J. W. Kornegay visited us last week, and informed us that the work in the Raleigh, N. C. area is going ahead and that the future looks very good indeed. If you come through Roanoke, you will be welcome to worship with us. We meet at 1610 17th St., N. E., Lord's Day at 10:30 and 7:30; Wed. night, at 7:30.

Tom E. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 171-A, Duncan, Okla., Dec. 16—Our meeting at Healdton, Okla. during the Thanksgiving season was a glorious one. Bro. David Macy was at his best and added strength to the congregation by his fearless preaching. We had visitors all through the meeting and a wonderful get-together on Thanksgiving day with some outstanding talks from all the speakers participating. This meeting will always be remembered with pleasant thoughts, and may God help us to always cooperate with other churches as they cooperated with us. Bro. Billy Tate brought us a good lesson Lord's Day, Feb. 8, and Bro. James Vannoy, Feb. 15. We always appreciate visiting speakers. I wish to announce that our meeting in the interest of mission work in Okla. will be held at Duncan, Okla., Lord's Day, Feb. 9th instead of Feb. 2nd as was first announced. Please note this change.

Edwin S. Morris, 905 Bluewood Dr., Dallas, Tex. 75232, Dec. 17—I have preached at the following places since my last report: Nov. 17, Wichita Falls, (Lawrence Rd.) Tex.; Nov. 24, Ardmore, Okla.; Dec. 1, Arlington, Tex.; Dec. 8, Dallas; and Dec. 15, again at Wichita Falls. We attended the meeting Thanksgiving at Healdton, Okla., and were well rewarded for our trip. The meeting was wonderful. We also attended singings at Graham, Okla., Nov. 24; and then at Arlington, Tex., Dec. 1. Our new building here should be completed by Feb. 1. Concerning our plans for Feb. 2, please see notice elsewhere in this issue. We will be at Healdton, Okla., Dec. 22; Ardmore, Okla., Dec. 29; Dallas, Jan. 5; Melissa, Tex., Jan. 12; Wichita Falls (Lawrence Rd), Jan. 19; Oklahoma City (21st St.), Jan. 25-26; then, here in Dallas for Feb. 2. Pray for us in the work. May God bless all of our beloved brethren.

Richard Nichols, 15102 Jersey Ave., Norwalk, Calif., Dec. 17—Lately, I have preached one or more times at the following congregations: Siskiyou St., Los Angeles; Covina and Montebello, Calif. I enjoyed attending a meeting held by Bro. Wayne Fussell at Covina which was climaxed by a meeting in the interest of the young people. The lessons given by the young men were very good. In these a great deal of talent was displayed. Brethren, young men everywhere should be given opportunities like these to develop the ability with which God has blessed them. Due to a change in plans I will be visiting some of the congregations in Okla. and Tex. in Jan. Then, Lord willing, I will go to Harrodsburg, Ind. in Feb. (a month earlier than I had planned) to do several months of work. I enjoy the O. P. A. very much; brethren, keep up the good work.

Clovis T. Cook, 809 Lyons, Kansas City, Kan., Dec. 13—I have recently preached at Springfield, and Cassville, Mo., also here in Kansas City. The continued growth and progress of the O. P. A. is encouraging. We, as always, are trying very hard to increase its circulation, improve its reading matter with partiality and predilection for none, but with consideration and understanding for all, yet holding the line against devious doctrine, heretical or heterodox in their import. Our days are growing fewer and soon we will be called upon to make our exit, and bow out of this life; will it be graceful or ungraceful, in strength or weakness, in truth or error? This is important! We may get a bad start, but we must have a good ending. We were made so sad at the death of our brother Paul Triplett.

Cicero Goddard, 3803 Garfield, Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 11—Since my last report, I have moved to Kansas City. I am not sure yet what to do about starting the work here this winter due to the fact that I do my personal work from house to house and the weather may not permit this type of work until summer. I have a chance to go to Los Angeles to help a work there; I may do this, as I cannot sit around when I know that people are perishing because they do not know the truth. We request your prayers that we may make the right decision concerning the work we want to do. May I ask again that someone send the church in Andalusia, Ala. \$20.00 a month to help them on their building. Since they came to the truth, those upon whom they could call before are no longer available; the address is in care of Robert Matthews, Rt. 2, Shavertown, Andalusia, Ala. The work in Samson, and Andalusia, Ala., and Crestview, Fla. is making progress, thanks to Christ.

Jim A. Canfield, Rt. 3, Box 86, Marion, La., Dec. 12—Only three more Lord's Days will end this old year; 49 have already passed. Let us think seriously, Brothers and Sisters, have some of us sat at home idle and visited friends and let some or most of them pass without assembling with the church (Heb. 10:25). May 1964 bring us all blessings through His word that we may be able to go through the trials and temptations of life. Why should Christians grow cold when Christ has promised us in His word that He will never leave us or forsake us (Heb. 13:5-15). He has knocked down our greatest enemy, the devil. The Lord has been especially good to me in all of my illness in 1963. I am so thankful for Him. My leg is almost well. Thanks to my brethren and sisters in Christ for your prayers and support and confidence. Bro. Tom Johnson, Imboden, Ark. writes that they are still meeting there. Brethren, be careful in using preachers who would bring into the worship those things contrary to His word. How can you build up the church that way? Good-bye to all in 1963.

Frank H. Lunn, 124 Ruth St., Pontiac, Mich., Nov. 15—We at the Milford congregation are thankful to have Bro. Gary Macy with us. He alternates each month between Milford and Flint. He also preaches at the Pontiac congregation every Wed. night. Bro. Macy and his wife are fine Christians; they have a fine little boy. We enjoy having them with us. My wife and I pray for Bro. King's improvement; he baptized us at Greenfield, Calif. in 1948. Bro. King is a Christian; we learned to love him and his wife long ago. I am a lot better, too, after having suffered a heart attack about a year ago; I am able to do light work. We are thankful to the Lord; He has been good to us. I always like to remember what Paul wrote to Philippi: "Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ; that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel" (Phil. 1:27). We plan to have an early meeting this Spring; we are trying to engage a preacher now. Pray for us.

T. A. Hedrick, Box 15, Rupert, W. Va., 25984, Dec. 10—We are meeting in our new building now. The last time I wrote I said we did need some help, but I forgot to give the address; it is Clintonville church of Christ,

in care of Melvin Shortridge, Clintonville, W. Va. We would appreciate any help. I personally wish that I could help send Brethren Cutter and Orten to Africa, but I have been sick and unable to work, so I do not have anything to give. They have my prayers and may God go with them on their journey and bless them in all they do. Jesus said to the disciples, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations" (Matt. 28:19); then in verse 20, Jesus said, "teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." There are people dying every day in Africa, as well as in America; how terrible for those people to die not having obeyed the gospel. How I wish I could do more to carry God's Word to them; He is not willing that any should perish. The souls of the people in Africa are as precious to God as yours and mine, and I sometimes wonder if not more so the way some of us act. May God, in His love and mercy help us to always do His blessed will regardless of what it costs, even our lives. His Son did not refuse to offer Himself on Calvary's cross for me, then, why should I not, if necessary, die for Him. Our prayers are for the brethren everywhere. We need your prayers.

R. B. Roden, 3550 Lynwood Rd., Lynwood, Calif., Dec. 18—We closed at Forest Grove, Ore., Dec. 15th with one confession; we had good interest and were happy to work with these brethren. We will finish our work in the Northwest, Dec. 22nd. When this reaches the readers, we plan to be at Lynwood, Calif. The saddest part of leaving the Northwest is the fact that there are yet others who need to obey the gospel or be restored. I realize that my leaving does not mean that these will not have opportunities; but, perhaps humanly selfish, I would like to see these things accomplished that I, too, may rejoice with those who obey. The important thing is that we put God first in our lives and be obedient unto Him before time is gone. The meeting at Thanksgiving in Kennewick, Wash. was an enjoyable one; there were several inspiring talks. It was good to have Bro. Gayland Osburn with us. We baptized one the last night of the meeting; we rejoiced with the brethren at Yakima, for we, too, feel that Bro. Jewell Briggs will be a great help in the Lord's work there. I want to express my thanks to the members who have helped me and encouraged me in ways that they and others may never know. Our relationship has been the finest; both here and at 64th St., Sacramento, Calif., who sponsored this work. I admonish you of each congregation to work together, and encourage and pray for them who watch in behalf of your souls. Please pray for us.

D. B. McCord, 1414 No. Albertson Ave., Covina, Calif., Dec. 20—Nov. 22-Dec. 1, Bro. Wayne Fussell conducted a wonderful meeting here. He was at his best; he is a master in the pulpit. We were glad to have Carolyn with him this time. Too, we were glad to have Bro. Jimmy Terrell for most of the meeting; he preached a very good sermon during Wayne's brief illness during the meeting. I enjoyed hearing Bro. Fred Kirbo in his meeting at Norco, Calif. Last Lord's Day, we enjoyed hearing Bro. Fred Lay at Orange. The brethren here enjoyed a very good sermon by Bro. Jimmy Terrell recently. We have also had Brethren Chester King, Richard Nichols, Fred Lay and John Modgling preach for us lately. Our next series of meetings will be with Bro. Johnny Elmore in the Spring. Bro. Billy Orten will come in 1965. We are now in correspondence with three other preachers for other work. The Lord's Day next, we begin a series of meetings at Stockton, Calif. Bro. John Modgling will be with me there, and will be preaching at various places. Brother Jim Hickey, who is one of us here, did real well in arranging the schedule for our meeting devoted to the young people. We appreciate all of our young preaching brethren. May God bless them! May the Lord bless you all in the new year. I need your prayers, please remember.

The finest qualities of our nature, like the bloom of fruits, can be preserved only by the most delicate handling.

Our purpose is to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," and to "prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

OLD PATHS ADVOCATE

To continue "speaking the truth in love," "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace;" "keeping the ordinances as delivered."

"Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.' (Jer. 6:16) 'And they that be of Thee shall build the old waste, places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in.' (Isa. 58:12)."

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No. 2

WHY THE CHURCH IS RIGHT

By Ronny F. Wade

Many times I hear people expressing their thoughts as to why the church is wrong in this or that. Far too many times these very people are the reason why the church is wrong. We readily grant that on the human side of the ledger there are many imperfections in the church, and we further suppose that as long as the human element remains we will be confronted with these flaws. In fact, we might ask, "Where is the perfect church?" We would like to see one. The following poem expresses the thought:

The Perfect Church

"I think that I shall never see,
A church that's all it ought to be;
A church whose members never stray
Beyond the strait and narrow way;
A church that has no empty pews
Whose preachers never have the blues;
A church whose deacons always "deak"
And none is proud, and all are meek
Where gossips never peddle lies,
Or make complaints or criticize;
Where all are always sweet and kind,
And all to others faults are blind.
Such perfect churches there may be
But none of them are known to me.
But, still we'll work and pray and plan
To make our own the best we can.

Remember, that we are still considering the human side of the question. On the divine side it is an entirely different story. For here we find why the church is right. In order to get this part of the picture before your eyes let us notice a few truths:

The church is right because it is divinely built and ruled. This cannot be said of human organizations, but with the church of Christ it is different. In Matt. 16:18, Jesus said: "I will build my church." True to His promise He did, and for some 2000 years it has been lighting the path of man and helping him grapple successfully with the difficulties of life. Jesus further said, "Every plant which my heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted up . . ." This very dismally depicts the end of all false bodies, and corresponds with David's statement: "They labor in vain who build the house except the Lord build it."

Yes, this in one thing right about the church. Jesus is its builder; but, He is also its ruler. In Eph. 1:21-23 (Continued on page three)

LONG HAIR

By Edwin S. Morris

We have a request to write on this timely subject. Even though we realize this is an unpopular subject with some, we are firmly convicted as to its truth, and feel the need of its being taught, especially when we look about us and see how such plain, simple teaching is being ignored and violated.

The question is often asked, "How long is long," and, "What do the scriptures mean when they say, 'But if a woman have long hair.'" The scriptures teach what long hair is in God's sight. We are not interested in how men define our term, but we are interested in what God authorizes in the use of the term "long." In Numbers 6:5, we read: "All the days of the vow of his separation there shall no razor come upon his head: until the days be fulfilled, in the which he separateth himself unto the Lord, he shall be holy, and shall let the locks of the hair of his head grow." The Revised Standard Version says, "he shall let the locks of his head grow long." There can be no doubt that in this Nazarite vow they did not cut their hair during this time. Keil and Delitzsch in their commentary remark, "By this he sanctified his head (ver. 11) to the Lord, so that the consecration of the Nazarite culminated in his uncut hair, and expressed in the most perfect way the meaning of the vow" (Oehler). The Popular and Critical Encyclopedia says, "The Nazarites, whose hair, from religious duty was not to be cropped during the term of their vow." The same authority says further, "Nor was a razor to come upon his head all the time of his vow; he was to be holy, and let the locks of the hair of his head grow."

In Numbers 6:5, Judges 13:5 and 1 Samuel 1:11 it is evident that the Lord in the stipulations for the Nazarite included the long hair. God has given a clear-cut definition of what constitutes long hair. In all these God requires that no razor is to be used on the head, so the Lord means that long hair is hair that is as long as nature makes it. If a Nazarite cut any of it off he ceased to have long hair and exposed his head to shame. By the same token, if today a woman cuts any of her hair, she ceases to have long hair in the sense the apostle uses the term, and thus she does that which is a shame.

In Paul's exhortation on the subject in 1 Cor. 11:1-16, he teaches that women's hair is either shorn, shaven, or long. If it is shorn or shaven it is a shame. If it is long it is a glory. She falls into one of these categories.

In Ezekiel 44:20, the priests had this instruction: "Neither shall they shave their heads, nor suffer their locks to grow long; they shall only poll their heads." They were not to shave their heads or let the hair grow long; they were only to poll their heads. In the case of the woman in 1 Cor. 11, she is not to shave or shear her head; she is to let the hair grow long. We can readily see what Paul means by long hair; he meant uncut hair. Remember, respected sister, your hair is either cut or uncut, and you either let it grow or you do not let it grow.

The term "have long hair" in 1 Cor. 11:14-15 means "let the hair grow." In vs. 14, if a man "let the hair grow," it is a shame unto him. In vs. 15, if the woman "let the hair grow," it is a glory to her. Notice, in the case of the man it is a shame, and in the case of the woman it is a glory. Dear reader, surely you can see that this teaches something. So many today just brush this aside and all they can say is, "Well, it does not mean that." Yet, they never explain what it is teaching. In verse 15, Paul teaches that a woman's hair is given for a covering. When the woman does not have this covering, and prays or prophesies, she dishonors her head. She also rebels against the authority of the husband. In vs. 10, "For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels." A note in the margin on the word "power" says "authority, i.e. the sign of the husband's authority."

After all of this clear, simple teaching many go to verse 16 to try to justify themselves. Let us notice vs. 16, "But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God." See, they say, Paul says if we are contentious, we have no such custom. I do not seriously believe people believe that. I do not believe that they think Paul has spent time teaching all of this, and then says if you are contentious you do not have to obey this. Good sister, can you truly say that you believe that is the teaching of this? Let us notice some different translations on verse 16. **Revised Standard Version:** "If any one is disposed to be contentious, we recognize no other practice, nor do the churches of God." **Goodspeed:** "But if anyone is disposed to be contentious about it, I for my part recognize no other practice in worship than this, and neither do the churches of God." **Moffatt:** "If anyone presumes to raise objections on this point well, I acknowledge no other mode of worship, neither do the Churches of God." **Williams:** "But if anyone is inclined to be contentious about it, I for my part prescribe no other practice than this, and neither do the churches of God." Paul has condemned a woman praying unto God uncovered (verses 5 and 13). They are to have the covering given by God. They have no such custom as he has condemned, that is, a woman praying unto God uncovered (verses 5 and 13).

Good sister, let your hair grow long and do not cut it. It is given you by God for the covering. Do not be led astray by the modern trend. Yes, I know the world has gone wild over the modern "hair-do," and it is somewhat unpopular with the world to have long hair and its natural beauty. Just remember that in worship one cup and no classes are pretty unpopular, too; but we are to please God and that is what counts. May God help all women to have faith and courage to follow the teachings of the Bible.

—905 Bluewood Dr., Dallas, Texas 75232

MINDING YOUR OWN BUSINESS

By Taylor A. Joyce

When I was a youngster I once made the mistake of asking an elderly spinster how old she was. If she had told me her age, I would have soon forgotten it. But I have never forgotten the stinging rebuke she administered when she said, "It's none of your business, young man!" That's how I learned that everyone ought to mind his own business.

This is a lesson that Christians need to learn. A failure to do so can wreak havoc upon the church of God. The first threat to the unity of the young church resulted from the fact that this principle was disregarded. The apostles were in charge of all the affairs of the congregation in Jerusalem. They were "spreading themselves too thin" by attempting to do more than they were physically able to do. Precious time that was needed for preaching and prayer was being expended upon benevolent work. Thus, they concluded, "It is not reason that we should leave the word of God and serve tables" (Acts 6:2).

No sooner was the problem clearly understood than the Holy Spirit had provided a solution. "Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men . . . whom we may appoint over this business." Preaching and praying was the primary business of the apostles. Serving tables was the business of less gifted men. So, it was agreed that each would mind his own business.

The result? The church overcame all obstacles and grew in the face of almost insuperable difficulties. There was the fierce opposition of entrenched religion—paganism and Judaism. There was the difficulty of enlisting followers for a man who had been crucified as a common criminal. And, if this were not enough, there was the additional problem of how to inspire faith in the incredible story of One who had been born of a virgin and had been raised back to life on the third day following His death. Any one of these, it would seem, was enough to doom Christianity to failure. Yet, it succeeded in the presence of all three—because every one was minding his own business.

The apostles gave themselves "continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word." This was their business. The deacons "served tables." This was their business. The disciples all participated in the work according to their capacities and opportunities. They all minded their own business. "And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith" (Acts 6:7).

Today, in every congregation there are those who are burying their talents, shirking their responsibilities and neglecting their opportunities. Scant wonder that the church does not grow as it should. Scripture admonishes, "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; or ministry, let us wait on our ministering; or he that teacheth, on teaching; or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness" (Rom. 12:6-8). The church can grow—in this twentieth century! But not until every disciple determines to "mind his own business!"

—2305 Mustang

Oklahoma City 15, Okla.

"BE YE SEPARATE" (II)

By W. H. Hawkins

Moses gave up every thing. He said that he had rather suffer with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. Jesus gave up the joy of heaven to come and suffer death that we might live. We today are admonished to do likewise. Hear Paul in 2 Cor. 7:1—"Having therefore these precious promises dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and of the spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." Let us go a little further here. In 1 John 2:15-17, we read: "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world the love of the Father is not in him, for all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father but is of the world. Hear again, as in Numbers 6:2. We are warned to turn from the pleasures of the world; "be ye separate," in other words, be completely converted to the truth of God's word; be not "a cake not turned," for Jesus says, "He that is not for me is against me" (Matt. 12:30).

God has not given His children one moment of time to serve the devil. In Mark 12:30, we read: "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind and with all thy strength." God does not, therefore, mix, or tolerate sin in any form. Man must go all the way or not at all. "Be ye separate" because He has taken us from sin. Paul speaks in Col. 1:13-14, "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son." What do you mean, Paul? He would say, "I mean that God has separated all who have obeyed Him from sin and made them free. Hear Paul again in Rom. 16:17-18: "But God be thanked that you were the servants of sin, but you have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you, being then made free from sin you became the servants of righteousness." There is a difference made in the life of an individual. If there is no change in his life, he is not a Christian. By obedience he is cut loose from the pleasures of the world and has begun a new life; he is a new creature in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17).

Some may say that all things that are in the world are of the world, but Jesus did not teach it that way. Hear Him in John 17:15-16, praying to the Father—"I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil; (speaking of his disciples in verse 16, He said), They are not of the world even as I am not of the world." Then, we are living in the world, but we are not of the world, and all that will contend otherwise, in love, I refer you to God's word for study of this subject. Let us go further; in Col. 2:21-22, we are told to touch not, taste not, handle not the unclean in any form; and Paul tells us in 2 Cor. 10:5: "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, (Listen you) and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." Do we, as children of God, have any other choice? Even if we wanted it? Paul says to "touch not, taste not, handle not the unclean thing—and he brings in the doctrine of men, which, he says, will perish with the using. Are you living that separate life? If not, why not? We listen to James 1:27, and we are told to keep ourselves "unspotted from the world."

Can we, the children of God, keep ourselves unspotted from the world, and live separate from sinners, and at the same time live in the pleasures of the world? Think deeply! Why can we not live in the pleasures of the world and please God? James tells us that the friendship of the world is enmity with God (James 4:4).

(To be continued)

—4 Rocky Branch Dr.,
Raleigh, N. C.

WHY THE CHURCH IS RIGHT—

(Continued from page one)

and Col. 1:18, we learn that He is the head, or ruling authority. No earthly head rules in the church of our Lord. Her laws cannot be changed and twisted with the passing years. Because they are mandates from above, they remain stable and sure through the centuries. While there are definitely many errors on our part, these two things are definitely right and to Christ we should ever be thankful.

The church is right because it has a divine mission. It is not the shallow obligations that occupy so much time in many modern churches, but rather the preaching of the glorious gospel of Christ. See Eph. 3:10. Every Christian is a soul-winner, a part of this worldwide mission of the church. Solomon said the man who does so "is wise." It is shameful to say the least when churches enter the field of entertainment, society, money-making, etc. instead of carrying out heaven's instructions. I fear far too many have forgotten the reason why Jesus built the church. To many, the phrase "the church" means nothing more than a place to go and have a good time. Church work for them consists of pie and chili suppers, dances, programs, classes of all kinds and on and on. How wonderful and glorious is the mission of Christ's church when compared to these human inventions.

The church is right in its goal and destiny. Those who make up this blood-bought society look forward with fond anticipation to the time when they shall be united with the King to ever live in the glad tomorrow. Our goal is not monetary, material, or earth-bound, but rather heavenly. We look forward to a city whose builder and maker is God.

Even though there may be many things wrong with us, there is not one thing wrong with the church as far as God and His part are concerned. All is right. Let us appreciate that, and the next time we are tempted to talk about what is wrong, or hear someone else doing the same, kindly point out the many, many things that are right.

—Box 564

Lebanon, Mo.

When the world dissolves, all places will be hell that are not heaven.

"Closed for Repairs" should be posted on a lot of open minds.

There was a time when a fool and his money soon parted. Now it happens to everybody.

He who falls for soft soap is soon washed up.

A jealous man always finds more than he looks for.

Old Paths Advocate

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THIS AND THAT

Acknowledgment—Brother and Sister Homer L. King wish to acknowledge with sincerest thanks the following donations since last report: Brookhaven, Miss. (Pearlhaven)—\$50; Healdton, Okla.—\$25.

Do you need these?

| | |
|---|--------|
| Old Paths Pulpit, 33 sermons and essays: Price, postpaid..... | \$2.50 |
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| Old Path Echoes (all purpose, 50 cents per copy; \$5.00 per dozen; \$40 per 100, postpaid). | |
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| Send all orders to Old Paths Advocate, 1061 N. Pilgrim, Stockton, Calif. | |

Signs of our times—For many years now, some of our brethren have been telling other brethren that the Sunday School system is not God's way of instruction in His church. Objective evaluation of the system, based upon its results, are now being made. The system that has caused so much controversy is now being put to the test. There is now a test of Bible knowledge that is nationally accepted being given regularly to a large number of freshmen in 45 different religious colleges. This test is prepared by the Accrediting Association of

Bible Colleges. One report on a well-known college supported by some of our brethren gives the following picture, for example (the test was given to incoming freshmen, most of whom were Sunday school trained): 56 percent did not know who wrote the Acts; 55 percent did not know the author of Second Timothy; 92 percent did not know where to find the conversation Christ had with Nicodemus; 31 percent did not know where Jude was to be found in relationship with other letters and books. The indictment is, based upon tangible test results, the Sunday school system is not producing passing Bible knowledge. Teaching the Bible is its mission we are told by its proponents. It is evidently failing in its mission. I am not saying that children not trained in the Sunday School would score higher than did these; this, after all, is not the question.

I am sure the time has come that our public teaching must be comprehensive in scope; shallow and deep enough in depth to instruct all hearers; such that the church will be edified; rebuked, exhorted. It is time, too, that we as parents need to expound in our lying down, in our uprising, and all along the way the law of the Lord more perfectly to our children. Lord help us all in this endeavor.

The African work—As reports from Brethren James Orten and Jerry Cutter will indicate, this work, financially speaking, is accomplished. There are several facts outstanding as we survey this work. It has been done eminently scriptural. It is a work of the church, and the church is doing it. Such necessities as choosing the preachers, levying support, laying plans, etc. have been the function of a congregation. Other congregations have helped by sending directly to the preachers involved. Read Acts 13; Phil. 4:14-16; 2 Cor. 11:8, 9. We have no misgivings as to the scriptural implementation of this work thus far. None of us, I am sure, anticipate any.

We need to watch that our language does not become that of Ashdod—like those about us. This is difficult! Preachers of our Lord's church are evangelists wherever their labors take them. I appreciate the fact that a use of such terms as "missionaries," "missions" and others has been kept at a minimum. The Lord's preacher is in America a preacher, evangelist, teacher (not missionary—so called in Scripture); he is the same in Africa. He establishes the church (not missions) in various parts of the United States; he does the same in Africa or wherever this great work may take him. We need to call Bible things by Bible names wherein we are able. We can not improve upon that.

May God bless these two men as they go forth in our prayer. May the Lord bless their wives and babies who will make the greater sacrifice; I am sure the preachers would tell you that. Too, may the Lord bless the parents of these men; they are fundamentally responsible for their sterling worth; may He bless also the parents of their wives—all of whom are making a tremendous sacrifice. May we anxiously anticipate their first-hand report of conditions as they find them, and act scripturally upon their recommendations for future planning abroad. It is my sincere prayer that some congregations of believers will watch this closely and, if it seems advisable, scripturally plan, choose men, levy support for them to follow these upon their return, and as soon after as possible.

Our Helpers — Our subscriptions reach 225 this month. Many of these will be receiving the paper for the first time with this issue. Our goal in 1964 is to add 1,000 new names to our list of subscribers. With your help we can do this. If you will renew promptly when your time expires, and send the paper to a friend or friends at the same time, we can reach our goal. We wholly depend upon our Lord and you, our readers, our friends. Thank you so much for your loyal support, your kind words of encouragement, your prayers and your understanding when we err. We are doing our best to keep the paper at \$1.00 a year. You are our mainstay in this achievement.

—D. B. McCord

OUR HELPERS

You will find listed below the names of those sending subs from Dec. 20 to January 20, and opposite the name the number of subs sent. We want to express again our deepest appreciation for your continued interest in behalf of this journal. May we count on you to continue the good work? Please check the following list and report any errors to us immediately.

Elizabeth Byford—20; C. L. Williams—10; Taylor Joyce—10; Mattie Lloyd—8; Mrs. L. J. Early—8; Elva Butler—6; Edwin S. Morris—5; Clovio T. Cook—5; Tom Greenwood—5; John L. Fisher—5; Bertha Permenter—5; Herschel Massie—5; Mrs. H. O. Allen—5; Jerry Cutter—4; James Orten—4; Jesse French—3; H. G. Hamilton—3; Ruth Leonard—3; Bud Hash—3; R. W. Bray—3; B. F. Leonard—3; Carlos Smith—2; Wm. Earl Reynolds—2; Alma D. Lamkins—2; Pat McCracken—2; Mrs. George Hogland—2; Mrs. Claud Keaton—2; Eddy Bullard—2; Jack Cutter—2; Fred Lay—2; A. J. Kemmerling—2; E. R. Brown—2; Elsie Shafer—2; J. Foster Prince—2; Olan A. Taylor—2; Roy Deering—2; Mrs. P. B. Fowler—2; Johnnie McLemore—2; Wayne Fussell—2; Shelby Tauble—2; Veta Wissinger—2; Georgia Smith—2; W. C. Milner—2; T. F. Thomasson—2; Marvin Fisher—2; LaRue Cox—1; W. D. Goodgion—1; E. H. Miller—1; Ted Warwick—1; E. H. Stamper—1; Wayne Sutherland—1; Irvin Barnes—1; Mrs. Jessie Tobey—1; Mrs. G. I. Snodgrass—1; Sally Thomas—1; Belle Adkins—1; W. O. Boling—1; Mrs. T. W. Lambert—1; Lora Patrick—1; Paul H. Ray—1; Annie Schumann—1; Gerald G. Johnson—1; Roy Meeker—1; Gene Hopkins—1; Fate Nichols—1; Etta Wilson—1; Tempie Moore—1; Lonnie Krider—1; Louise Moore—1; Johnny Spradley—1; Bertha Smith—1; Edgar Claywell—1; Byron Kramer—1; James Winchester—1; Mrs. W. E. Shockley—1; Mrs. W. B. Martell—1; T. E. Thompson—1; L. H. Merideth—1; Mrs. D. L. Perkins—1; C. E. Blanton—1; Ronny Wade—1; Johnny Cate—1; Mary Coble—1; Al Hamilton—1; Coy Agnew—1; Mrs. Delane Washington—1; R. E. Robinson—1; Jimmie Winchester—1; L. B. Carroll—1; Mrs. R. E. Fry—1; Mrs. Susie Hagan—1; C. L. Tankersley—1; Mrs. C. W. Bigham—1; Mrs. W. A. Purcell—1; M. G. Spigenor—1; Frank Bayer—1; Bob Cargill—1; John Pruitt—1; Luther Boek—1. Total—225.

AFRICAN PROGRESS REPORT

For all practical purposes it can now be said that I have my support for the African work. I lack \$20 of the proposed \$4500 at this writing, but the remainder has already been promised and will be forthcoming before I leave. I have applied for my passport and should

receive it any day. Bro. Orten has informed me that he has already received his.

I received a heart-rending letter from Sister Hazel Brumfield today concerning the brethren in Belgium. Recently, brother John Noel was teaching the Bible in a certain place. The owner came in and saw what he was doing. The man insulted Bro. John, kicked him out, and tore his Bible and notes to shreds. The man also tore and ruined Bro. John's best coat. His face was badly bruised. After the incident, he walked home in a cold rain. He arrived home at around 1:00 a.m.; the walk in the rain took nearly three hours. Sister Noel writes, "I have never seen John crying, but I did that night." Such faith and courage in the face of such discouragement! Brethren, all of us in America should feel ashamed that we are not doing more to help our brethren in other parts of the world. We have so much to do with and are doing so little.

James and I plan to visit these faithful brethren in Belgium and encourage them to keep up the good work. We also plan to visit the brethren in England as well as in Tripoli.

Since the last report, I have received the following support: Lubbock, Texas—\$100; Wichita Falls, Texas (Lawrence Rd.)—\$100; Moline, Michigan—\$100; Grand Rapids, Michigan—\$50; Los Angeles, California (Siskiyou)—\$200. Also, I would like to acknowledge a mistake in last month's report. The support from Paris, Texas should have been \$200 instead of the \$150 that I reported.

I have no way of adequately expressing my appreciation to these and all the other supporting brethren. Most of all, though, I feel certain that it is "a sacrifice acceptable, well-pleasing to God." Finally, by the time another report comes we should be on our way to Africa. Pray for us.

—Jerry Cutter
Rt. 1, Crescent, Okla.

AFRICAN REPORT

Financially speaking, the African work is a success. We are eminently pleased and humbly grateful for the brotherhood response. I now have \$4395.00 on hand and the church in Montgomery, Ala. has promised \$100. This will make the total just as close to our goal of \$4500.00 as we can get. From recent conversations with Brother Cutter, we know he has his amount also, or just about so.

Reports giving the amounts and donors of all contributions have been mailed to the churches and individuals who contributed. One is also included with this article which Bro. McCord is instructed to append to it, if he feels he has room in this issue. Since we are receiving funds from many places, both Bro. Cutter and I feel obligated to "open our books," especially to those who helped.

We will leave early in March if some delay is not encountered. The Lebanon, Mo. church wants us to go wherever we have an opportunity to either encourage or influence brethren toward the truth. We know we have brethren in Belgium and at least one couple in Tripoli. Because of recent correspondence we believe there are brethren in England who are a great deal closer to us than most groups in the U. S. Probably we will spend a few days at each of these places en route.

The following is a report of the funds contributed to date to James Orten for the African work. They are listed in the order received. If more than one contribution was made, they are listed together; Alta Vista, Kans.—\$100; National City, Calif.—\$200; Dora, Mo.—\$100; Cottage Grove, Ore.—\$100; Houston (Sunset Hts.), Tex.—\$100; Earlytown, Ala.—\$100; Chapel Grove, Tenn.—\$100; Kansas City, Mo.—\$200; Lebanon, Mo.—\$350; Oklahoma City (Capitol Hill), Okla.—\$150; Woodson, Tex.—\$100; Porterville, Calif.—\$100; Odessa, Tex.—\$50; Midland, Tex.—\$50; Shreveport, La.—\$300; Woodlake, Calif.—\$100; Pontiac, Mich.—\$100; Lowery, Ala.—\$150; Crescent, Okla.—\$100; Flint, Mich.—\$100; Bradley, Mo.—\$25; Oklahoma City (21st St.), Okla.—\$300; Montebello, Calif.—\$100; Greenfield, Calif.—\$100; Covina, Calif.—\$100; New Salem, Miss.—\$100; Garr Corner, Okla.—\$25; Pleasant Grove, Ind.—\$100; Hillcrest, Miss.—\$100; Arlington, Tex.—\$25; Harrodsburg, Ind.—\$100; Lawrenceburg, Tenn.—\$100; Orange Cove, Calif.—\$100; El Centro, Calif.—\$100; Paris, Tex.—\$200; Wichita Falls (Lawrence Rd.), Tex.—\$100; Total from the churches: \$4,225.00. Contributions from individuals—Lloyd Wall, St. Louis, Mo.—\$10; Dannie Mitchell, East St. Louis, Ill.—\$5; Elizabeth Byford, Waco, Tex.—\$20; Olive Wilburn, Sanger, Calif.—\$20; A sister in Christ, Penna.—\$5; Walter Bohn, St. Charles (St. Louis), Mo.—\$10. Total from individuals—\$70. Grand total from churches and individuals: \$4,395.00.

Any contribution received after Jan. 15, 1964 will be acknowledged individually. If a mistake has been made in the amount of any contribution, please call it to my attention.

—James D. Orten
3025 Lakeshore Dr.,
West Monroe, La.

WILL YOU HELP?

Las Vegas, Nevada—We are in great need of our own place in which to worship. I feel that interest would be much better; the opportunity for soul-saving is wonderful. We have two lots paid for and the street is to be paved; this will enhance the value of the property. The lot cost \$2800.00. We now have \$7500.00, but this is short of the amount needed. Anything that anyone can do to help will be appreciated. In turn, we hope that at a later time, we can help others.

—George Carter,
1921 Howard Ave.,
Las Vegas, Nev.

Tulsa, Oklahoma—At present we are meeting in a club house. We are also in the process of erecting a new building, but are running out of funds. We appeal to our brethren for help; it will certainly be appreciated. We need about \$2,000 to complete the building enough to meet in. For reference, you may contact the following evangelists: Edwin Morris, Wayne McKamie, Paul Nichols, Don McCord, Ronny Wade, Ervin Waters, Orville Smith, Clovis Cook. If you can help, please communicate with the church in care of one of the following: Gene Hopkins, 1551 N. Irvington Ave.; Orvil Hopkins, 4105 W. 41st St.; Marlet Howard, 1570 N. Kingston Ave.

—O. L. Hopkins
Gene Hopkins
Marlet Howard

AN OPEN LETTER

The church at Waterford, Calif. greatly rejoice to read Bro. Roy Arnett's statement in the last OPA. We wish to say through the same medium to him and the entire brotherhood that we fully and freely forgive him and welcome him back in full fellowship with the church at Waterford, Calif. How beautiful it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. In unity there is strength and we should all ever strive to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. Our prayer to God is that we do our best to keep the unity of the Spirit and all work together to steer the old Ship of Zion back to the ancient moorings.

—T. F. Thomasson
W. E. Murry

NOTICE

Sometime ago, Bro. Wilson Chapman and a few others began worshipping in the Arkanna school building about 6 miles south of Mtn. Home, Arkansas. As a result of meetings held and other preaching, some were restored and others obeyed the gospel, thus increasing to the present number of about twenty. Having held them a meeting in Oct., I believe this group to be zealous and moving forward. Their plans are to build a new building on or near Hwy. 5 south of Mtn. Home. A loan is now in effect for the purchase of a lot. In a radius of 15 miles and within the city of Mtn. Home there are ten congregations who are in one way or another worshipping digressively. These brethren, upon acquiring a more suitable location, are striving to put down some of this digression and establish in a greater capacity that which is faithful. These brethren need your prayers, words of encouragement and financial assistance. If your local congregation can send financial aid, please with a prayerful attitude do so. The entire congregation will be highly appreciative, and beyond any doubt are worthy of any help they receive. Bro. Odas Fletcher of Rt. 2, Mtn. Home is in charge of the financial records. During our efforts there, good interest was shown by outsiders. Two came out of digression. This is a worthy cause!

—Irvin Barnes
Route 1, Box 211
Galena, Missouri

A LAST CHANCE

I have been trying for more than a year to obtain complete information for a church directory; I still get a report every week or two. I fear that all have not reported, but the Lord willing, I will turn what I have to the printer on Feb. 17th. If you know of congregations that have not reported, please have them do so by that date. If you are not sure whether or not your home congregation has reported, please report anyway. I hope to be able to have a map in this directory with a dot at each place where there is a faithful congregation. Brethren, please help me have that map as well-dotted as possible. I do not know how soon the printer can deliver them. If you do not receive your copy as quickly as you would like, please do not worry. There will be a notice in the OPA when they come from the press.

—E. H. Miller
Box 538, LaGrange, Ga.

SINGING SCHOOL PLAN PROGRESSES

The planning committee for the annual singing school in the Dallas-Ft. Worth-Arlington, Tex. area met last evening (Jan. 17) in Arlington to push plans for the 1964 school with a July target date in mind. Things are progressing with a great deal of optimism. Our thanks to all who are expressing their interest and are giving encouragement in this long overdue undertaking. We will keep you advised of developments in this project and should have some definite information to offer at an early date.

—Grady Coble
716 Greenway Dr.,
Hurst, Texas

(Note: This is not a work of the church, so we take the privilege of quoting from the first notice of this proposal in our Dec. number. These brethren say, "This is definitely not an endeavor of the church and is in no way under church sponsorship, but is rather an effort on the part of individual members who are looking toward improvement and greater interest in singing by providing the necessary instruction." — D. B. Mc)

HELP! HELP!

By Wallace Middick

Who needs help? In Rom. 3:23, we read, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." If you have not become obedient to the gospel and remained faithful, you need help! You should be shouting at the top of your voice for assistance for you are in great peril. The most terrible monster imaginable has you at his mercy. You are under a highly competent influence, an authority on sin. He has a Pandora's box full of sinful tricks with which to ensnare his victims. If we were to set out, intently, to catalog all of the sins he has available, I fear the task would be insurmountable.

Are you afraid of Satan? You had better be, for Peter warns in 1 Peter 5:8—"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour." Yes, you need help, especially if you are not obedient; surely you understand this! Are you a member, a born-again child of God; you, too, need help. Satan cares little that you have taken on the name of Christ and have renounced him. In fact, if we knew all things we might find that he is most intent to re-capture you who are of the faithful. Would you not expect the fold of God to be his choice hunting ground? Yes, if you are obedient you should certainly fear Satan; you most assuredly need help; you are as lambs among wolves! (Matt. 7:15; Luke 10:3; Acts 20:29). But, be not dismayed, you are without help; you are not alone; you have an abundance of protection.

Paul said, "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" (Eph. 6:11). You do not have only protection, you have ammunition, too. Remember that on a certain occasion, Satan boldly came directly to Christ and tried three different maneuvers that deal with basic human frailties; namely, hunger, pride and the offering gifts. In Matt. 4:1-11, we read and understand that after Christ had fasted for forty days and nights in the wilderness he hungered. We know what it is to be "a little hungry," after missing just a meal or two we would feel

justified in making most any excuse to immediately go about getting food for the stomach. Did Christ yield? Let us see. "And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Here is ammunition against Satan; Christ answered and said, "—it is written—." He next made an appeal to the pride. How often even today will the true Christian hear, "—if you, as a Christian are so great, do this, or do that, or how come this or that—"? Satan took Christ to the height of the pinnacle of the temple and said to Him, "If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone." Notice here the smoothness of Satan. He even uses some scripture himself, and in this cunning manner endeavors to inveigle our Lord into his ways. Again, notice the ammunition: "Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God." We, too, must obey God and not go about expending our energy to prove ourselves to Satan, for in doing so, we would become an unwitting tool in his hands. Yes, here Christ is standing strong against the wiles of the devil and Satan has not given up yet. Now, we see this third and very powerful temptation that Satan brings into play—the offering of gifts. "—The devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them: and saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me." You can not do it, but just try to imagine all the kingdoms of the world; all the value of the world; the great cities; buildings; businesses; rail, air and shipping terminals; the gold of Fort Knox; petroleum flowing from the oil fields; banks; industry, etc. Now, of course, these and the many other things you can imagine did not exist as such in Christ's time, but you can be sure that those kingdoms were as appealing to the desires of man then as the kingdoms of today appeal to the desires of some men in our time. Did Christ succumb to this third intense temptation? Listen to the word, "Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold angels came and ministered unto him." Here was plenty of ammunition, and Christ used it; we have the same if we will but put it to use.

(To be continued)

—1115 Cavender Dr.
Hurst, Texas

WORSHIPPING GOD IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

By Juan Rodriguez

(Editor's note: This is the first in a series submitted by Bro. Juan Rodriguez, of Monterrey, Mexico. It is very much in the same form as he sent it. He says it is not possible to send others because of the high cost of translation from Spanish to English. He can send others, written in Spanish, if we can have them translated here. Can our readers be of assistance here? DMc)

Dear friends and brothers in the Lord: Entering

this theme, so necessary in our days, I do it guided by Christian love, to study in the light of the Sacred Scriptures how to worship God in real truth and spirit.

Brothers, to worship God in spirit is to do so in the strength of our soul, to tribute our reverent sentiment of trust and filial love; to worship the Father in truth and according to the guide of the Scriptures, to tribute service and honor. Otherwise, worship is of no value, regardless if we do it consciously or not (Matt. 15:7-9).

The whole world should receive the revelation of God in the person of His Son, and should serve in the light of that revelation. Worship not in accord with divine revelation, even if sincere, will not please God.

Genuine worshippers of God should be ready to tribute homage in the sanctuary of their spirits, and not feeling the need of hills, as the Samaritans, or of costly temples, as the Israelites. God is a Spirit and therefore is not confined to the summit of a mount or the walls of a great temple (Acts 17:24-25).

As God is present, even if not visible everywhere, even in the depths of the human soul, nothing but filial homage of that spirit lighted by the truth could be a tribute. To worship God in accord with the Scriptures is the only one in line with its nature. To do so, according to His word, that is what is expected of us. Christ teaches that from now on, tribute is to be sincere. Now, let us see if we are worshipping as the Lord said, "in spirit and truth."

Singing—Paul says in 1 Cor. 14:15 to sing with the Spirit is to sing with the heart; that our heart goes with our voices. Read Eph. 5:19 and Col. 3:16. In other words, that you are to know what you are singing, and to whom. Paul says in Col. 3:23 that wrongly many persons display their voices in front of men to receive applause, as if that gift and talent were given by men. God grant that these persons understand that their talent should be used to promote the Kingdom of God among those that have not been saved, and even among those that have been saved (1 Cor. 14:26). In regards to instruments, the apostles sang, but played no instruments (Matt. 26:30). Many denominations are well instructed in piano, organ, guitar, etc., but, brothers, remember: God is not honored by hands of men (Acts 17:25). The song of our lips is the only instrument God desires (Heb. 13:16).

Prayer—This is part of the worship that the Church offers God. Let us see if we do it in truth. We said that to worship God is to do so according to the revealed truth of the Sacred Scriptures. In Matt. 6:7-13, we are taught of Jesus, and we should pray according to such teachings. Again, Matthew said, the prayer that comes from the fervent heart, that brings out plainly the needs of the soul, as if something were asked of a worldly friend, expecting it be done; that is the prayer of faith that our Lord Jesus Christ orders us to do. Prayer should be directed to God, it is something between Him and us.

(To be continued)

—Nardo No. 2961-A
Col. Moderna,
Monterrey, N. L., Mex.

When the cup of any sensual pleasure is drained to the bottom, there is poison in the dregs.

ANOTHER SOLDIER HAS RETIRED

(2 Tim. 2:1-4; 2 Tim. 4:6-8)

Brother Fred Simpson, 422 Woodland Dr., Birmingham, Ala. was called away Jan. 8, 1964, at the age of 52. He was one of the first members of the congregation at number 9 South Sixth Street, established in Birmingham three years ago next March. I was called by the only faithful brother that I knew there, in 1961, to help establish a faithful congregation. We did so, and within a month Bro. Simpson, and others that came out of the cups digression, and Bro. Howell, who first called me, had found a nice building. Other congregations helped them raise a down payment, and the bank let them have the remainder upon the signature of those fine brethren.

About a year after the congregation was established in Birmingham, Bro. Simpson and Bro. R. A. Berry, who had been in digression there for years, but who, upon hearing the way of the Lord more perfectly, gave up those things (that divided the Church after they were born), and accepted the Bible way (Mt. 26:27, Mk. 14:23, 1 Cor. 10:16-17, and 1 Cor. 11:2, 23-25), were ordained elders; the highest position, I believe, that a man can hold on earth. Under the oversight of those elders the Church has grown in faith, good works, love, and in number. Bro. Berry, and Bro. E. H. Stamper, who was later ordained an elder, will now have to work harder than ever before to keep the Church growing.

Bro. Simpson was loved and respected by all who knew him, and we were shocked when it was discovered two weeks before his death that he had a rare type of cancer of the bone that would not let him live over three weeks (this was learned by his having a tooth pulled). He was informed at once of having only three weeks or less to live. He took the news calmly, saying he was ready to go. He made plans with his wife and three sons concerning his funeral, and advised them to continue in the way that is right and cannot be wrong. He will be missed by the Church and others for a long time, but his works will follow him to the judgment seat of Christ (Eccl. 12:13-14; Rev. 22:14-19, and Rev. 20:11-13). Brethren Lynwood Smith, Gillis Prince, and this writer officiated at his funeral. May God help us all to realize that we, too, have but a short time (Ps. 90:10).

—E. H. Miller

OUR DEPARTED

Alsip—Brother Robert J. Alsip was born Mar. 10, 1897. He departed this life Jan. 9, 1964, having lived 66 years, 9 months and 29 days. His was a useful Christian life. He leaves to mourn his passing a wonderful Christian wife, Sister Elizabeth Alsip; one daughter, Miss Carolyn Alsip; and one son, James B. Alsip, who with his wife teaches school in Rocky Mount, N. Caro. There is one grand son, William Clinton Alsip. Bro. Alsip was a member of the church meeting on Catalina St., San Antonio, Tex. The writer spoke words of comfort to this bereaved family.

—Thomas R. Chappell

Schultz—Sister Gertie May Schultz passed away Dec. 17, 1963 at her home in Pasco, Wash. She was born in Phillips Co., Kans., Feb. 9, 1887. Death came at the age of 76 years. She was married to Gus O. Schultz at Goldendale, Wash. on May 25, 1905. She and her husband ranched for many years in the Glen-

wood and Mabton, Wash. area. In 1942, they moved to Pasco, Wash. where they have lived since. She was baptized into Christ at an early age. They attended worship in Kennewick, Wash. Their plans were to move to Portland, Ore. to be near their son, Richard, when death called her away. Survivors include her husband, the son, one daughter-in-law, Anne, and two grand daughters, Darlene and Dickie Lee. The writer endeavored to speak words of warning and comfort to a large audience. She will be missed here, but we hope we can meet her again.

—R. B. Roden

Williams—Brother Pleasant Franklin Williams was born in Texas Co., Mo., Aug. 2, 1889. He passed away Dec. 12, 1963, having lived 74 years, 4 months and 10 days. He came to Calif. in 1945 where he farmed and for a time was custodian at Camp Roberts. Bro. Williams obeyed the gospel in 1916, thus becoming a member of the church of Christ. As so many of us have done, he has not consistently served God, but realizing the mercy and love of our Savior, he recently called for a brother and friend to help him back on the road to eternal life with God. This man, Brother Marvin Teeters, gave the needed assistance, so we can say "he died in the Lord." Surviving Bro. Williams is his only child, Sister Christene Walkup, Greenfield, Calif.; also 3 grand children and 3 great grand children, a brother and a sister survive.

—Melvin McElroy

Macy—Bro. William Arnold Macy was born July 26, 1889, and departed this life November 9, 1963. He was united in marriage to Anne G. Willard February 6, 1908, and to this union 9 children were born. Only four of the children survive his passing. Bro. Macy obeyed the gospel at the age of 17, and at the time of his departure was a faithful member of the church at Neosha, Mo. A very large group of relatives and friends gathered at the chapel where the last rites were given. The director of the chapel stated it was the largest gathering ever to assemble there. This is an indication of the extent he was liked in this community, and the degree he will be missed. Bro. Ronny Alexander and the writer conducted the funeral.

—Jack A. Cutter

James—Flora Tobey James was born Aug. 5, 1884 at Hackett, Ark. and departed this life Jan. 8, 1964 at Checotah, Okla., at the age of 79 years, 5 months and 3 days. She was the daughter of Ed and Ida Bailey. She lived a large part of her life at Milton and Bokoshe, Okla.; and Magazine and Paris, Ark. She also lived more than a year at Corcoran and Wasco, Calif. She lived the last 17 years at Shecotah, Okla. On Nov. 29, 1903, she was married to James P. Tobey who preceded her in death May 23, 1955. To this union 7 children were born. They are: Ola Hughes, Merced, Calif.; Burnie Tobey, Delano, Calif.; Janie Taylor, Bakersfield, Calif.; Edward Tobey, Tulsa, Okla.; Ethel Johnson, Shandon, Calif.; Jesse Tobey, Checotah, Okla., and Audie Sheppard, Oildale, Calif. She also leaves to mourn her passing 4 brothers, 1 sister, 24 grand children, 37 great grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren and many other relatives and friends. On Nov. 3, 1956, she was married to John James who passed away Nov. 16, 1959. Sister Tobey was baptized into Christ about 50 years ago and attended worship at Corcoran, Calif.; Council Hill, Sapula, Tulsa and Okla-

homa City (Capitol Hill), Okla. in later years when she had transportation and was well enough. She had suffered 4 strokes and had been in the hospital and nursing home for more than a year. (The obituary was submitted by a daughter-in-law, Sister Jessie Pruitt Tobey).

Oxley—Brother Alvin Oxley was born Oct. 25, 1914 at Tonkawa, Okla. His family moved to Colorado in his infancy, and then to California in 1932. He passed away Dec. 1, 1963, at 49 years of age. Brother Oxley worshipped at the congregation in Montebello, California for the past 31 years. He was married to Sister Leverna Sharp; to this union 3 daughters were born. They are Miss Eunice Oxley, Mrs. Denice Lay and Miss Lorene Oxley. Besides his wife and daughters, he is also survived by one grandson. Alvin is sorely missed in his home and in the church. He was very faithful to attend meetings in reach of him. As I remember, during his last month of life, there were 3 series of meetings conducted in this part of Southern Calif., and Alvin and his family attended much of the time. This is commendable, and speaks well for him and his interest in the church. For 29 years, he was an employee of Purex Corporation. The funeral was conducted at Rose Hills Cemetery, Whittier, California. It was attended by one of the largest crowds that we have seen in this part of the country. This, too, attests to the high esteem in which this brother was held. Four men, brothers in Christ and close friends, rendered the beautiful singing. Brother Chester B. King, a close friend, officiated in a very fine way. He was assisted in reading and prayer by the writer. The bearers were his brothers in Christ. The flowers were many and beautiful. Brother Alvin's quiet, unassuming, humble disposition will long be remembered to bless those who knew him. That he in life and in death was in Christ is, I am sure, an ever-abiding consolation to his wife and girls.

—D. B. McCord

BONDS OF MATRIMONY

Cochran-Bressie—The Sunday afternoon of December 22, 1963 at the church of Christ in Houston, Missouri, Bro. Ralph Cochran and Sister Kathren Bressie were united in marriage. Many of their relatives and friends were there to witness the exchange of this sacred vow. Ralph has been a member of the church at Houston for several years and is from a Christian home. I had the privilege of baptizing Kathren a few months ago in Springfield. They are to make their home in Columbia, where he is a student at the University of Missouri. The writer officiated.

—Jack A. Cutter

The shortest rule in the world is the one we use to measure the height of other people.

We would not be so critical of other people's steps were we walking in their shoes.

The only people to get even with are those who help you.

Don't be too rough with a pessimist! Some of them are that way because they backed an optimist.

From The Fields

Wayne Sutherland, Rt. 3, Mtn. Grove, Mo., Jan. 13—We always enjoy reading the good articles in the OPA. Here is our renewal.

Bob Cargill, Box 43, Washington, Okla., Jan. 7—We certainly enjoy reading the OPA and pray it will always remain faithful to God's word. Here is my renewal.

H. D. Livitiko, Vlg. Liponda, Box 32 Luchenza, Nyasaland, Africa, Dec. 25—Our work moves on here. Please, brethren, send the evangelists. How they are needed!

J. F. Prince, 1008 Juniper St., LaGrange, Ga., Jan. 2—The church here is now doing fine. I am still preaching at different congregations on weekends. Here are two subs.

Jesus Rodriguez, Venezuela No. 5142, Col. Matamoros, Nuevo Lardo, Tam., Mexico, Jan. 3—We are waiting for the day the sun comes out so we can baptize two more. The reason for waiting is that the days are very cold. The work of the Lord goes along in this land.

T. F. Thomasson, Waterford, Calif., Jan. 10—The paper is coming along fine. The last issue is extra fine. We need many such articles as Bro. Ronny Wade's entitled "Senseless Division." In unity there is strength. There is too much senseless division. Here are 2 subs.

Nelson Tuanje, Mapweshera Vlg., Ndata Estate, P. O. Miko-longwe, Nyasaland, Africa, Dec. 11—The African work continues to go forward. We are very pleased to have the two evangelists come to our land. I was very glad to read the statement by Bro. Paul O. Nichols in the OPA.

Johnny Lee Fisher, Rt. 2, Summertown, Tenn., Jan. 1—Since last reporting, I have spent most of my time working with the congregations in this area with Bro. Paul Walker. The congregations here are in harmony, and the Lord's work continues. Please remember us when you speak to God.

D. B. Blankenship, Box 756, Arcata, Calif., Jan. 20—This is to inform the brethren that a congregation is now meeting at the Bayside Grange Hall, located 4 miles north of Eureka, Calif. on the Bayside cutoff road. For further information, you may contact me at the above address. Our phone number is 822-3766. Here are 3 subs.

Cicero Goddard, 3803 Garfield, Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 15—We have made several good contacts here, and will begin worship Jan. 26, the Lord willing. We invite all coming this way to visit with us in the assembly and in our homes. The meeting house is located at 12th and Woodland. We request your prayers for us here.

George Carter, 1921 Howard Ave., Las Vegas, Nev., Jan. 7—Things here seem to be going fine. Two Lord's Days ago we had one confession of faults, and a brother came over from the S. S. brethren. Bro. L. H. Frizzell, Chula Vista, Calif. is to be here and help with our building; he will be a wonderful help with the teaching and personal work, too.

E. R. Brown, Box 750, Stilwell, Okla., Jan. 14—The church at Noel Chapel is small in number, but still meeting Lord's Day morning and evening. We would be glad to have brethren and sisters passing our way stop and worship with us. Preachers, you are invited to come by and preach at any opportunity you have. Here are 2 subs.

John D. Pruitt, 4412 S. E. 22nd St., Oklahoma City, Okla., Jan. 9—Bro. Lynwood Smith just closed our annual meeting at 21st St., Oklahoma City. It was a wonderful meeting. In his words, "We just had a revival." I am currently attending Okla. State University, Stillwater, and going home on weekends for worship. We solicit your prayers. Here is my renewal.

Peluse Kalongonda, Nkoko Vlg., N. A. Mkhumba, P. O. Palombe, Nyasaland, Africa, Dec. 27—I am writing to let you know how our work goes here. Dec. 8, at Nakhupe we baptized 5; Dec. 21, we baptized 6 at Nkhulambe; Dec. 24, we were at Ulo church where 8 obeyed the gospel. Brethren, I do not doubt that the work goes forward here. Please pray for us. Thank you.

Fred Lay, 7844 Rancho Fanita, Santee, Calif., Jan. 11—The cooperation of brethren in this area is commendable. This is a benefit to the church. Our next meeting will be in May with Bro. Ronny Wade. Lord willing, I will teach at Carlsbad next Lord's Day. We want to commend Bro. McCord for the fine job he is doing with the OPA. I am willing to help promote the paper in any way that I can. Here are 2 subs.

E. H. Stamper, 333 Glynn Dr., Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 12—We have suffered a terrible loss in the death of our brother C. F. Simpson who died Jan. 8th. Bro. Simpson was one of the original members here and he labored tirelessly in building up the church. His final advice was to keep the work active at this place. The church is growing in spirit and in truth, as well as in number. We are still bearing the sword. Pray for us.

Irvin Barnes, Rt. 1, Box 211, Galena, Mo., Jan. 13—Since last report, I have preached at Hale and Arkanna, in north Ark. The meetings at Advance and Arkanna in Oct. and Nov. were good with some visible results. The field appears to be ripe for harvest in the Arkanna area. Nov. 17, I began a period of work at Cincinnati, Ohio. We will continue, Lord willing, until Feb. 19. Enroute to this area, I enjoyed visiting and preaching at Mozier, Ill. They appear to be a splendid group of people. I solicit the prayers of all.

Roy L. Criswell, Box 895, Winters, Calif., Jan. 20—Our work at Sanger, where we had been for the past year, closed the middle of Dec. We hope the church was made stronger by our working there. Since last report, it has been our privilege to preach at Stidham, Crescent, Washington, Okla. City (both congregations), all in Okla.; Orange Cove, N. Sacramento and Winters, all in Calif. We are to be here for 6 months. We pray that good will come from our efforts. I greatly enjoyed the Jan. issue of the OPA. Especially did I enjoy Bro. Ronny Wade's article on "Senseless Division," and I wish to add an "Amen" to it. Pray for us. Here are 2 subs.

T. E. Thompson, Rt. 1, Box 205, Maitland, Fla., Jan. 6—The congregation at Longwood, Fla. is still being blessed richly by the Giver of all good things. We remember Bro. Homer King in our prayers and hope he will soon be active in the field again. I had the privilege of being in part of the meeting New Year's at Early, Ala. We thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship of fellow-Christians and the inspirational teaching of Bro. Johnny Elmore. Here is my sub.

H. G. Hamilton, Box 7, Strong, Ark., Jan. 14—I appreciate men of good minds and sound judgment who write great articles for the OPA as did Bro. Ronny F. Wade on "Senseless Division" in Jan. issue. This article needs to be kept in every person's study of the Bible. Bro. Wade will hold our summer meeting for his third meeting at Strong in four years. Brethren James and Billy Orten have visited us twice monthly during the past four months, and helped us so very much. We have learned to love these two Christians. We regret seeing James leave for Africa, but we want him to go if God will protect him and bring him back to us this fall. Here are 3 subs.

Gary Macy, Rt. 3, Anderson, Mo., Jan. 20—Since last report, there has been one more restoration. Since we began working here in the East, there have been 4 baptisms and 5 restorations. We trust that God will continue to give the increase. Usually, this country is covered with snow in the winter, but this year there has been very little snow for which we are thankful; moving about is much easier. We still have time for more meetings this summer. We enjoyed Bro. Ronny Wade's article on "Senseless Division." This is certainly the way we feel also. Bro. Jack Cutter and family are working with the congregation at Joplin, Mo., and I understand, doing a commendable work. May we be merciful that God may show mercy unto us.

Jack Cutter, 2622 E. 32nd, Joplin, Mo., Jan. 9—Since last reporting, we have moved from Springfield to Joplin. The Joplin work is to be an extended effort. There is a great need for personal work here, more so than any place we have been in a long time. One has been restored from individual cups and we expect others to take their stand for the truth in the near future. At-

tendance, enthusiasm, and all the areas that are vital to congregational growth are showing progress. We were privileged to attend Friday and Saturday services in the opening and the dedication of the new building in Kansas City, Mo. Their new building is nice and it is in a very good location. These brethren are to be commended for what they have done and now are doing for His cause. It has been our delight to visit with, and to have in our home several of our fine preaching brethren. We desire and feel the need of your prayers.

Barney Owens, 11312 Orchard, Cincinnati, Ohio 45241, Jan. 15—During the past month, I have been with the brethren at the following places: Nov. 24, Harrodsburg, Ind.; Dec. 1, Pontiac, Mich.; Dec. 8, Robertsdale, Ala. (morning service); Dec. 8, Lowery, Ala. (evening service), Dec. 14-15, Arkana, Ark.; Dec. 22, Blue Springs, Ky. (morning service); Dec. 22, Cincinnati, Ohio (evening service). I request the prayers of the faithful. I am now working with the congregation located at Robertsdale, Ala. I shall be here for 3 months. There are only a few members to bear the burdens. We are hoping to do much good. Last Lord's Day 1 confessed faults; we had visitors present. "To Him Be Glory."

Melvin McElroy, 2297 San Miguel Rd., Salinas, Calif., Dec. 27—We have been blessed beyond our expectations by our Father during the past year. Our hope of eternal life, with Him who loved beyond measure, directs us to continue serving Him "in spirit and in truth." We need the prayers of all righteous men for our needs and especially for God's mercy. May He direct our steps to perfection in love and mercy is our prayer. We appreciate Bro. McCord's work in preparing and publishing the OPA. It is a stream of information and a fount of instruction from our preaching brethren that we would lack without this journal. We appreciate the wisdom used in keeping it from being a "whip" to bring brethren "into line." Surely God has directed the minds of you who do this work.

Jim A. Canfield, Rt. 3, Box 86, Marion, La., Jan. 13—The church here is doing fine. Dec. 28, I had planned to be at Marshall, Tex., but due to the severe cold, I could not go. I hope to go Jan. 25. I am helping here with my home congregation. Some of the members are now meeting in Farmersville about 10 miles away. Bro. Gatson teaches there every other Lord's Day morning. We hope to get a good work underway in this growing north La. town. All of God's people should be happy they lived to see the New Year. We are so thankful for Brethren Morris, Wade, Cook and McCord in their work in keeping the OPA coming every month. The reports and articles are encouraging. May the Lord bless the brethren in far away Africa in their struggle for the Lord. May He bless us here, too.

Clovis T. Cook, 809 Lyons, Kansas City, Kan., Jan. 14—Since my last report, the new meeting house on the Missouri side, located at 85th and Euclid, has been completed and their opening was a good one, enjoyed by all. Several congregations were represented, and several preachers attended. Bro. Goddard, who moved here sometime back to establish a congregation among his race, is getting things in order to do just that. I personally believe that he has the ability to do it, with the help of us all. I appreciate the support being sent him by the churches throughout the brotherhood. One of the reasons why we have failed in some of our efforts to establish the work is lack of support so our preachers could stay until the work was done. The two churches here in Kansas City are behind Bro. Goddard, and we believe your continued support is a good investment.

J. B. Carter, AF 14277620, USAF Hosp., APO #74, San Francisco, Calif., Jan. 1—I wish to thank you for the splendid way in which I have been receiving the OPA. We enjoy the fine articles by all the brethren. I think the Singing School that is proposed by the Texas brethren is a splendid idea. I hope it will materialize and much good can be accomplished by their efforts. Some of the Filipino brethren would restore the communion to the ancient order if it were not for losing their support from the digressive brethren in the States. It is hard to ground the Filipino in the truth. Keep up the good work in spreading the Gospel, and keep the paper coming. We hope to return to the States May 15, 1965. We wish all the brethren a prosperous New Year, and solicit your prayers in our behalf.

Wayne Fussell, 5928 W. Canal, Shreveport, La., Jan. 13—Our McGregor, Texas meeting was blessed with good crowds and fine cooperation from neighboring churches. Wayne McKamie was an inspiration. He is to be commended for the progress there. Preach-

ing brethren Holt, Hicks and Stewart contributed much to the meeting. At Covina, Calif., large assemblies thrilled us. The Thanksgiving week-end was filled with Christian activity. Some eleven gospel preachers, including Jim Hickey and Don McCord, who live there, were in attendance. Before our next meeting, we engaged in a brief period of personal work in Las Vegas, Nev., where we enjoyed the hospitality of the Carters. Next, we went to National City, Calif. for a most pleasant meeting. Brethren came from far and near to encourage us in our efforts. Bro. Jimmy Terrell, who is rapidly making a strong preacher, was of valuable assistance in both of these meetings. We will be at home through February. We have had two baptisms here recently.

Namoya Kanyenga, C/O V. H. Chigamba, N. A. Mabuka, Box 36, Luchenza, Nyasaland, Africa, Dec. 23—I am very glad today to write you this happy and sad letter concerning the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ. I once was Seventh Day Adventist until I obeyed the gospel in 1954. Bro. Frank Taylor sent me a parcel, my receipt went astray and the parcel was returned. Now, I beg your great kindness in helping get my parcel from Bro. Taylor returned. I still give thanks to Bro. P. O. Nichols for the great help he gave to me while he was in Nyasaland. I am now very poor and discouraged and lay my burden upon your shoulder for help. Please pray that I regain my spiritual strength that I may not lose my great prize, everlasting life in my Lord Jesus Christ. Now, I send my greetings for a happy new year.

R. B. Roden, 3550 Lynwood Rd., Lynwood, Calif. Jan. 13—The cooperation among the members of the Lynwood, Calif. congregation is good; this makes the work more enjoyable and profitable. We have had 4 confessions thus far. We are using various methods to reach those out in sin: public preaching, private teaching, and we plan to go from door to door. These brethren are to be commended for their great zeal in the Lord's work. They have remodeled and re-decorated their building. If you know names and addresses of contact, please notify us and we will follow through. The meeting at New Year's was exceptionally good with splendid cooperation and lovely fellowship, with good teaching by various speakers. We were glad to have preaching brethren Luther Boek and Paul Mackey with us. Pray for us in the Lord's work.

Edwin S. Morris, 905 Bluewood Dr., Dallas, Tex., 75232, May 15—I have preached at Ardmore, Okla. Melissa, Tex. and here in Dallas since my last report. Due to the snow and ice, I did not get to go to Healdton, Okla. as planned Dec. 22. We are looking forward to our opening services in our new building, Feb. 1-2. I will be at Melissa, Tex., Feb. 9, and will then work with the congregation in Arlington, Tex. for a month, Feb. 12-Mar. 11. As of now, I plan to be in meetings at Foreman, Ark., Mar. 20-29; Tucson, Ariz., April 5-12, and Memphis, Tenn., April 24-May 3. I enjoyed the last issue of the paper very much. I always enjoy the articles and field reports from my brethren. The field reports are just like receiving a letter. Preaching brethren, continue to write and if you are not writing, why not begin? We would love to hear from you. May God bless all the faithful.

Fred D. Lay, 7844 Rancho Fanita, Santee, Calif., Jan. 8—I have been busy in the Lord's vineyard for the past two months in Calif. I have preached at National City, El Cajon, Covina, Highway City, Woodlake, Modesto, Ceres and Sonora. It was my privilege to attend two nights of Don McCord's meeting at Stockton. I will be there this week-end to preach for a meeting in the interest of the young people. At present I plan to work with the congregation at Sonora along with Bro. Jim Hickey. The Lord willing I will be there during Feb. and Mar. After this, I will be available to hold meetings wherever the brethren will use me. I really enjoyed the last issue of the OPA, and would like to say a hearty "Amen" to the article written by Bro. Ronny Wade. May we always do good, return good for evil, and implore God's blessings on even our worst enemies.

Jim Hickey, 2419 Leafdale, El Monte, Calif., Jan. 8—This month, I have taught at the following congregations: Highway City, Atwater, En Centro, Modesto, N. Sacramento, and Fresno (Orange Ave.), all in Calif. I recently enjoyed the meeting at Highway City at New Year's time. I really enjoyed the last issue of the paper; I believe Bro. McCord is doing a fine job. I especially appreciated Bro. Ronny Wade's article, "Senseless Division." Hosea 4:6-9 speaks of "like people like priest." We all tend to follow leaders, but let us follow Christ, and not Paul, Apollos or Cephas. Feb. 1, I will begin five months of extended work with the church at Sonora, Calif. Mar. 6-15, Bro. Freddie Lay and I plan to conduct a series of meetings there. We hope

we can accomplish much good for the Master. Let us always remember that "God giveth the increase."

Leon Fancher, Box 392, Mena, Ark., Jan. 15—We have now returned to fulltime evangelistic work, and are now at Mena, Ark., having moved here Jan. 1st. Our plans are to be here for some time doing evangelistic work. We will be holding some meetings elsewhere in the summer, but will be here most of the nine school months. While living five years in W. Va., we were associated with some wonderful brethren whom we shall greatly miss. Among these was Brother H. M. Covert who inspired us to dig deeper into God's word. We still have our music and book store in W. Va. The Lord has blessed our efforts the last four years; we now have a manager which has allowed us to get back into preaching full-time. When we began our business, our goal was to some day be financially self-supporting. With God's help and yours, this goal will be reached. Your orders for books, Bibles, or records will continue to be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support. Your prayers for the work here are desired.

Marvin Fisher, 3003 Luna Ave., San Diego 17, Calif. Jan. 13—We certainly enjoyed visiting the Covina, Calif. meeting and thought Bro. Wayne Fussell's preaching was excellent. Following that meeting, he was at National City where his preaching was first class. We certainly appreciated his efforts and were left much encouraged. We expect him back in 1965. The meeting was well-supported by the El Cajon congregation. There were also visitors from Carlsbad, El Centro, Los Angeles, and possibly elsewhere. We were happy to have Bro. Jimmy Terrell present for the last half of the meeting. Jimmy Terrell, Freddie Lay and John Modgling have preached here recently. We would encourage these young men and those whose names we never see in print, but who are developing into local teachers. May God bless them all. Around Mar. 1, we expect Bro. Lee Boek for about 5 months personal work. We feel this will be a very worthwhile effort. We appreciate the good work—the successful work—that Bro. McCord and others are doing in the OPA. Here are 2 subs.

Lee Boek, Rt. 3, Box 183, San Luis Obispo, California, Jan. 15—This past month found us staying close to home awaiting the arrival of our second child, Daniel Curtis, who was born Jan. 4th. He and his mother are doing very well. The church here is doing fairly well. We have a good number of prospects which is always a source of encouragement for us. We have certainly enjoyed the work here with these fine brethren. We will leave here the first of March, the Lord willing. Our probable destination will be the National City congregation near San Diego. Jan. 31st, I was able to attend the study a Millbrook congregation, Fresno, Calif. It was an extremely interesting day. Those who did the teaching had put a great deal of time into it; it was too bad that more did not attend. They would have enjoyed it, I am sure. That evening, I attended the meeting at Highway City. It was good to be with beloved brethren in Christ. I enjoyed hearing Brethren Jim Russell and Ervin Waters bring the lessons. Please remember us when you pray. Our love to all our brethren in Christ.

Luther D. Boek, 133 So. Harwood, Orange, Calif., Jan. 17—The work at Carlsbad, Calif. was concluded the end of Dec. We enjoyed the past year with the brethren there and feel that much good was accomplished. They are increased in number and seem much stronger in faith. We wish for them continued growth. We are now working with the church at Orange, Calif. This is a zealous group. They have recently remodeled their place of worship, and have all worked real hard. They are determined to spread the gospel in this area. The past week, 5 adults who have been out of duty for a long while were restored to active service in the Lord's house. I have been visiting daily and am greatly encouraged by the manner in which I have been received. We are looking forward to a fruitful year of service, the Lord being our helper. We sincerely appreciate the invitation to work with the brethren in Okla. and wish that it were possible for us to accept. They are dear to our hearts, but our time is pretty well taken in Calif. for an indefinite period of time. Brethren, pray for more laborers. Note our new address.

Jesse French, Box 1266, Redding, Calif. 96002, Jan. 16—A new year is here which we pray will be a good one for us all in the Lord's work. Interest and zeal are better in this area for which we are thankful. We are determined to be workers together for Him in His vineyard. We are working with people here and studying by correspondence with a lady in Weaverville, Calif.; we are also studying with about 20 inmates confined to the Nevada State Prison at Carson City, Nev. Two have expressed a desire

to obey the gospel, one wanting to become a gospel preacher, and others showing a great interest for truth. Dec. 25, Bro. Oscar Alexander of Chilcote, Calif., and I drove to Carson City and visited with two of these boys. This being a legal holiday we could not get much information from prison officials, but we are hoping to have a faithful church within the walls of the prison. We ask your prayers in this great undertaking. We miss Bro. and Sister Carson who returned to the Bay area, but we are looking forward to their return in the Spring. We were happy to have Bro. and Sister Claude Tillman, Armona, Calif. visit us recently. If you are passing this way, we invite you to worship with us. Remember us when you are at the throne of Grace. May God bless us and may we all be drawn closer together in the bonds of peace. Here are 3 subs.

Tom E. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 171-A, Duncan, Okla., Jan. 14—The meeting at New Years conducted at N. W. 21st, Oklahoma City was a great success. We only had the privilege of attending New Year's Day. The spirit of Christ seems to prevail; all of the talks were inspirational. It is in order to thank the N. W. 21st St. and Capitol Hill brethren for their cooperation in making it a great meeting. The hospitality was characteristic of these two congregations. They work together for the good of the cause of Christ, and that is the way it should be. As Bro. Lynwood Smith said, "I think of the true brethren in Oklahoma City as one church." So it is as long as love and fellowship exist between them. James warns, "If you have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is there is confusion and every evil work" (James 3:14-16). I want to commend Bro. Ronny Wade for his article "Senseless Division." Preachers, take heed to his admonition. Solomon says that the Lord hates those who sow discord among brethren and it is an abomination unto Him. See Prov. 6:16-20. May God ever bless those who are promoting peace among the churches. I still intend to write a series of articles on keeping the peace in the church; I intend to begin immediately. God hasten the day when we all play the roll of peacemaker. Love and best wishes to all.

E. H. Miller, Box 538, LaGrange, Ga., 30240, Jan. 15—Other than physical sickness, the church in this section is doing fine. I have baptized 2 in the past few weeks and there have been a few confessions of faults. I think of Job 1:6 through 42:11 often; yea, all should read the whole book of Job a few times to help them stand under the great trials that we sometime think we are having! Maybe the Lord and the devil are having another contest; if so, will we be as strong as Job? Let us also remember Luke 4:1-13. I think the devil has been working overtime in this section (as perhaps in all sections, "Because he knoweth that he hath but a short time"); but as in Luke 4:13, I hope he has departed from us "for a season." Let us remember James 4:7: "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." Bro. David Macy of Gretna, Fla. was with us for three good services, Jan. 4-5. It was a pleasure to have him and his family in our home, and to work with us in the Master's vineyard. We certainly need more laborers. Preachers are short among us, and the digressives, too; but, let us remember that a brother or sister does not have to be a preacher to be a laborer in the Master's vineyard! Bro. R. B. Roden will be with us Feb. 15-23 for the first of our three meetings in 1964. This will be his first work in this section, and we are looking forward to a wonderful meeting. All are welcome here at any and all times. Bro. McCord, you are doing a good job keeping the OPA going. Here is a sub.

Eddy Bullard, 4802 West Storey, Midland, Tex., Jan. 7—The Terrell St. congregation has had an excellent year. It has exceeded all previous records. A little over a year ago, Bro. H. O. Allen was struggling alone; the load was heavy, but he was very strong. He encouraged me to move from Odessa; even then the load was heavy. Bro. Griffith was soon restored. He is aged, but he helps in leading prayer occasionally. Bro. Art Oestman was baptized; he leads prayer, waits at the table, leads songs and is now giving lessons. My teenage son, "Butch," now takes part; he does everything but give lessons. During our meeting, Bro. H. L. Allen, Jr., his wife, and Bro. Mark Dunlap were baptized. Bro. H. L., Jr. has a beautiful tenor voice and is our best song leader. He is also active in other parts. Mark is a young lad; he is active in everything but giving lessons. We are very proud of him. A short time ago, Bro. Herb Bloomer and his wife were restored; they are a devoted family. We are very proud of them. We have had several sisters baptized and restored; 2 have moved to Houston. Bro. Waters will work two weeks of the month with us this year. We have more than doubled our support to him. We have left no one neglected, and have all grown spiritually. We have an opening prayer at all of our services; we believe in prayer here and put a lot of emphasis upon it. We look forward to a big and better '64. We extend an invitation to all who pass our way to meet with us. Here are 2 subs. Pray for us.

Our purpose is to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," and to "prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

OLD PATHS ADVOCATE

To continue "speaking the truth in love," "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace;" "keeping the ordinances as delivered."

"Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.'" (Jer. 6:16) "And they that be of Thee shall build the old waste, places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in." (Isa. 58:12).

Vol. XXXV

LEBANON, MISSOURI, MARCH 1, 1964

No. 3

THE NAME CHRISTIAN

By J. W. Kornegay

One of the greatest names used among men is the name Christian, for it tells us of a relationship in life that means happiness and peace. There is truly no happiness as great, as sweet, or as complete as that found in being a Christian. To be a true and faithful Christian means more than life itself. Thousands in generations past have willingly died rather than sacrifice their loyalty as Christians. Others have endured great hardships and persecutions because they wore this worthy name.

The term is often used rather loosely. Some refer to any person who is comparatively good as being a Christian. However, it takes more than morality to measure up to the real meaning of the word Christian. Truly, a Christian is moral and upright, but he is much more. A man may be good morally and yet be lost eternally because he has failed to accept Christ. Often a religious person who has some faith in Christ is referred to as being a Christian regardless of whether or not he has done those things necessary to becoming a Christian.

To be a Christian means more than just "joining" some church; that is, one of the many denominational bodies. It denotes a real union with Christ in His body, His church, as taught in the New Testament. It means obedience to Christ (Mark 9:7; Matt. 16:18; Col. 1:18). Let us be familiar with the Bible use of our term, and not depend upon other's use of it lest we fall into the careless thinking of so many in this matter.

The name Christian is a New Testament word. The word Christian is found three times in the King James New Testament. It is first used in Acts 11:26: "And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch." The second time is in Acts 26:28, where King Agrippa said to Paul, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian"; and the third time is in 1 Peter 4:16 where Peter wrote: "But if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God on this behalf."

Yes, the disciples were called Christians; they were followers of Christ. The disciples at Antioch, located in Syria, comprised the first church of which we read in the New Testament that was composed of both Jews and Gentiles. Isaiah had prophesied about 700 years before, saying, "And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory, and thou shalt be (Continued on page three)

LITTLE THINGS MEAN A LOT

By Taylor Joyce

It is indeed thrilling to learn of the impressive accomplishments of others. In the second chapter of the book of Acts we read the sermon preached by Peter which resulted in the conversion of some three thousand souls. In comparison with this, our weak harangues and meager results pale into insignificance. How often have we cried, "Oh, how I wish I could preach as Peter did."

In the 7th chapter of Acts there is the record of the death of Stephen, the first Christian martyr. No one wants to hasten the day of his death, yet we passionately wish that "when we come to the crossing" we, like Stephen, might prove the quality of our love by making the supreme sacrifice.

We read in the newspaper that Rockefeller has given another vast sum of money to some philanthropic institution, and we remark that if oil is ever discovered on our property we, too, will give of our wealth to educate the ignorant, clothe the naked and feed the hungry. We dream of making the big gift, and all the while we keep a miserly grasp upon the widow's mite which is now within our power to give.

We read of Livingston who left the comforts of civilization to minister to a backward, barbaric race that could never repay him. We wonder if there is not a way in which we might make a similar sacrifice. We would be willing to sacrifice nearly anything except our luxurious homes, late model automobiles, and nightly television programs!

Yes, we would like to do something big. We would like to serve like Livingston, give like Rockefeller, preach like Peter, or die like Stephen. We are planning for one big event to prove that we are Christians in practice as well as in profession. And while we wait for that big opportunity which may never come, we overlook a multitude of small opportunities that surround us each day.

We may never have the crowd or the ability to preach as Peter did on Pentecost. But, most likely we have a neighbor across the alley who would like to hear the living word. While we envision the great gift we will make when we find our fortune, we are blind to the outstretched hand that asks for a single coin to buy a morsel of food. While we dream of doing some great act of service, we withhold the smile or word of encouragement that would lighten the load of some struggling pilgrim. While we wait to die for the glory

of God, we dole out the moments of life in the service of Satan.

In the Bible the emphasis is not placed upon doing some great thing, but rather, upon doing the numerous small things which are within the power of all to perform. The small gift of the poor widow is accepted above the huge gifts of the affluent. The simple faith of a lowly Samaritan pleased the Lord more greatly than did all the sacrifice and service of the Jews. The man of one talent is assured of an equal reward with the more talented, if he uses his one talent faithfully. The expression of love by the sinful woman calls forth this word of praise: "She hath done what she could." No one can do more! **The worth of these lives was measured in terms of their faithfulness in small matters.**

Perhaps the times in which we live are responsible for all our emphasis on big things. We have only recently passed through the decade known as the fabulous fifties—a decade marked by unbelievable achievements. We are now well into the soaring sixties with prospects of even greater accomplishments. These are days of big things. Man has created a submarine that can remain under water for days without surfacing and can sail the seas for months without re-fueling. He has, by splitting the atom, created bombs so destructive that a single one of them can wipe out a huge city. He has rockets, that like the fabled cow, can jump over the moon. Truly, these are days of big things.

An ancient prophet in similar circumstances asked a question that is pertinent even in our day: "Who hath despised the day of small things?" (Zech. 4:10). Big things are exciting, but we must remember that little things are important, too. The writer stressed this point in the following lines—

"For the want of a nail, the shoe was lost,
For the want of the shoe, the horse was lost,
For the want of the horse, the rider was lost,
For the want of the rider, the battle was lost,
For the want of the battle, the country was lost.
All for the want of a single horse shoe nail."

We dare not overlook the importance of small things in building Christian character and advancing the cause of Christ. A few years ago a noted psychologist had people throughout the world repeating each morning: "Every day in every way I am getting better and better." The mere repetition of these words was found to work wonders for those who wanted to improve. This system made improvement possible because it inspired the practitioners to make consistent small gains rather than attempting to accomplish all the good with one herculean effort.

J. H. Newman had the right idea when he wrote:

"Lead, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom,
Lead Thou me on;
The night is dark, and I am far from home;
Lead Thou me on.
Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see
The distant scene—one step enough for me."

That's exactly it. Goodness is attained, not by leaps and bounds, but by one small step at a time!

A number of small tasks faithfully performed will soon add up to something big. The widow's mite seemed small, but when dedicated to the Lord's use, it became a tremendous gift of greater value than the larger gifts of the selfish rich.

Those who dream of doing some great thing would not think of a cup of cold water as counting for much. And yet, a mere cup of water can become a shower of blessing when offered in the spirit of service to one of God's little ones (Matt. 10:42).

The Levite and the priest were perhaps planning great activities as they traveled the Jericho Road that day. The wounded man's cries fell upon heedless ears. They could not be bothered with binding up the wounds of a man whose life was hanging in the balance. Such a menial task was beneath their dignity and destiny. They were destined for much greater things. But the opportunity for service which they rejected was grasped by a nameless Samaritan whose unselfish service has earned for him the respect of all men who unite in calling him "good."

When we think of Christianity, we usually think of it in terms of giant organizations, "going to church," and giving huge sums of money. But when Jesus spoke of it, He spoke in terms of feeding, clothing and sheltering the destitute; of rendering assistance, sympathy and encouragement to the infirm and imprisoned (Matt. 25:35-36). Pure religion has to do with rendering aid to the world's unfortunates while remaining aloof from the world's ungodliness (Jas. 1:27). The Master will remind the saved that having been faithful over a few things, they are to become rulers over many things (Matt. 25:21).

—2305 Mustang
Del City, Oklahoma

"BE YE SEPARATE" (III)

By W. H. Hawkins

Brother, Sister, you are in the army of the Lord and He wants good soldiers who will fight for Him. He that will be a friend to the world is an enemy of God. **Be ye separate!** Let us hear John in Rev. 18:1-4: "And after these things, I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power: and the earth was lightened with his glory, and he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and become the habitation of devils and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every hateful bird; for all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication and the kings of the earth have waxed (grown) rich through the abundance of her delicacies." Now, notice closely verse 4—"And I heard another voice from heaven saying, Come out of her my people, that you be not partakers of her sins; that you receive not of her plagues." Now, if God had wanted His people to live in Babylon He would not have called them out from there. Can we Christians live in Babylon as pictured here, and live for God? I say not!

Hear Paul in Rom. 12:1-2—"I beg you brethren by the mercies of God that you present your bodies a living sacrifice holy and acceptable to God which is your reasonable service; and be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." Conformed simply means not to be like the world.

Please notice the following passage closely; it is in Proverbs 4:13-15—"Take fast hold on instruction, let her not go, for she is thy life. Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men, Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away."

Is this plain? In 1 Thess. 5:22, we are told to "abstain from all appearance of evil." That is, anything that looks like evil we are to turn from it, for we are told to touch not, taste not, handle not.

In Matt. 13, Jesus gives a parable. A man sowed good seed in his field and an enemy came while he slept and sowed tares in his field. Servants came to him and asked if he wanted them to gather the tares out of his field but he said not to lest they root up the wheat also. Jesus said, "Let both grow together until the harvest; and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, gather ye together first the tares and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." My point is this: The Christian and the sinner are like the wheat and the tares in the field. They must grow together until harvest (judgment). If you will notice closely you will see that whereas both tares and wheat grow together in the same field, the wheat does not take on any part of the habits or nature of the tares. They grow together, yet they are separate. Hear Paul on this in 1 Cor. 5:9-10: "I wrote unto you in an epistle not to keep company with fornicators; Yet, not altogether with the fornicators of this world, for then you must needs go out of the world." We grow together, but we do not take on the life and habits of the fornicators of this world. **We must keep ourselves separate from them.**

David, the sweet singer of Israel said in Ps. 119:128: "Therefore I esteem all of thy precepts concerning all things to be right, and I hate every false way." We should be as David. Hear Paul again in Rom. 6:17-18: "But God be thanked that you were the servants of sin but you have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you, being then made free from sin you became the servants of righteousness." To be made free means to be separated from sin, to walk in newness of life, to walk in His steps, to be new born in Christ. Read 2 Cor. 6:14-18; 2 Tim. 2:4-26; 2 Cor. 10:5 and Matt. 12:33. May God bless everyone of you is my prayer.

—4 Rocky Branch Dr.,
Raleigh, N. C.

THE NAME CHRISTIAN—

(Continued from page one)

called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name;" and now at Antioch, the gospel of Christ had been preached, even as Jesus said (Matt. 28:19-20; Mk. 16:15-16), and these disciples were called Christians.

Yes, the disciples were divinely so-called. Isaiah said, "Thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name." Some say that they were called Christians in derision, or as a nickname, or as an invidious title to create ill-will or offence. Let me quote from Mr. Don DeWalt's book, "Acts Made Actual" in which he says: "The name Christian is here used for the first time. The manner of giving the name has been a subject of no little comment. It is our contention that the use of the Greek word for 'called' as used here carries something of the thought of being 'divinely called.' That is, God Himself selected the New Name (Isa. 62:2) and here called the disciples by their new name 'Christian.' And, may I add, that the word used in Acts 11:26 is the same as used in giving the name of Jesus in Matt. 1:21, where we read, 'Thou

shalt call his name Jesus for he shall save his people from their sins,' and surely no one will doubt that the name Jesus was given to God's own Son by His divine appointment. God appointed the name for the followers of Christ; thus, they were called Christians, by God's choice, not man's."

Notice the name Christian. You cannot speak it without saying Christ. Every time you write it, you write the name of Christ, and it shows the close relation that exists between every disciple and his Lord Jesus Christ. God exalted Christ and gave Him a name which is above every name (Phil. 2:9-11).

Can we not see the connection of so exalted a name for the followers of Christ that they should be called Christians? As Peter said, "But if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this behalf." What greater name could we wear? In what better name could we glorify God? This is the name God has given. Let us glorify God in suffering in the name Christian.

Again, Isaiah said (Isa. 56:5): "Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls a place and a name better than of sons and daughters. I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off." The disciples were called "brethren" (Acts 6:2); "saints" (Rom. 1:7); "elect" (1 Peter 1:2); "priests" (1 Peter 2:9); "workers" (2 Cor. 6:1). But, now they are called by a new name, better than any that had been given before; they were called Christians. The name was applied to individuals in the church of our Lord. The church bore and bears the name of Christ as we read in Rom. 16:16. The individual members of the church were called Christians; therefore, a person must be a member of the Lord's church in order to be properly called a Christian. Paul said in Rom. 7:4: "That ye are become dead to the Law (the law of Moses) by the Body of Christ, that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead." Each Christian is married to Christ. He is a part of the bride of Christ, the church, over which Christ is head (Eph. 5:23). Therefore, as a part of the bride of Christ, he is called by the name of Christ; he is a Christian.

God-given names are important. It was true from the beginning when God called their name Adam (Gen. 5:2); when He changed Abram's name to Abraham (Gen. 17:5); Jacob's name to Israel (Gen. 32:28); and the children of Israel were called by the name of the Lord (Num. 6:27; Deut. 29:10). Names He gave today are no less important.

Party names should be laid aside. Throughout the Reformation and the Restoration movements, men were called back to the Bible, asked to speak as the Bible speaks, implored to use Bible words to express Bible thoughts. The theme of our study, the name Christian, is included here. Martin Luther said, "I pray you leave my name alone, and not to call yourselves Lutherans, but Christians." John Wesley once wrote: "Would to God that all sectarian names were forgotten, and we as humble loving disciples might sit down at the Master's feet, and read His holy word, imbibe His spirit, transcribe His life into our own." This is our plea today. Let us go back to the Bible and use the terms and names and practices found there. On these we can unite.

Party names divide. Paul said in 1 Cor. 1:12-13: (Continued on page eight)

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THIS AND THAT

Our goal—As mentioned in our Feb. issue, our goal for 1964 is to add 1,000 new names to our mailing list. Our readers can help by renewing on time and sending a subscription or more for others. Won't you please help? The subscription price for this journal for one year is less than you pay for your daily newspaper for one month. Our readers may be interested to know that this journal every month goes into at least 29 states of the Union, including Alaska; and into 11 foreign countries—The Philippines, New Zealand, England, Scotland, Canada, Mexico, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Belgium, Iraq and Japan. Again, with this issue we must increase our order to the printing company. Our opportunity to do only good through this medium is thus enhanced; for this we are grateful.

Modest Apparel—Ever since Paul commanded that "women adorn themselves in modest apparel" (1 Tim. 2:9), it has been the responsibility of Christian women everywhere to freely comply. Men, too, need to be modest in their apparel. My wife recently called to my attention a column in our daily newspaper in which was answered this question: "Where is it permissible for a lady to wear shorts?" The columnist, a worldly man, answered this way: "I'm sure no lady would wear them in the backyard, the front yard or anywhere else. It is permissible nowhere." This is food for thought for all Christians with summer and its fashions not many days hence.

Smoking—In this issue, you will find a book review on this topic. The preacher reviewing the book does not (nor do I) want to be an extremist on this or another issue, but in view of current scientific documented findings and in view of a Christian's responsibility toward his body, we feel the need to consider this with our readers. Next month, the Lord willing, we will publish a searching article on this subject by Brother David Macy, Gretna, Fla. Again, it is not our desire to be extreme or encroach upon the personal liberties of those whom we love. We do need to remember in this, as well as in over-eating, over-working, and over indulgence in all activities and appetites that Paul said, "—glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Cor. 6:19).

Shocking comparison—Russia is supposedly a nation that emphasizes atheism. A Russian Cosmanaut is reported to have said, "I circled the earth 13 times and never saw God up there." This, of course, is not valid proof for anyone that God does not exist. God does exist! "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God" (Ps. 53:1).

Today, it is reported that in Russia 6.2 percent of the population attends a religious service on any given Lord's Day, and most of these are older people. It is against government policy for the young to attend. But, what about America, and here is the shocking comparison. More than 60 percent of the American people claim to be members of some religious body. Yet, today, according to a recent survey only 7.6 percent of the total population attends a religious service on any given Lord's Day. This is slightly more than 1 percent ahead of Russia with its belief that there is no God. Shocking comparison? Yes! Where is the remainder of the 60 per cent claiming to be serving God?

Note of encouragement—The following comes from Brother David Macy, Gretna, Fla.: "Don, I want to commend you for taking a firm stand for the continued separation of individual duties and the duties of the local congregation. When some of the leaders in the Sunday school movement were successful in introducing unscriptural cooperation, they used this as a doorway to introduce many innovations—". This brother was once numbered with the brethren of whom he speaks, having been trained in one of the colleges supported by them. He must know whereof he speaks. There is a work of the church and there are works of individual members. We must know the difference. Sending preachers into foreign fields of labor is a work of the church—always has been. There are certain functions necessary to implementing such a work that only a congregation or congregations can scripturally perform. When it comes to choosing men, levying their wage, ordering and planning the work congregational control can not be overlooked. One or two or more men independent of congregational structure can not scripturally perform these.

Again, studies devised to further the cause of Christ are scriptural. I have sincere misgivings, however, when such are out of congregational control. Such studies constitute a public proclamation of the truth; this is a work of the church. Let the church perform it! No principle is involved in violation when a congregation of believers undertakes such a work. When one, or a few, independent of congregational control, undertake such a work there is much room for doubt and question to say the least. Why not remove all doubt and let congregations of believers supervise, arrange, procure preachers, etc. for such endeavors? Where one or two or more without congregational control undertake such public proclamation of the Word, we are reminded of the beginning of a movement which culminated in the full-grown church supported college system in which so many of our brethren have erred.

Spanish articles—In our last issue we mentioned the prohibitive price our brethren in Mexico must pay in having articles and other communications translated from Spanish to English to send here. We asked if there were those here who could help? So far, two offers of help have been made; they are from Sister

Sandra Mansfield, a member of the Montebello, Calif. congregation and Bro. Kenny Boek, a member of the Orange, Calif. congregation.

Belgium—Sister Hazel Brumfield, 323 E. Walnut, Lodi, Calif. sends the following encouraging news from Belgium. This sister, at her own expense, sometime ago visited these brethren and sisters, so she is well qualified to attest to their deep convictions and love of the truth. Sister Brumfield says she cleared the communications with the elders of the congregation where she attends, as always. It is my hope that upon reading this we will count anew our blessings enjoyed in our great land, and resolve to pray often and fervently for these, our brethren and sisters, and all others, who labor for Him under such discouraging circumstances. May it challenge us to do more and more! Here is the communication: "Sister John Noel writes that Bro. John has made the trip to Poland, together with Stepha, the sister from the Pepinster church who went along to act as interpreter. They were greeted with great joy in Stepha's village, and Bro. John baptized 12 men and 9 women immediately. They asked to be baptized in the river, although it was cold, cold night and by darkness for fear of the authorities. He said that he questioned them first on the Bible, and their answers were absolutely correct. They were very happy to be baptized at last and it looks as though they will progress, as they had many visitors. They can go ahead now on their own, always with teaching and helpful advice from the church at Pepinster which has been in touch with them for some time.

The climate is very cold there and the people are poor and miserable. Each year they have to give up three-fourths of all they produce in crops or livestock to the government. They were able to take them some packages of food and used clothing, and a few more Polish Bibles, but the unexpected trouble came in finding a Polish song book. They had not been able to find any and Bro. John and Stepha sang some hymns for them in French and left them their French song book, which was the best they could do for the present. The church at Lodi, Calif. was glad to be able to help in a small way in this good work by paying the expenses of their trip from Belgium to Poland."

New Song Book—As previously published, Brother Homer King is doing as he has done for several years, publishing a song book of the old, tried songs, and many of the newest ones. Please watch for more definite information as to when you may order, etc. in the April issue.

Do you need these?

| | |
|--|--------|
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| Clark-Harper Debate (Communion) | .25 |
| Clark-King Discussion (Communion) | .25 |
| The Communion by Ervin Waters | .35 |
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| Singers Choice (all-purpose, 1961, same price as above). | |

Songs We Love (all-purpose, 1960,
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Joyful Praises (all purpose, 1959,
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Old Path Echoes (all purpose, 50 cents per
copy; \$5.00 per dozen; \$40 per 100,
postpaid).

Old Path Hymnal (240 gospel songs, most of which
are either old or tried songs—65 cents per copy;
2 or more copies—50 cents.)

Send all orders to Old Paths Advocate, 1061 N.
Pilgrim, Stockton, Calif.

—D. B. McCord

OUR HELPERS

You will find listed below the names of those sending subscriptions from January 21 to February 21, and opposite the name the number subscriptions sent. We want to express again our deepest appreciation for your continued interest in behalf of this journal. May we count on you to continue the good work? Please check the following list and report any errors to us immediately.

Elizabeth Byford—20; Bill Roden—9; Wallace Mid-
dick—8; James Hensley—6; Pless Wiley—5; Lawrence
Permenter—5; Lester Bullock—5; Mrs. Willie Sisco—
5; Mrs. W. E. Murry—4; Wayne Pearce—4; Mattie Lloyd
—4; Johnny Snow—4; Mrs. Ethel Parks—3; D. B. Blank-
enship—3; J. R. Tidmore—3; Wayne McKamie—3;
Clovis T. Cook—3; Roy Lee Criswell—2; Edwin S. Mor-
ris—2; J. A. Brewer—2; Mrs. Osha P. Hayes—2; Ron-
ny Wade—2; Henry V. Turner—2; Wendell Webb—2;
Joel R. Broseh—2; Mrs. M. F. Barker—2; Richard
Nichols—2; Hazel Brumfield—2; Vallie Stone—2; Dal-
las May—2; Amos Doud—2; J. C. Miller—2; James
Sexton—2; H. D. Laney—2; Louis Hopkins—2; J. D.
Elmore—2; Joe Crowder—2; Pat McCracken—2; Mar-
garet Murphy—2; Earl Helvey—2; Lem Satterfield—1;
T. E. Morris—1; James Stevens—1; B. B. Cayson—1;
Raymond Bunner — 1; Franklin E. Staggs — 1; Boss
Whitehead—1; Van Butts—1; Mrs. Jim Tedlock—1; N.
Pozniak—1; Eugene Brown—1; Taylor Joyce—1; Carl
Chambers—1; Frances Kubena—1; J. C. Derden—1;
Norman L. Helms—1; Laverna Oxley—1; Roy Meeker
—1; Nell Voorhies—1; Perry Langston—1; Ellis Cozad
—1; Russell Harris—1; Bea Mossman—1; Jewell Alex-
ander—1; G. E. McGowan—1; Mrs. Stella Jackson—1;
Jerry Cutter—1; Timothy Phillips—1; Roy Smalling
—1; Mrs. Ida Hunter—1; M. E. Mountain—1; Ollie
Howard—1; Melvin O. Garrison—1; Judy Woodruff—1;
Wayne Fussell—1. Total—175.

AFRICAN REPORT

If the Lords wills, by the time you read this, Bro. Jerry Cutter and I will be somewhere in Europe. Our present plans are to leave New York on an evening flight, March 2nd. Passports and travel plans are cared for, and according to the British Consulate in New Orleans our visas should be arriving any day. As has already been mentioned, the Lebanon, Mo. church has asked us to spend a few days at certain points along the way. We should arrive in Nyasaland about the middle of the month. We will not, however, be going to Tripoli as originally planned, as the Christians who were there have returned to the States.

Our support is all in, and I have been returning checks to both individuals and churches. This is most encouraging. Our brethren will support mission work if we will find the opportunities and determine to do it. One correction should be made in my financial report. The church at Sentinel, Okla. contributed the last \$100 to my support, instead of Montgomery, Ala. as was stated.

We ask your continued prayers, especially that God will give us wisdom to make wise decisions. The progress of the work will be reported monthly in the papers, though we probably will not have time to get one in the April issue.

—James D. Orten
3025 Lakeshore
West Monroe, La.

AFRICAN REPORT

As reported last month, I now have my support for the trip to Africa and back. Checks have continued to come in for the work, but each has been returned with a note of thanks to the contributor. We hope that those whose contributions were not needed at this time will keep the work in mind and will see the need of supporting the African, or similar work in the future.

Our visas have been applied for, but as yet they have not been received. We hope to get them soon. If we get them in time, we will leave March 3rd. If we do not receive them in time to leave on the proposed date, we will then leave as soon as possible after receiving them.

As for the trouble in East Africa, I have kept very close watch on the situation, and have consulted with informed sources concerning the trouble. Dr. Pounds, among others at Indiana University, does not anticipate trouble in Nyasaland. The reason is because of the small white element in the country. Of course, the situation is somewhat unpredictable. One thing of particular interest is that Dr. Banda, the chief leader in Nyasaland, is a former student of Indiana University. Inasmuch as I am also a former student of Indiana University, I would like to visit with Dr. Banda sometime. Possibly such an opportunity will arise.

Brethren, by the time this report comes out we may be on our way to Africa. We will need your prayers every day. May all of us, as servants of the great Master, strive hard to advance His cause during our earthly stay.

—Jerry Cutter
Crescent, Okla.

THE AFRICAN WORK A Note Of Thanks

We want to take this opportunity to express our thanks to all who have had a part in the African work. We appreciate your willingness to help us by sending financial aid to Brethren James Orten and Jerry Cutter. We have been notified by both that they now have the needed \$4500.00. Let us all continue to pray for the success of this venture and the safety of these two courageous gospel preachers. We are looking forward with great anticipation to the reports that will soon be forthcoming. We feel that if the conditions in Africa are favorable the work should continue. Would the congregation where you meet be willing to assume the

duties and responsibilities connected with another effort? If so, let it be known. We here, while willing to do all possible to assure lasting success in this work, have no desire to usurp the leading role. Let us hear, brethren.

—Church of Christ
Box 9; Lebanon, Mo.

BOOK REVIEW

"THE CONSUMERS UNION REPORT ON SMOKING AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST" — This book is a special publication of Consumers Union, a non-profit organization which also publishes "Consumer Reports," a monthly magazine of test reports, products ratings, and buying guidance. This book then is a report of facts, figures, tests, ratings, and recommendations. It is a thorough review of the medical evidence relating cigarette smoking to disease. Also included is a report on industry activities in connection with the problem and a survey of possible steps in a program to deal with it. Dr. Benjamin Spock had this to say about the book. "Parents would be wise to read the (Consumers Union Report on Smoking) so that they can influence their children before it is too late."

Although I have always warned against cigarette smoking, I thought it fanatical to preach it was a sin. However, in the light of 1 Cor. 6:20 and such evidence as revealed in this book, it would be wise for all smokers to take a better look at this unnecessary habit. If our body, as well as our spirit, belongs to God (read 1 Cor. 6:20) should we not be concerned about better care of our physical bodies? If you would like to read from an unbiased source the dangers and the evils of smoking cigarettes, as well as some figures on how much money is spent on this habit, then you will want a copy of this book. The price is \$1.50 paper-back and \$2.95 cloth binding. You may order from LEON'S MUSIC & BOOK STORE, 4835 MacCorkle Ave. S.W., South Charleston 9, W. Va.

—Leon Fancher
Box 392, Mena, Ark.

SOME GOOD BOOKS

To treasure as additions to your own library or to use as lasting gifts:

FLOWERS THAT NEVER FADE by Leroy Brownlow—\$2.50, cloth. A good devotional book. Excellent for convalescents. A splendid book to give to people in the hospital instead of the flowers that fade.

BARNES' NOTES ON THE NEW TESTAMENT—\$14.95. Complete and unabridged in one new volume of 1776 pages.

HALLEY'S BIBLE HANDBOOK—\$3.95. An abbreviated commentary on the whole Bible. An excellent sourcebook of concise material on Bible history, archaeological discoveries, and many other items. 968 pages.

AN EXPOSITORY DICTIONARY OF NEW TESTAMENT WORDS by W. E. Vine—\$11.95. A valuable work. Four volumes combined into one of 1400 pages. Even without a Greek background you can learn the true meaning of many original words from the New Testament. A must for every teacher's library.

FOX'S BOOK OF MARTYRS—\$3.00. One of the ten most popular religious books of all time. You may

weep as you read this book. It has strengthened the faith of many.

NEW TESTAMENT IN MODERN ENGLISH by J. B. Phillips—\$4.95 cloth; \$1.45 paper. One of the most refreshing translations to read you will find.

Order from LEON'S MUSIC AND BOOK STORE, 4835 MacCorkle Ave. S.W., South Charleston 9, W. Va.
—Leon Fancher
Box 392, Mena, Ark.

GOOD NEWS!!

Recently, in the Sacramento, Calif. area, the 64th St., North Sacramento and Fair Oaks congregations met to attempt to resolve any thing that was preventing our working together. This was a result of a question that had arisen regarding use by some congregations of the brethren of Fair Oaks congregation. Most of the male members were present from each congregation. The discussion was conducted in a Christ-like manner with a desire uppermost to look to our Lord for direction. The writer acted as chairman of the meeting. Various questions were propounded, the main one being: Can we all worship together in spirit and truth, and if not, why not? To summarize the results of the discussion as concisely as possible, statements were as follow: Bro. Howard Sharp: "I see no reason why we cannot worship together, and, in fact, we should as brethren. I can worship as you brethren do (64th St. and N. Sacramento), and in fact have been doing so right along. I want to forget the past, and regret that any differences ever developed which caused the Cause to suffer. I want to work with my brethren and am sorry for things of the past that have caused brethren not to work together." Bro. H. McElroy, of Fair Oaks congregation, said we should all work together; there was no reason why we should not forget the past and pray God to help us do His will while time would permit. North Sacramento brethren said they had no reason at all not to work together. All the brethren from 64th St., Sacramento, except one, agreed that on the basis of statements made and the fact that we could apparently all work together and worship as we do now that we should forget the past and build for the future. We are sorry for anything that may have brought about any disunity. The discussion was closed with prayer by the writer asking that we be forgiven for things that caused this disunity and to help us work together in spirit and truth in the future.

I want to say that in view of statements made by Brethren Sharp, McElroy, Massengale, Berna, Helvey, Powell, Everett, myself and others that we now have no reason or scripture to be at disfellowship and commend our resolve to the brethren in general. May God help us to be faithful.

—Orvel B. Johnson
220 Burney Way,
Sacramento, Calif.

THANKS

We want to take this opportunity to just say a simple "thank you" for the wonderful turnout we had at our opening services at the Boulder Dr. congregation, Dallas, Tex., Feb. 1-2. On Lord's Day morning there were 168 present and about the same number the Sat. night preceding. We had lunch together and a

singing and there were close to 200 present for both of these. During the four services there were about 20 congregations represented from 5 states, and 4 preachers. Bro. Clovis Cook preached on Sat. night; I spoke on Lord's Day morning and Bro. Harvey Cope spoke that night. The singing in the afternoon was simply beautiful. We appreciated the good cooperation of the Ft. Worth and Arlington congregations. The good sisters are to be commended for the manner in which they opened their homes and the meal they prepared. To all of you who visited us, we enjoyed it so much, and invite you to come anytime and be with us. We hope in the future to be able to have one of the annual meetings. Again, we say "thanks."

—Boulder Dr. church of Christ
3822 Boulder Dr., Dallas, Tex.
By Edwin S. Morris

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The members of the Robertsedale, Ala. church of Christ (formerly Seminole, Ala.) wish to acknowledge the following donations toward our new building: Earlytown, Ala.—\$300; Tuscaloosa, Ala.—\$150; Early Street—\$100; Napoleon, Wedowee, Ala.—\$50. To all of these we express our heartfelt thanks. We are still accepting help from anyone since it is a burden for us. Send any donations to B. W. Early, Star Route A, Atmore, Ala.

—B. W. Early

WORSHIPPING GOD IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH (II)

By Juan Rodriguez

(Editor's Note: In the first installment, Bro. Rodriguez dealt with singing and prayer, and introductory observations for this three part series.)

Preaching—Christ limited His teachings to "the words received from the Father" (John 8:26-26, 38). The Holy Spirit did not talk of Himself (John 16:13). The Apostles talked only of what had been revealed to them (2 Peter 1:20; Gal. 1:6-12). So, the preacher today should limit what he teaches to the revelations of Christ to His apostles (2 John 9-10). The preacher should teach to guard the commandments of Christ as given to the apostles (Matt. 28:18-20). The first men became Christians by hearing the gospel, believing it, repenting of their sins, confessing their faith in Christ and being baptized. They were then exhorted not to be carried by every wind of doctrine (Eph. 4:14), and not to believe every spirit. It has always been true to go farther than what is written is a manifestation of disobedience (1 Cor. 4:6). To reject the teachings of the apostles is to reject God, Christ and the Holy Spirit.

The Supper—(Matt. 26:26-29) Let us see if we are doing as the Lord commanded. In the supper of the Lord, we find these elements: One bread which means that many of us constitute a body as we all participate of that bread (1 Cor. 10:17); and one cup, in which is the fruit of the vine. We have to keep in mind that this is a commandment of the Lord. The same was ordered by Paul in 1 Cor. 11:23; the same was practiced by the early Christians (Acts 2:42; 20:7). It was and is always to be done in memory of Christ (1 Cor. 11:24-25). Bearing this in mind, let us go on to consider its administration.

Thanks be given the Lord that He gave us the ex-

ample. Christ and the Apostles used one cup saying, "Drink all from it." In Mark 14:23, you may read, "—and taking the cup, and having given thanks, gave to them, and they all drank of it." Brother, you who read this, are you doing it in the way Christ and His apostles did it? If not, begin to do so now; worship God in spirit and in truth. It is probable that your preacher tells you as I used to tell people at El Tunal: The form is of no interest to God, but rather the spirit in which it is done. Do not be deceived; brother, if the form of taking the supper is of no interest to the Father, neither would the form of baptism be. Do you know why many churches do not take the fruit of the vine from one cup? They do not do so for fear of germs; they thus forget the words and power of Christ that He will not suffer one to be punished who does His will.

Do you know the origin of Individual cups? They were invented and patented by John C. Thomas in the United States in 1894, but the churches of Christ did not accept them until 1915 when Bro. G. C. Brewer introduced them. You can see how short is the period that Satan, the father of lies, did away with the original form of our Lord's supper.

(To be continued)

Monterrey, N. L., Mex.
—Nardo No 2961-A
Col Moderna,

MY POSITION ON CARNAL WARFARE

I cannot participate in military service in any form, directly or indirectly, in combatant or noncombatant service, because:

1. My duty and obligation to my God is superior to all other obligations (Acts 5:29; Matt. 22:37).

2. My God in the Bible forbids that I engage in carnal warfare in the following references:

"Put up thy sword," "For all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword" (Matt. 26:52)—Jesus.

"My Kingdom is not of this world" (Jno. 18:36).

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal" (2 Cor. 10:3, 4).

"Love your enemies" (Matt. 5:44); "Turn the other cheek" (Matt. 5:39).

"Recompense to no man evil for evil" (Rom. 12:17).

3. To enter any military branch or service, combatant or noncombatant, I would be compelled to "swear" (take an oath), but the Bible forbids that I do so ("Swear not at all"—Jesus, Matt. 5:34).

4. To enter any military service I would be compelled to be yoked with unbelievers, which is forbidden—"Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (2 Cor. 6:14).

5. To be in any branch of military service in any way, I would be a part of the organization and would therefore have fellowship in the service, but such is prohibited; thus: "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:11).

6. To serve in any way in the military service, I would be deprived of obeying the command to assemble on Lord's day to worship God in the Bible way, at least part of the time, hence would disobey God (Heb. 10:25; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1, 2).

Therefore, I cannot conscientiously engage in carnal

war in any form or branch, and for the above reasons, I authorize my name to be listed in support of the above principles.

—Dean Crossman, 2041 Gayle Way, Carlsbad, Calif.

—Verl Lee, 2065 East 10th St., Stockton, Calif.

—Jimmy Lane, Rt. 9, Box 1533, Waco, Texas

THE NAME CHRISTIAN—

(Continued from page three)

"Now this I say, that everyone of you saith, I am of Paul, I am of Apollos, I am of Cephas, and I am of Christ. Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? or were you baptized in the name of Paul?" In the same way party names divide people today. One of the greatest barriers to religious unity is party names. Let us abide by Col. 3:17: "Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ."

—Rt. 1, Raleigh, N. C.

BONDS OF MATRIMONY

Minson-Watson—On the night of Dec. 6, 1963, Bro. Darrel Minson and Sister Sharon Watson were united in marriage at the church of Christ, Arlington, Tex. Bro. Wayne McKamie officiated. Darrel is the son of Bro. and Sister G. H. Minson, Duncan, Okla., and Sharon is the daughter of Bro. and Sister John Watson, Dallas, Tex. They are making their home in Dallas. We wish for this couple a long, happy life in the Master's vineyard. They are both fine Christians.

—Submitted by Edwin S. Morris

McKinney-Bamgardner—In the evening of Jan. 25, 1964 at the meeting house in Ceres, Calif., in the presence of a host of relatives, brothers and sisters in Christ and friends, in a setting of simple, exquisite beauty, Brother Myron McKinney and Sister Karen Bamgardner exchanged their wedding vows. Myron is the son of Colin and June McKinney; Karen is the daughter of Vernal and Edna Bamgardner. These families are two of the strongest that I know in the church. Thus, both Myron and Karen are blessed. Having known both since very early childhood, and having such deep, genuine respect for their families, the writer considered it a distinct privilege to be asked to assist them at such a happy, blessed time of their lives. May He Who has thus joined them together be pleased to bless them abundantly throughout a long and useful life here; and then, when this life with its joys and sorrows, shall with time ebb to a close, may He remember them still, and may they and theirs be together at last at home over there.

—D. B. McCord

OUR DEPARTED

Johnson—Sister Ethel Mae Mead Asplin Johnson was born April 30, 1896 at Advance, Arkansas the daughter of Andrew J. and Miranda Mead. She departed this life Feb. 14, 1964 at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, Mo. a victim of cancer. In 1914, she obeyed the gospel under Bro. Gardner and continued faithful until death. She was a member of the Seymour, Mo. congregation. In 1914 she was united in marriage with Larkin C. Asplin, and to this union one son, Ray, was born. Her husband preceded her in death in 1956. In 1961 she married George A. Johnson of Seymour, Mo. She is survived by her husband, George Johnson, and her father, Andrew J. Mead, of Seymour, Mo.; her son,

Ray, and his wife and three children all of Okla. City, Okla.; and a brother, Edward Mead, of Advance, Ark.

Services were held at the Seymour church of Christ Lord's Day afternoon, Feb. 16. A large crowd was on hand to pay their final respects to her memory. The writer was called to speak words of comfort and warning.

—Ronny F. Wade

Cogburn—Sister A. E. Cogburn of DeLeon, Tex. passed away on Jan. 24, 1964 in the De Leon Hospital. She was born in Mississippi on June 2, 1895; she moved to De Leon in 1909 and had lived in and around there since. She obeyed the gospel in 1913 and remained faithful until death. She was preceded in death by an infant son in 1913. Survivors are her husband, Bro. A. E. Cogburn, six sons and five daughters; all are members of the church. There are also twenty-five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Services were conducted at the church of Christ in De Leon on Jan. 26th by Brother Barney Welch, assisted by Brother M. J. Buffington. The beautiful prayer was by Brother Fred Kirbo. Members of surrounding congregations assisted in the wonderful singing. The flowers were many and beautiful, a tribute to her many friends. She was laid to rest in the De Leon cemetery. (The obituary was submitted by a daughter, Sister Joel Broseh, Riesel, Texas).

Emberling—Sister Emerine Stewart Emberling was born July 4, 1889 in Johnson Co., Ark., and departed this life Feb. 6, 1964 at Pauls Valley, Okla., at the age of 74 years, 7 mos., and 2 days. While yet a young girl, she obeyed the gospel, thus becoming a member of the body of Christ. She was married to James Wesley Emberling Oct. 22, 1911 at Fox, Okla. To this union three children were born: Mrs. Voncille Longino, Pauls Valley, Okla.; Garvin Emberling, Wilson, Okla., and Glynn Emberling, Orange, Calif. She is also survived by five grandchildren; two sisters, Allie Page, Richmond, Calif., and Etta Brown, Healdton, Okla.; and several nieces and nephews. The services were held at the East Healdton (Okla.) church of Christ on Feb. 9th. The writer officiated. The singers from the church rendered a beautiful tribute in song; the flowers were a beautiful tribute, and the good number of friends, brethren and sisters in Christ and relatives in attendance bespoke the high esteem in which Sister Emberling was held.

—Tom E. Smith

Davis—Brother Euel S. Davis was born May 11, 1870 in Johnson Co., Ark. He passed away Feb. 10, 1964 at the age of 93 years and 9 months. His life certainly well beyond the average life span. He had been a member of the Church of Christ approximately 70 years, having obeyed the gospel in his early years. He re-dedicated his life to Christ in July, 1952 at the Oak Grove Church of Christ near Foreman, Ark. and was a faithful member at his passing. He was faithful to attend worship services as long as he was physically able. His wife, Etta A. Davis, had preceded him in death about 12 years. They were married Sept. 1, 1890 having lived together over 60 years. To this union, 9 children were born, 4 girls and 5 boys. Seven of these are still living: Earl, Claud, Clifton, Clifford, Millie Powers, Ollie Bivens and Lilly Latham, who are all members of the church of Christ. He is also survived by 2 half-sisters, 3 half-brothers, numerous grandchildren, great

grandchildren and many other relatives and brethren in Christ. The funeral was conducted at the Oak Grove Church of Christ where he was a member. Brother Lynwood Smith officiated in a very fine way. He beautifully described Brother Davis, to those who knew and loved him, as only Lynwood can. He was assisted in reading and prayer by the writer.

—Leon Fancher

Carden—Joel Albert Carden, born Aug. 8, 1886 in Hardin Co., Ky. passed away in St. John's Hospital, Springfield, Mo., Feb. 14, 1964. He leaves his wife, Sister Mina Carden, to whom he was married in 1910, and five daughters as survivors: Mrs. Burnell Caffey, Mrs. Glinnis Foust, of Phillipsburg, Mo.; Mrs. Gladys Stout, and Miss Nita Carden, of Kansas City, Mo. and Mrs. Thelma Ennis, of Kansas City, Kan., nine grandchildren, one brother, one sister, three half sisters and one half brother also survive. Bro. Carden was a member of the Lees Summit, Mo. congregation for many years. He was a good singer in his younger days and often went with preachers in their meetings to help as best he could. He was with Bro. Homer L. King, in a meeting at McBride, about twenty-five miles south of Lebanon, Mo. in late 1933 or early 1934 when approximately thirty people were baptized. Bro. King was his favorite preacher, if he had one. A large crowd attended the funeral in the Lebanon church of Christ. The singing was by members of the church from four congregations. It was beautiful. The floral offering was also beautiful. Seven congregations sent flowers. His children are all members of the church. The torch is being passed into the hands of younger ones day by day and God help us to be worthy. The writer spoke at the final services.

—Clovis T. Cook

Tipton—Sister Ila Tipton was born Feb. 8, 1887 at Ponta, Tex. and departed this life Feb. 11, 1964 at Ft. Worth, Tex., at the age of 77 years and 3 days. She was the daughter of S. H. and Mary Bobbitt. On Aug. 5, 1904, she was united in marriage with J. D. Tipton near Summerfield, Tex. To this union 10 children were born. Sister Tipton is survived by her husband, Bro. J. D. Tipton of Ft. Worth, a faithful gospel preacher of many years service and standing; three sons, W. R., Ft. Worth; D. K., Jacksonville, Fla.; M. H., Shreveport, La.; three daughters, Mrs. Mary McMillan, Kountz, Tex.; Mrs. Marie Black, Irbana, Ark.; Mrs. Myrtle Foster, Ft. Worth; four brothers, a sister; 12 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Three sons and a daughter preceded her in death. About 55 years ago, during early married life, she obeyed the gospel and was baptized by Bro. C. C. Cofer, at Summerfield, Tex. Until death she was a faithful member of the church, meeting at the Beach St. congregation, Ft. Worth. In her life, she lived in Tex., La., Ark., and Okla.; the past 17 years was spent in Ft. Worth. Besides her loving family, she leaves a host of friends and brothers and sisters in Christ to mourn the loss of association with her in this life. She not only met but rather fulfilled the role of Christian, wife and mother; she was a friend of all and to all. To be in her presence was to feel righteousness; to have known her is encouragement to live better. The funeral service was conducted by Bro. Joe Howard and this writer at Ponta, Tex.; she was laid to rest in the nearby peaceful East Texas setting of the Myrtle Springs cemetery.

—Wallace Middick

From The Fields

Boss Whitehead, 125 E. Hopkins, Pontiac, Mich., Feb. 5—We enjoy the paper very much, and would not want to be without it. Here is our renewal.

J. D. Elmore, Box 515, Haldton, Okla., Jan. 29—The church is doing very well here. We baptized one recently. Here are 2 subs.

Y. Namulone, Phulanja church, P. O. Palombe, Nyasaland, Africa, Feb. 17—The work here in Africa is doing well. We want the preachers to come. Pray for us.

M. Chinga, Jamesi Vlg., Clozoane Estate, Box 5, Nthondwe, Nyasaland, Africa, Feb. 10—We send best wishes to all people in that place. We are happy to hear that the preachers are coming. I am very happy with the help you send me.

James Henseley, 195 Wall St., Pontiac, Mich., Feb. 12—The congregation here is doing well. There was a young lady baptized last Lord's Day. I pray that the Lord will help us all to do more for Him in the future than we have in the past that the church may prosper. Here are 6 subs.

Ples Wiley, Box 4, McRae, Ark., Feb. 9—We are still meeting in the home of Sister Letha Singleton at 511 N. Hickory in Searcy. We are few in number and badly in need of someone to do personal work. If any congregation would like to help, it would be greatly appreciated.

F. H. Lichapa, Namphungo church, C/O Namlenga Mission, P. O. Mikolongwe, Nyasaland, Africa, Feb. 3—In Jan. I was at Namphungo, Manyumba and Wendewende. I conclude by saying that you ought to help us in prayers of the faithful so that we may all grow stronger in Christ.

H. D. Laney, Box 81, Temple, Ga., Jan. 20—We surely do enjoy the paper. May the Lord bless all the gospel preaching brethren everywhere. We are glad to know that Bro. King is still improving. Here are 2 subs. (Sorry this reached us too late for the Feb. issue.—DMC).

F. H. Lichapa, Namphungo, Vlg., C/O Namlenga Mission, P. O. Mkholongwe, Nyasaland, Africa, Jan. 18—I am very pleased to hear that Brethren Orten and Cutter are coming. We wish them a good journey. Thanks to all for their kindness to me. In Dec., I was at Kogoya, Namphungo and Maoni.

Wallace Middick, 1115 Cavender Dr., Hurst, Tex. 76053, Feb. 1—The OPA continues very good; I eagerly await each edition. The Beach St. congregation, Ft. Worth, is now well established in the new building at 3517 N. Beach St., and heartily welcomes all those interested in serving Him. Here is a list of subs and renewals.

B. B. Cayson, 1993 Burn Ham Ave., Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 8—The church here continues to preach the word. We no longer meet at 2755 N. Watkins St. We are meeting about 1½ miles north of the former meeting place at 1602 Winston Rd. Preachers, who are booked in Memphis for work, the Lord willing, the work will continue as planned.

Van Butts, 911 No. Hodge, Sapulpa, Okla., Feb. 4—I enjoy the OPA very much; through it I hear from Bro. King. So glad he is doing better. The Bible says that all things work together for good to them that love Him. I need your prayers as I go to different places each Lord's Day to preach the gospel. Here is a sub.

George McCain, Box 1266, Redding, Calif., Feb. 17—We are still doing work for the church. I am thankful that Christ said

a long time ago that where two or three gather in His name He is in their midst. I hope larger congregations are doing all they can for the Lord. We would be glad for visiting brethren to come by and see us.

Paul Walker, Rt. 2, Ethridge, Tenn., Feb. 17—Since my last report, I have been busy with the work among the churches in the Lawrenceberg, Tenn. area. Several weeks ago, it was my privilege to speak for the brethren in Memphis. We are looking forward to hearing Brother James Orten this week. The OPA continues to improve.

Earl B. Helvey, 7608 Prince St., Citrus Hts., Calif., Feb. 15—The 64th St. congregation is still doing well. Our plans are to help support a congregation in Orangevale, Calif. if a suitable location can be found. More congregations are needed in this area. It is difficult to get people to drive a long distance to church. Here is a sub.

Tom E. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 171-A, Duncan, Okla., Feb. 17—Our business meeting in the interest of the mission work in Okla., was held at Duncan, Lord's Day, Feb. 9. I could not be present due to a funeral at Haldton, Okla. However, there were decisions made, and arrangements made for another meeting to be held at Duncan, May 10th. We will appreciate all participating churches to be represented. A more definite report will be made later.

Carl Chambers, Rt. 1, Box 272, Neosho, Mo., Feb. 15—The church is doing fine at Burkhardt. Crowds continue about the same, and love prevails. Bro. Jack Cutter is preaching at Joplin, and comes down on Wed. night and preaches for us most of the time. We now have singing on the first Lord's day of each month; at Joplin the last Lord's Day. Pray that we may ever be found faithful.

John Modgling, 204 N. Cornell, Fullerton, Calif., Feb. 3—Since last reporting, I have preached at several congregations throughout the state. I went to El Cajon in Dec. and baptized one. I traveled with Bro. Don McCord in northern Calif., and preached at several congregations; one was restored to the faith at Modesto. I have been in the hospital recently, but am recovering. Feb. 23, I will be at El Centro, Calif. Please pray for me.

J. R. Tidmore, 311 W. 5th, Broken Bow, Okla., 74728, Feb. 13—The church here is doing very well. We enjoyed the good lessons in the OPA such as Bro. Morris's on "Long Hair;" I think there should be more teaching on this, modest apparel, etc. Bro. Freddie Lay will be here in a meeting April 23-May 3; and Bro. Orville Lee Smith, June 21-30. Here are 3 subs.

Barney Owens, 11312 Orchard, Cincinnati, Ohio 45241, Feb. 17—Since last report, I have been laboring with the congregation at Robertsedale, Ala. Much good has been done in this area. There are visitors from time to time; interest is very good. During the past month, 2 obeyed the gospel in baptism; 2 were restored; and 8 confessed faults. Truly we are thankful for these. Feb. 5, I preached at Florala, Ala. Your prayers are needed.

K. G. Wilks, 109 Dundee Dr., Wichita Falls, Tex., Jan. 28—Fairview congregation is growing in a number of ways, especially in talent and in devotion to each other. Mar. 6-15, Bro. Wayne Fussell will be here in a meeting. We look forward to it. I go regularly to Woodson one Lord's Day each month. They told me last trip that they have an appointment for Bro. David Macy to begin a meeting in July. I am glad to see Brother Macy in use. Hope others use him. Love to all.

Wayne Fussell, 5928 W. Canal, Shreveport, La., Feb. 13—The work here seems to be progressing in good fashion. Bro. Lynwood Smith conducted us a real "revival," Jan. 31-Feb. 2. His most appropriate and heart-warming sermons put new spark in every member. We look forward to another spiritual feast with Bro. James Orten this coming Lord's Day. My next meetings: Wichita Falls, Texas (Lawrence Road), Feb. 28-March 8; Springfield, Mo. (Benton Ave.), March 20-29. We need your prayers.

Ernie Crisp, 615 Chicago, Caldwell, Idaho, Jan. 22—The church here needs help. We are so small in number that our expenses are greater than we can meet. By this we mean rent and utilities. Our appeal last summer was answered by one congregation—Odell, Oregon. Much good came from their effort. I am the only male member to lead the flock. Readers can surely see how great is our need! Any help that is forthcoming will certainly be appreciated. Here are 2 subs. (Sorry this reached us too late for the Feb. issue.—DMC).

Donald Brittain, 20 2nd St., N. E., Ardmore, Okla., Feb. 17—The church here is working in the near-perfect Christian harmony that is so much needed in the Lord's church. There is no evident dissension or ill-feelings for which we are very happy. The new building which we plan to begin soon has helped to create new interest in some of the members. Bro. Larry York, a younger brother here, has recently given some fine lessons. He has very fine ability and will make a very good preacher some day soon. We need your prayers.

Cicero Goddard, 3803 Garfield, Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 15—We are making some progress here; thanks to Christ. We are happy to announce that we have 4 from digression meeting with us. Digressive brethren are in an uproar over this. We request your prayers for our success here. In a city this size, we have a problem getting into homes. I hope to have my mailing permit by next month. I feel that we can reach a thousand people by mail; we should get at least 40 leads per month. We invite you to visit us when you come this way.

Lawrence Permenter, Box 55, Cashion, Ariz., Feb. 13—We certainly enjoy the OPA; it is inspiring to read of the good work going on among the brethren throughout our land. We were very happy to have Bro. Jimmy Terrell visit with us in our home, and preach for us one night, Feb. 10. We wish there were more young men with his knowledge and desire. God bless him and all who are striving for the cause of Christ. We invite all to meet with us whenever possible. We think Bro. McCord is doing a wonderful job with the paper; here are 3 subs.

Norman L. Helms, 489 Kenilworth, Pontiac, Mich., Jan. 27—We, the church at Pontiac, are growing in love, unity, and the knowledge of the word of God. We ask the prayers of the churches everywhere that we will grow still farther in these things, just as we pray daily for the churches all over this land of ours. Let us all pray one for another. We are enjoying Bro. Gary Macy being here with the churches in Mich. He is doing a fine job. I am sending my renewal. I have enjoyed the OPA very much and I pray it will continue for a long time to come.

Leon Fancher, Box 392, Mena, Ark., Feb. 17—The work here is progressing smoothly. The brethren have a love for the Lord and each other which has bound them closely together. This, with the splendid cooperation and desire to work by all, can only mean forward. The field here is as fertile and ripe as any place I have been in some time. With the help of God, there should be a large, active, strong congregation here in the future. We will be in a short meeting in West Monroe, La. April 1-5. May the Lord bless all who are in His work.

Edwin S. Morris, 905 Bluewood Dr., Dallas, Tex., 75232, Feb. 17—Since my last report, I have preached at Wichita Falls (Lawrence Rd.); Oklahoma City (21st St.); Norman, Okla.; Melissa, Arlington and here in Dallas. We look forward to much good coming from this work which is off to a good start. Mar. 20-29, I will be at Foreman, Ark.; April 5-12, Tucson, Ariz.; and Memphis, Tenn., April 24-May 3. Bro. Hinton baptized 2 here in Dallas last night. The work moves forward since we moved into our new building. We are at peace among ourselves and enjoy worshipping God and working together. Pray for us.

J. W. Kornegay, Rt. 1, Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 27—The church here continues to grow. Two have been baptized since last report; crowds have been fair in spite of snow and ice. During the Christmas and New Year's holidays we enjoyed a nice trip to Fla. and Ark.; we visited both of our mothers and our son. We surely enjoyed the fine hospitality the two nights we spent in Strong, Ark. with Brethren Billy Orten and J. H. Stegall. I want to thank all of the brethren for their support and prayers for the work here. We enjoy the OPA. Here is my renewal.

Freddie Lay, 7844 Rancho Fanita Dr., Santee, Calif., Feb. 14—Since last reporting, I have preached at El Cajon, Sanger, Manteca, and Sonora, all in Calif. Bro. Jim Hickey and I have begun 2 months personal work here. The future looks bright for growth in this area. The brethren here are to be commended for their zeal and their desire to help in every way. The Lord willing, I am to be at Sanger, Calif. for a meeting April 3-12; and at Broken Bow, Okla., April 24-May 4. I solicit your prayers for continuance in the "vineyard." Bro. Hickey and I are to conduct a meeting here Mar. 6-15, preaching night about.

James Hickey, Box 486, Sonora, Calif., Feb. 14—The past month I have preached at the following congregations: Yuba City, El Centro, National City, El Cajon, and Covina, all in Calif. At present, I am working with the congregation at Sonora, Calif. We have begun house to house teaching, and are preparing for our meeting next month. We hope to increase interest and attendance as well as conversions. Of late, we have been studying and talking with those in digression here, and much interest has been shown by some. Please pray for us and the work here. If congregations are interested, I am available for meetings in July and August.

James D. Corson, Rt. 2, Mahaffey, Pa., Jan. 21—The cause in Pa. moves along; progress is hindered because of much snow and winter storms. We enjoy the reports in the OPA each month; they should help us to be in closer unity. Last Lord's Day, I was with the brethren in the Washington, D. C. area. They would appreciate any of the faithful brethren moving there, or when visiting, stop and worship with them. We have found new prospects there. Pray that the effort might mature. We need more good and faithful watchmen for the weaker flocks. Note Brother Don's new address when mailing your report; it will save time and speed your message. 1414 N. Albertson, Covina, Calif.

Ronny Wade, Box 564, Lebanon, Mo., Feb. 17—The work in this area is marching forward with evident success. We are pleased to report progress in every mission effort presently in progress in the State. Our telecast, "Let The Bible Speak," is the most successful venture that I have ever been a part of and in my way of thinking is one of the most valuable opportunities available to us today. Each week, letters and cards from all over southern Missouri and Northern Arkansas pour across my desk. The effect of pure Bible preaching is beginning to be seen. Recently, Bro. Johnny Elmore has been here in a singing school; we enjoyed him very much. Other preachers with whom we have enjoyed visits include Clovis Cook, Lynwood Smith, Miles King, Arther Wade, and Cicero Goddard. May the Lord bless you all.

E. H. Stamper, 33 Glynn Dr., Birmingham 15, Ala., Feb. 16—We are all still working zealously for the Lord. We are growing in spirit and in number. Since coming to Birmingham, I have baptized three and we have had 9 restorations. Much interest is shown. Mar. 22-29, we will be in a meeting conducted by Bro. Lynwood Smith. We invite all the preaching brethren to be with us and speak for us while they are here; we are endeavoring to make this meeting a yearly one. We invite all to attend; there are good, clean, reasonably priced motels near, and we invite visitors into our homes.

Clovis T. Cook, 809 Lyons, Kansas City, Kan., Feb. 18—Since last report, I have preached at Dallas, Texas at the opening of their new building Feb. 1st. and at Ft. Worth, Tex., Feb. 2nd. Bro. and Sister Fritz, and my wife accompanied me there. We also visited my relatives in Wichita Falls, Tex. The churches in that part of the country seem to be doing well. Large crowds attended everywhere we went. The new meeting house in Dallas is pretty and comfortable, fine enough for any of God's people. I have also preached here at home and on the Mo. side; also in Springfield, and Lees Summit, all in Mo., since last report. I attended the final session of a singing school in Lebanon, Mo., last Sat. night held by Bro. Johnny Elmore.

Luther D. Boek, 133 So. Harwood, Orange, Calif., Feb. 19—The work here continues to show much progress for which we always give God thanks. House to house visits and studies have proven highly effective. Since Jan. 1, 5 have been baptized; the potential remains good. We have had very good response to our Fri. night gatherings in various homes of brethren for singing and visiting. Last week-end we were host to the young folks of

southern Calif. It was one of the best attended meetings, especially by the young folks, that I have attended since coming to southern Calif. It was an inspiration to me. The speakers did a wonderful job and the singing was a real joy. Lee Boek did the preaching at regular services; it was good to have him. Brethren, pray for us.

A. L. Adams, 1616 19th St., N. E., Roanoke, Va. 24012, Jan. 24—Since last report, I have been with the faithful at Clintonville, W. Va. twice; the interest there is very good among both the faithful and outsiders. I was sorry to hear of the passing of Brother Andy Loudermilk, but I believe that he was one who feared God and kept the commandments of the Lord. Those who helped on the cost of the new building there can rest assured that their aid was put to good use. I have most of this year open if anyone would be interested in someone to work with a congregation. I can be reached at the above address. If those who are willing and able were put to work for the Lord, there would still be a need for workers. I ask the prayers of all the faithful. (Sorry this reached us too late for Feb. issue—DMC).

Jerry Cutter, Rt. 1, Crescent, Okla., Feb. 17—For the past several months we have been working with the Harrodsburg, Indiana church. The work has been very enjoyable. This is one of the most peaceful congregations that I have worked with. The brethren here have an active interest in the work in Indiana as well as in other parts of the country. We will be leaving next Monday for Okla. City, where my wife and children will live while I am in Africa. Brother Richard Nichols is to continue the work here at Harrodsburg after we leave. Richard and I have been working together for the past several weeks. Richard is to be commended for his keen interest in the work. He is rapidly becoming one of the best speakers in our ranks. It has been a genuine pleasure to work with him.

James R. Stewart, 312 E. Nugent, Temple, Tex., Feb. 9—The work here continues with good interest. All the services are well-attended. Bro. Kenneth Hendricks will preach here two Lord's Days in each month; that will give me the opportunity to visit other places. Jan. 26, I preached in Dallas for the congregation that worships in the Carpenter's Union Hall, 1330 N. Industrial Blvd.; 52 were present at the morning service; I was there in the evening service, too. These are good brethren; they have a bright future. May the Lord bless them. Feb. 2, I preached in Arlington at both services. We had basket lunch in the park with the Boulder Dr. congregation, Dallas, and singing in their new building. It is a fine one. The association with all of them was wonderful. It was good to meet old-time friends. Pray for us and the work at Temple; thanks to those who make it possible for this work to continue.

Jim A. Canfield, Rt. 3, Box 86, Marion, La., Feb. 12—Jan. 25-28, I was with the faithful near Marshall, Tex. Time with Bro. Perry Young and others was well-spent. Sister Abe Young, the widow of our late preaching brother, is still living there. These brethren still follow the Bible way. During Bro. Young's lifetime, I spent many happy, profitable days studying with him. Since the New Year began, 2 have confessed faults here. In Mar., I hope to be with the good brethren at Brookhaven, Miss. and Memphis, Tenn. My leg is much better; the doctors say I can be more active in my preaching. Thanks to our kind heavenly Father for all blessings in Christ. Thanks to our brethren and sisters, too, for their prayers and support. Feb. 5, my nephew was killed instantly; Bro. Adams conducted the funeral, Feb. 7, with a large crowd present. Pray for us that we will all hold out faithful to the end of the way.

E. H. Miller, Box 538, LaGrange, Ga. 30240, Feb. 12—The church in this section is surely doing well; another was baptized here last week, and another confessed faults. We are looking forward to a wonderful meeting which is to begin Sat. night. This past week-end, I received a telephone call from a woman who was to be baptized by the Mormons who are working in this section; I had never seen her, but I made a visit. She left for the baptizing 5 minutes before I arrived, but after going back a few times I found her and her husband at home. I explained my mission, and showed her how the Mormons contradict the Bible. I showed where the Book of Mormon says: "Thou fool, that shall say, A Bible, we have got a Bible, and we need no more Bible," as well as other things. The Mormons came for this lady at 10:00 the next morning (Sunday) as agreed upon, but she did not go with them; instead she came to the church of

Christ. I feel sure she will obey the gospel later. I met three of the Mormons in her home last Lord's Day evening after worship. Feb. 1-2, we had a wonderful week-end meeting in Marietta, Ga., and are looking forward to a good one in Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 29-Mar. 1; this is the third anniversary of the congregation that we assisted in establishing.

David Macy, Box 27, Gretna, Fla., Feb. 10—The congregation at Mt. Pleasant, Fla. is doing very well now. Ten have confessed faults since I moved here in July. Our attendance on the Lord's day has nearly doubled. I am receiving the following support: Mt. Pleasant, Fla.—\$125; Ft. Worth (Trentman Ave.), Tex.—\$50; San Antonio (Catalina Ave.), Tex.—\$50; and Woodson, Tex.—\$50 every other month. This makes my total support at the present time \$225 every month and \$275 every other month. Bro. J. W. Kornegay and I will hold a two weeks tent meeting in Tallahassee, Fla. the last two weeks in Mar., the Lord willing. We are going to try to establish a loyal congregation in that city of approximately 50,000; this is the capital of Fla. Bro. Kornegay will be coming from Raleigh, N. C. at his own expense. If brethren would like to send him a contribution to help him pay his expenses you will be co-laborers in a good work, and I know the Lord will richly bless you. Send any contributions to J. W. Kornegay, Rt. 1, Raleigh, N. C. I still have time open for meetings in August and most of Sept. If there are small congregations that can not afford to have a meeting this year, I will be happy to hold you a meeting for just my traveling expenses and a place to stay. Please contact me soon if interested.

Richard Nichols, 15102 Jersey Ave., Norwalk, Calif., Feb. 17—It was my privilege to attend the New Year's meeting in Okla. City. It was most inspirational. The sermons and talks were on a very high plane. During January, I was honored to speak at the following places—N. W. 21st and Capitol Hill in Okla. City, Purcell, Washington, and Healdton, Oklahoma; Arlington, and San Angelo, Texas; St. Louis, Mo. and Mozier, Ill. Since Feb. 1, I have been at Harrodsburg, Ind. working with Bro. Jerry Cutter. Recently, Jerry and I visited the little congregation (only 5 members) in Moline, Mich. I hope that our short visit encouraged them in their battle to hold out for truth. I know their strength enlivened my faith. Soon, Brethren Jerry Cutter and James Orten will be leaving for Africa. I know that much has been said about the support for this work. This is fine. Maybe you have donated finances to this work. This is commendable, but have you been praying for this work? May I beseech you to pray the Father that their journey be safe and also profitable to His cause. I plan to be working here at Harrodsburg for several months. I solicit your prayers.

Paul O. Nichols, 1400 Adena Street, Bakersfield, Calif., 93306, Feb. 13—The new congregation Southwest Bakersfield seems to be doing fine. The Lord is blessing our efforts, for which we are thankful. The crowds have been especially good the past two Lord's days. We have some outsiders present almost every week. Since we began this effort in October we have had several confessions, restorations, and baptisms. Presently, we meet in the Panama Grange Hall (S. H. Street and Fairview Road), but we are hoping to have our own place in the near future, the Lord willing. Jan. 22-25, we had a public discussion here on the cups and classes. Brother George R. Dixon represented the opposition. We had a good turnout on both sides of the questions. About 12 or 14 of their preachers attended most of the sessions. Lloyd Moyer moderated for Randy and John Smith for me, and did a good job. We feel that the discussion was profitable for three reasons: (1) We contended for the faith (Jude 3). (2) Our forces were strengthened; the newer members being rooted and grounded in the truth. (3) Some of the opposition had a chance to see that our practice is scriptural, and even hear their representative admit it on both issues (but deny that we are right in contending for our practices). I am enjoying very much working with these good brethren in this new work in the Southwest.

Lying is like trying to hide in a fog. If you move about, you are in danger of bumping your head against the truth, and as soon as the fog blows away, you are gone, anyway.

You may glean knowledge by reading, but you must separate the chaff from the wheat by reasoning.

The foolish man seeks happiness in the distance; the wise grows it under his feet.

Our purpose is to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," and to "prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

OLD PATHS ADVOCATE

To continue "speaking the truth in love," "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace;" "keeping the ordinances as delivered."

"Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.' (Jer. 6:16) 'And they that be of Thee shall build the old waste, places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in.' (Isa. 58:12).

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No. 4

PROGRESSIVE OR DIGRESSIVE—WHICH

By Jim Hickey

Let us make sure that when we label ourselves progressive that we are not in reality digressive. First of all, digression is not "Sunday Schools" and "individual cups" only—it is these, true, but vastly more than these constitute digression, never forget! Digression is any and all departures from the word of God. Some today are branded non-progressive when they refuse to accept things into the church for which there is not scriptural example or precedent. The plea to "be silent where the Bible is silent" seems to be completely ignored in many quarters.

Digression is not mentioned in the Scriptures, but the principle is definitely taught against. To digress is to turn aside or to go apart; literally, to step-apart. In speech, we digress when we make a departure from the main theme or subject. In Christianity, we digress when we turn aside from the Bible pattern and from its plain teachings. This a serious matter which many scoff at in our time; the Scriptures plainly teach that it does matter what we do and how we do it.

The Lord commanded Joshua not to digress from His law: "Only be strong and very courageous to observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee; turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest have good success whithersoever thou goest (Joshua 1:7).

It is not only good, but it is essential that the church of Christ goes forward or progresses, but let us not allow the church to go forward without the Christ. Let us be careful of "new" ideas and teachings that are foreign or contrary to the Bible. Innovations in the church in the past have been brought in under the guise of "progression." When some cried "digression," others dismissed these pleas of conscientious brethren by saying they were "cranks," "radicals" and "non-progressives." Such epithets will never change the truth! Thus, problems occur when self-willed individuals try to improve on God's way. It cannot be done! Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it (Ps. 126:1). Brethren, let us always "prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

—Box 486, Sonora, Calif.

"NO CONDEMNATION"

By Ronny F. Wade

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." The above words of Paul recorded in Romans 8:1 present an interesting study, especially since they formulate the basis of a very dangerous false doctrine. Many times I have heard people quote only a portion of the verse, leaving the impression that once one is in Christ there is no possibility of apostasy. In fact, not long ago a preacher, who precedes me each Lord's Day on the radio, read the words: "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus." Here he stopped and said one in Christ need never fear falling from grace. This is an example of stopping where the Spirit did not. The result, as in all cases of so doing, is disastrous. For this reason, we propose to study this verse in detail for all of our readers.

Notice first of all the Promise: "No condemnation." What blessed assurance to know that there is no condemnation. However, the promise of no condemnation infers that some people, somewhere, and under certain conditions will be condemned. This may be clearly seen from reading Matt. 7:13-14 where Jesus speaks of the broad and narrow ways. We all are aware of the "few" saved and the "many" lost. Also, in Mk. 16:16, Jesus said ". . . he that believeth not shall be damned;" here is another class of people who will be condemned. Therefore, those people who come under Paul's promise in Rom. 8:1 can be in neither group. To determine where this special group is, we need but read a little farther—"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus . . ." The state of no condemnation, then, is in Christ.

The state—In Christ. To be in Christ is to have everything. To be out of Christ is to have nothing. The Scriptures have much to say regarding being in Christ, we notice a few:

1. In Christ—made alive. 1 Cor. 15:22: "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."
2. In Christ—a new creature. 1 Cor. 5:17: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old

things are passed away; behold all things are become new."

3. In Christ—we triumph. 2 Cor. 2:14: "Now thanks be to God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place."

4. In Christ — all spiritual blessings. Eph. 1:3: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."

The above is sufficient to show what a wonderful privilege it is to be in Christ. But, how does one get into Christ? The answer may be found in the Bible—Gal. 3:26-27 and Romans 6:3-4. A careful examination of each reveals the simple truth that we all are baptized into Christ. Once in Him, we enjoy all spiritual blessings and there is no condemnation. Can we then conclude from this that once in Christ there is no possibility of condemnation? I think not. One reason is because in 1 Cor. 11:29, Paul, writing to a group of people in Christ, says, "For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body." From this it is evident that we may do something that will cause damnation to rest upon us. We could give other references that infer the possibility of falling from grace, but this is sufficient to prove our point. There must, then be some condition attached to Paul's promise in Rom. 8:1. What is it?

The Condition. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit." Thus, the condition upon which one lives a life free from condemnation is when he patterns his life after the works of the Spirit. If, however, a Christian walks after the flesh he is under condemnation because he failed to regard and keep the commandments of God. In order to understand what it means to walk after the "flesh," and, or after the Spirit turn to Gal. 5:19-23 and read Paul's description of the works of each.

In conclusion, we would like to note the relationship between the promise (There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus) and the condition (who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit), by noting verse 13 of Romans 8: "For if ye live after the flesh ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live."

Friend, do you enjoy this blessed promise? If not, get into Christ by obeying the gospel, so you can. If you are in Christ, meet the condition, and the promise will be a reality.

—Box 564
Lebanon, Mo.

Money is not required to buy one necessity of the soul.

If religion does nothing for your temper, it has done nothing for your soul.

Tears are the softening showers which cause the seed of heaven to spring up in human hearts.

THE SISKIYOU STREET CONGREGATION IS NOW HISTORY

By Carl N. Nichols

Through the years most of the brotherhood of the faithful Church of Christ have heard of, or come in contact with, the influence of the congregation located at 3535 Siskiyou Street, in Los Angeles, California.

The Church was meeting at this address as early as 1912. During the 1920's, Bro. D. F. Nichols and others led in services. In the 1930's, Bro. Jim McKaig, Bro. Otis Osburn and others as well as this writer carried the responsibility and guided the services.

In the late 1930's, the Siskiyou Street and the Montebello congregations saw the need and decided to undertake mission work throughout California. During the years from 1938 through 1950, the Lord blessed our efforts, and others took up the challenge and were fighting the good fight to the extent that there were close to fifty faithful congregations in California, where thirteen years before there had been only three.

During World War II, the Siskiyou Street brethren helped the rest of the brotherhood meet the costs of the conscientious objectors who served the nation in service camps in lieu of service in the armed forces.

There were discouraging times in the 1930's, but as the young people of the few congregations around us grew up, we had meetings and singings and the Lord blessed us with joyous and spiritually prosperous times. Many of our young people are now faithful leaders and teachers in many other parts of this country. We were blessed in that many of our young men chose to become preachers of the Gospel. Two of our young evangelists, Gayland Osborn and Paul Nichols have been to Africa to preach the Gospel.

Through these years, we tried to encourage our young and ourselves in the Lord's work by having extra singing services and association on the first Lord's Day of each month.

The area surrounding Siskiyou Street has deteriorated as a residential neighborhood and it has been several years since anyone in the area had come to services. Many of the members drove fifteen miles across metropolitan Los Angeles to attend church services at this location. The brethren finally decided to sell the building and possibly start two new congregations in areas close to the homes of the brethren.

The first Lord's Day of March, 1964 marked the last week of services in the building at 3535 Siskiyou Street. The crowd of well-wishers and those who cherished joyous moments of the past was one of the largest we have seen in recent years.

We are thankful that God has blessed us so, and that we were permitted to raise our children into faithful Christian adulthood.

We have a temporary location for the church meeting in North Hollywood at 5026 Vineland Ave. We hope to find a suitable place soon for a congregation to meet in the eastern part of Los Angeles County.

May God richly bless all of the faithful who have encouraged us and prayed for us through the years. We solicit your prayers in the future.

—563 So. Pickering
Whittier, California

"MODEST APPAREL"

(1 Tim. 2:9)

By Edwin S. Morris

After reading Bro. Don McCord's remarks on "Modest Apparel," under the heading of "This and That" in the March issue, I am inspired to write on this subject. I realize some, as on other important matters, pay very little attention to this plain teaching in the Word of God. However, this should cause us to teach more instead of less on the subject. I agree wholeheartedly with Bro. Don that this applies to men as well as women, and must be heeded if we please the Father in heaven.

Notice the text: "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety, not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; (and vs. 10) But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works." In Like manner means that he wills or commands what follows, as he had commanded what went before. Adorn is to put in order, arrange, make ready. When they come to worship, let them not spend their thoughts in adorning their bodies. MacKnight comments: "What the apostle forbids is, that immodest manner of dressing which is calculated to excite impure desires in the spectators; also, that gaudiness of dress which proceeds from vanity, and nourishes vanity; in short, that attention to dress which consumes much time, leads women to neglect the more important adorning of their minds, makes them careless of their families, and runs them into expenses greater than their husbands can afford." Modest means well arranged, seemly, modest; in simple attire that will not attract attention. It is orderly, that is decorous, modest in a moral respect. They are to avoid conspicuous dress or showy ornaments—anything, in fact, which would be likely to arouse attention or distract the thoughts of others. Shamefacedness is a sense of shame, modesty. Strong says: "Through the idea of downcast eyes; bashfulness towards men, modesty or awe." This would lead them to avoid everything unbecoming in the mode of dress. Sobriety is soundness of mind, self-control, sobriety. Self-restraint; not yielding to vain impulses. It is moderation of the desires and conduct. The well-balanced state of mind arising from habitual self-restraint. Now notice verse 10: "But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works." That is, good works are the only ornaments with which women professing Christianity should seek to be adorned. "But (adorn themselves) with that which becometh women professing godliness through good works."

There we have simply what Paul teaches in these two verses about modest apparel. Good sister, study this carefully and then be very careful to abide by it. Many times many want to become very technical and try to argue about just how long a dress is supposed to be or how low the neck line should be, etc. I can certainly give you some safe advice and that is just have the length long enough that there is no doubt and the neck line high enough that there is no doubt. In a word, just have on apparel that leaves no doubt as to its modesty. A sister who is desiring to save her soul, and wanting to do as nearly right as she possibly can, will certainly adorn herself where there is no doubt whatsoever. She will not be found in shorts, tight

skirts, men's clothing, etc. She will be endeavoring "to make her calling and election sure."

In 1 Peter 3:3, Peter is giving instructions in adorning, and the apparel to be worn. The word "apparel" here is the translation of the common Greek word referring particularly to outer clothing. The purpose for clothing is for the protection of the body and for the sake of modesty and good taste. The purpose of apparel is for the adornment of the body. Peter is not forbidding the wearing of clothing, but the donning of such apparel as these wives were using in an effort to win their husbands to the Lord, clothing that the world wore, immodest, gaudy, conspicuous. And oh, how many sisters today violate this command by being like the world in their dress! Then, in verse 4, he teaches them to have a "meek and quiet spirit." A "meek spirit" is one not characterized by self-will, envy, pride, presumption or stubbornness; and a "quiet spirit" is one that is calm, tranquil, and at peace. We are taught in 1 Tim. 2:2 to "lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty," and in 1 Thess. 4:11 "to study to be quiet." In view of this plain teaching, how can one get a remote idea that it is pleasing to God to dress and lead the lives that some do? How can one lead a quiet life and dress immodestly, join in the worldly activities of the world? It certainly seems out of place, to say the least, for members of the church to be so interested in roller rinks, ice skating rinks, bowling alleys and what have you. What a shame for a church group to get together and go to such places for their entertainment, and especially on Lord's day evening after they have eaten the Lord's Supper. How can they be in that frame of mind? Many of the same ones, being aware of a singing, will never enter the doors. Is that a meek and quiet spirit and devotion to the Lord? Yes, one departure leads to another. I realize that man will criticize and condemn for such teaching but just let any of us gainsay the scripture on this. May God help each of us to resolve to live closer to the Lord and further from the world; dedicate our souls, bodies and spirit to the Lord; live a quiet and peaceable life which is acceptable to God.

—905 Bluewood Drive
Dallas, Texas 75232

HELP! HELP! (II)

By Wallace Middick

Human wisdom teaches us to grow up, be mature, be strong of ourselves, self-sufficient, independent; in other words, get away from needing help as much as possible. You do not follow this code as a child of God; you do not avoid God as much as possible and try to attain Christian growth on your own; you need help, and a realization of this is basic in the Christian life. We read in 1 Peter 5:7, "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you"; and in Phil. 4:6, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Lean upon Him, recognize and deal with the fact that you need help in righteous living.

We all need help; yes, in all the phases of life. Children need help, from childhood to adulthood; the child will have such help available in the righteous home of Christian parents, and more from the Father (Continued on page 8)

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THIS AND THAT

Acknowledgment—Bro. Homer L. King wishes to acknowledge with sincerest thanks the following donations: Healdton, Okla., by Bill Tate—\$50; Lovejoy, Pa., by E. K. Lockard—\$50.

Our goal—We have mentioned in previous issues that our goal in 1964 is to add 1,000 new subscriptions. We estimate that we have already achieved about one-fourth of this goal. Matter for publication is of such volume, it may be advantageous, in the near future, for us to increase the size of the paper from 12 to 16 pages. This, of course, will be added expense. We may have more to say about this at a later date. We have every intention of doing our best to keep the subscription price at \$1.00 a year. The volume of matter for publication seems to increase month by month; we are thankful for this.

Our helpers—You will notice that our subscription list is at 195 this month. The past 3 months, we have averaged about 198. A good number of these are new ones. We certainly appreciate all that you do for this journal. To one and all, we say a sincere "thank you." There are three widows who deserve honorable mention as our helpers, I feel. They are. Sister Elizabeth Byford, Waco, Tex.; Sister Mattie Lloyd, Pomona, Calif.; Sister Olive Wilburn, Sanger, Calif.; and Sister Della Stone, Pico-Rivera, Calif. Thanks again, to all!

Words of Encouragement—The following comments, and more, concerning the paper have been a source of encouragement of late. We share them with our readers: "I enjoy each issue, and keep them to re-read."—Texas.

"I think the Old Paths Advocate is a wonderful paper."—Calif.

"I enjoy the OPA more than ever and usually read it through as soon as I get it. I am not afraid to send it to my friends."—Okla.

"There have been some mighty fine articles in the OPA of recent months. The article by Edwin Morris on "Long Hair" and the one on "Senseless Division" by Ronny Wade are among them. It occurs to me that many, many brethren might like to have re-prints of such fine articles."—Texas.

"The paper is wonderful. This is the sentiment of many that I hear remark."—Texas.

"We always enjoy the OPA."—Tenn.

"The OPA has been excellent."—Calif.

"The OPA is getting better all of the time; keep up the good work."—Ala.

"We appreciate the paper as we always have. We feel the editors are men whose lives are examples of the believers, and that wisdom is a characteristic that all possess."—Calif.

Do you need these?

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are either old or tried songs—65 cents per copy;
2 or more copies—50 cents.)

Send all orders to Old Paths Advocate, 1061 N. Pilgrim, Stockton, Calif.

—D. B. McCord

OUR HELPERS

You will find listed below the names of those sending subscriptions from February 21 to March 21, and opposite the name the number of subs sent. We want to express again our deepest appreciation for your continued interest in behalf of this journal. May we count on you to continue the good work? Please check the following list, and report any errors to us immediately.

Elizabeth Byford—20; R. A. Berry—8; Edwin S. Morris—7; George G. Freeman—6; Olive Wilburn—5; J. B. Lasiter—5; Otis L. Osburn—5; Mrs. D. E. Stone—5; Fred Lay—4; Mattie Lloyd—4; Ruth Leonard—4; James D. Hensley—4; Wayne McKamie—4; June McKinney—3; Bill Roden—3; James R. Stewart—3; Fred Renier—3; Hugh Milner—3; William Butt—3; M. E. Mize—3; Miles King—3; Mrs. Paul Akey—3; Wayne Fussell—2; Ronny Wade—2; Leon Fancher—2; Neva Kuykendall—2; Ernie Crisp—2; Winnie Bryant—2; J. H. Lakey—2; Mary Ruth Ivey—2; Claude B. Smith—2; Cecile Johnson—2; Gerald Rowland—2; Ray Osburn—2; Sam Rollins—2; Larry Ballard—2; Robert Blevins—2; Charles Everett—2; Mrs. Katie Thompson—2; Harold Heflin—2; Ollie Nix—2; R. M. Van Stavern—1; Dayton Clouse—1; John Modgling—1; Arthur Wade—1; John T. Malcolm—1; Ray Roe—1; Leslie Brigham—1; Terry Adamson—1; Odessa Clouse—1; Pat Adkinson—1; Paul Walker—1; Chapman Grimes—1; E. H. Miller—1; John W. Smith—1; Mrs. Helen Ribble—1; Ivan Mink—1;

Dave Talley—1; Gayland Osburn—1; R. L. Keen—1; Marie Menasco—1; Virginia L. Bohn—1; Mrs. Paul Lane—1; Garry Macy—1; Thomas J. Shaw—1; Betty Stroud—1; T. E. Morris—1; Mrs. C. A. Skaggs—1; Morris Hopkins—1; D. C. Kelley—1; John Bennison—1; Mrs. Vernon Smith—1; John O'Donnell—1; Harry Wallace—1; Jimmy Winchester—1; Lavinia Rutledge—1; Anna Manicks—1; Raymond Cansler—1; Ethel Walker—1; C. R. Willingham—1; Byron Kramer—1; Elmer B. Snow, Jr.—1; Elaine Westerbuhr—1; Pansie Keel—1; Mrs. Jean Updyke—1; Cassie Lee—1; Jack Cutter—1; Manly Blanton—1; L. C. Otey—1; Esther Perrin—1. Total—195.

THERE IS HOPE

Yes, there is hope that the 1964 directory of churches will be off the press shortly. I should have set the dead line a long time ago, for as soon as it was announced in the OPA, (even before I received my copy) reports began flowing in; I received so many that it took an extra day to prepare for the printer. He has informed me that he hopes to have them off the press by the last of April. I will fill all orders as soon as I receive them from the printer; I will in turn place a notice in the OPA when they are ready, and am sure of the price. I feel sure the price will not exceed fifty cents, even though it is the largest directory we have had. I did not list the preachers' addresses and telephone numbers because so few of them reported.

—E. H. Miller,
Box 538, LaGrange, Ga. 30240

ATTENTION!!

The Lord willing, there will be a meeting in the interest of the young people at Carlsbad, Calif., April 24, 25 and 26th. Bro. Lee Book will be the speaker. Activities will be planned and we invite all, young and old alike, to attend part or all of this week-end meeting. On Lord's Day, in the afternoon, there will be talks by the young men. We extend a welcome to all.

—Dean Crossman
2041 Gayle Way, Carlsbad, Calif.

BOOK REVIEW

"FLOWERS FOR YOU," by Leroy Brownlow—\$2.95—This is Leroy Brownlow's latest book and we believe it will prove to be a wonderful self-help, inspirational book. "Flowers For You" is bound in a beautiful white washable binding with letters in gold. It has a presentation page and a ribbon book marker. This book will make an excellent gift for any occasion. The author strives to view our hearts as a rich and beautiful garden in which the principles set forth may thrive as fragrant and lovely flowers. You will find thirteen chapters dealing with spiritual flowers. Here are a few of the ones we liked best: Flower of Happiness, Flower of Optimism, Flower of Courage and Flower of Assurance. The three chapters on Flower Petals, Flower Buds, and Flower Blossoms are filled with wonderful thoughts. If you feel the book is not worth the price after you have received your copy, then you may return it for a refund. Order from: Leon's Music and Book Store, 4835 MacCorkle Ave., S.W., South Charleston 9, W. Va. Also, if you would like a list of Gospel Records, write for one.

"STAR OF HOPE"

This is the name of the 1964 song book published by Bro. Homer L. King. It is now in the hands of the printer. It features many of the very newest songs, as well as the old and tried songs that have stood the test through the years. It would help Bro. King if you could place your order in advance; this way he can have them sent directly from Dallas, where they are printed by the Frank Stamps Music Co., and thereby save time and postage. The price is 65 cents per copy, 50 cents for two or more. Order from Old Paths Advocate, Homer L. King, 1061 N. Pilgrim St., Stockton, Calif.

THEY NEED HELP

Washington, D. C.—Brethren Dent and Brown have asked that I make their needs known to the brotherhood. They are in need of a more suitable place in which to worship. They are trying to find one. They are in need of good reliable brethren who can teach and be an influence for good to come and help them, and even live among them. Can you help? You may contact Bro. Joseph Brown, 7800 Atwood St., District Hts., Md. —J. D. Corson

San Jose, Calif.—The members of the Lord's church in this city need financial assistance in order to purchase a place in which to worship. We are small, but feel there is a great opportunity for the advancement of the cause in this area. The congregation was established about 5 years ago by Bro. John Smith, being supported by congregations at Stockton, Aromas, and Modesto. We have been at a great disadvantage here due to the high cost of property. We have recently purchased a half acre of land on which we owe a balance of \$1,500. This must be paid in five months. Any money that we receive will be applied to this loan, and toward the construction of a building. Any amount of help will be greatly appreciated.

Lorn Best, 1484 Mt. Shasta Dr., San Jose, Calif.
Caldwell, Idaho—I have lately been to Caldwell, Idaho to assist the brethren there and found them in dire need of help. They are small in number, and with very little income. Their expenses of about \$32.50 a month exceed their contribution. Could someone help them in this? Too, they really need someone there to help with the teaching. Bro. Ernie Crisp is the only teacher and is in poor health, and I understand is not able to teach every Lord's Day. Bro. Crisp believes a married man can procure work there most any time. Surely, our brethren somewhere can help in this matter. Communicate with Bro. Ernie Crisp, 615 Chicago, Caldwell, Idaho.

—Thomas W. Lamb,
918 So. 8th St., Yakima, Wash.

IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

By R. Mearl Van Stavern

As Christians today, I believe we have failed to grasp the full meaning of the name of Christ. Certainly, we believe that we should be baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit according to the words of Christ in Matt. 28:19. Peter said in Acts 3:6: "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have

give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk." Again in Col. 3:17, Paul says to do all in the name of the Lord; that is, in every word and deed. I believe the Scriptures teach that not only are we to have His authority, but use His name as well. In Matt. 14:13, Christ said, "Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the son." Did He say in the name Christian? No, He said in His name.

Christian is our name as individual members of the church of Christ, His Body. The early Christians as well as the apostles were beaten for speaking in the name of Christ (Acts 5:40). Just what does it mean to use the glorious name of Christ? By His authority actually means that not only do we have His permission but also instructions as to how to carry out His commandments. We may in baptism use the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, and at the same time cast aside the instructions and example for the mode of baptizing. Thus, we leave His authority and do the commandments of men, such as sprinkling, pouring, etc.

I believe it is possible to use Christ's name without His authority, but impossible to use His authority without His name. For example, a person might use my name by my authority and write a check and receive money from my small bank account, but he certainly could not hope to receive money unless he used my name; with or without my authority he would have to use my name.

Many today are using Christ's name in religion without His authority, and seemingly in the eyes of the world are doing must good; but Christ said in Matt. 15:9, "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men." Many of our brethren want to use His authority without His name; this is wrong. Some want to use God's name only, even though Christ said in John 5:43, "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not; if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive."

Evidently Christ is God's authority. In Matt. 17:5, the Father said, "This is my beloved son, hear ye him"; and in Matt. 28:18, Jesus said that all power is given unto Him in heaven and in earth.

God will not hear our prayers unless we go through His Son's name. The name of Christ is authoritative and the name Christian is a privilege. It is a privilege bestowed only by belonging to the church of Christ. Do not wear His name or use His name unless you do His commands as He instructs.

Matt. 7:22-23 would be an example for us. It reads, "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

In conclusion, if Christ is our Saviour's name and the Church is His body, the body should have His name. Yes, many today are using His name without authority, due to the nature of their own works.

—1517 E. 17th St.
Odessa, Tex.

SMOKING (I)

By David Macy

The recent report on cigarette smoking by the Surgeon General of the United States should make every Christian do some serious thinking about this subject.

As is well known by now, the Surgeon General's report definitely says that cigarette smoking is a cause of lung cancer.

This report strengthens several other reports that have proved with facts and figures that cigarette smoking is a slow form of suicide to many people, because it contributes to dreaded heart disease and other ailments in addition to causing lung cancer.

In *Southwestern Medicine*, a medical journal published at El Paso, Texas, in the Dec., 1955 issue, the editor says, "Statistically it has been shown that any man past 50 years of age who smokes a pack of cigarettes a day has 50 times as much chance of developing cancer of the lung as a non-smoker, and that in 700 cases of lung cancer only nine were non-smokers."

I was very interested to hear a speech given by Dr. Oxsmith recently. Parts of his speech were broadcast on the radio. Dr. Oxsmith said that as far as he knew he had treated more lung cancer patients than any other living man. Dr. Oxsmith has been publicly opposing cigarette smoking for some time, and he was happy that the Surgeon General's committee of ten leading scientists had arrived at the same conclusion on this subject that he had arrived at a good while ago.

Dr. Oxsmith brought out the interesting fact that lung cancer is a new disease. He said that 40 years ago this disease did not exist. We can plainly see the reason for this, because cigarette smoking was not widely practiced in this country until the twentieth century.

Dr. Oxsmith also brought out these interesting facts about cigarette smoking. There are 21 cancer producing agents in the tar of cigarette smoke; only 5% of the people who take lung cancer live; cutting down on the amount of cigarettes smoked will not prevent lung cancer. If you smoke one cigarette a day there is a chance you will develop cancer. Dr. Oxsmith also said that pipe and cigar smoking is not safe because it causes cancer of the lips, tongue, and larynx.

Cigarettes contain the following harmful ingredients: Nicotine (a highly poisonous alkaloid), carbon monoxide, acrolein, ammonia, phosphoric acid, and tars. (Article written by the editor of the Waukesha Daily Freeman, Waukesha, Wisconsin). The same article says if you smoke a pack of cigarettes a day, you inhale 400 milligrams of nicotine a week, and a single injection of this much nicotine would kill a person as quickly as a bullet.

It has also been definitely proven that smoking contributes to heart disease in many people. The famous Mayo Foundation examined ninety smokers and found that coronary heart disease is six times as prevalent among smokers as non-smokers. Death rates between thirty and fifty years are twice as great among heavy smokers as among non-smokers (B. E. Russell, via Mooresville Memo, Feb. 27, 1963).

(Continued)

—Box 27, Gretna, Fla.

WORSHIPPING GOD IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

By Juan Rodriguez

(Editor's note: This is the third in a series. In the preceding installments, Bro. Rodriguez dealt with singing, prayer, teaching and the communion. In this one, he is briefly concerned with giving.—DMC)

Brothers, I do not find any rule concerning the amount that a Christian is to give; however, a Christian should dedicate all that he possesses to God. The Jews, under the Law, were to give the tenth of their incomes (Deut. 14:22-23), and besides that, other voluntary offerings (Deut. 12:5-6).

As the Christian has no such law, he nonetheless might learn that he is to be no less generous than were the Jews. I have been told that brothers who so practice have had blessings in abundance by doing so.

"The rule of three" given by Paul to the Church at Corinth in 1 Cor. 16:1-2, concerning the contribution to the poor saints at Jerusalem, brings out some ways of giving that might help. We are (1) every first day of the week (2) to give of our means (3) as God has prospered us.

In chapters 8 and 9 of 2 Corinthians, we find further instructions about giving. Every man is to give as he purposes in his heart. He is not to give grudgingly nor of necessity. He is to give cheerfully.

My prayer is that from now on, we will all worship God in Spirit and truth, for with such worshippers He is well-pleased.

—Nardo No. 2961-A
Col. Moderna
Monterrey, Mexico

OUR DEPARTED

Jones—Bro. Joseph Jones was a member of the Pontiac, Mich. congregation for more than two years. He died at the age of 78 years. The funeral was conducted in Pontiac, with many attending. Brethren from Flint, Milford and Pontiac were present. The writer endeavored to speak words of comfort.

—Garry Macy

Adams—Sister Mayme A. Adams, 143 Cornell St., San Antonio, Tex., met her appointment with death on Feb. 7, 1964. After six months of illness, she approached the appointed time with courage as the Apostle Paul, who said "to die is gain." A very devoted family will miss this fine Christian wife and mother. Those left in bereavement, all members of the church, are: Her husband, Charles A. Adams; one son, Norman Adams; and three daughters, Mildred, Tootsie and Christine. She also leaves behind one brother, two sisters, 10 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Sister Adams was a faithful member of the Nacogdoches Rd. congregation, San Antonio. Dear reader, remember you, too, have an appointment; be ye therefore ready.

—Melvin Crouch

Johnson—Brother and Sister George Johnson of Portales, N. Mex., were born in 1882 and departed this life together Feb. 12, 1964 at the age of 81 years. Their death was due to a "blow out" on a front tire while making a curve near Davidson, Okla. Both were killed instantly. They were married in 1905, and to this union

were born 5 children: Edith, Julian, Emil, Ralph and John. There were 17 grandchildren; 47 great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. Bro. and Sister Johnson will be missed as they were pillars in the church at Portales, N. Mex. He was a great singer, and teacher and the most tender-hearted person I have ever met. Their home was the preacher's home and to know them was to love them. Theirs were 61 years of married bliss, and their love for each other was great. They had a desire to depart this life together. Sweet are the memories of these precious ones. Words of comfort were spoken by the writer.

—Fred Kirbo

Meeker—Edward W. Meeker, Moberly, Mo., passed away at the age of 61 years at the University Medical Ctr., Columbia, Mo. He had been in ill health for some time. He was born in Bourbon Co., Kansas. He is survived by his mother, Sister Hilda Meeker, Baton Route, La.; his wife, 3 daughters, 3 sons, six brothers and six sisters. Among the brothers and sisters are Bro. Roy Meeker, Clovis, Calif.; Sister Vira Ward, Caldwell, Idaho; and Sister Albert Kriegel, formerly of Baldwin Park, Calif.

Kriegel—Albert Kriegel passed away Dec. 25, 1963 at City of Hope, Duarte, Calif., a victim of leukemia at the age of 65. He had lived in Calif. about 12 years and was an inspector for Telecomputing Co., Monrovia, Calif. He is survived by his wife, Sister Altamae Kriegel, one sister, one adopted son, 4 stepsons and 14 grandchildren. Bro. Freddie Lay conducted the funeral at Rose Hills cemetery, Whittier, Calif.; singing was under the direction of Bro. Lee Kenney.

Combs—Jimmie Ray Combs was born Jan. 22, 1962 in Levelland, Tex. and departed this life Feb. 23, 1964 at the age of 2 years and 1 month. He left to mourn his passing his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Combs; one brother and two sisters of Odessa, Tex. His grandparents, Bro. and Sister B. A. Combs, are members of the Andrews, Tex. congregation. The writer attempted to assuage the grief of the stricken family by admonishing them to turn to God wherein there is comfort in the time of need. The singing was beautiful; a large group of relatives and friends attended the services.

—C. A. Smith

Nelson—Bro. Carl R. Nelson was born May 16, 1892 in Ottumwa, Iowa, the son of Carl G and Matilda Olson Nelson; he passed away peacefully to his reward on Mar. 3, 1964, having reached the age of 71 yrs., 9 mos., and 16 days. He lived all of his life in the county in which he was born. Bro. Nelson had been cleaning a cistern beneath the basement of his home, and was found there by his wife when she returned from a trip visiting members of the church who were sick; death was due to a heart attack. He retired in 1951 from the Ottumwa Iron Works, having worked there for 41 years. He heard and obeyed the gospel in early life and was ordained a minister of the gospel in 1924; he has been one of the laborers in the congregation at Finley and Adella in Ottumwa for many years, where he will be greatly missed; his teaching and influence were wonderful. On Dec. 31, 1915, he was united in marriage with Hazel Black; to this union were born three sons: Bro. Ronald Nelson, Agency, Iowa, and Brethren Dayton and Keith Nelson of Ottumwa; and one daughter,

Mrs. Marcene Richardson, Ottumwa. Besides the loving companion and children, he is survived by 2 sisters, 2 brothers, 9 grand children and 3 great grand children, and many nieces and nephews. Two brothers and 1 sister preceded him in death. The large number of brethren and friends who attended the funeral at Jay's Funeral Home on Mar. 6th, the beautiful flowers, and notes of sympathy bespeak the respect our brother had among those who knew him. It can be said of Bro. Carl that he was as Abraham of old, "He was looking for a city whose builder and maker is God." The writer spoke words of comfort and warning to the many present after which the body was laid to rest in the beautiful Shaul cemetery not too far from the congregation where he had labored so faithfully.

—W. R. Heimer, Sr.

HELP! HELP!—

(Continued from page 3)

above. A child needs help in relationships with associates, in how to walk the way of Christ when the world calls so loud and long to be "one of us;" yes, be popular. We all want to be liked and accepted; this is natural, but we cannot, in any case, forsake God. Remember, " - - the friendship of the world is enmity with God." Children, you need help and you are not forgotten in your need. Christ said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God;" and "—he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them" (Mk. 10:14, 16). The young should put their trust in God. David said in Ps. 71:5, "For thou art my hope, O Lord God: thou art my trust from my youth." The blessing that David asked is fitting here, Ps. 144:12, "That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as cornerstones, polished after the similitude of a palace." To the young man, Timothy, Paul instructed, "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers—" (1 Tim. 4:12).

Fathers need help, too, in meeting their obligations. Paul said, in Eph. 6:4, "And ye fathers provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord;" and in Col. 3:21, "Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged." Sometimes parents, with a desire to do best by their children, impose very heavy restrictions upon them, sometimes much stricter than God intended. In this, parents must be very careful, for this warning has been established, "Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged." Fathers are to provide (1 Tim. 5:8), and in this they need help, too.

Women need help, also. In 1 Tim. 5:14, we read, "I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully;" and in Titus 2:3-5. "The aged women likewise that they be in behavior as cometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed." So, **everyone needs help!** We have that wonderful, ever-abundant supply of which Paul speaks in Phil. 4:19, "But my God

shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus;" and in Heb. 4:16, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

Help is needed to overcome Satan, all of the negative things of earthly life, but we need help, too, in order to go forward constructively. We must do our best to save self and others. Peter said in Acts 2:40, "Save yourselves—" In saving self, we must not forget others. Remember the wonderful old song, "Throw out the life-line across the dark wave, There is a brother whom someone should save. Somebody's brother! Oh, who then will dare to throw out the life-line, his peril to share."

Yes, sound the cry, sound the alarm, do not wait too long. **You need help!** The rich man fared sumptuously everyday in this life; when he learned that he needed help it was too late; he was past help in the eternal clutches of Satan. Today, you have this most precious help available; be wise and heed the wisdom in these words of the prophet Isaiah: "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon" (Isa. 55:6-7).

—1115 Cavender Dr.
Hurst, Tex.

Rank and riches are chains of gold, but still chains.

Modesty once extinguished seldom knows how to return.

Bounded in his nature, infinite in his desires, man is like a fallen god who has a recollection of heaven.

If we would not flatter ourselves, the flattery of others could not harm us.

When you doubt, abstain.

Custom is the law of fools.

Whenever man commits a crime, heaven finds a witness.

The finest qualities of our nature, like the bloom of fruits, can be preserved only by the most delicate handling.

If we were half as anxious to be saved from sin as we are to be kept from sorrow, it would be a wholesome fear.

A fool in a high station is like a man on top of a high mountain—everything appears small to him, and he appears small to everybody.

Mammon is the largest slave holder in the world.

Morality is the vestibule of religion.

The man with but one idea in his head is sure to exaggerate that to top heaviness, and thus he loses his equilibrium.

From The Fields

Sam Rollins, 25 Cary St., LaGrange, Ga., Feb. 28—The paper is better every issue. Here are 2 subs.

Harold Heflin, Box 495, Portales, N. Mex., Mar. 10—We enjoy reading the OPA very much. Keep up the good work. Here are 2 subs.

Peluse Kalongonda, Nkoko Vg., N. A. Mkhumba, P. O. Palombe, Nyasaland, Africa, Jan. 24—Please, brethren, pray for us here. I am glad that up to now I am receiving OPA. Thank you.

Cicero Goddard, 3803 Garfield, Kansas City, Mo., Mar. 16—I now have my mailing permit. Will send a detailed report next month about my progress here. We are making progress among the people.

C. R. Willingham, Box 613, Woodlake, Calif., Mar. 2—Here is our sub for another year, as I do not want to miss the paper. I love to read all of the reports from the field.

James R. Stewart, 312 E. Nugent, Temple, Tex., Mar. 11—The work here continues with increasing crowds and interest, and others have promised to attend. Pray for us and the work here. Here are 3 subs.

A. C. Severe, Box 562, Limbe, Nyasaland, Africa, Mar. 3—In Jan. my small house and all of our clothes went away by fire. Brethren, who will help me? My work is to preach the gospel. I am very, very happy when I read that Brethren Orten and Cutter are coming.

F. H. Lichapa, Namphungo church, C/O Namlenga Mission, P. O. Mikolongwe, Nyasaland, Africa, Mar. 6—February 2, I was at Wendewende with 15 baptisms; Feb. 9, at Namphungo church with 5 baptisms; Feb. 16, at Zoma with 6 baptisms. Again, I was with Bro. MacMillan Kwanda.

McMillan Mkwanda, Ndoka Vge., P. O. Ntondwe, Nyasaland, Africa, Mar. 3—Some have gone to preach for others. I am alone here. Please, brethren, try to help us preach the gospel by sending the preachers, now, now!

Coy Agnew, 215 Sharidan, Manteca, Calif., Mar. 6—The church here is doing very well. Recently, we had one baptism and one confession of faults. Pray for the cause of Christ here. We enjoy the paper very much. Here is our renewal.

Donald Brittain, 20 2nd Ave., N. E., Ardmore, Okla., Mar. 14—The church here is getting along very nicely. We are in process of securing a building to use while the old one is being torn down so the new one can be built. Everyone seems happy. We need your prayers.

Ivan Mink, 1844 Chaucer Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio, Mar. 11—We enjoy immensely the timely articles and reports from the various preachers. Bro. King, we are happy to hear of your continued improvement and may the Lord restore you to perfect health again is our prayer. We solicit your prayers in behalf of the faithful here. Here is our renewal.

Fred Lay, 7844 Rancho Fanita Dr., Santee, Calif., Mar. 15—The churches in this area are active. We continue to enjoy the blessings of fellowship with those of like precious faith. I hope the paper continues to grow. Here are 4 subs.

Pat Adkinson, 309-B Cedar Crest, Tuscaloosa, Ala., Mar. 13—We still meet each Lord's day in our home. We have visitors from various places. I will preach at Early this week-end. I will be going to Robertsdale, Ala. again soon. I have certainly enjoyed reading the paper the last year; here is our renewal.

Ray Roe, Stroud, Okla., Mar. 17—We are still striving to keep house for the Lord; attendance is very good. Wesley Roe of Okla. City preaches for us on the first Lord's Day; Bro. Copeland, the second; and Bro. Van Butts the fourth. Bro. Richards and Bro. Franklin of Tulsa have helped us, too. I surely have enjoyed the paper. Pray for us. Here is a sub.

E. R. Brown, Stilwell, Okla., Mar. 4—How times have changed! When I was a boy preachers went horseback, preaching, not for money, but to save souls. They did not forget the smaller churches. All of us have a work to do, which if we fail, we will fail to pass through the gates into that City on that great day when one and all will be judged. May God bless you all.

A. C. Severe, Wendewende Mission, C/O Namphungo, S. B. Court, Class B Agency, P. B. No. 2, P. O. Luchenza, Nyasaland, Africa, Feb. 17—I have not sent report for 5 months because I have not had shilling with which to mail it. Yes, we want the preachers you are sending to come now, now. The work is going well. We do not think they will see any troubles. I will now be at Wendewende for three or four weeks.

Leon Fancher, Box 392, Mena, Ark., Mar. 17—The work continues to look good here as crowds are growing steadily and home-study prospects increase. We look forward to an excellent meeting with Wayne Fussell, April 17-26. I will be at New Salem, Miss. for a singing school, May 7-15. May God help us all to become more devoted and consecrated to Him. In this, we can be useful for the Master.

Garry Macy, Rt. 3, Anderson, Mo., Mar. 9—We have been enjoying a meeting this week conducted by Bro. Jack Cutter in Joplin, Mo. He is certainly doing a commendable work there. In late Feb., we left the brethren in Mich. The night before we left, a young man was baptized into Christ. From here we go to Powe, Mo. for a meeting later this month. We look forward to hearing Bro. Wayne Fussell in Springfield this month. Bro. Joe Howard will be at Burkhart in April; Bro. Johnny Elmore at Neosho in May.

Jesus Rodriguez, Calle Venezuela No. 5142, Col. Matamoros, N. Laredo, Tamps., Mexico, Feb. 24—I want to thank brethren who have helped me with food. I want all brethren to know that I have not spent foolishly the money they have sent to me. I have bought a lot on which to build. We need help in this. Are there those who will help us? The work for Christ in Laredo is progressing more and more, thanks to God.

Paul Walker, Rt. 2, Ethridge, Tenn., Mar. 16—Bro. James Orten preached here at home recently. We were happy to see and hear him again. I preached at Memphis last week-end; it was good to visit with them again. Bro. Cayson continues to do a good work there. The congregations here continue to prosper. Several of our young men are rapidly developing into fine teachers and song leaders. Our radio program started about 10 years ago and is doing much good for the cause, we trust. We enjoy the OPA. Here is a sub.

Wayne Fussell, 5928 W. Canal, Shreveport, La., March 14—We had a most enjoyable meeting with the Lawrence Rd. Church in Wichita Falls, Tex. Attendance and cooperation from neighboring churches were good. These brethren have a "mind to work." Bro. James Vannoy, one of the teachers there, baptized 5 from Olney the last Lord's Day. We enjoyed the presence of preaching brethren Ted Warwick and Bill Harmon from the Garden's Edge congregation through the meeting. Next meetings: Springfield, Mo., (Benton Ave.), March 20-29; Mena, Ark., April 17-26; Norman, Okla., May 8-17. We need your prayers.

John Modgling, 204 N. Cornell, Fullerton, Calif., Mar. 19—Recently, I have preached at Norco; El Centro; Siskiyou St., Los Angeles; and am now working with the Cypress congregation twice a month. I believe there is much work to be done there and all looks promising; so far, 3 have been restored to the faith and I feel there will soon be more. I recently enjoyed attending the meeting at Orange, Calif. in the interest of the young people; it was very nice. The Lord willing, I will leave the 21st to go to northern Calif. to preach at several congregations. Please continue to pray for me.

Clovis T. Cook, 809 Lyons, Kansas City, Kans., Mar. 16—Bro. Lynwood Smith closed a very good meeting last night for the congregation at 85th and Euclid, on the Mo. side. His preaching was excellent with tones of the pioneers, an echo of earlier days when a gospel preacher would give evidence that he knew his lesson by his able delivery of the same. The kind of preaching he did will get the job done. One young man was baptized. I preached yesterday on the Kans. side and another young man was baptized. Bro. Johnny Nichols recently baptized a young man at 10th and Ray. The work moves on. Bro. Goddard is working hard to get the work established among his people.

Fred Renier, 1213 Montana Pl., Joplin, Mo., Mar. 17—The church here is doing good with enthusiasm the highest I have ever seen it. Bro. Jack Cutter, who is doing personal work here, is a capable and tireless worker for the Lord. The churches that are supporting him may rest assured that they have chosen a good man. We have just concluded an eight-day meeting

with Bro. Jack doing the preaching and with the largest crowds I believe we have had. The unity and good-will shown by the Burkhardt and Neosho congregations is a monument to Christian love. Since Bro. Jack has been with us he has baptized 4 and 2 have been restored. Several more are in prospect. Our hopes are at a high level. Here are 3 subs.

Ronny F. Wade, Box 564, Lebanon, Mo., March 18—Since last report, we have preached at several places around Lebanon, among them Lee Summit and Ben Davis. The work in this area is definitely on the upswing, and things never looked brighter. We are looking forward to our meeting with Bro. Lynwood Smith, April 18-26. The Lord willing, I will begin a meeting at 64th St., Sacramento, Calif., May 1-10; thence to El Cajon, May 15-24; and Pontiac, Mich., June 3-14. We look forward to all these meetings with the anticipation of seeing old friends and meeting many new ones. May the Lord bless us all in His cause.

C. A. Smith, 1312 Alpine, Andrews, Tex., Mar. 11—The congregation here is doing reasonably well. We have had visitors of late. Feb. 23, we were happy to have my father, T. E. Smith, speak for us. We look forward to our meeting July 10-19 with Bro. Wayne McKamie. We have recently visited with and taught at Odessa (Clements St.), and Midland (Terrell St.). Preachers enroute to meetings in Calif. could come this way and find a welcome at all of the congregations in this area; we would all like to see more of the preachers come this way. Each fourth Lord's Day, we have a singing; there seems to be quite a lot of interest. Pray for us. God bless the saints the world over and help us to draw closer to God in these last days.

Jim Hickey, Box 486, Sonora, Calif., Mar. 16—The work here continues. We are striving to plant the seed of the kingdom. Our meeting has just concluded. We believe that good has come from it. Interest was high, and cooperation from other congregations was very good; fourteen congregations were represented during the meeting. Preaching brethren Homer King, T. F. Thomasson, Billy Jack Ivey and Jimmy Terrell were also with us. The brethren here are growing in grace and in knowledge. We are doing more individual teaching as doors of opportunity are opened. The brethren here believe that the church is stronger than it has ever been. For this we are happy. After the work here, I look forward to a meeting and a month's work at Atwater, Calif. Please remember me in your prayers.

David Macy, Box 27, Gretna, Fla., Mar. 17—I preached in Birmingham, Ala. Mar. 15. We surely enjoyed this; the church there is on the move. Bro. Elmer Stamper is doing a wonderful work among those brethren. The congregation is about twice the size it was when I first visited there about 2 years ago. There is a change in the dates of the meeting at Tallahassee, Fla.; it will be April 13-26. Bro. Wallace Kornegay and I will conduct this meeting. This will be a tent meeting and the tent will possibly be located on Orange Ave. across from the Sears service bldg. I have not received final confirmation on this. I would encourage all of the brethren in that area to support this meeting. Your presence will mean a great deal. The meeting

time is 8:00 P.M. daily. For further information you may contact me at the above address. My phone number is 856-5212.

Leonard Hendrickson, 11351 E. 36th St. N., Tulsa, Okla., Mar. 2—Members of the congregation at 3733 E. Latimer Place are pleased to report growth in membership by baptisms, confessions, and by those moving here. The congregation's spirit is high and God is blessing us with a period of peace and zeal. Several are capable of leadership and attendance is good. More appear to be reading and studying God's Word. Our financial condition is good, with land and building values of possibly twenty-five thousand while liabilities are about ninety-five hundred. We wish to express good-will toward all faithful brethren, and we desire their prayers toward our growth and success in the Lord. Our confidence is that God will bless those who live righteously.

Garry Macy, Rt. 3, Anderson, Mo., Feb. 17—We are with the Milford, Mich. congregation where the Lord is continuing to give the increase. Yesterday, a man and wife were restored to duty. Truly, the gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation. Because iniquity is abounding, the love of God in many is growing cold. We need a revival in our hearts and in our homes! May the Lord help us all to realize that soon the night cometh when no man will have the opportunity of being revived. Our work here will soon come to a close; the brethren here have been cooperative in every way. May the Lord bless the congregations here that they may continue to grow in peace, knowledge and number. May the mean old fox stay out of His vineyard. (Sorry this reached us too late for last issue.—DBMc)

James D. Corson, Rt. 2, Mahaffey, Pa., Mar. 10—I will begin some evangelistic work in the middle west through the summer months. Most of the churches in the East are at peace; bad weather conditions in Pa. hinder progress; however, none of the Lord's Day services had to be cancelled. I have worked with the congregation at Prospect, Pa., near Butler. They seem to be increasing in number and interest. May their good works continue. I have also been with the faithful in the Washington, D. C. area once a month since Sept. Progress there is at a standstill; most of the members have moved to other places. They continue Lord's Day worship in the Cardinal Motel on Shirley and Glebe Hwy. It is a very clean, convenient room. but there is no way of putting out a sign to let passersby know that the church is meeting there.

James D. Orten, 3025 Lakeshore, W. Monroe, La., Mar. 17—Since Sept. of last year, we have had the pleasure of working with the congregations of W. Monroe, Fairview and Conway in northern La., and Strong, Ark. The churches in this area are growing; we have had three baptisms and several restorations. The results are due, I am sure, to work done in the past by Billy Orten and the brethren. On all accounts we are thankful to Him Who gives the increase. As many of you know, we were not able to leave for Nyasaland on Mar. 2 as planned, since visas did not arrive in time. However, unless some unforeseen dif-

ficulty arises, we will be able to leave Mar. 23. As waiting always is, this was a trying experience; but we believe it was for the best. If the Lord wills, we will have at least a small report of conditions there in the May issue. We still need your prayers.

J. W. Kornegay, Rt. 1, Raleigh, N. C., Mar. 6—The church here continues to grow; we have good crowds every Lord's Day. We plan to conduct 3 or 4 tent meetings in the East; I feel it will bring forth fruit. June 19-28, I will be in Chouteau, Okla.; July 10-19, San Grove, Tex.; and July 26-Aug. 2, at Huff, Ark. My wife and I plan to be at the meeting in Sulphur, Okla. this year. I surely enjoy working with Bro. Jerry Harris. He is a fine young preacher and is very sincere with his work. I plan to hold a tent meeting in Tallahassee, Fla., April 13-26. I want to thank again all who are helping in this work. Huntington, W. Va.—\$150; Pontiac, Mich.—\$75; Greenville, S. C.—\$50; Flemington, Pa.—\$50; Raleigh, N. C.—\$50; and Flint, Mich.—\$25. I believe this work is not in vain. All preachers coming this way are invited to be with us. We enjoy the OPA.

R. B. Roden, 3550 Lynwood Rd., Lynwood, Calif., Mar. 13—The work here is always enjoyable. There is a great need for personal work in this area. Great zeal is shown to save lost souls; the attendance is good. Our meeting at LaGrange, Ga., Feb. 15-23, was blessed beyond expectations with good crowds. There were 2 baptisms and 2 confessions of faults while we were there. We will always remember the wonderful hospitality shown us there. Our stay in Bro. E. H. Miller's home was very enjoyable. We were happy to have my mother with us in this meeting. We were blessed with the opportunity of preaching at Capitol Hill and N. W. 21st St. congregations in Oklahoma City. It is always good to be built up with the great zeal manifested by the two home congregations. We enjoyed a nice visit with the daughter and her family. Brethren, pray for the work here and elsewhere. It is later than we think.

Lee Boek, 2214 Granger, National City, Calif., Mar. 13—We have begun our work here; we feel confident that with the help of the Lord a great deal of good can be done. March 10, the Lord added Bro. Kenneth King to His body; it is our prayer that many more will follow. April 10-19, I will conduct a meeting at Montebello, Calif. April 24-25, at Carlsbad, Calif., I will speak at the opening two services of a meeting primarily aimed at creating a greater interest among our young people. Recently, we were thrilled when my youngest brother, Leslie, joined the rest of us in obedience to the gospel. May he always be a dedicated Christian. Feb. 28-29, I attended a study of God's word, with other brethren, that was conducted at Highway City, Calif. The next will be May 1-2, again at Highway City. We solicit your prayers, and wish to remind all to pray for Brethren Cutter and Orten, that their trip will be successful.

Edwin S. Morris, 905 Bluewood Dr., Dallas, Tex. 75232, Mar. 16—The church here is doing fine and the work is moving along. Our attendance has increased of late; we had several visitors yesterday who were

not members. We are at peace and really enjoy worshipping God together. God has certainly blessed us in our efforts. The month's work at Arlington, Tex. closed with one baptism. We feel much good was done and we certainly enjoyed working with these fine Christians. The cooperation was good. We begin our meetings soon as follows: March 20-29, Foreman, Ark.; April 5-12, Tucson, Ariz.; April 24 - May 3, Memphis, Tenn. We plan a singing here in Dallas on April 18. We invite all to attend. We would like to encourage the preaching brethren to write and give dates and places of their meetings this summer. In their travels, brethren might be able to visit your meeting. Why not do this each month? Pray for us.

R. A. Berry, 4704 - 69th St. No., Birmingham, Ala., Mar. 16—We are doing real well with the work here; we are growing in number. God has blessed us and we are so thankful. We lost a good man when Bro. Simpson passed away. He was an elder, and did much good for the church; he is missed very much and was loved by all. Bro. E. H. Stamper was ordained an elder a short time before Bro. Simpson's death; he is a good man and doing a lot of good; we appreciate having him. We are looking forward to our meeting March 22-29 with Bro. Lynwood Smith doing the preaching. We look forward to having Bro. Ronny Wade here in Aug. Bro. E. H. Miller, his wife and four more from LaGrange, Ga., were here for a week-end meeting, Feb. 29th. We are so thankful for Bro. Miller; he has done so much for the church here. Mar. 15, Bro. David Macy and family from Fla., were with us for 2 sermons; we really enjoyed having them with us. He is a good gospel preacher. Please continue to pray for us. Here are 8 subs.

Jim A. Canfield, Rt. 3, Box 86, Marion, La., Mar. 10—Lord's Day, Mar. 1, I was at Memphis, Tenn. for the morning service; Bro. Harris preached that night. He continues to improve by studying his Bible (2 Tim. 2:15). I am glad to see young brethren like him taking a stand for the cause of Christ in these crucial times. We continue to get letters asking for help on buildings. Brethren, we are sorry we can not help. We are trying very hard to get our meeting house re-modeled by the last of April. We still need about \$400 to complete. We have never asked for help before, but if others can help us, we will appreciate it. Our brethren work hard, have large families to support, so that is why we can not help others as we would like. Any help we receive will be acknowledged. Brethren who know me, know that I am firm and loyal to the truth. I am glad to know of Bro. Goddard's progress among our people in Kansas City. On my way to Omaha, Neb. to Bro. David Gordon and the few there, I hope to go by Kansas City. March 29, I will be near Brookhaven, Miss. May God continue to bless the faithful.

Tom E. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 171-A, Duncan, Okla., March 14—The work at Healdton and surrounding congregations is making some progress. Our plans for building up weaker churches are taking shape. We have recently received word from Bro. Richard Nichols accepting the call to work among the churches in Okla. in 1965. We look forward to having him work

with us; we consider him capable and energetic. If we can instill enthusiasm into all the congregations in these parts, with the help of God, the work will not fail. I suggest that all plan to be at our next meeting for this purpose the second Lord's Day in May at Duncan, Okla. Each congregation will be notified by mail by Bro. Don Loveless. We need you in order that the work may go forward. Solomon said, "Where no counsel is, the people fail: but in a multitude of counselors there is safety" (Prov. 11:14). May we depend on you to lend your counsel in this great work. Our prayer is that you will not fail us.

E. H. Miller, Box 538, LaGrange, Ga., 30240, Mar. 16—We had a most wonderful meeting with Bro. R. B. Roden doing the preaching. His wife and mother were with him, and we certainly enjoyed having the three in our homes. Each service of the meeting was almost like Lord's Day morning as far as the attendance was concerned. I think everyone was surprised at such a good attendance throughout the meeting, because many in this section have to work at night. During the meeting, 3 were baptized and another was baptized the next week, and 2 others since then; I think others will obey soon. Things are looking good for the cause in this area. A week ago, we started a new congregation near Hightower, Ala., which is 50 miles from here. Two members of the body of Christ, who live there, having moved from a faithful congregation, were restored while attending services in La Grange; in the first service of the new congregation, 5 more were restored. We feel sure that a strong congregation will be soon shining forth its light in that section of Ala. In March, I was with the congregation in Birmingham, Ala., for its third anniversary. This congregation has done well since its establishment. I feel sure it is because they are working and pulling together while trusting in God's word to guide them in their service to Him. I will close a meeting at Marietta, Ga., April 19. This is another strong congregation that the LaGrange congregation assisted in establishing a few years ago. The work in and around here is growing so, I find it hard to get away for work elsewhere; I can not fill all calls received. March 28-April 5, I will be with the congregation in Reading, Ohio. From Marietta, I hope to go to Hightower, Ala.; then to Midland, Tex. (Spruce St.), May 31-June 7. Bro. Edwin Morris will be here with us June 20-28. May God help us all to do His will, to win lost souls and strengthen the saved is my prayer. Here is a sub.

When you try to make an impression—that's the impression you make.

Some act first, think afterward, and then regret forever.

A moment of worldly pleasure may be followed by an eternity of regret.

"As lamps burn silent, with conscious light,
So modest ease in beauty shines most bright;
Unaiming charms with edge resistless fall,
And she who means no mischief does it all."

Our purpose is to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," and to "prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

OLD PATHS ADVOCATE

To continue "speaking the truth in love," "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace;" "keeping the ordinances as delivered."

"Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.'" (Jer. 6:16) "And they that be of Thee shall build the old waste, places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in." (Isa. 58:12).

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LEBANON, MISSOURI, MAY 1, 1964

No. 5

PORTRAIT OF A BACKSLIDER

By Dennis Cox

Once you were a star, bright and glittering, exalted in the heavenlies by your obedience to God. Yours was a special glow; a reflection of your love for God and His love for you. But now you have strayed behind a cloud. Your former luster is tainted by disillusionment, cynicism and tacit despair. You are now without reverence. You are now without light.

You are a selfish shepherd. You spurn the flock; you disregard the Master; and care only for your own soul, which if you save you will lose.

You are no longer a humble servant of Christ.

You are not a help; you hinder by the disgrace of your worldly conversation. You are a stigma, not a servant. Much better for you had you never named the name of Christ.

You are a tree, in season, that bears no fruit. You are a fierce wave on the sea, foaming shameful deeds. The reproach of God is on you!

But . . . you were once a star. You once gave light.

Once, in former days, you were pure from sin. The dignity of doing right was yours. What joy you had, I cannot say. You and your Master smiled at each other.

Was the Christian fight too hard, too long, too idealistic in a pragmatic world? Was persecution too heavy, encouragement too light?

But, remember, you said you would never be discouraged. You also said that nothing would keep you from obeying God's will—you brave and innocent one!

Now you follow your lusts, which Christ taught you to deny. But you say, "I'm not Christ," and you aren't. You say, "I'm human," and you are. You fail to deny your nature and erect an altar to your Reason.

You're a star that has wandered from its course and the place reserved for you is the blackest darkness.

Do not rationalize; do not deny; do not excuse. Instead, hasten to the bosom of Safety and Peace. Return to the Master and resolve, though all Hell may assail you, to never, never leave Him again.

—4255½ Altadena Ave.
San Diego, California

DOES THE DEATH OF ONE ELDER DISQUALIFY ANOTHER?

By Edwin S. Morris

I have received a letter requesting that I write about the following two questions. First, "If two elders were appointed and one died, does this disqualify the other?" and second, "Just what does the Bible teach concerning elders in relationship to the people?"

First, we will discuss: "If two elders were appointed, and one died does this disqualify the others?" Each time in the New Testament that it speaks about elders in the congregation it is always in the plural, Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5; Phil. 1:1, etc. It is evident that when men are appointed to take the oversight of the church two or more should be appointed. Actually, it would be good to have at least, three so that in cases of difference in opinion, matters could be settled. Not only should we have elders, but we should have men who are training and even qualifying other men so that if one died or became unable to carry on, there would be one to take his place. This should be a work that is carried on constantly. We have failed in not having qualified elders, and at the same time training other men for the work. If we were doing this, and one of the elders died, we would have one qualified and ready to step in and take his place. However, the way it usually is, if there are two qualified and elected, there is no preparation made for others to be qualified, and as a result, when one dies we have no one to take his place and we are left with the problem of having one elder. Now, I do not believe just the death of one elder disqualifies the other. The living elder had no control over the death of the other. This is not a qualification. This would not disqualify him. As I see it, when there was a plurality of elders, they would work and cooperate with the other male members. They would plan the work with them, etc. If one died, the remaining elder would continue to do the same. He would not act as a dictator, but would, with the help of the other brethren, continue to carry out the work until such time as other elders could be qualified and appointed. We can eliminate all the confusion, though, by simply teaching men to qualify for the eldership and always have men preparing and ready to serve when the occasion arises.

Second, "Just what does the Bible teach concerning elders in relationship to the people?" First, it teaches they are to watch over the people. In Hebrews 13:17, we read: "Obey them that have the rule over

you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you." The elder is to take interest and watch over the church just as parents would watch over their children. He will always be interested in their welfare and growth. Second, they are to set a good example of faith. In Heb. 13:7: "Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation." The elders are to be faithful men and living a life of faith that is an example for all the church to follow. They are to set a good example. Thirdly, the elder is to teach the church. In 1 Peter 5:2, "Feed the flock of God which is among you." Acts 20:28: "To feed the Church of God," and 1 Tim. 3:2 "Apt to teach." It is the duty of the elder to continually teach the church. It is not his duty to hire someone else to do it or to appoint someone else each service to do it, but it is his duty to teach and feed the church. "Apt" means skillful. So, the elder is to be able and skillful so that he may teach, train and instruct the church. He is to be able to convince the gainsayer, Titus 1:9. I have heard brethren say we need some one to "run this church." They mean they need someone to boss. That is not the idea of the elder, even though he is to rule; he is to lead, set the example and teach the flock. I say we need men who can lead and teach the church.

Fourth, the elders and the members are to be in subjection one to another. In 1 Peter 5:5 we read: "Likewise ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble." If it is the duty of the elder to rule, it is the duty of the members to submit to that rule. If it is the duty of the elder to teach, it is the duty of the members to receive that lawful instruction. In humility, both are to discharge their duties.

Let us all remember that the eldership is a God-given office, and when men are qualified they are to be put into the office, and it is our duty to submit unto them. When we do, we are actually submitting unto God. Certainly, the elder does not have the right or authority to require anything of us that is not required in the Bible.

In conclusion, I beseech every man who possibly can, to desire and work toward becoming an elder: We should desire this highest and most honorable office, and when we do, we will be pleasing our Father in heaven.

—905 Bluewood Drive
Dallas, Texas 75232

LIVE IN PEACE

By Tom E. Smith

"Finally, brethren farewell, be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you;" thus the apostle Paul closes his second letter to the Corinthians (2 Cor. 13:11).

Approximately two thousand years ago, the angel of the Lord said unto the shepherds "abiding in the field keeping watch over their flock by night," "Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this

day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:10-14).

Zacharius had prophesied, when his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed, he spake and praised God, saying, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel for he hath visited and redeemed his people. And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began; that we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; to perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; the oath which he sware to our father Abraham" (See Gen. 22:16-18).

"That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life. And thou child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways: To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by remission of their sins through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace (Luke 1:67-79).

When Christ was brought to Jerusalem to be presented to the Lord, the Scriptures say: "As was written in the Law of the Lord" (Luke 2:22-23) both Simeon and Anna who dwelt in the temple lauded him as "A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel, and she (Anna) coming in at that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spoke of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem (or Israel)." Surely these must have been sweet words to all who looked for the Messiah. Isaiah of old had prophesied of this wonderful personage when he said, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: And the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this" (Isa. 9:6-8).

Christ fulfilled all that was prophesied of Him. He demonstrated it in His personal ministry, in His death and in His glorious resurrection. We have only to read in Isaiah 53, then turn to the four gospels and read the account of His trial and death on the Old Rugged Cross to learn this.

In speaking of His departure from His beloved disciples, He said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid (John 14:27). To them in Mark 9:50, He had said: "Salt is good, but if the salt have lost his saltiness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another."

Christ is the Lord of peace. Paul said in 2 Thess. 3:16: "Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all." In

Eph. 2:4-17, Paul further says concerning Christ and His mission of peace the following: "For he is our peace who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us having abolished in his flesh the enmity even the law of commandments contained in ordinances: for to make in himself twain one new man, so making peace; and that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross having slain the enmity thereby, and came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh." Thus, the most conflicting parties were reconciled unto God by the death of our Savior. What a price to pay for the peace of all mankind! Who will accept it, and little it is appreciated by the majority of mankind.

These scriptures with very little comment from the writer are designed to point out the part that God and Christ have had in promoting peace in this darksome world. Man also has a part and responsibility in promoting peace among his fellow-men. It will be our endeavor to point this out in our next article.

(To be continued)

—Rt. 4, Box 171-A
Duncan, Okla.

THE CHURCH'S PROBLEM MEMBERS

By Barney Owens

The church, or body of Christ, is composed of many members as stated by Paul in I Cor. 12:27, "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." We are all members of this spiritual body; just as our physical body has many members, so does the church. With each member doing his part, the church can grow. See Eph. 4:16. But, as we all know some do not do their part, leaving a problem for the church. I should like to notice some of these problems. I do not expect to notice them all; however, I shall endeavor to consider some of the more prominent ones.

The Problem of Unconverted Members. We read in John 6:66: "From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him." We can see that this was a problem from the first. The Master taught us in Lk. 13:3, "I tell you, nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." One then must repent or turn from the world and live for the Lord, lest he perish. This kind of member was also a problem in the time of Paul, as we read in II Tim. 4:16, "At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge." Here, he is speaking of being on trial and those whom he had held as his friends had forsaken him at a time when he needed them most. This should encourage us today; as friends of the Lord, when life becomes difficult for us, let us not do as Paul's friends, but stay by the Lord. A good motto is: "When the going gets tough, the tough get going."

The Worldly Member—We read in James 4:4, "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." James refers to them as "adulterers and adulteresses," including spiritual adultery, by having excessive attachment to the things of the world. As Christianity is a sacrificing religion, this would be that state of worldly mindedness which will make no sacrifice for religion. It is true that most would profess to be chil-

dren of God if this were not true. "The friendship of the world is enmity with God," enmity means hatred, or whatever is opposite to love. As the world is arrayed against God and refuses to submit to Him, those who love the world are against Him. "Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God;" enemy is an adversary, one opposed to the Most High, as those who become friends of the world are opposed to God, and His word. This, of course, is done of ourselves when we disobey His commands and yoke ourselves with the world. Notice the example of Demas, II Tim. 4:10, "For Demas hath forsaken me having loved this present world . . ." We read in Ex. 32:9, "And the Lord said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people." So, we can see this problem is not a new one, as these were stubborn, unyielding, or "stiffnecked." Let us return to our Maker and cling only to Him. ". . . Ye cannot serve God and Mammon" (Matt. 6:24).

The Compromising Member—Read II John 9-11. Those who do not abide in this "Doctrine of Christ," we are not to receive into our house. I understand the church to be the House of God. We are not to receive them as a brother. Of course, this does not mean that we are to bolt the door to keep them out; we are not to allow them to teach their doctrine. Neither are we to bid them God's speed, as he who would encourage or support anyone in this false doctrine would be just as guilty as the one actually in error. Paul warns us that false brethren unawares will come in to spy out our liberty. Read Gal. 2:4. Let us be ever alert!

The Lazy Member—We are to study God's word, II Tim. 2:15. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God . . ." By studying, we are able to give an answer to every man that asketh us a reason of the hope that is in us. Read I Pet. 3:15. I do not believe this means that we will be able to answer any and all Bible questions, but that we all should be ready to answer every man concerning the hope which we all have. This is to be done in the right spirit "with meekness and fear."

Jesus taught us the works that one must do. Read Matt. 25:34-40. We should all strive to do all of these as often as they are needed. Notice, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto me." James 1:22 reads: "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves"—not a hearer only, but a doer.

The Contented Member—The gospel, being the power of God unto salvation, Rom. 1:16, and being given to all men, Tit. 2:11, it is our duty to make it known to all the world. Mk. 16:15: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Matt. 28:19: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations . . ." Those who have supported the work in Africa and other fields are to be commended; it would be impossible for everyone to go, so by sending those who can go, we are just as much a part of the work.

The Problem of "Too Many Chiefs and Not Enough Indians." Many troubles arise in the local church today because we do not have the proper leadership. The church is to have elders to watch over the flock. Read I Pet. 5:1-4. They are not as lords but overseers, to take charge and to keep out the bitter foes. More of the men, especially the younger, should prepare for the office of a bishop, I Tim. 3:1-7. The question arises, what of

(Continued on page nine)

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THIS AND THAT

Acknowledgment—Brother Homer L. King, with sincerest thanks, acknowledges the following donation: Healdton, Okla.—\$25.

"The bread which we break"—From specific examples, we may logically draw scriptural conclusions. Specifically, the Scriptures teach that "we break bread" (1 Cor. 10:16); the disciples broke bread (Acts 20:7); and Christ broke bread (Matt. 26:26). We thus draw this scriptural, logical conclusion that the breaking of bread is the duty and privilege of every communicant or participant. From the original text we learn that the same word from which we get "brake" or "break" is used in these passages. Had Christ broken differently than we, the original text would bear it out. Other words to express different ideas of breaking could have been used, but were not. Surely if He had broken differently, the word would not have been the same in all three of the texts.

We are asked concerning the loaf, how it is made, etc. We know that the memorial was instituted during the days of unleavened bread. See Matt. 26:17. Presumptuous are they indeed who say leavened bread is permissible on the Lord's table; no doubt unleavened bread was used—why should we not use the same? There is no good reason for not following the example! According to directions in Leviticus and other places, one would conclude that unleavened bread was prepared from fine flour mingled with oil. Technically, these 2 elements meet the requirements; nothing is said about the flour's color, etc., only that it was fine and mingled with oil—what kind we would not know for sure, perhaps olive oil. Bible scholars teach, too, that water was used. It is the leavening agent that is ruled out. Sisters preparing the loaf should keep this uppermost in their thinking in its preparation, as this writer sees it.

Sunday School material in serious question—It was recently brought to our attention that a book store and supply company that handles publications of our brethren mainly, has brought into serious question Sunday School literature, and to the point they will not sell it, but destroy it. The reason: It is teaching things that

are not in the Bible. Who are the authors of this literature; are they atheists, infidels, denominationalists? No, indeed, they are some of our brethren who have erred in these things. It is past time that our brethren who use it need to re-evaluate the Sunday School system and give it back to the denominations from whence it came.

Instrumental music in worship—In the March issue of "The Church Speaks," Portland, Oregon, is an article, "The Bible Authorizes Instrumental Music." Photographs of the original text of Ephesians 5:19 are shown along with a photograph of J. H. Thayer's discussion of the word "psalm" in his Greek-English Lexicon. The author's point is that the word "psalm" describes "a song accompanied by instrumentation," and he thinks so in Eph. 5:19. It is true that a psalm may be accompanied by an instrument, but not always for the psalm in Eph. 5:19, the man's proof text, was definitely not. How do we know? The psalm in that verse had no mechanical instrumentation because Paul told them to sing it and make the melody or music in their hearts—no instrument here!—no playing, twanging—just singing! Be not deceived, the Bible does not authorize instrumental music in the worship of the church.

Factions and splinter-factions—Men "make me tired" who contend that every member of the Lord's church is a member of some faction or worse yet, a splinter-faction. True, some members are! That is granted, but some, who follow in work and worship and spirit that which is authorized by the Standard are not! There is such a thing, brother, as knowing the standard and applying it, and being just a member of the Lord's church—a member of no faction, for Paul, in denouncing factions, acclaimed, "Christ is not divided." I still believe that, don't you? Every member of the body in a faction or splinter-faction—nonsense!

"Proclaimer of Truth"—Do you want more wholesome, religious matter for your reading enjoyment and spiritual betterment? Then, why not subscribe to the above named journal by sending \$1.00 to Bro. L. G. Butler, 7765 Florado, Denver, Colo.

"A Good Soldier"—This is the name of the book, a compilation of some of Bro. Homer A. Gay's writings, published by Bro. Ronny F. Wade. It is only \$1.00 a copy. Why not order one today? After all, you pay more than that for your daily newspaper in a month's time. Please order from Sister Susie Gay Perser, 2706 Merrill St., Shreveport, La.

"Our Helpers"—Again, for the fourth consecutive month, our subscriptions hover near the 200 mark. Our goal is to place 1,000 new subscribers on our rolls this year. Won't you help us achieve this goal; with the Lord's help and yours, we will. Surely, there is someone or more whom you know who would like the paper and benefit from receiving it.

Our Address—Our post office has requested that we notify again our correspondents of our correct, current address. We are still receiving mail addressed to our old addresses; this is due mainly to our having 3 different addresses in about 6 months' time. Please address all subscriptions, matter for publication, etc. to Old Paths Advocate or the writer at 1414 N. Albertson Ave., Covina, Calif.

When you move—Everytime you move and your paper is sent to your old address, we must pay ten cents to the post office, and you miss your paper, too. So, when you move, won't you please tell us, so we can change your address, and keep the paper coming your way, and save postage, too?

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Old Path Hymnal (240 gospel songs, most of which are either old or tried songs—65 cents per copy; 2 or more copies—50 cents.)

Send all orders to Old Paths Advocate, 1061 N. Pilgrim, Stockton, Calif.

—D. B. McCord

OUR HELPERS

You will find listed below the names of those sending subscriptions since we last went to press, and opposite the name the number of subs sent. We want to express again our deepest appreciation for your continued interest in behalf of this journal. May we count on you to continue the good work? Please check the following list, and report any errors to us immediately.

Elizabeth Byford—20; Julia Massie—10; Robert Falvey—8; K. G. Wilks—7; Freddie Lay—7; Clovis Cook—6; Elmer Sutton—6; Jesse W. Adams—6; Thomas Owens—5; Paul Walker—5; Mattie Lloyd—5; Harold King—5; Jack Stalcup—5; Edwin S. Morris—4; LaVern Lum—4; Mollie Wright—4; L. D. McDonald—3; John D. Smith—3; Richard Frizzell—2; Jim Hickey—2; Vera Hartin—2; Shelby Buchanan—2; Mrs. Charlie Warren—2; Clyde Penner—2; C. J. Freeman—2; Wm. A. Page—2; Luther Boek—2; Mrs. H. J. Comeaux—2; Robert Nace—2; Gerald Gosnell—2; Richard Nichols—2; Thelma Haygood—2; Clifford Arney—2; Mrs. Harrison Davis—2; Price Rogers—2; Myrl Dean—1; Wm. Bentsch—1; Mrs. A. J. Bunderson—1; Carl Hawkins—1; Garland Lamb—1; John P. Martin—1; Eugene Lockard—1; E. O. Rice—1; A. Lincoln Coble—1; Stella Barnes—1; Lowell Richardson—1; Leon Fancher—1; Bill Roden—1; Reba Anderson—1; W. H. Hawkins—1; Mrs. Minnie Foster—1; Mrs. T. L. Modgling—1; Bobby Joe Pepper—1; Eli Ward—1; Ray Fegett—1; H. R. Bailey—1; Artie Ethridge—1; Ola Ingram—1; Mrs. A. W. Gentry—1; Lloyd Kornegay—1; Edna Wyatt—1; Helen Howard—1; Granville Mahurin—1; L. R. Thomason—1; B. C. Freeman—1; Glen Gadberry—1; Irvin Barnes—1; Wm. Tracy

Moore—1; Kenny Boek—1; C. D. Palmer—1; Chapman Grimes—1; Grafton Smith—1; Dona Waters—1; Cleo Boek—1; Barney Owens—1; Floyd Lechner—1; Obie Shireman—1; Kenneth McAllister—1; Earl Helvey—1; Bill Modgling—1; David Chapin—1; Addie Eaves—1. Total—194.

AFRICAN REPORT

After a delay of about three weeks, we were able on March 23rd to get our trip to Nyasaland under way. Our first stop was in London. Here, we attended a Wed. evening service in Hope chapel, where the church has met for over 90 years. The English brethren differ with us very little and are to be commended for resisting the efforts of some Americans to liberalize their worship and thinking. After leaving London we stopped for a few days in Belgium to see the condition of the work there. Those wishing more information about it may contact one of us directly.

On our arrival in Nyasaland we were met at the airport by over a dozen African preachers. Only about three of them spoke English, but the remainder showed their good will in a language everyone understands—smiles, handshakes, etc. It was a moving experience for both of us.

Today, we met for worship with the brethren for the first time. When the brethren had heard we were coming, they came from all parts of the southern region to Wendewende and waited for us. We estimated there were over 500 present for worship; some of the brethren said in excess of 700. Their service was orderly and the singing surprisingly good. Both of us talked. Twenty-five came to confess faults and one for baptism.

After worship the village headman came and we were presented to him. Through an interpreter, he told us he was a Moslem, but he would come to hear us and help us in anyway he could. We were pleased and told him so. Many of the brethren brought us gifts, mostly eggs and chickens. We felt very humble, knowing the people were not giving from abundance.

We have arranged to begin a study with the preachers in a few days. Of course, our work is just beginning, but at this point we are both encouraged. Continue to pray for the work's success.

—James Orten and Jerry Cutter
Box 573, Blantyre, Nyasaland, Africa

"STAR OF HOPE"

This is the name of the 1964 song book published by Bro. Homer L. King. It is now in the hands of the printer. It features many of the very newest songs, as well as the old and tried songs that have stood the test through the years. It would help Bro. King if you could place your order in advance; this way he can have your order sent directly from Dallas, where the book is being printed by the Frank Stamps Music Co., and thereby save time and postage. The price is 65 cents per copy, 50 cents for two or more. Order from Old Paths Advocate, Homer L. King, 1061 North Pilgrim St., Stockton, California.

SULPHUR, OKLAHOMA MEETING

As many of our readers know, for the past several years, the congregation at Sulphur, Oklahoma has conducted a meeting the latter part of June, closing on July 4th. This meeting has always been a source of inspiration to all of those who have attended from year to year. Brethren from far and wide in these United States gather there to meet others of like precious faith, to hear some of the best singing on earth, and to hear the unsearchable riches of Christ expounded. Every year, we come to the close of this meeting thinking it is the best yet! This year, we expect the meeting to be

as large and rewarding as in previous years. There is no better place on earth, dear reader, to spend a vacation! Why not plan now to attend this meeting and be spiritually stronger for having done so? The Sulphur congregation chose Bro. Johnny Elmore, of Ada, Okla. and the writer to conduct this meeting.

—Bill Roden

A WORTHY BROTHER NEEDS YOU!

Brother Obie Shireman, of Mozier, Illinois, is in the hospital in St. Louis, Mo. He is suffering from a tumor of the spine and can hardly walk. He is to be operated on in the morning, April 14th. He has not been able to work for a long time. Here is a worthy brother who is in need and will appreciate anything that his brethren can do for him. Please help him if you can! His address is Mozier, Ill. I shall never forget how the churches of Christ helped me during the illness of my wife. Thank you again!

—Ralph Kitson, Mozier, Ill.

CAN YOU HELP?

We, the undersigned, members of the Covina, Calif. congregation make the following plan known to the readers of this journal, hoping that you and the congregation where you attend can and will help in this cause. In late summer, Brethren Luther and Lee Boek, father and son, and their respective families, plan to move to Chico, Calif. for the purpose of planting and nurturing a congregation. We, as a congregation, are asking churches to help. We are able to send \$50.00 a month to this work for a period of a year and longer if conditions should warrant. We feel these brethren need at least \$500.00 a month. Can you help on a monthly basis, or by making an immediate contribution to this work? Which ever way you would choose would be appreciated, and the amount, large or small, would be gratefully acknowledged. Please send direct to these brethren whose addresses follow: Luther Boek, 133 South Harwood, Orange, Calif.; Lee Boek, 2214 Granger, National City, Calif. Signed: C. R. Cude, H. L. Kenney, R. L. Osburn, Dale Garrison, Lem Satterfield, Cleo Boek, B. W. Morrow, D. B. McCord.

NEW LOCATION

The church at Grand Rapids, Mich. no longer meets at the address listed in the directory. Services are now conducted each Lord's day at 11:00 a.m. in Room 224 of the Houseman Bldg., 47 Pearl St., N. W., Grand Rapids. Visitors are always welcome.

—Clarence W. Claypool

SPECIAL WEEK-END MEETING

May 22-24, the Southwest congregation of Bakersfield, Calif. is planning a week-end meeting with interest primarily in the young people. The homes of the Christians will be open for lodging to you who visit from out of town. Please come prepared to accept our hospitality. The place of meeting is the Panama Grange Hall, South H Street and Fairview Road. It is easily accessible from the new Hwy. 99. Simply turn east from Freeway 99 on Panama Lane; turn left (north- at first stop sign (South H St.). The Grange Hall is located a half mile from this turn (at Fairview Rd.). Come prepared to enjoy Christian fellowship and inspiring services. Remember, May 22-24, Bakersfield.

—Paul O. Nichols
Em. 6-5685

TEXAS SINGING SCHOOL

Since last report, we have determined that the dates for our singing school in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area will be July 6-25 with both day and night sessions planned. There will be no classes on Lord's day and none on Wednesday nights. Saturday nights will be devoted to song drill. We are pleased to have Brother Johnny Elmore as the teacher for our first school and are confident that his ability in this field will be very

beneficial. We have decided against a tuition fee, but hope to be able to finance this work by individual donations. This is not a work of the church, please remember. The exact location has not been determined, but the use of the auditorium at Arlington State College is presently under consideration. We invite all who can to come and be with us. We believe you will be glad you did.

—Grady Coble
716 Greenway Dr., Hurst, Tex.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

In order to clear up any misunderstanding as regards the studies that have been and shall be conducted in the near future we submit the following: On May 1-2, there will be a study conducted under the auspices or control of the Highway City, Calif. congregation. The co-ordinating preacher will be Bro. Lee Boek. The subject will be "Teaching the Word," with such topics as these under consideration: "Mutual Ministry," "the Sunday School," "Personal Evangelism" and "Teacher Training."

These meetings are conducted as a public assembly with all interested parties invited to come. All the scriptural rules of such an assembly prevail. Since we regard it as being scriptural for an exchange between and among the male members during such assemblies to take place, this is done. A discussion, then, on various matters is carried on by the male members, with one speaking at a time. We invite brethren from all over the state and country to attend. These are in no wise policy-making meetings, but merely an assembly of brethren seeking for greater truths from God's Holy Word and a better understanding between and among God's children.

Let us gather and study God's word as we do, or should do, in the local congregations each week. There will be plenty of accommodations; lunch will be served Sat. afternoon. Services will be held May 1st at 7:30 p.m.; May 2nd, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and continuing until about 3:00 p.m., with a recess for lunch. We will be expecting you.—Signed: E. A. Hendrix; E. S. Smither; Glenn M. Lewis; Marshall Hendrix; W. E. Anderson; U. B. Cozby; A. A. Mahaffey.

Note: I am very sorry this did not reach us in time for the April issue. By the time this reaches our readers, the meetings announced here will have been conducted, but this matter is of such importance, as I see it, that I deem it necessary to give special notice to it. With this announcement, came a letter unsolicited from Bro. Glenn Lewis which I quote, as follows: "Dear Don: We here at Highway City thought it might be wise to inform the brotherhood in regards to the study to be conducted here at Highway City. Enclosed is a letter of fact concerning this and our position on the matter; we trust this will clear up any misunderstanding in regards to how these meetings are conducted. Don, we are thankful that there are still watchmen upon the walls of Zion, and appreciate your concern about this matter."

Brother Glen, I appreciate as many others do, that you and these good brethren who have signed the announcement, are watchmen on Zion's walls, too; and may your tribe increase more and more the world over! It is evident that such a work is a work of the church, and as such the church must implement it. Brethren, from here and there, implementing such a work of the church, under no particular congregational control, are setting a dangerous precedent. The Highway City congregation is to be commended for this step, and when brethren plan such a work, may they learn from this example is our humble prayer. These brethren are to be commended for more than this. They cooperate wholeheartedly with meetings by brethren near them; they, too, cooperate with the preachers, and are known for their wide use of them. May God bless them for this. Congregations who choose a small segment of the preaching force, and in essence disregard their fellow-preaching brethren, are fostering sectarianism, to say the least. Congregations are to be appreciated who use and welcome as many of our preaching brethren as

possible; preachers, too, are to be appreciated who will not allow congregations to adopt them and use them to the exclusion of their fellow-preachers.

Thank you, again, Highway City, Calif. brethren, for this noteworthy example. May we all learn thereby!

—D. B. McCord

NOTICE

In the best interest of the church and the brethren in Cincinnati, Ohio, we wish to make known to the brotherhood at large that there are now two congregations in the Cincinnati area; one on Lippelman Road in Sharonville and one at Ill. and Clark Sts. in Reading, Ohio. The undersigned chose to worship at Ill. and Clark Sts., with no hard feelings toward the Sharonville congregation. We invite all passing this way to worship with us in the New Testament way.

Signed: George Sharp; Lovil Nicely; Bently Bullock; Bobby Bullock; Ralph Hansel; Claude G. Graham, Jr.; Hugh Milner; R. H. Renner; Jack C. Dooley; Albert Moore; Orville C. Barnes; Hubert E. Murphy; Earnest L. Bullock; Russell Harper; James Pruitt.

(Editor's Note: The spirit manifested by these brethren in this report is most commendable. It is conceivable under certain circumstances that it would be best for the cause of Christ for one congregation to become two. The ancient case of Abraham and Lot should teach us much about the spirit to assume in such partings. Abraham, in his wisdom, could see that it was not best for his herdmen and the herdmen of Lot to be so closely associated. He approached Lot with the spirit of humility, and brotherly kindness. He gave Lot the choice—if he chose the left, Abraham would choose the right, or if he chose the right, Abraham would choose the left. With such a spirit, there was little possibility that their parting would or could be on other than friendly, brotherly terms. That there should be no strife between them is predicated upon the truth so aptly expressed by wise Abraham: "Let there be no strife between me and thee, for we be brethren." May we never forget that we are brethren. It matters not how much I may differ with my brother, he is still my brother. It matters not how much unlike him I may be, he is still a part of me and I a part of him. It matters not about his peculiarities and my aversion to them, he is still my brother, and I must love him for what he is, and not for what I would have him be. We may disagree, may not be able to walk together, and he may be ever so wrong, but it is my duty to get as close to him as he and truth will permit.—D. B. McCord.)

SMOKING (II)

By David Macy

(Note: This is the second and last in a series on this subject. It is our hope that Christians everywhere will consider seriously the evidence scientifically documented against the habit of smoking.—D. Mc.)

A study was made at the East Orange, N. J. Veteran's Administration Hospital on 1,000 post mortems. It was found in this study that smoke damages small arteries in the lungs. It makes these arteries contract and become so small that little blood can pass through them. Eventually, these arteries close and no blood can pass. This increases blood pressure in the pulmonary arteries and puts a strain on the right side of the heart (From Time, via Reader's Digest, Nov., 1962).

Dr. Cuyler Hammond, of the American Cancer Society says, "A perfectly normal heart can probably withstand these effects of inhaled tobacco smoke but can cause heart failure in a person whose coronary arteries are already impaired by arteriosclerosis which applies to the majority of American males, and particularly those past middle age." (Readers Digest, Aug., 1963).

Can we still say that smoking is not sin with this mountain of evidence to prove that smoking is harmful to the body? In I Cor. 3:16, 17 we read, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy, for the temple of God is

holy, which temple ye are." Again, in 2 Cor. 7:1. we read: "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit perfecting holiness in the fear of God." Smoking is certainly filthiness of the flesh. Several men who smoke have told me they know it is. Can Christians go to their graves with nicotine-stained bodies and stand pure and clean before Christ and be arrayed in white robes?

Smoking is expensive, and even if it did not harm the body it would be a very unwise use of the money that the Lord has entrusted us with; if a man smokes a package of cigarettes a day (some smoke two or three packages a day) he spends approximately \$180 a year for cigarettes. In ten years, he spends \$1800; this amount would go a long way toward buying a brand new car. It would make a good down payment on a new home. Think how much this amount would help to support the preaching of the Gospel at home or abroad.

Smoking offends others; therefore, it should not be practiced by any Christian. Many of the faithful brethren consider smoking a sin, and some who do not consider it to be sin definitely advise against it. Can we willfully offend these conscientious brethren and be obeying the will of God? In Rom. 14:21 we read, "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak."

Smoking is certainly offensive. If you do not believe it, take a trip on a bus and let about half of the people light up a cigarette and watch the suffocating smoke clouds come rolling in toward you, so you have to grope your way to the nearest window to try to get a breath of fresh air.

I heard of a boy in service who said he started smoking in self-defense. Just about everybody in his military classes smoked, so he finally started smoking himself, that he might be able to sit through his classes without gasping for breath the entire time.

Brethren, we pride ourselves on being civilized, courteous people. Is this the way we practice courtesy? Is this the way that we love our neighbor as ourself?

—Box 27, Greta, Fla.

OUR DEPARTED

Beard—Bro. Charles V. Beard was born in Wright Co., Mo., Mar. 29, 1897; he departed this life April 2, 1964 in the Burge Hospital, Springfield, Mo. He was married Jan. 23, 1932 to Marie Keesling; to this union one daughter was born. He is survived by his wife of the home, and the daughter, Mrs. Ron Alexander, Neosho, Mo. and three grand children; two brothers, Virgil, of Lebanon, Mo., and Bill of Tulsa, Okla.; three sisters, Grace Massie and Bessie and Sylvia Hillhouse, of Competition, Mo. The funeral service was conducted at the church in Lebanon, Mo., where one of the largest crowds this writer ever saw assembled for such an occasion. The floral offering was real nice; the songs were superbly rendered by singers from several congregations. Bro. Beard obeyed the gospel under the preaching of Bro. Homer L. King about 30 years ago, during which meeting some 30 people were baptized. He was a member of the Claxton, Mo. congregation, where he will be greatly missed. Bro. Ronny Wade and the writer conducted the service.

—Clovis T. Cook

Stevens—As we go to press, the sad news reaches us that Brother Jim Stevens, of Sentinel, Okla. crossed to life's brighter and fairer clime on Lord's Day last. He had attended the assembly of the saints, had led them to the Father's throne in prayer, and was on an outing with his wife, Trella, and Bro. and Sister Bud Ivey, when he became ill for the last time. Brother Jim had been a member of the Lord's church for a number of years, having been baptized into Christ by Bro. Homer L. King. If I remember correctly, it was something like 40 years ago that Brother Jim was married to Sister Trella Thomas, who was to be his devoted companion for the remainder of his life. This writer, personally, will never forget Jim and Trella for various reasons, but one of the most outstanding is the devoted

care they have shown their respective mothers in their declining years; that they have never left their care to others is commendable indeed. On Tuesday, April 21st, Brother Larry Robertson conducted the funeral service. Brother Jim was laid to rest in the community cemetery, where he joined to await the resurrection, such men as Bro. Homer Smith, Bro. Thomas, and others. He will be missed in the church, in his home and in his community. Our sincerest sympathy goes out to Trella. "Earth holds no sorrow that heaven can not heal."

—D. B. McCord

WHERE IS TRUE HAPPINESS?

Not in Unbelief—

Voltaire was an infidel of the most pronounced type. He wrote: "I wish I had never been born."

Not in Pleasure—

Lord Byron lived a life of pleasure, if anyone did. He wrote: "The worm, the canker, and the grief are mine alone."

Not in Money—

Jay Gould, the American millionaire, had plenty of that. When dying he said: "I suppose I am the most miserable man on earth."

Not in Position and Fame—

Lord Beaconfield enjoyed more than his share of both. He wrote: "Youth is a mistake; manhood, a struggle; old age, a regret."

Not in Military Glory—

Alexander the Great conquered the known world in his day. Having done so, he wept in his tent, because, he said, "there are no more worlds to conquer."

Where, Then, Is Happiness Found?

The answer is simple: In Christ alone. He said: "I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you."

—Selected by Ronny F. Wade

MY POSITION ON CARNAL WARFARE

I cannot participate in military service in any form, directly or indirectly, in combatant or noncombatant service, because:

1. My duty and obligation to my God is superior to all other obligations (Acts 5:29; Matt. 22:37).

2. My God in the Bible forbids that I engage in carnal warfare in the following references:

"Put up thy sword," "For all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword" (Matt. 26:52)—Jesus.

"My Kingdom is not of this world" (Jno. 18:36).

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal" (2 Cor. 10:3, 4).

"Love your enemies" (Matt. 5:44); "Turn the other cheek" (Matt. 5:39).

"Recompense to no man evil for evil" (Rom. 12:17).

3. To enter any military branch or service, combatant or noncombatant, I would be compelled to "swear" (take an oath), but the Bible forbids that I do so ("Swear not at all"—Jesus, Matt. 5:34).

4. To enter any military service I would be compelled to be yoked with unbelievers, which is forbidden—"Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (2 Cor. 6:14).

5. To be in any branch of military service in any way, I would be a part of the organization and would therefore have fellowship in the service, but such is

prohibited; thus: "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:11).

6. To serve in any way in the military service, I would be deprived of obeying the command to assemble on Lord's day to worship God in the Bible way, at least part of the time, hence would disobey God (Heb. 10:25; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1, 2).

Therefore, I cannot conscientiously engage in carnal war in any form or branch, and for the above reasons, I authorize my name to be listed in support of the above principles.

—Johnny Kornegay, Rt. 1, Raleigh, N. C.

—Dennis Cox, 4255½ Altadena Ave., San Diego 15, Calif.

—Ovid Ferrell Faust, Jr., Phillipsburg, Mo.

—Jimmy Lum, 1704 Osage, Corcoran, Calif.

—Larry Ray Haddock, Rt. 2, Summertown, Tenn.

DOES A CHRISTIAN HAVE A GUARDIAN ANGEL?

By Gillis Prince

(Note: We submit this good article to our readers for your candid consideration. Even though I do not fully agree with our brother, I have been made to re-evaluate my position on this matter. Perhaps you will agree with the writer; perhaps you will not. I am sure, however, if reading this will stimulate a greater study of this subject, on the part of the readers, Bro. Prince will be grateful, whether we agree with him or not. —D. Mc.)

Many good brethren today teach and maintain that when a person obeys the Gospel he or she has a guardian angel, that accompanies him and guards him, holds him back from paths of evil and leads him in the way of righteousness. I was told that one outstanding preacher in the brotherhood said that for all he knew, one of them might be the angel Gabriel. In Luke 1, we are told that the angel Gabriel was sent by God to announce to Zacharias the birth of John the Baptist, and to Mary the birth of Christ. He was also sent to Daniel to explain his vision (Dan. 8:16; 9:21). Paul says the gospel is the power of God unto salvation (Rom. 1:16). Again, we have this treasure in earthen vessels (not heavenly beings) that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us (2 Cor. 4:7).

In the parable of the sower, evil plants grew in the field (Matt. 13:24-30); the servants, who were the angels asked, "Shall we gather up the evil plants?" He said: "No; let them grow together until the harvest; then the reapers will separate them." This seems to me to teach that there will be no superhuman interference with men until the judgment.

Scriptures that seem to teach the idea examined—The passage most confidently relied on to teach this idea is: "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" (Heb. 1:14). If we examine the scope and connection of this passage, I think we will see it does not teach this. It is a part of the contrast between the Jewish and the Christian dispensations. The writer of the Hebrew letter says in chapter one, verses one and two: "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son." The one came through the hands of angels, the other was intro-

duced by the Son of God. God shows the superiority of Christ to the angels. "To which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool. Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation." Jesus was to sit on the right hand of God until His enemies were put under his feet. The angels were to minister to, or serve, those who are heirs of salvation. But, when and how did they so serve? I think the next few verses will show this: "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the words spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward, how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord? (Heb. 2:1-4). Then in verse five, he returns to his superiority to the angels. The context seems to place it beyond doubt that the angels ministered to the heirs of salvation in bringing and administering the Mosaic law. That law was the schoolmaster to train the Jews for Christ, and the angels served them in administering that law.

But again: "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 18:10. This is relied on to prove it, but for this to have any bearing on the subject, it must be first assumed that persons have guardian angels. It may be the spirits of persons after death become angels, and those who humble themselves as little children in the future state become angels and stand nearest the throne of God. It seems to me to be more in harmony and more consoling than the other idea. But one might ask, is there any ground for supposing the redeemed spirits become angels? Jesus said: "In the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven (Matt. 22:30). This does not say they become angels, but it does say they become as angels.

"For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit: but the Pharisees confess both" (Acts 23:8). Jesus and the apostles seem to accept the idea of the Pharisees as the true one. Would it not be true that this resurrection of the angels means that when resurrected they were angels?

But again: "And they said unto her, Thou art mad. But she constantly affirmed that it was even so. Then said they, It is his angel (Acts 12:15). This was when Peter was imprisoned. The disciples prayed for his safety, and Rhoda told them he was at the door. Many think this meant that his guardian angel assumed his likeness and they thought the angel appeared in his place, but this is again assuming the point in question without any proof of its truth. It seems to me these people thought Peter had been slain in prison, and his spirit, as an angel, had appeared.

"Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matt. 25:41). This tells that the destiny of the spirits of the wicked after death is a home in the place prepared for the devil and his angels. If their home is with the devil and his angels, it is probable that they become angels of the devil. If the wicked become angels of the devil, is it not probable the righteous become angels of God?

When these scriptures are properly construed and placed in their original scope, I do not think they even suggest the idea that a Christian has a guardian angel. Since the word guardian means one who legally has the care of a person or his property, one who protects a person, if Christians have guardian angels, what do they do for them? Do they suggest thoughts? When a thought comes into the mind, how can we tell whether it was suggested by an angel or not? Are we not liable to accept evil suggestions as made by the angel? Who is responsible for our actions, ourselves or our guardian angel? Such an idea as this seems to be fraught with the same danger as that of a direct operation of the Holy Spirit, and would we not be liable to attribute our fleshly emotions and desires to the guardian angel? Or does the angel make suggestions or exert an influence and give us no rule by which to test when the influence is from the angel or from something else? When man sins, who is responsible, the man or the angel?

How firm a foundation ye saints of the Lord,

Is laid for your faith in His excellent word,

What more can He say than to you He has said.

You who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?

—Wedowee, Ala.

THE CHURCH'S PROBLEM MEMBERS—

(Continued from page three)

congregations which have no elders, such as those just starting, etc.? Often we make the mistake of helping a church get started, and then fail to provide the leadership needed. They struggle along never growing, with no interest, except for a few days a year during a gospel meeting or something of that nature. Is the Lord pleased with this? Paul wrote to Titus in Tit. 1:5: "For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting and ordain elders in every city, as I have appointed thee."—someone to care for and protect until the elders are appointed. This would take more time and more effort, but in the long run, would it not be better? May all of us be less of a problem?

—10579 Thornview Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45241



Robert L. Falvey, Box 163, Huntington Park, Calif., April 15—We enjoy the OPA very much and believe it is doing much good for the cause of Christ. Here are 8 subs.

J. W. Adams, 1616 19th St. N. E., Roanoke, Va. 24012, April 8—I like the paper very much and hope that you all will keep up the fine work. Bro. King, I hope your health will continue to improve. Here are 6 subs.

H. D. Livitiko, N. A. Mthiramanja, P. O. Luchenza, Nyasaland, Africa, April 5—We are very happy indeed to have Brethren Orten and Cutter who arrived on April 7. Now, we humbly beg your prayers that God may bless their efforts in Nyasaland.

Fred Lay, 7844 Rancho Fanita, Santee, Calif., April 15—We would like for all brethren in reach of us to remember our meeting with Bro. Ronny Wade at El Cajon, Calif., May 15-24. We invite all to attend and make this meeting a great success.

Roy Fegett, 1508 Club Dr., Midland, Tex., April 12—The paper is getting better every month; I do not want to be without it. Thanks so much for the good work. I can hardly wait from one month to the next for my copy to come. Here is our renewal.

Richard L. Frizzell, 7470 Jamacha Rd., San Diego 14, Calif., April 15—We surely appreciate the paper; the articles have been the very best. The churches in the San Diego area are working together in Christian love and fellowship, and are growing in the Lord as well as in number. Here are 2 subs.

E. R. Brown, Box 750, Stilwell, Okla., April 2—The church at Noel Chapel near here is small in number but remains faithful. Bro. Van Butts was with us for three wonderful sermons lately; we were glad to have him, his wife and mother. We invite all brethren and sisters to come by and worship with us. Remember us in your prayers.

Peluse Kanlongonda, Nkoko Vge., N. A. Mkhumba, Nyasaland, Africa, Mar. 28—Feb. 2, at Nakhupe, 6 were baptized; we were at Ulolo, Feb. 23; Mar. 5, at Nakhupe church, 2 were baptized; Mar. 8 at Nkhulambe, 4 were baptized. The chief of the village was there. Mar. 15, at Naminjiwa 14 were baptized. Thank you for continuing to send the OPA.

Garry Macy, Rt. 3, Anderson, Mo., April 13—We were in an enjoyable meeting in Powe, Mo., Mar. 22-29. This is a congregation small in number, but large in one respect; that is, love abounds. Heavy rains hindered some from coming; but, all in all, we had nice crowds. Our next meetings: Cincinnati, Ohio, May 8-17; Pochontas, Ark., May 23-31.

Namoya Kanyenga, C/O V. H. Chigamba, Box 36, Luchenza P. O., Nyasaland, Africa, April 16—We so much appreciated the arrival of Brethren Cutter and Orten at Chileka airport on April 7, about 3:00 p.m. Today, April 12, is the great day to begin their work of preaching the gospel here. Please, brethren, help us with your prayers. We send you greetings.

Grafton C. Smith, Rt. 2, Box 218, Brookhaven, Miss., Mar. 24—The crowds at New Salem are good every Lord's Day morning. We are to have a singing school in May by Bro. Leon Fancher. He held us a very good meeting last Aug. We are going to Birmingham, Ala. this week-end to hear Bro. Lynwood Smith. The church in Baton Rouge, La. is growing; they have a nice building which means a lot for the church. Pray for us. Here is a renewal.

Cicero Goddard, 3803 Garfield, Kansas City, Mo., April 15—Since last report, one man has made the confession; we expect his wife to follow soon. We are making some progress; however, it is slow. We fight for every inch of ground we gain. We enjoyed Bro. Lynwood Smith's preaching while he was here; we are attending Bro. Irvin Barnes' meeting at 10th and Ray; he is doing some good preaching. We request your prayers for us and our work here.

Barney Owens, 10579 Thornview Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45241, April 14—Since last report, I have completed the work in Robertsdale, Ala. The Lord certainly blessed us there; in all, 3 obeyed the gospel and several confessed faults. I feel they will be one of the stronger congregations. Mar. 20-22, I held a week-end meeting at Earlytown, Ala. May 6-17, I will be at Harrodsburg, Ind. At present, I am working with the church at Cincinnati. Please note my change of address. Your prayers are needed and desired.

Earl B. Helvey, 7608 Prince St., Citrus Hts., Calif., April 15—We at 64th St., Sacramento continue to worship in spirit and truth. Some of the brethren from here are beginning a new congregation at Orangevale; Sacramento is backing this congregation. Many of the brethren live in the Orangevale area and believe they can do much good for Christ there. We look forward to having Bro. Ronnie Wade with us May 1-10. We invite all in our area to worship with us. Pray for us and the work here. Here is a sub.

Tom E. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 1718, Duncan, Okla., April 15—Recently, Brethren Billy Tate and C. A. Smith have preached at Healdton, Okla. We always appreciate their desire to be with the home congregation. Both have developed into good teachers, and it is a source of encouragement to us to note their progress in the Lord's work. I also appreciate the encouragement the congregation gives to them. Our beloved Bro. and Sister L. H. Frizzell were with us last Lord's Day at Healdton; he gave two heart-warming lessons. We love them for their work's sake.

E. O. Rice, Okemah, Okla., April 10—The church at Council Hill is still on the move; peace, unity and brotherly love are still strong. This is truly a home for the soul here on this old earth in which we are as pilgrims and strangers looking for that City whose builder and maker is God. It has been my privilege to speak at the following places since last report: Noel Chapel, south of Stilwell, Okla.; twice at Legal, 20 miles from Coalgate and at Council Hill. I solicit the prayers of the faithful that I may stand true to the faith once delivered to the saints. Here is my renewal.

Jesus Rodriguez, Venequela No. 5142, Col. Matamoros, Nuevo Laredo, Tamps., Mexico, Mar. 17—May the peace of our Lord live in the hearts of each of you. We hope that you pray for us so the work of the Lord in this vineyard can keep ahead. Jan. 12, 2 more were added to the Lord's church here; they were Marcial Corpus and Alberto Cavazos. May God bless these brothers. Mar. 9, three more were added; they were Carmen Garza, Juan Gonzales and Julian Hernandez. Brethren, pray for these. May God bless all and keep you safe and sound with Christian love; these are our best wishes.

James P. Vannoy, 1448 Kinsale Ct., Wichita Falls, Tex., Mar. 22—Bro. Wayne Fussell just closed a meeting at Lawrence Rd. which was very uplifting. He is one of the most forceful preachers in the brotherhood. There was one confession of faults and we feel that much good was accomplished by his efforts. The congregation here is growing in knowledge and spiritual strength; and fellowship is the most wonderful I have ever seen. I recently baptized 5 from the Olney, Tex. congregation. It was a time of great rejoicing for us all. We look forward to our meeting in July with Bro. Lee Book.

E. H. Stamper, 333 Glynn Dr., Birmingham 15, Ala., Mar. 31—We, here at Birmingham, are still at our posts in the Vineyard. Our meeting with Bro. Lynwood Smith was wonderful. All the saved souls were strengthened by the very good sermons; one was baptized. Brethren from So. Caro., Ind., Miss., Ga., Fla., and Tenn. visited us, along with the congregations from far and near in Ala. Brethren, please pray for us; remember us next Spring, and help us make this meeting like the Sulphur, Okla. meeting. We do not see our brethren enough as it is. We are thankful for the efforts toward unity at Montgomery, Ala.

Wm. Tracy Moore, 608 Bluff, Delta, Colo., Mar. 23—The congregation here has grown in number the past year; we are working together in peace and love. Bro. J. D. Corson has been with us the last 10 days; he left this morning for Iowa where he expects to be busy for the next few months. We then expect him here for work in this area. We think the world of Bro. Corson,

both as a man and a wonderful worker in the vineyard of the Lord. Let us all remember him in our prayers. We invite the faithful to worship with us anytime. We beg to be remembered in the prayers of the faithful.

Luther Boek, 133 So. Harwood, Orange, Calif., April 18—We continue to enjoy the wonderful hospitality of the brethren here. They are to be commended for their desire to work together in greater unity of effort in the Lord's church. We have been studying subjects designed to develop better understanding of the Bible, also to develop better study habits and teaching talent. Everyone has shown a good interest in this effort, both men and women. On a recent trip to northern Calif., I preached at Lodi, Yuba City and Highway City. I have also preached once at Carlsbad, Calif. It was good to be with the brethren at these places. We recently heard Bro. Johnny Elmore at Covina, and our son, Lee, at Montebello. It was a real treat. Brethren, pray for us.

D. B. McCord, 1414 N. Albertson Ave., Covina, Calif., April 20—Our meeting with Bro. Johnny Elmore was one of the best. We would certainly commend Johnny to all brethren as a faithful, able preacher of the gospel, and one of the best. I enjoyed hearing Bro. Lee Boek once in his meeting at Montebello, Calif. Lee, too, is very capable, has a very bright future, and seems to improve all the time. While at Ceres, Calif. recently, we visited Bro. John Reynolds, a true soldier of the cross, who is very ill physically. It is always good to visit Brother John; he always dwells on spiritual things.

John Modgling, 204 N. Cornell, Fullerton, Calif., April 20—Since last report, I have been at Stockton, Ceres, Manteca; and I am working with the Cypress congregation twice and three times a month. I believe there is much good to be done there. Lord willing, I will be in Ceres May 1, 2 and 3 for a week-end meeting. I will be in a meeting at Cypress in June. I recently enjoyed being with the brethren at Modesto during a meeting held by Bro. Paul Nichols. Lord willing, Bro. Fred Kirbo will be at Norco, Calif., May 8-17. Let us strive to work hard in the Master's vineyard, as there is so little time left in which to do so.

Irvin Barnes, Rt. 1, Box 211, Galena, Mo., April 23—One of the greatest meetings I have held is now history; it was with the Kansas City, Kansas congregation. With Christian hospitality and goodness flowing at a strong ebb, the meeting continued, closing with two baptisms. Being associated with Bro. Clovis Cook was uplifting and encouraging. Since Feb., I have held meetings at Hale, Ark.; Fieldstone, Mo.; Flemington, Pa.; and Kansas City. Lord willing, my next engagements will be West Plains, Mo., April 24-May 3; Odom, Mo., May 8-17, and Arkana, Ark., June 19-28. Here is a sub.

Jack Cutter, 2622 E. 32, Joplin, Mo., April 16—We continue to work with the congregation here. Our efforts have been blessed with some visible results—six baptisms (2 of these were baptized by another member of the church) and two restorations. There is continuing progress in every area vital to the success of this work. Burkhardt and Neosho have been very co-operative and have assisted in the work in many ways. Bro. Gary Macy and family live near here and we have had some pleasant visits with them, and we find them to be a sincere and conscientious family devoted completely to the Cause. I will be in a meeting at Sulphur, Okla., April 24-May 3.

Eddy Bullard, 4802 W. Storey, Midland, Tex., April 6—We, here at Terrell St., have just closed a 10-day singing school. The interest and results were very good. Bro. J. Ervin Waters was the instructor. We appreciate the support from Bro. Orville Lee Smith from the Spruce St. congregation and Bro. C. A. Smith from Andrews, Tex. Our plans are to take this ounce of theory and apply several pounds of practice to it and become a sweet singing band of Christians. In order to maintain interest, we plan to meet 30 minutes early

once a month at the mid-week service, and let our young boys lead the song. They will be the church tomorrow; it is our duty to make them ready.

Jack Stalcup, 6547 Clybourn Ave., N. Hollywood, Calif., April 14—We enjoy the reports and good teaching in the paper. Part of the old Siskiyou St. congregation in Los Angeles now meets in the Odd Fellow's Hall at 5026 Vineland Ave., N. Hollywood. It was hard for us to give up the old meeting place. It was there where we attended when we first came out of digression about 19 years ago. We have many pleasant and lasting memories of Siskiyou St., of our brethren who have gone on to their reward and the work the church did to further the gospel. Our love for Christ and for the spreading of the gospel has not been dampened; we hope to press on toward saving many souls in this beautiful valley. May we solicit the prayers of the faithful in every place.

Jim Hickey, Box 486, Sonora, Calif., April 13—I am happy to report that the congregation here is progressing nicely. Peace and good-will seem to be abiding. We have been having a few visitors from time to time. Interest is good and we have made several new contacts which is encouraging. It is sad though that many are not interested in the truth of God's Word. We have been looking for a building to purchase; we are in hopes of getting one in the near future. Last month, we began a weekly half-hour program on the local radio station; we are hoping to gain some response from it. We pray that God will give the increase to our labors. I recently enjoyed hearing Bro. Paul Nichols at Modesto. He preached an excellent sermon on "The Eldership." Please pray for us.

Edwin S. Morris, 905 Bluewood Dr., Dallas, Tex., 75232, April 18—We enjoyed the meeting in Forman, Ark., and certainly appreciated the hospitality of the Fred Latham home. We appreciated visitors from Golden, and Broken Bow, Okla.; Texarkana, Mena and Little Rock, Ark. Our next was at Tucson, Ariz. We enjoyed this meeting and believe that these brethren will grow. They meet at 2917 Grant Rd.; they invite preachers to come by. You may contact Ron DeWitt, 509 E. Raddburn, Tucson. We will be in Memphis, Tenn., April 24 - May 3; Mt. Grove, Mo., June 5-14; and La-Grange, Ga., June 20-28. I plan to remain in and around Dallas during May as our older daughter, Linda, is graduating from high school. We ask the prayers of all the faithful.

Leon Fancher, Box 392, Mena, Ark., April 15—The work here continues to show favorable signs of progress. We look forward to our meeting with Wayne Fussell which begins this week. Our meeting at West Monroe, La., April 1-5, was a most enjoyable one. Here is a congregation that is beginning to grow and it has some great potential. Brethren Billy and James Orten have done some good work in that part of La. They are both respected by all of the brethren there. Although our meeting was only five days long, it was attended well and all seemed to be uplifted. We learned to love all of them dearly. A five-day meeting seems to be ideal for a revival of spirit and zeal. We recommend them highly. We will be at New Salem, Miss., for a singing school, May 7-15; and a meeting at Love Joy, Pa., June 12-21.

Ronny F. Wade, Box 564, Lebanon, Mo., April 18—The work in this area continues to move along at a satisfactory pace. Two have been baptized lately. Bro. Lynwood Smith begins our meeting here tomorrow night. We were privileged to hear Bro. Wayne Fussell three nights in his meeting at Benton Ave., in Springfield. Wayne did his usual superb job of preaching the word. We recently enjoyed a visit to our old home in Texas, preaching at Ft. Worth once. The Lord willing, we will be in West Plains, Mo., this coming Lord's day to preach. Bro. Arthur Wade has done a tremendous job of planting the truth there. On May 1, the Lord willing we are to begin at Sacramento,

Calif. (64th St.). From there we go to El Cajon, Calif., May 15-24; Pontiac, Mich., June 3-14; Wayne, W. Va., June 17-28. We ask your prayers. Here are some subs.

Paul Walker, Rt. 2, Ethridge, Tenn., April 14—We lost a dear friend and devoted member of the church a few days ago; Sister Polly Weeks, just 10 months after the death of her husband, John, passed away. They were both known for their loyalty to the church. My wife's parents and I had a nice week-end meeting at Memphis, Tenn., recently. The work in the Lawrenceburg area continues with progress. John Fisher and I appreciate the fine brethren here with whom we labor. The young people put life and meaning into our singing at Chapel Grove; and four young men are helping with the service on Wednesday evening. We are so proud of our Christian boys and girls. May God help us to do all we possibly can to conserve the youth of the congregations. We look forward to our summer meetings with Brethren Leon Fancher and Ronny Wade. Here are 5 subs.

D. L. Davis, 714 S. San Jose Dr., Abilene, Texas., April 21—We, here at 1152 N. 1st have moved the meeting place to 1226 N. 8th. We continue in spirit and truth; we ask all to pray for us in this new location. We ask all traveling brethren to stop and worship with us, and/or visit in our homes. We have grown some since our last report, but there is still much to be done. Growth is so slow, we sometimes wonder if we could not do more. We need and desire the help of someone. We are not asking for someone to do all the work while we sit back; we are only asking for help. Lord's Day, April 12th, the family and I had a wonderful visit in Midland, (Terrell St.), Tex. I spoke at both services. They have done a wonderful work, I want to say. We all should strive for the spirit those children of God manifest; with their spirit, they will continue to abound. We pray we will promote the same spirit and growth here. Again, we ask the prayers of all.

Paul O. Nichols, 1400 Adena Street, Bakersfield, Calif., 93306, April 16.—We were with the Modesto, Calif., congregation, March 20-29, which we enjoyed very much. It was a pleasure to be with these brethren again. We had some good crowds and especially towards the last. We appreciated very much the cooperation and encouragement of all who attended, especially the preachers, Homer King, T. F. Thomasson, Jack Ivey, Freddie Lay, Jimmy Hickey, John Modgling, and Jimmy Terrell. The Southwest congregation of Bakersfield is doing fine. A good spirit prevails; the contributions are above average, and we have a mind to work. Even the newer members are taking part in the services, and we frequently have outsiders in attendance. We are working toward having our own meeting house in the near future, the Lord willing. It is a pleasure to work with these brethren. Visit us when passing.

Dennis Cox, 4255½ Altadena Ave., San Diego 15, Calif., March 30—I have recently spent a few evenings at the Covina, Calif., meeting with Bro. Johnny Elmore. I thoroughly enjoyed his preaching; he certainly displays a remarkable knowledge of the Word. We should be encouraged to search more deeply the truths of the faith. Of late, I have not been able to preach as much as I would like, college studies preventing in a large degree. I hope to have more time this summer. The local congregation at National City is being much encouraged by the personal work and preaching of Bro. Lee Boek. I pray the enthusiasm for the meetings in behalf of the young people will continue. The success of these meetings depends in large measure on the support of the older brethren. I would like to see more adult participation. I am confident they would be profited by the effort. Let us pray more for one another.

R. B. Roden, 3550 Lynwood Rd., Lynwood, California, April 17—The congregation here is show-

ing great interest in the work. We have good crowds at each service. We have had one confession of faults since last report. I am sorry my last report states 2 baptized instead of 3 at LaGrange, Ga. It was our privilege to attend a few nights of the good meeting at Covina, Calif. with Bro. Johnny Elmore doing the preaching. We are attending the meeting some this week at Montebello with Bro. Lee Boek doing the preaching. The congregations at Montebello and Siskiyou and others have been a great help to Lynwood. Pray for us in the work. We realize the time is short to work for the Lord. The Bible is the only guide; let each of us use the Bible only for our guide. Here is a sub.

Clovis T. Cook, 809 Lyons, Kansas City, Kans., April 17—Bro. Irvin Barnes is presently engaged in a meeting here on the Kansas side. This young man has a refreshing approach to the task of preaching the gospel. I predict that he will develop into a fine preacher some day soon. I hear many good things about the OPA of late. There is no doubt that it is sustaining a continual growth. We hope to move on to wider horizons. We will make mistakes, but who does not? We will perhaps falter and stumble, but we will plod on. Be patient and bear with us as we try year by year to put the paper into more and more homes, the world over. If you aid me in my weakness, you help to make me strong. Do not criticize to hurt, but rather, to help. There is a difference, you know.

Jim A. Canfield, Box 86, Rt. 3, Marion, La., April 12—Mar. 28-April 1, I was with the faithful near Brookhaven, Miss. They are growing in number and knowledge under the leadership of Brethren Robert Adams and Fred White. The home of Sister Mary Jane Adams there is always open to gospel preachers; during Bro. Adams' lifetime, their home was my home and it is yet. May God bless such old faithful soldiers of the cross and spare their life to continue with us as He sees fit. We have a good service here every Lord's Day; one confessed faults today. By the time this reaches our readers, we hope to be in our new building, the second Lord's day in May. We hope to receive the amount we asked for, \$400. The saw mill reduced its price on the new lumber we needed; the brethren here are doing their best with what money they can earn. We did all we could to keep from asking for outside help. A good brother in Mo. sent \$10.00 in Mar. to help me preach the gospel to my people. Many thanks to the faithful who continue to help me in my support. April 18, I plan to be in Memphis, Tenn. The first Lord's day in May, I hope to be with Bro. Goddard and others at Kansas City. I was shocked to hear of the sudden death of Brother Carl Nelson of Ottumwa, Iowa. The Lord bless his family in this dark hour. God bless the faithful.

E. H. Miller, Box 538, LaGrange, Ga., 30240, April 17—The church here is still busy, sowing the seed of the kingdom, and it is yet bringing forth fruit. Two more have been baptized since the last report. The meeting at Reading, Ohio was surely good. It was their first meeting; this is another town with a faithful congregation. Let us pray that the kingdom will continue to spread. I was surprised at such good attendance; interest was good throughout. One was restored and one confessed faults. Some outsiders were almost persuaded, but for some reason failed to obey; we have hopes they will shortly. Before going to Reading, I was called to Pontiac, Mich. to preach one night; we had good interest and good attendance. My son-in-law, Alton Bailey, will be in a meeting in Milford, Mich., May 2-10. We are now in a good meeting at Marietta, Ga., with some outside interest. We are so thankful how this congregation has grown since its beginning. They now have a nice meeting house, and everything is looking good for a great growth in that section. This is near Atlanta, the state capitol. We hope one day to establish a congregation there. The printer still promises to begin printing the directory by the last of this month. For those interested, I now have several orders made for the silver plated communion cup that I order from England. Here are 5 subs.

Vernie Seeley Feb 1965
Rte. 5, Box 121

OLD PATHS ADVOCATE

Our purpose is to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," and to "prove" all things; hold fast that which is good."

To continue "speaking the truth in love," "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace;" "keeping the ordinances as delivered."

"Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.'" (Jer. 6:16) "And they that be of Thee shall build the old waste, places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in." (Isa. 58:12).

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No. 6

RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD "BRAKE"

By K. G. Wilks

The English word "brake," which is the past tense of "break" does not carry the intent of the message found in the original Greek. This one English word used in the King James Version is used in the place of at least five different Greek words found in the original. No wonder, then, that the meaning of the word is confused in the minds of some.

In John 19:32, 33 . . . the soldiers "brake" the legs of the first (malefactor) . . . The Greek word here is "Katagnumi" and according to Strong's Greek Dictionary, means "to rend in pieces, or to crack apart." But the word "brake" in Mark 14:3 . . . "she brake" the box (the alabaster box), though it is the same word in the English of the King James Version, it is not the same in the original Greek. Here the word "brake" is in the Greek "suntribo," and it means "to crush completely, that is, to shatter, literally or figuratively to break in pieces, or broken to shivers."

There is yet another Greek word translated "brake" in the King James Version. In Luke 5:6 . . . the nets of the fishermen "brake" . . . and in Luke 8:29 . . . (the demoniac) Legion "brake" his hands . . . At this place the word is "diarrhesso" which means "to tear asunder, break, or to rend."

Now the point of all this is that in Matt. 26:26, Mark 14:22, and Luke 22:19 (where Jesus "brake" the bread—in the supper) if the Greek words above had been used, then we could have gone about the Lord's memorial supper in a different manner than some of us practice. For example, if the word "katagnumi" of John 19:32, 33 had been used, we could take the loaf in the communion meal and tear it in pieces (as one brother said he thought was done). Or, under the same meaning we could also (if the loaf is dry or brittle) crack it apart (into two or more pieces).

Again, if the word "suntribo," as in Luke 14:3 had been used, in connection with the Lord's supper, we could then break the loaf into pieces when we observe the memorial supper, or even crush it like soda crackers.

Still again, if the word "diarrhesso" had been used, we could take the loaf in the communion service and "rend" it open or "tear it asunder," as per Luke 5:6 and 8:29 (split it part way, or all way through.) But, we may not do any of these when we "brake" the loaf,

(Continued on page seven)

MUSINGS ON DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE

By D. B. McCord

The subject of divorce and remarriage is such a volatile matter, this writer admittedly hesitates to even mention it in the pages of this journal, and certainly hesitates to make it a front page article. On the other hand, prevailing conditions, and their seriousness is not a secret, make it almost imperative that this subject be dealt with tactfully yet candidly, charitably yet scripturally, kindly yet forcefully. I kindly plead with my readers to pursue this cautiously and prayerfully with me. There is perhaps too much reference to self, too many "I's", but I hardly know how to proceed otherwise if I am to be understood. I speak for myself, and only as a brother who would use his liberty as do others, to write and express himself on any theme that might seem relevant, or that he pleases.

May I first express some personal convictions that may assist you, the reader, to better understand me in the premises that may follow. I am not myself divorced and remarried, nor do I anticipate ever being, and I resent being treated as though I were. I do not advise divorce and remarriage for anyone. In fact, I have gone with a member of the body whom I had told she was wrong in divorcing her husband, and with her, advised the attorney-at-law to drop the proceedings. I hardly see how a brother or sister can go before the civil courts (to law) against each other for a divorce or for any other reason. See 1 Cor. 6:1-8. Yet, I can not disregard my Savior's statement in Matt. 19:9, which can not apply to the Old Law, nor can it apply in heaven, so it must apply under the law of Christ.

I feel so strongly about this matter that I will not officiate for a couple if one or both is divorced. I will not anymore encourage a divorced person under any circumstance to remarry. There are some things that may be lawful, but they are not expedient. At the same time, when the situation does exist, I refuse to drive such ones from the church. It is a fact, they will not be saved away from the church. I believe as did our lamented Brother Gay—it should be our aim to get as many in the church as we can, and not see how many we can drive away. This does not mean that discipline is not to be used. The hurt many times is not due to discipline, it is the unwise, unscriptural enforcement of it. We need to know the difference.

It is unwise to become radical on any issue. "The chickens come home to roost" has more truth in it than folly. I have seen brethren who disfellowshipped,

radically expelled brothers from the church, ran them away, who later had the misfortune themselves of having a child become involved in divorce and remarriage. The radical brother himself has been known to become involved, too. Tragic is this—it can happen to anyone—the best of us, let us not forget! I know men today whose father and mother were driven from the church because of divorce and remarriage, when these men were small boys—they are now out in sin, and not divorced and remarried either, but so far from the church they will likely never be members. Someone, some day is going to answer for this! These men remember as children their parents being driven from the church due to no fault of their own. Remember, brother, before you “square off” against your brethren on this issue, you need to consider such as this!

No one can justify “splitting the church” over this any more than he can justify “splitting” it over the war question, the covering question, etc. I do not see how preachers, even if they agree with me, can be justified who cause trouble over this issue. All concerned, regardless of how we may view this, should be willing “to bend over backward” to keep the peace on this issue. God help us all on all sides! There is neither rhyme nor reason to division on this!

From a fellowship angle, this issue can not be logically or scripturally classified with the communion, the teaching, mode of baptism, and other matters that pertain to the public worship and function of the church. If a man is going to be consistent, how can he “draw the line” on divorce and remarriage and not draw it on other matters that pertain to sound doctrine, such as not being grave, not being sober, not being patient, and not of sound speech. I can hardly see the consistency or scripturality in my drawing the line on divorce and remarriage and being at the same time a gossip, backbiter, whisperer, jester, quarrelsome man. The first thing a man knows he will have withdrawn from everyone, and be over in a corner somewhere by himself, and in his smugness and self-righteousness do nothing constructive for the church and in the end lose his own soul.

It can hardly be reasonable, can it, for me to dis-fellowship one brother on this issue and in turn fellowship a brother whom he fellowships. God's way of fellowship simply does not work that way. God's way does not put us into dilemmas like that. It is not right for brethren to divide and sub-divide, and one or both sides blame the “marriage question” when such is not the case. This is dishonesty, deceit, sin!!

Conclusively and summarily, this writer would take this stand, believing it to be scripturally sound and safe: 1. Preach and teach my children and the children of all with whom I have to do, to marry only once and in the Lord. 2. Keep in mind that no man, even I, am immune from divorce “coming home to me.” 3. That when divorce ends a marriage, at least one, and perhaps both parties sins, and thus our Father is displeased. 4. That to advise anyone to divorce or re-marry under any circumstance is to say the least inexpedient, and I will not do it. 5. That when the condition does exist in the church, the local congregation, make the best of it, do not drive from the church those involved, leaving judgment to God, and at the same time in the public assembly of the church, for the sake of unity, respect the consciences of my brethren who

disagree with me, and advise others to do the same. 6. That it is dangerous to hold a radical view or a liberal view on any theme—that the radical view may cut off those whom God accepts, and the liberal view may accept those whom God rejects. 7. That some of the strongest Christians do not agree with me on this question, and I must respect them, and that their willingness to cause no trouble on this issue should be an incentive to me to cause no trouble either. 8. That when the line of dis-fellowship is drawn, I will not draw it, nor encourage him who does.

I grant, dear reader, that you may find inconsistencies in what I have said. You may criticize me for not citing more specific proof texts for assertions made. Before you do, too severely, I hope you will keep in mind the tenor of the Scriptures expressed in such challenges as “keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace,” and “he that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”

I bring these musings to a close by including Brother Homer A. Gay's “Answer to an Inquiry on Divorce, Remarriage, and Fellowship,” taken here from “A Good Soldier,” compiled and published by Brother Ronny F. Wade. I am made to remember tonight what Brother Homer King, in faltering speech told me something like 6 months ago, “If everyone who believed as Brother Gay, would do as he did, there would be no trouble on the marriage question.” I might add there would be no more divorces and remarriages than we already have either. Here is Brother Gay's letter; reader, please read it carefully and weigh its wisdom:

“Dear Brother —, I was very glad to hear from you; and am glad you like my Timely Suggestions.

I, too, wish that it were so we could just sit down and talk things over for a while. What we say on paper does not always sound like we intend for it to sound.

Now to your question: I believe you know that I do not believe in a remarriage of a divorced person so long as their first companion is living. In other words, I believe that both God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit teach that when a couple marry they are married as long as they both live (Gen. 3; Matt. 19; Rom. 7, etc., etc.). I also believe that Christians should marry “only in the Lord,” as Paul says.

Now, to the next part of your question—that of communing where there is someone divorced: This, I believe to be an entirely different subject. I have never been much of an one to believe that the other fellow's sin is going to rub off on me, unless I take part in the sin. If Jesus could commune with Judas Iscariot, His betrayer—and Jesus knew he was, too, I have always felt that I could commune with my brethren, tho sinful they might be. I understand that this is the reason Paul made it a personal matter for “each one to examine himself (not the other, and that he that eateth unworthily, eateth damnation to himself” (1 Cor. 11:28, 29), and not to others.

The position which some brethren have taken down through the years, that 1 Cor. 5 demands that we refuse to commune with one living in adultery, I am afraid is missing the point. If I understand the teaching of 1 Cor. 5 it shows that the congregation was upholding this fornicator—puffed up, or rather glorying in it, and keeping him shielded whereas he needed to be turned over to the authorities, for punishment. It seems to me the expression “keep company” or “not to keep

company” clarifies the expression “no not to eat.” In other words, do not buddy up with one that is a sinner, in a way as to cause him to think that you consider him alright.

However, if this is to be taken literally, and at its face value and just “draw the line,” and refuse to commune with a fornicator, let us also remember the apostle includes with the fornication, the covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner. As for me, I have never been able to “draw the line” on any one of these sins to the neglect of others. I may be wrong—I do not ask anyone to follow me only as I follow Christ, but, my position has always been: as long as the worship is conducted scripturally, and I am left free to teach the Scriptures, I can worship there. If I felt that the other fellow's sin would condemn me I would be afraid to commune with anybody.

So, here is my suggestion, Bro. —: Go back to church, worship with them, and teach the truth. Live right, and try to save your soul and others. There were only a few in Sardis which had not defiled their garments, Rev. 3:4. Lovingly, Brother Gay”

LIVE IN PEACE (II)

By Tom E. Smith

We are bound to admit that God, Christ, and His apostles have done their part and have fulfilled their responsibility in promoting peace among men. It is only proper now that we point out man's part. God has never failed man, but man has failed God.

Man through disobedience stands at a guilty distance from God, for we read in Isa. 59:1-3: “Behold the Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.” Before you read further, please turn to Isaiah and read the twenty-ninth chapter in its entirety. We have only quoted verses one and two to save space. The prophet certainly points out man's status in his shameful and fallen condition. As is often said, “Man could not pull himself up by his own boot straps.” It was necessary that God through Christ intervene, and it was necessary that man be of a disposition to meet God and Christ at this intervention. So, the prophet Isaiah speaks again in Isa. 55:6-8: “Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near; Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord; and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God for he will abundantly pardon.” Please read to the close of the chapter. Unless we heed this admonition, we are hopelessly lost without a chance of having peace with God, for we read again in Isa. 57:19-21: “I create the fruit of the lips, peace, peace to him that is afar off, and to him that is near saith the Lord: and I will heal him. But the wicked is like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace saith my God to the wicked.”

In Isaiah's prophecy, he is pointing out the undoing of Israel—her shameful condition due to her disobedience unto God, His love and consideration for her, and for all mankind, and how she can come into His good graces again by turning from her evil way. Everyone would do well to read the book from beginning to end.

Remember the church as we know it today is spiritual Israel (Gal. 3 and 4). Now, turn to Isaiah 1 and read it in its entirety, and I quote verses 16-20: “Wash you, make you clean: Put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil. Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now let us reason together, saith the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet they shall be as white as snow; though they be like crimson they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient ye shall eat the good of the land. But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.”

Paul said in Rom. 15:4: “For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.” He then says in 1 Cor. 12:6: “Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.”

In the light of these scriptures, we learn that man has put himself at variance with God, and it is man who must make peace with Him. God has made this possible through Christ, “for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). Paul speaks of making peace with God in Eph. 2. We have already quoted verses 14-17. Please read them again and note that in verse eighteen he says “for through him (that is through Christ) we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.”

Christ said in John 6:44-45, “No man can come to me except the father which hath sent me draw him; and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, and they shall all be taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and learned of the Father, cometh unto me.” In coming to God, we must hear and learn of Him (see Matt. 7:24-29; Rom. 10:13-15). Peter said to those on the day of Pentecost, “—ye men of Judea, and all ye that dwell in Jerusalem, be this known unto ye, and hearken to (hear) my words (Acts 2:14). Please read to the close of the chapter. We must repent (Luke 13:1-5; Acts 2:38; Acts 11: 18). We must confess Jesus as Lord (Matt. 10:32-33). Peter made this confession early in his discipleship (Matt. 16:13-18; Acts 8:35-37; Rom. 10:9-10). Christ confessed that He was the Son of God, and died on the old rugged cross, thus sealing our redemption (1 Tim. 6:13-14). We must be baptized (Matt. 28:19-20; Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 2:38). All of these scriptures teach that we get into Christ through baptism.

For the sake of those who read this who are not members of Christ's church, and have never known God in his forgiveness of your sins, I have given the law of primary obedience. When we comply with these conditions and obey from the heart (Rom. 6:16-17), we are in Christ's body, the church (Eph. 1:22-23; Col. 1:17-23). Oh, glorious thought! We “have made peace with God, through Jesus Christ.”

This series of articles has been of more lengthy proportion than I first intended, but I feel in order to partially do justice, by no means exhausting this all-important subject, that I must have one more installment. In it, we will consider how to keep the peace of Zion.

—Rt. 4, Box 171-A
Duncan, Okla.

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THIS AND THAT

Acknowledgment—Bro. Homer L. King wishes to acknowledge the following donations with sincerest thanks: Healdton, Okla.—\$25; E. T. Yarbrough—10.

Breaking Bread—Our front page article by Bro. K. G. Wilks is the best that I have read on this important subject. Please study it with your Bible as the standard. It is important how we break bread, let us forget not!!

She likes the church better all the time—A sweet, touching letter reaches our desk from our aged Sister M. S. Fancher, 2150 Ave. F, Wichita Falls, Tex. We quote in part: "The only way I can learn anything is by reading God's Word and the religious papers, as I can't hear the preaching or teaching, but I am thankful that God has blessed me that I can still see to read His Word. I have been a member of the church 73 years, and like it better all the time. I ask all the faithful to pray for me; I stand in the need of prayer. God bless all the faithful and may all grow stronger in the faith." In 73 years, no doubt, Sister Fancher has seen many changes, and experienced many difficulties, but now she can say—and I like this, don't you—that she likes the church better all the time. What a wonderful attitude!

Sister Fancher is the grandmother of Brethren Clovis Cook, Leon, Cleo and Clayton Fancher, and the mother of Brethren Dow and Zeff Fancher and the forebearer of many more in the Lord's church. When we think of the number and the potential number, we must conclude that Sister Fancher is a blessed woman. A grand-daughter and a great grand-daughter are married to preaching brethren Bill Harmon and Ted Warwick, respectively. May the unfeigned faith that dwells in this mother and grandmother dwell in the hearts of all her descendants, and all of us.

—D. B. McCord

"Strengthen the weak, forgive the erring, scatter rays of sunshine, assure every person of your love, then watch for happy results."

The home field is often the most barren.

OUR HELPERS

You will find listed below the names of those sending subscriptions since we last went to press, and opposite the name the number of subs sent. We want to express again our deepest appreciation for your continued interest in behalf of this journal. May we count on you to continue the good work? Please check the following list, and report any errors to us immediately.

Marvin Fisher—5; Mattie Lloyd—4; Cicero Goddard—3; Fred Renier—3; Taylor Joyce—3; Clovis Cook—2; Christine Walkup—2; John L. Reynolds—2; Ronny Wade—2; Obara Perry—2; Byron Jackson—2; George Stover—2; Don King—2; Mrs. Wm. H. Wheeler—2; Mardell Hash—2; Veta Wissinger—2; Mrs. W. E. Stroud—2; Wallace Middick—2; J. C. Alexander—2; Louis Hopkins—2; Fred Lay—2; Harvey Jackson—2; George Stover—2; J. R. Tidmore—1; Bonnie Ervin—1; Paul Ferguson—1; M. G. Starret—1; W. E. Staggs—1; A. R. Coldiron—1; Mrs. J. H. Word—1; Tommy Bakert—1; Betty Aldridge—1; Goldie Helmick—1; Everett Agnew—1; Mrs. Earnest Gilley—1; Wm. A. Joyce—1; E. L. Osterloh—1; Margaret Ann Davidson—1; Jerry Gilbert—1; E. T. Yarbrough—1; A. D. McNeil—1; Jimmy Winchester—1; L. E. Fussell—1; Richard Nichols—1; Mrs. M. S. Fancher—1; Mrs. A. A. Joyce—1; Frank Plasha—1; Irvin Barnes—1; Rachel P. Haines—1; O. L. Barnes—1; Cecil Chestine—1; Oscar Alexander—1; Floyd White—1; Edwin Morris—1; George Schultz—1; Glenda Smith—1; George Everett—1; Total 88.

"STAR OF HOPE"

This is the name of the 1964 song book published by Bro. Homer L. King. It is now in the hands of the printer. It features many of the very newest songs, as well as the old and tried songs that have stood the test through the years. It would help Bro. King if you could place your order in advance; this way, he can have your order sent directly from Dallas, where the book is being printed by the Frank Stamps Music Co., and thereby save time and postage. The price is 65 cents per copy, 50 cent for two or more. Order from Old Paths Advocate, Homer L. King, 1061 North Pilgrim St., Stockton, California.

YOSEMITE, CALIF. MEETING

This meeting will be conducted June 27-July 4, at Yosemite National Park, Calif., one of the great scenic wonders of North America. The meeting is under the direction of the Ceres congregation. For further information, you may write the church of Christ, 2610 Lawrence St., Ceres, Calif.

SULPHUR, OKLA. MEETING

The church at Sulphur, Okla., along with Bro. Johnny Elmore and this writer, takes this opportunity to again invite the brethren to this meeting. There is no better way for you to spend your vacation. This is truly a spiritual feast. The gospel preaching, songs and fellowship of the good brethren of like precious faith make it so; this has been true in the past, and I am sure this year will be no different.

The first service will be on Fri. night, June 26th, with morning and night services everyday until July 4th. Talks by all the preachers present will be given on July 4th. Plan to come early and attend it all.

Scenic beauty (and camping facilities for those who want them) are offered at nearby Platt Nat'l Park. If you are interested in advance motel reservations, write directly to one of the motels or to Bro. T. L. Rickard, Rt. 1, Davis, Okla., or Bro. Jerry Gilbert, 1107 W. Tahlequah, Sulphur, Okla.

—R. B. Roden

NYASALAND REPORT

We are well into the second month of our stay in Africa, and are now able to focus upon some of the real problems that confront the church, and to give some information on what is being done to alleviate these problems. Our arrival in Nyasaland was at a propitious time from a physical as well as a spiritual standpoint. This is now the dry season, and travel among the churches is very easy. In our travels we ford many streams and cross many gullies which would be impassable during the wet season. From a spiritual standpoint, had we arrived later (and then only a few months) many of the churches and preachers would have been lost to other groups. As it is, almost all the preachers are still active, and the number of churches seems to have actually increased in the last few years.

The problems are many and varied, as would be expected. One of the major problems was partially taken care of shortly before we arrived. The schools were turned over to the government; the schools were formerly church sponsored and church financed. The African preachers devised the means of getting support for themselves, and the schools by selling church membership cards. Apparently, this was done in all sincerity, for once the error of the practice was pointed out, they immediately gave it up.

Another major problem was that of obtaining grape juice. This problem has only partially been solved. Before our arrival the churches had no grape juice, and consequently no communion. Some of the newer congregations had never communed. The Lord blessed us, and soon we found a supply in both Blantyre and Limbe. Some of the churches have now started buying grape juice regularly.

Since we arrived, we have conducted one study with the preachers, and plan to begin our second of five weekly studies May 18th. The lessons for our studies are being outlined in the native language, Chinyanja. At the close of our stay, we plan to compile all the outlines into a booklet, and give one to each of the preachers.

Finally, a word about the political situation: We preach in no area (and we preach at a different congregation each Lord's Day) in which we do not first receive official permission. To assure complete freedom in our services, we have appeared before one of the highest officials in government. Two more meetings are to take place with officials in the next few days. Incidents have occurred in the area where we preach, but we are assured of our safety as long as we comply with the law. Independence comes to this small nation on July 6th. We hope and pray that with independence it will progress in a troubled world with a minimum of problems.

Many prayers have been answered in the African work. Continue to pray for the work and for us.

—Jerry Cutter, Box 573,

Blantyre, Nyasaland, Africa

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We, of the Flint, Mich. church of Christ, wish to acknowledge the donations received for the purpose of repairing and remodeling the building we recently purchased. Congregations: Flemington, Pa.—\$150; Concinnati, Ohio by Bro. Owens—\$25; Lawrenceburg, Tenn.—\$25; Moline, Mich.—\$200; Detroit, Mich.—\$250; Brookhaven, Miss.—\$150; Birmingham, Ala.—\$50; LaGrange, Ga.—\$100. Individuals: Bro. and Sis. Will Staggs, Ethridge, Tenn.—\$40; Bro. and Sis. Ron Courter, Detroit, Mich.—\$100. Total received to May 13th—\$1,090.00. When we wrote letters asking for help, the approximate amount needed was \$3,000.

The congregation here expresses its appreciation for this gift. The brotherhood has been very thoughtful in helping us bear our burdens. We thank God for the gift and for such brethren. We, too, realize that some want to help, but can not. We are now in the process of working on the building and hope to get most of it done by the time our summer meeting with Brother Leon Fancher is due.

—Franklin E. Staggs, 359 E. Gillespie,
Flint, Michigan 48505

WORTHY OF YOUR CONSIDERATION

On October 29, 1961, a new congregation was founded in Olney, Texas, composed of brethren who had been driving to other towns for worship. Although only five members were assured of for this initial meeting, eleven members and nine children were present. Original beliefs about the suitability of Olney for a new congregation have been substantially strengthened in that these two and one-half years have resulted in a congregation with thirty-four members and eleven children. Such past growth and future prospects warrant very definite plans for the future. At this writing, the brethren are building a badly needed building. Their building and lot will cost about twenty thousand and will seat about two hundred people; these plans are in keeping with modesty and adequacy in that particular locality. The Olney brethren have not asked anyone for money in this matter; however, knowing these brethren and the conditions there, I think that any assistance from individuals or congregations would be highly appreciated and wisely spent. Send all contributions to: Kenneth Bishop, 1009 Howard, Olney, Texas.

—J. Wayne McKamie

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Brother and Sister H. H. Coble completed fifty years of marriage on Sunday, May 17, 1964. Members of the Beach St. congregation in Ft. Worth, Tex. were pleased to honor that admirable occasion by an afternoon singing and serving a golden wedding anniversary cake. An overflowing crowd of friends, relatives, brothers and sisters in Christ from the Ft. Worth-Dallas area, Paris, San Angelo, Odessa, Weatherford and other points across the state brought gifts and the very best of wishes to this fine Christian couple. I believe all will agree that with marriage statistics being what they are these days, it is certainly worthy of special notation when the twain, in unity, remain "one flesh" for such a long period.

—Wallace Middick
1115 Cavender Dr.
Hurst, Tex.

NOTE OF THANKS

The church at Caldwell, Idaho wishes to express its gratitude for the following help. From letters we sent to brethren, the following responded: Bloomfield, Iowa—\$32.50; Yakima, Wash.—\$25. From the appeal in the OPA, the following came: San Antonio, Tex.—\$15; Brookhaven, Miss.—\$20; Berryville, Ark.—\$2. All of this has been used for the upkeep of the church. We sincerely thank each of you for this help; we know that you are about your Father's business.

—Ernie Crisp, 615 Chicago,
Caldwell, Idaho

OUR DEPARTED

Allen—Sister Eva Charlotte Allen was born Oct. 14, 1908 at Elmore, Okla. She passed away May 10th, at Glendora, Calif., at the age of 55 years, 6 months. She was the daughter of the late Ethelred and Phoebe Tidwell. She was married to Bro. Joe Allen July 12, 1938; to this union two children were born; an infant died in 1946. Peggy Jo, the daughter, of the home, survives. She had lived in Calif. since 1932, and in Glendora for about 19 years. She obeyed the gospel in 1940.

Besides Joe and Peggy, Eva leaves 2 brothers, 3 sisters and a host of other relatives and friends. The final service was conducted May 14th at White's Funeral Home, Azusa, Calif. The flowers were many and beautiful. The very pretty singing was by members of the church. Interment was in Oakdale Cemetery, Glendora. The writer attempted to say words of comfort and hope. Joe and Peggy have our sincerest sympathy.

—D. B. McCord

Tidmore—On April 15th, early in the morning, about 2:15, the spirit of Sister Mable Mollie Tidmore took its return flight to its Maker. Those who knew her can envision this happy re-union. In 1940, she became the wife of Bro. Jasper (Newt) Tidmore; she was a widow with 8 children; he a widower with 9. To this union two more children were born. There were 16 children from widely separated places present at the funeral. This great gathering of children spoke louder in praise of her as a mother than can thousands of words. Words of praise about their mother were heard in abundance. Sister Tidmore obeyed the gospel about 25 years ago in Okla. Bro. and Sister Tidmore attended services at Corcoran, Calif. for several years before moving to the National City, Calif. area several months ago. At the service, the flowers and the singing were beautiful. Nelson Nichols, Sue Franklin, Charles Akins and Ronnie Thomas were the singers; it was some of the very best. Interment was in Sister Tidmore's beloved Okla., at Valliant. The writer officiated at the Calif. service.

—Marvin Fisher

Note: A brother-in-law, Bro. J. R. Tidmore, informs us that the service in Okla. was at the graveside, with Bro. Ray Lambert conducting. He also submitted the following letter, written by Sister Tidmore, to her children not long before her passing: "My will to my loved ones—Dear Children, I can not leave you riches of this earth, but I leave you the same Savior Who will pardon your sins. Please, before it is too late, obey the gospel and be saved. There is no love like God's love; He loves you and is ready to make you whole. I

am your mother and mother-in-law; I love you with all my strength and soul, but I do not have the power to save your soul. Please, make peace with God, and bring my grand-children up to love God and do His will, with a sound and peaceful mind, and God's love. This is my last will to my Dear Ones. Mother, the one who will love you forever."

Hash—Brother Alvie (Bud) Hash, 223 W. Lime Ave., Monrovia, Calif., departed this life on April 30, 1964 at Southern Pacific hospital, San Francisco, Calif., at the age of 53 years, a victim of cancer. He was born Feb. 24, 1911, at Duster, Comanche Co., Tex., to the late Robert and Eura B. Hash. He had lived in Calif. since the 1930's, and had been an employee of Southern Pacific Railroad for about 22 years. On April 30, 1939, he was married to Mardell Mary Martin in Yuma, Ariz. He is survived by his devoted wife; one brother, Bob Hash of Moore, Okla.; step-mother, Addie B. Hash, and one half-sister, Roberta Gober, both of Austin, Tex. There are aunts, uncles and cousins also surviving.

It was this writer's privilege to baptize Bud into Christ in the Spring of 1957 at the church in Covina, Calif. It was a joy to see him grow from a babe in Christ to a spiritual man full-grown. It was his regret that he did not obey the gospel sooner in life. He was always at his post of duty; he has attended the assembly when he was so racked with pain he could not sit still. He has given the lesson when, if it had not been for sedation, he could not have, his pain was so great. I think I have never seen a man suffer so much. His physicians, who did all that men could do for him physically, marvelled at his stamina, and how tenaciously he clung to life. In a letter written to me, less than a week before he died, he spoke with such hope, and his characteristic sense of humor was most evident. But loved the church, and defended it manfully. He is missed so much at the assembly. With the passing of such a man, earth loses a little more of its attraction, and these earth-borne ties that bind us here lose more and more of their strength, while the ties that bind us heavenward and homeward stronger grow. He was my staunch, and loyal friend; I never had a better one. His going was to me and my family, as well as others, a great personal loss. Bud converted Bro. Jim Hickey, a young preacher of the gospel, to the truth from sectarianism. For Jim, Bud was always humbly grateful, and rightfully so. He was with Bud and Mardell when death came. On April 30th, Mardell, along with her sister, Aylene Guthrie, and my wife, brought Bud home from San Francisco for the last time. On Sat., May 2nd at 2:00 P.M., the final service was conducted at Temple-LaGorge Chapel, Monrovia, Calif., with a host of relatives, friends and brothers and sisters in Christ attending. Some said it was the nicest service they ever attended. The singing was by members of the church, representing several congregations, and was as beautiful as I ever heard. One of the songs, "Home, Sweet Home," written by our late Bro. D. E. Stone, was sung at Bud's request. We laid Bud to rest in beautiful Live Oak cemetery, Monrovia—such a sad parting, but, as is true with those who die as they have lived, a Christian, it had to be "good night" here that it might be, at the dawning of a fairer day, "good morning" over there.

—D. B. McCord

CARD OF THANKS

I take this means of expressing my sincerest gratitude to all who were so kind and helpful during the illness and passing of my beloved husband, Bud Hash. The many cards and letters he received were a source of strength for him. The flowers at the final service, the cards and expressions of sympathy otherwise were such a great help to me in my darkest hour. My heartfelt thanks to Brethren Don McCord and Jim Hickey for the kind words of comfort spoken. I will ever be grateful to Don McCord for the many afternoon visits he spent with Bud; they were such a comfort to him, and he so looked forward to them.

—Mardell Hash

BONDS OF MATRIMONY

Thomason-Triplett—On April 3, 1964, Don Thomason and Joyce Triplett, of Kansas City, Mo., were united in matrimony in the beautiful new church building at 85th and Euclid. Many friends and relatives gathered to witness the ceremony and share in the festivities. Joy and Don are both zealous and tireless workers in the church. It was indeed a beautiful wedding. A well-planned, and properly executed reception was held in the basement immediately after the wedding. I have known Don since babyhood, and of course, I have known Joy all her life. I wish for them a happy Christian life together. May God bless them and supply their every need. The writer had the honor of officiating.

Note: I am sure that many of our readers know that Joyce Triplett is the daughter of the late Paul D. Triplett, who passed away last Dec. 6; and now to this we add another sad note. Don's father, Bro. Buck Thomason, of Sentinel, Okla., and also his mother, attended the wedding, But, since the wedding, Bro. Thomason suffered a fatal stroke, so that in a matter of only a few months, both Don and Joy, have lost their fathers. They face life together, knowing what it is to lose a parent. With their faith and courage, and God's help, they will make it.

—Cloviss T. Cook

RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD "BRAKE"—

(Continued from page one)

because a different word was used in the original Greek.

In Mark 6:41, Jesus "brake" the loaves (and fed them also the fishes). The Greek word here is "kataklaō" meaning "to break down, that is to divide." This fourth word is also rendered "brake" in the English of the K. J. version. But the meaning still is not that used with reference to the Lord's supper. "Kataklaō" would permit us to divide the loaf (but not to tear it up, nor to crush it, or to crack it or break it into pieces.)

In Matt. 26:26, Mark 14:22, and Luke 22:19 where Jesus "brake" the communion bread, the word in the Greek is "klao" which means "to break, specifically of bread." It is now clearly seen that regardless of what this word "klao" means, it does not mean to divide the loaf, to crush it, to crack it open, rend it asunder (or apart), or to break the loaf into pieces.

The word "klao" does mean to break, for the Greek dictionary says so. It also says the meaning refers "specifically" to bread. Therefore, there is a meaning different from that used in the other places, or cases.

Following the word "klao" through other passages. Jesus at Emmaus . . . Luke 24:30 . . . "he took bread and blessed it, and "brake" and gave to them . . ." He no doubt broke the bread enough to provide himself with a portion of the loaf then gave to them (the other two).

On shipboard in Acts 27:35 . . . (during the stormy voyage) . . . "when he had "broken" (klao), he began to eat . . ." (that kind of breaking specifically of bread—that is, for the purpose of eating bread. How much does one have to break off to eat? Only enough to taste, or a bite, or a portion sufficient for that meal, with the rest of the loaf left intact, others at the table to do the same as we do at the communion table.)

Acts 20:11 . . . (Paul preaching at Troas) . . . young man Eutyclus fell down, taken up dead . . . had "broken" bread, and eaten . . . Here again the word is "klao"—no breaking except that method used in the eating of bread.

1 Cor. 11:24 . . . "Take eat, this is my body, which is "broken" (klao) for you: this do in remembrance of me."

1 Cor. 10:16 . . . "The bread which we "break" . . . (again, a peculiar breaking used only on bread, for the purpose of eating the broken piece).

Acts 20:7 . . . "disciples came together to "break" bread . . ." The meaning again is that one kind of breaking—specifically of bread (for the purpose of eating the portion broken (off)).

In Matt. 14:19 . . . five loaves and two fishes . . . "he blessed and brake" (klao) and gave the loaves to his disciples . . ."

In Matt. 15:36 . . . seven loaves and two fishes, and gave thanks, and "brake" (klao) them . . ."

Mark 8:6, 19 . . . "and he took the seven loaves, and gave thanks, and "brake" . . . "when I "brake" (klao) the five loaves . . ."

In all three of the above passages it is seen that the Lord partook of the bread (by breaking, specifically of bread) then passed the loaves and fishes on to the others. However, in these accounts as recorded at Mark 6:41 and Luke 9:16, the word is "kataklaō" which meant that he broke the loaves down, or divided them into portions. The point is though, that he "brake" (klao) for himself, but for the multitude he "brake" (kataklaō) by dividing for them, or breaking the loaves down for them. But in the Lord's supper he did not do this because the word "klao" means that he broke (for himself) but did not "break" (kataklaō) by dividing for the others at table with him. He told them to divide the fruit of the vine among themselves. They would have to divide the loaf among themselves also, for the word used in the Greek does not permit a meaning that he divided it for them.

Consequently, we may not divide the loaf, crack it open or apart, crush it, or rend it into two or more pieces; but he "brake" it (klao) (specifically of bread, to eat of it, but not to divide it or split it, part way or all of the way).

The definitions of the five words herein studied, as given by Strong's Greek Dictionary, are also substantially the same in the Greek Lexicon by Arndt and Gringgrich.

—109 Dundee Drive
Wichita Falls, Texas

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

By Jim Hickey

We pose the question, Can we sin with our eyes? It seems that today people, including brethren, have gotten the idea that it is not possible to sin with our eyes and therefore we need not exercise any care to avoid such transgressions.

I have wondered about this, and have investigated more closely, and find that the word of God very definitely teaches that we can sin with our eyes. Let us remember that the eye is the window of the mind and to sow a thought is to reap an action. Let us notice some words of inspiration: "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old, Thou shalt not commit adultery; but I say unto you, that whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart, And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell" (Matt. 5:27-29). These were the words of Jesus. David of old once said, too, "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes" (Ps. 101:3). The apostle Paul said, "Abstain from all appearance of evil" (I Thess. 5:22).

We find that the eye even had a part in bringing the curse of sin into the pure garden of Eden: "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes—" The record shows that she was allured by her eyes.

I John 2:16 points out that the "lust of the eyes" is equivalent to the "lust of the flesh" and the "pride of life" and is not of the Father but of the world. Another inspired scribe, the apostle Peter, speaks of "eyes full of adultery." The testimony of the New Testament scriptures plainly teaches us that we can sin with our eyes and that if our eyes are defiled, then so is our whole body. "The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness (Matt. 6:22-23).

—Box 486, Sonora, Calif.

THE REBUKE OF PRIDE

The life and death of our Lord Jesus Christ are a standing rebuke to every form of pride.

Pride of birth: "Is not this the carpenter's son?"

Pride of wealth: "The Son of man hath not where to lay his head."

Pride of personal appearance: "He hath no form nor comeliness."

Pride of reputation: "Made himself of no reputation."

Pride of superiority: "I am . . . as he that serveth."

Pride of ability: "I can of mine own self do nothing."

Pride of will: "I seek not mine own will."

Pride of resentment: "Father, forgive them."

—Selected by Ronny Wade



A. C. Severe, Wendewende Mission, P. O. Luchenza, Nyasaland, Africa, May 8—Thanks to the brethren who have sent Brethren James and Jerry to us. Pray for their work.

L. E. Fussell, Box 436, Wilson, Okla., May 18—The church here is doing fine. We are looking forward to our meeting with Bro. Miles King, June 5-14. Here is my renewal.

Donga Nakutepa, Kayera Vlg., C/O Saimon Taibu, P. O. Lilangwi, Nyasaland, Africa, May 8—We are very happy because we received the two brethren from America. Brethren, pray for me here in the northern province.

Eli Ward, 5035 So. 35th Dr., Phoenix, Ariz., Mar. 27—I would like to see an article in the paper on how one should conduct himself at work, around his employer and fellow-employees, with their profanity, etc. Here is our renewal.

Marvin Fisher, 3003 Luna Ave., San Diego, Calif., May 2—The church here is certainly enjoying having Bro. Lee Boek and family with us. Lee is an inspiration both in words and works. Lola, his wife, is certainly doing her part well, too. Here are 5 subs.

Peluse Kalongonda, C/O Nkoko Vge., N. A. Mkhumba, Nyasaland, P. O. Palombe, Africa, May 10—I thank you and the church here at Zenje thanks you for your kindness in sending Brethren Cutter and Orten to us. They visited us last Lord's Day here at Zenje. Please pray for us.

E. Madula, V. H. Kumadji, C/O Local Ct. Chimombo, Khonjeni, P. O. Cholo, Nyasaland, Africa, May 4—Thank you brethren so much for sending the brethren to preach the gospel in our area. We are suffering here. I have 6 children that I can not send to school due to no money. We send our warm greetings.

Coy Agnew, 215 Sheridan Ave., Manteca, Calif., May 13—In the last month, two have obeyed the Lord in baptism here, Bro. and Sister Freeman's granddaughter, and Myron Blanton, under the preaching of Bro. James Winchester. We enjoy the OPA very much. Pray for us and the church.

Othur L. Barnes, 1318 E. Street, Texarkana, Ark., April 24—Here is my renewal to the OPA. I enjoy it so much that I read it through and through. I then place it in a folder for future reference. It is the most welcomed journal that comes into my home. May it never lose its way. May God bless this work and all the laborers.

E. T. Yarbrough, Cherokee, Tex., April 15—The OPA is a paper I like to read; I hope it will continue to speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where it is silent. Bro. Edwin S. Morris's article on "Long Hair" was good. We hope that Bro. King is still improving. Here is our renewal.

Harvey Jackson, 2914-2nd St., Lubbock, Tex., April 27—The church here is at peace and growing spiritually for which we are thankful. We look forward to our meeting with Bro. Fred Kirbo, beginning the first Fri. night in June and continuing for 2 Lord's days. We surely enjoy the OPA. Glad to know that Bro. King continues to improve. Remember us in your prayers.

John L. Reynolds, 3434 9th St., Ceres, Calif., May 14—I have just been re-reading the OPA; I surely like it. I have been feeling much better; will likely return to the hospital soon, as my feet are worse. Recently, young Bro. Mike Hickey was the speaker at the assembly; it is reported that he did well. Mike is like his dad, Howard, always good. Here are 2 renewals.

W. D. Goodgion, 1422 - 37th St., Wichita Falls, Tex., April 20—Our plans are to have Bro. Lee Boek work with us through the month of Aug. The church here is doing fine; everybody is so happy. It is a great blessing to be a member of a congregation like this. Several of the young men are doing good preaching. Please send a dozen copies of "Star of Hope."

Louis Hopkins, Sentinel, Okla., May 4—Here is my renewal for 2 years. Our hearts have been almost broken; after the passing of Bro. Jim Stevens, only nine days passed until Bro. Buck Thomason had a stroke and lived only 4 hours. That makes four of our brethren we have lost this year. Brethren Roberts and Herrell passed away about three days apart. We know the Lord knows best.

David Macy, Box 27, Gretna, Fla., May 5—My meetings this year are as follows: Okemah, Okla., July 6-15; Woodson, Tex., July 16-26; Abilene, Tex. (Huckleberry Lane), Aug. 5-16; Stidham, Okla., Aug. 19-30; Farmington, N. Mex., Sept. 2-13; Cincinnati, Ohio, Sept. 25-Oct. 4; Albuquerque, N. Mex., Oct. 9-18. Beginning June 21st, I hope to be in Calif. for about a week, preaching at various places.

F. H. Lichapa, Namphungo church of Christ, Namlenga R. C. Mission, P. O. Mikolongwe, Nyasaland, Africa, May 8—The brethren from America have come; we have needed them for many years. April 5, I was at Manyumba where one obeyed the truth. April 12, we were at Wendewende where the two brothers from America preached. April 19, we were at Namphungo; April 26, we were at Zenje church where 511 filled the church.

E. Muyayah, C/O Wendewende Mission, Box 562, Limbe, Nyasaland, Africa, May 4—April 12, we enjoyed the preaching of brethren Jerry Cutter and James Orten. April 19, I was at Munlo church. April 26, I was at Mukhunyiwa where 7 confessed their sins. April 27, I was at Munlo church again. The coming of Brethren Orten and Cutter gives us much pleas-

ure. Brethren, pray for the work here in the dark continent of Africa.

G. O. Shultz, 6675 S. W. Varnes Rd., Tigard 23, Ore., May 6—I want the paper to continue as it keeps me in touch with the brethren. I am not able to get settled since losing my wife last Dec. 17th. The congregation at Forest Grove, Ore. is about the same. I just got home from Yakima, Wash. where Bro. Jewell Briggs, Jr. was in serious condition but much improved before I left. Sister Lamb of Forest Grove is well on her way to recovery.

Miles King, 2610 Brown, Alton, Ill., May 12—I plan to be in Calif. for about a month this summer; I will close a meeting at Manteca, Calif. on Aug. 2, after which I will spend about 2 weeks preaching at various places. The church here is doing pretty good. The brethren hope to have the building completed some time this summer. We look forward to our move to Norman, Okla. We do enjoy the OPA very much. Remember us when you pray.

John R. Scott, Rt. 1, Box 292, Neosho, Mo., April 29—The meeting at the Burkhardt congregation with Bro. Joe Howard was a great success. Two were added to the body of Christ and we had large crowds each night. The meeting was extended two nights due to the interest that was shown. Bro. Howard can certainly preach the gospel of Christ with love and meekness. Unity and love are prevailing among the congregations of Burkhardt, Neosho, and Joplin. The future looks good.

Perry Allen, 2520 Clinton Ave., Richmond, Calif., May 16—Interest is still good here as we continue to fight the good fight of faith. I still hope to see a large, thriving, fervent, faithful congregation here. We still enjoy the OPA; there have been so many good articles. I hope we will always have men to keep it clean and free of personal opinions and hobbies. Keep up the good work. Notice change of address. Please send us 100 copies of the new book, "Star of Hope."

Clovis T. Cook, 809 Lyons, Kansas City, Kan., May 12—We recently visited the Lebanon, Mo. church while Bro. Lynwood Smith was in his meeting; we enjoyed it very much. That Lord's day, I preached in Springfield, Mo. We plan to visit the Cassville, Mo., church this month. Bro. Lynwood will be in a meeting there. We are looking forward to the fourth of July meeting at Sulphur, Okla., which we plan to attend. Death is taking many of our members, and each year we can expect to see a few less of our old buddies.

Donald Brittain, 19-7th St., N. E., Ardmore, Okla., May 14—The church here is progressing very well. We plan to begin work on our new building as soon after the close of our meeting as possible. Our meeting will be June 14-24, with Bro. Lynwood Smith. We look forward to it with great anticipation. We are also looking forward to the meeting at Marietta, Okla. beginning May 29th, with Bro. Wayne Fussell. We hope much good in the cause of Christ will come from these meetings. Please pray for us.

E. R. Brown, Box 750, Stilwell, Okla., May 8—The church at Noel chapel is small in number, but is still having services each Lord's Day, both morning and evening. We have had 2 baptisms lately; Bro. James Morgan baptized them; it is always wonderful to see those who will give themselves to the Christ. Bro. Van Butts preached for us in Mar.; Bro. James Morgan of Tahlequah, Okla. preaches for us on Lord's Day evening; he is a wonderful preacher. Any passing our way will have a welcome awaiting. Remember us in your prayers.

Cicero Goddard, 3803 Garfield, Kansas City, Mo., May 15—We are making progress although it is slow. Our attendance continues to grow. May 10, we had 28 present for the morning services, and 26 for the evening. Bro. Jim Canfield spent a week here with me; on May 3, he brought 2 nice lessons. We enjoyed his visit very much. We are in need of your prayers for the work here. We received a letter from the church at Samson, Ala.; one has obeyed the truth since we left. We would ask each of you to remember them in your prayers. Here are 3 subs.

Roy Lee Criswell, Rt. 1, Purcell, Okla., May 20—Since last report, we have had the opportunity of teaching at San Jose, Sanger, Manteca, and Winters, all in Calif. Our work with the brethren at Winters will soon be history. We have greatly enjoyed laboring among them the past 5 months. We believe the church is stronger now than when we first came. We will be in a meeting June 19-28, at Washington, Okla.; this is home, and will be our first work with them. Our next extended labors of personal work will be with the Lippleman Rd. congregation in Cincinnati, Ohio, beginning July 12th. Remember us in your prayers.

Jack Cutter, 2622 E. 32nd, Joplin, Mo., May 18—The meeting we held at Sulphur, Okla. ended with 4 baptisms. The work here in this area is still being blessed with visible results; 28 members of an anti-preacher group near here has discontinued meeting with this group and have begun worshiping with Neosho, Burkhardt, and the congregation here. The prospect of more good being accomplished is very good. Bro. Joe Howard has recently held a meeting at Burkhardt baptizing 2, and Bro. Johnny Elmore closed a meeting last night at Neosho with outstanding interest and attendance. Bro. Earl Mattice, a member here, passed away yesterday with cancer. This has made us feel very sad, especially for his wife, Bertha.

Wallace Bradford, 4535 Malden Lane, Dallas, Tex., April 24—The congregation meeting at 1330 Industrial Blvd. is doing real fine. We have between 35 and 40 regular members. We have visitors quite often. Brethren James R. Stewart, Bill Harmon and Ted Warwick have preached for us. We are at a disadvantage in not having a place of our own in which to meet. We hope before very long to be able to buy a lot and build a small building, and then branch out as time goes on. Our goal is to have several more congregations in the Dallas area. We hope God will continue to bless us in the future as He has in the past few months. We would welcome preachers coming through Dallas to preach for us.

Irvin Barnes, Rt. 2, Mountain Home, Ark., May 14—The meeting at West Plains, Mo. ended with visible results; fruit no doubt from the gospel preached during the meeting and even more from much labor done by Bro. Arthur Wade prior to the meeting. Association with Bro. Wade was enjoyable. Presently we are having fairly good interest in a meeting at Odom, Mo. My next labor will be a short period of personal work in Huntsville, Ark.; then, a meeting with my home congregation at Arkanna, Ark., June 19-28. Please notice the change of address.

Wallace Middick, 1115 Cavender Dr., Hurst, Tex., May 18—We always look forward to each issue of the paper. This news of and for Christians is a continuing inspiration. In the last issue, it was good to read the article by Bro. Tom E. Smith; I was just a lad the first time I read an article by him in the OPA. Certainly, we appreciate those who have been putting forth their efforts since early in the morning; as well as the younger, energetic ones coming on. God-speed to all the faithful. The approaching summer appears bright and eventful across the brotherhood; of course, the meeting at Sulphur, Okla. will be one of the highlights.

Fred Renier, 1212 Montana Pl., Joplin, Mo., May 11—The church here continues to grow, due largely to the ceaseless efforts of Bro. Jack Cutter. We are enjoying unity and good-will accompanied by a zeal that is a joy to behold. Enthusiasm in this entire area seems to be at a high level. The church at Burkhardt just concluded a meeting with Bro. Joe Howard with overflowing crowds and good results. The church at Neosho has a meeting in progress now, conducted by Bro. Johnny Elmore, with stand-up crowds—high interest. How blessed are we to have so many fine preachers in our midst. Here are 3 subs.

Luther Boek, 133 S. Harwood, Orange, Calif., May 18—Since last report, it was our privilege to attend another good meeting with the young folks of So. Calif. at Carlsbad, and to share the preaching with Bro. Lee Boek. One was restored to active service. So. Calif. is blessed with a great deal of young teaching talent. The work here at Orange continues to be fruitful. The past month, 3 have been restored to active service, two of them being converted from the Sunday School and cups errors. We are looking forward to the work at Chico, Calif. with a great deal of anticipation. The outlook is bright for a faithful congregation there.

Jim Hickey, Box 486, Sonora, Calif., May 14—I am happy to report that the church here is doing very well. It is growing stronger and more spiritual all the time; the attendance and contribution continue to grow. Our weekly radio program has been getting very good response. This last week, I received a letter from Turlock, some 50 miles away and another from Escalor, some 30 miles away. Many seem to be listening. I am hoping to baptize 2 or 3 before my work here ends in June. In July, I look forward to attending the meeting at Sulphur, Okla. In Aug., I will be with the brethren in Atwater, Calif. May 2, I had the sad duty of speaking at the funeral of my dear friend, Bro. "Bud" Hash, of the Covina, Calif. congregation.

The church has suffered a great loss. May God bless his good wife.

Billy Orten, Rt. 3, Box 48, Marion, La., May 7—The churches in this area continue to grow in number and in spirit. Bro. James Orten worked for several months with the congregation in W. Monroe, La., and Strong, Ark. before leaving for Nyasaland. Both experienced an encouraging growth. We look forward to his return to these parts this fall. The congregation at Fairview, La. sponsors a weekly radio program which is stirring some interest. We have plans of supporting another preacher in the southern part of this state in the near future, if the Lord wills. My meetings for June are as follows: Ft. Worth (Trentman Ave.), Tex., June 7-17; Kansas City, Mo., June 18-28; Fieldstone, Mo., June 28-July 5. I recently had the opportunity of hearing some inspiring sermons preached by Bro. Leon Fancher at W. Monroe, La.

Joe Bass, Rt. 1, Bremen, Ga., May 12—Bro. Fred Kirbo recently closed a meeting at the Temple, Ga. congregation. Outside interest was good with many of our friends from the denominational churches in the surrounding area attending. The nearby congregations of the church were also very faithful in their help and attendance. One was baptized and one made the good confession from a nearby congregation at Hightower, Ala.; this is a new congregation. Bro. Foster Prince, of LaGrange, Ga. was in charge of the song service throughout the meeting; having an expert song leader surely helps a meeting and Foster is just that. He is a well-qualified preacher, too, and has been faithful in helping the church here. We invite all to come our way when in this part of the country. We surely enjoy having visitors.

Richard Nichols, 15102 Jersey Ave., Norwalk, Calif., May 17—Tonight marked the close of a series of meetings conducted by Bro. Barney Owens here at Harrodsburg, Ind. His sermons were good and well-delivered. I think the congregation here will remember Barney especially for his bold honesty in presenting truth. I am thankful for my association with this young Christian man. At this reading, my work at Harrodsburg, will have ended. Besides my work here, which was most enjoyable, I had the privilege of attending the spring meeting at Birmingham, Ala. and conducting a singing school at Mozier, Ill. The singing school had good attendance, in spite of difficulty. It was wonderful to be with and visit in the home of Bro. Miles King while there. The Lord willing, I plan to attend Stamps School of Music in June and then the meeting in July at Sulphur, Okla. Please remember me in your prayers.

Edwin S. Morris, 905 Bluewood Dr., Dallas 32, Tex., May 19—We were at Memphis, Tenn. for a meeting, April 24-May 3. We had hoped and prayed that we would be able to get the two groups there together again; and things did look favorable until old Satan entered the picture with his cunning devices and his spirit of division. We were in Dallas (Boulder Dr.) for both services May 10th. May 15-17, we held a short week-end meeting in Arlington with one baptism and one restoration. We will be in Dallas the week-ends

of May 24th and 31st. Our interest and attendance continues to increase. We have some that we feel will soon obey the gospel. I am to be at Mt. Grove, Mo., June 5-14; LaGrange, Ga., June 20-28; Pearlhaven, Miss., July 10-19. We are looking forward to attending the Sulphur, Okla. meeting. Pray for us and the work.

Miles King, 2610 Brown St., Alton, Ill., May 12—Our work in the St. Louis area continues until May 31st. The church here continues to grow; they hope to be in their building this summer. We would like to commend the mission efforts being put forth by the brethren here in Missouri. The following congregations have been so good in supporting the work in St. Louis: Fieldstone, Houston and Mountain Home, Mo.; Kansas City, Kan. and Mozier, Ill. Recently, we enjoyed a good singing school held by Bro. Richard Nichols at Mozier, Ill. We now look forward to our meetings this summer in Okla., Ky., Tex. and Calif. Lord willing, we will be at Wilson, Okla. June 5-14. It will not be long until the meeting at Sulphur, Okla. We are making our plans to be there and see our brethren whom we love and with whom we have so many things in common.

Bill Roden, 3550 Lynwood Dr., Lynwood, Calif., May 18—The work here is moving along nicely, with increase in attendance. We are studying with some of the young men to assist them in their teaching, serving at the Lord's table, leading in prayer and singing. The members are to be commended for their zeal and steadfastness. We have good talent for both teaching and singing. We realize it takes time to develop a good teacher to edify the church. I, for one, would like to encourage our young boys and men to study to do more chapter teaching; to learn how to search the Scriptures. We need men of understanding, wisdom and knowledge to present the truth. Old Satan never gives up; he is always working. All we can do in the future, as we have done in the past, is to use the sword of the Spirit. If God be for us, who can be against us? Brethren, we hope to see many of you at the Sulphur, Okla. meeting. Pray for the work here that we can do all the good we can and no harm at all.

Jim A. Canfield, Rt. 3, Box 86, Marion, La., May 12—April 25-May 1, I was with the church again in Memphis, Tenn.; they are growing in numbers and in the knowledge of the word of the Lord. One young man had been baptized before I arrived; he had been taught by Brethren Harris and Brooks since Feb. He is now studying hard so that he can convert his loved ones in the flesh. I believe he will make a useful man. I am glad to see the work continuing to grow. Sister Motley is letting the church worship in an apt. house on her property free of charge. She loves the church, and says the church can use the property as long as it is needed. May 2nd and 8th, I was with the faithful at Kansas City. Bro. Goddard has done a good work there; progress is slow, but sure. It was good to be in Bro. and Sister Goddard's home. Our meeting house here at home is nearly completed. We still lack about \$300 having enough to complete it inside and out. Thanks to the Lord, we are doing better than we thought we would at first. May God bless all the faithful.

Freddie Lay, 7844 Rancho Fanita Dr., Santee, Calif., May 6—The work at Sonora, Calif. closed for me, with Bro. Jim Hickey staying there for three more months. It was enjoyable working with him and the brethren. I then held a meeting at Sanger, Calif., April 3-12. We had very good crowds and interest was high. I have preached lately at Manteca, Waterford, Ceres, Highway City, National City and El Cajon, all in Calif. I held a week-end meeting aimed at strengthening the youth at Wichita Falls, Tex., April 18-19. Crowds were good there, showing that the brethren are working for the Lord. It is always a pleasure to be there. I had a good visit with Brethren Ted Warwick and Bill Harmon. From there, I went to Okla. City and spoke at Capitol Hill, April 22nd. It is inspiring to see a full house at mid-week services. April 24-May 3, I conducted a meeting at Broken Bow, Okla. One was baptized. For this we were truly happy. I enjoyed being with Bro. J. R. Tidmore again. I am at home now and will be in a meeting at Woodlake, Calif., May 10-17. Remember me in your prayers.

John Modgling, 204 N. Cornell, Fullerton, Calif., May 19—Since last reporting, I have preached at Ceres, Calif. where I enjoyed a week-end meeting. I have been preaching at Cypress, Calif., and will conduct my first meeting there June 12-21. So far this month, at Cypress, one has confessed faults and one woman was buried with her Lord in baptism. I also baptized one woman at Lynwood. I am greatly encouraged over the possibility of starting a congregation in Culver City, Calif. So far, there are three sisters (one of whom I baptized) and numerous others who want to be baptized, and still more who want to hear the gospel taught. I hope and pray these labors will not be in vain; to materialize, it will entail immense help from the brotherhood and especially from the local congregations. Lord willing, I will be in Okla., Tex., and northern Calif. this summer. I will be with Bro. Don McCord during the month of July; I can not think of a more capable teacher of the gospel with whom to travel. I still solicit your prayers in my behalf. I enjoyed hearing Bro. Fred Kirbo in his meeting at Norco, Calif.

A. L. Adams, 1616 19th St., N. E., Roanoke, Va., May 14—We have just closed a meeting with Brethren Preston C. Brown and J. W. Kornegay; there were 5 confessions of faults. I certainly enjoyed their fine lessons, and we were all uplifted. These are truly men of God. Since last report, I have preached at Niles, Ohio; Pontiac, Mich.; Clintonville, W. Va.; Raleigh, N. C.; and Roanoke, Va. The Lord willing, I will speak at Love Joy, Pa. June 7; Indiana, Pa. June 10; June 14, Flemington; and June 17, at Niles, Ohio. I am to be in a meeting with Bro. Jimmy Albert at Greenville, Pa., July 12-19. I look forward to this, for Bro. Jimmy is a true worker in the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ. Bro. Kornegay is doing a fine work at Raleigh, N. C. The congregations supporting him can rest assured that they have an active part in a fine work. I only wish that more congregations would see the need for doing the same, for there are so many good men who could be in the field full-time. What about those of you who are sitting idly by and doing a lot of nothing to help win souls to the fold; what are you

going to tell the Judge when you have to answer for your idleness? If you value your soul, I suggest that you get to work in some way for the One who died on the cross for you. I ask the prayers of the faithful everywhere.

Tom E. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 171-A, Duncan, Okla., May 15—April 19, I preached at both services at McAlester, Okla. Wife and I enjoyed the association and fellowship; they have God in their plans, and may God bless them in their work for Him. We were at Duncan for the morning and evening service last Lord's Day, and for the business meeting relative to our planned work in Okla. The meeting was very interesting, and our plans are taking shape and I trust that by 1965, we will be seeing the effects of these meetings. There will be more announcements later. In the meanwhile, may each congregation stand ready to assist, and realize its responsibility in this great work. For those who would like to know more about this work, I will be happy to come to the congregation where you worship, and discuss it with you. Please let me know if I can help. Our hearts have been saddened by the passing of four of our dear friends and staunch supporters of the church. First, we read in the OPA of the untimely death of Bro. and Sister George Johnson, reported by Bro. Fred Kirbo; and just recently, Bro. Jim Stevens and Bro. Buck Thomason. All of these disciples were near and dear to us, and we will miss them here; but, as our beloved Bro. Homer King would say, "Good day for awhile," and in the morning of the vast and unending eternity, we expect to meet them in a land far fairer than this.

Ronny F. Wade, Box 564, Lebanon, Mo., May 18—Our meeting at Lebanon, Mo. closed without visible results. Bro. Lynwood Smith did the preaching and as usual it was superb. The meeting also brought to a close our winter's stay there. We certainly enjoyed our work this past winter and look forward to returning this coming Sept. On May 1, we began a meeting at 64th St. Sacramento. The meeting was very enjoyable and we trust much good was done. The fine cooperation of surrounding churches was certainly appreciated. We were pleased to have several preachers present one or more times, they were: Brethren Homer L. King, Bennie Cryer, Roy Criswell, and Jimmy Terrell. From Sacramento, we went to Stockton and preached two nights and then to Bakersfield for one night. At both places, we enjoyed the association of old friends. Presently, we are engaged in a fine series of meetings at El Cajon, Calif. This is our first effort among these brethren, and they are truly a fine group with which to work. We are happy and privileged to have Bro. and Sister Carl Nichols down attending the meeting. Bro. Nichols continues to improve from his recent surgery. Upon closing here, we are scheduled to begin at Pontiac, Mich., June 3-14, Lord willing; and from there to Wayne, W. Va., June 17-28; Chapel Grove, Tenn. July 5-12; and Memphis, Tenn., July 17-26. Pray for us as we journey from place to place preaching the gospel.

Pride, like the magnet, constantly points to one object, self; but unlike the magnet, it has no attractive pole, but at all points repels.—Colton.

Our purpose is to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," and to "prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

OLD PATHS ADVOCATE

To continue "speaking the truth in love," "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace;" "keeping the ordinances as delivered."

"Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.'" (Jer. 6:16) "And they that be of Thee shall build the old waste, places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in." (Isa. 58:12).

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No. 7

THE NECESSITY OF LIVING RIGHT, RELIGIOUSLY, IN DOCTRINE AND PRACTICE, WORK AND WORSHIP

By T. J. Shaw

The method of doing a thing, religiously, is very sacred in God's sight.

A command to do a thing only authorizes the doing of what is specified. Everything else is excluded. When God chooses a certain way of doing that thing, this excludes every other way of doing that thing. The way becomes a part of the law, and is as important as any other part. We have many examples, admonitions and warnings in the Old Testament against deviations from God's word, or methods not enunciated by Him (Rom. 15:4; 1 Cor. 1:10; 1 Cor. 10:11).

We must have precept, approved example, or necessary inference for our work and worship.

Nadab and Abihu who were priests under the Law were destroyed because they substituted human judgment for a divine command. They were to offer incense twice a day in the Holy Place, using fire from the Altar of Burnt Offerings in the Outer Court (Lev. 16:12-13). They got fire from some other source. They offered the incense and they used fire, but it was designated "strange fire." I suppose they thought that, "The end justified the means," as is taught by some religionists, but God did not accept their judgment in this matter. Looking at it from a human standpoint, I can not see why the fire was not acceptable; "fire is fire!" Are there distinctions to be made in the kind of fire used? God told them where to get the fire and that settled the matter, no deviations, no changes, no modifications to be made (Lev. 16:12-13). We must accept God's word without addition, subtraction or modification.

"Not everyone who hails me as Master, Master, will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who do the will of my heavenly Father. Many will say to me at that time, Master, Master, have we not prophesied in your name, expelled demons in your name and in your name performed many miracles. But I shall tell them plainly, I have never authorized you, be off with you. You are illegal practitioners" (Schonfield's Translation, Matt. 7:21-24). The things you are doing as worship to God, are they authorized?

God told King Saul to "utterly destroy" the Amalekites—men, women, children, and cattle and sheep (I Sam. 15:3, 18, 24). Saul substituted human judgment for divine command. He saved the best of the cattle, (Continued on page seven)

THE DEMANDS OF DISCIPLESHIP

By Ronny F. Wade

The requirements and demands of discipleship are many. The idea that membership in the Lord's church extracts very little from one is certainly not founded upon the Bible. When Jesus turned to the multitude in Luke 14:26 and said, "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also he cannot be my disciple," He was defining some of the requirements placed upon those who would later be his disciples. We must ever keep before our minds the cost of being a disciple. Christianity is not free. It was only through great effort and sacrifice on the part of God and Christ that we, the human race, were ever blessed with its provisions; and, certainly, we cannot expect to enjoy its blessings without paying something ourselves.

In noticing the demands placed upon Christians there are three things we must understand: 1. The demands of discipleship are basic; that is, they are essential in order to please God. There is no way to overlook them or disobey them without reaping the vengeance of God. 2. The demands of discipleship apply to all people. No one is exempt. They apply to all nationalities, colors, etc. Whether rich, poor, socially accepted or rejected, they are still applicable. 3. The demands of discipleship are timeless. They apply to all today as much as they did to first century Christians. Should the world stand another 1000 years, even then, the demands of being a Christian will be the same.

After noticing the above truths, we invite you to consider the following points: 1. With respect to God, discipleship demands that: We put God first. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" (Mt. 22:37). Jesus also teaches us in Mt. 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." In order to be a disciple, we must put God before our job, family, favorite sport or recreation, or anything else that would lead us away from Him. Generally speaking, all backsliding is the result of failing to do this. No wonder Jesus said the first commandment was to love God supremely. When God is first in our lives, the church will grow and flourish as never before. We, as individuals, will influence others as never before, and enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that we are sacrificing for the greatest cause in the world.

We will be faithful. "It is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful" (1 Cor. 4:2). The disciple must remain faithful even unto death. He must be true in all respects as a servant of God. He can in no way betray the sacred responsibilities committed into his care. To do so, would be to renounce his claim as a disciple.

But we notice again, with respect to self, discipleship demands that: **We be holy.** We are instructed in the Scriptures to live soberly, righteously, and godly. In so doing we render our bodies a living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1). Personal holiness as a disciple is very important. We must ever remember that we are not our own. **We were bought with a price.** Thus, we must glorify God in our body and our spirit (1 Cor. 6). **We must advance spiritually.** To remain a babe and immature spiritually defeats God's purpose for us. He expects us to grow and progress.

Last of all, discipleship with reference to others, demands that: **We preach to others.** The commission to preach to others the primitive gospel is the responsibility of every sincere disciple. Regardless of what our immediate goals are with reference to mission work, our ultimate goal must always be Mk. 16:15, and until this task is completed there is no resting place for any of us. True, the sending as well as the going are often difficult, but always necessary.

We love others. We must love our brothers. This is a symbol of our discipleship. Jesus said that by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples. It is through the perfect bond of love that we are united. Let us always remember that God loved us in spite of our sin and unworthiness. So, must we love our brethren.

We must forgive others. Someone has said that forgiveness is the perfume of the violet on the heel that crushed it. What a wonderful thought! It is by forgiving others that we insure the forgiveness of God for ourselves. "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses." God help us to always do it.

We could, perhaps, go on and on with these thoughts, for as we said in the beginning the demands of discipleship are many. Perhaps, however, these will be sufficient to remind us of our high and costly calling.

—Box 564, Lebanon, Mo.

"IT IS THE WILL OF GOD"

By Edwin S. Morris

Man often times has the wrong idea about what God's will and desire for him are. God created man and has always been interested in man's welfare. God has prepared all things for his good. Man has condemned himself through sin, but even then, God has provided a plan of salvation. Let us notice several things.

It is the will of God that all be saved. In 1 Tim. 2:4 we read, "Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." This is God's wish and will insofar as he can influence men. Yet, with this purpose, God does not force man to accept salvation against man's will. He made man a free moral agent, and He will not violate the will of man. Man has his choice to accept or reject, but it is God's will that man will accept. He wants man to come to a

knowledge of the truth. The truth was revealed by God to guide man into the way of salvation. Without God's direction man can never obtain remission of sins and eternal life. Knowledge is essential to man's obtaining salvation.

It is not the will of God that man be lost. In Matt. 18:14, we read, "Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish." As it is not the will of the shepherd that one of the flock should perish, so it is not the will of our Father that even the least of His disciples perish. As the shepherd feels a deep and anxious interest in the straying sheep, and seeks to hunt and save it, so the Father above seeks the salvation of all the humble ones in His Kingdom. In 2 Pet. 3:9, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." God does not delay or loiter in the discharge of His purposes. If the day of the Lord seems delayed, it is not due to slackness. His delay simply shows His long-suffering extended to men, giving them time to repent. His delay shows His love for man, and his unwillingness that any should perish. Since this is true, God has never devised or decreed the damnation of any man, nor has He rendered it impossible for any soul to be saved. Any theory that teaches God does not will the salvation of all men is false.

God sent His Son into the world to save. In John 3:17, "For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." Jesus did not come to judge, or pronounce sentence on mankind. God might have justly sent Him for this. Man deserved condemnation, and it would have been right to have pronounced it; but God was willing that there should be an offer of pardon, and the sentence of condemnation was delayed. Although Jesus did not come then to condemn mankind, yet the time is coming when He will return to judge the living and the dead. Today is the day of salvation, will you not accept Him before it is too late?

God did not prepare hell for man. In Matt. 25:41 we read, "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:" Hell was "prepared for the devil and his angels," not for man. Heaven was prepared for man and hell prepared for the devil and his angels; but some men fit themselves for the companionship of "the devil and his angels," and must be assigned to their destiny. There is a remarkable difference between the manner in which the righteous will be addressed, and the wicked. Christ will say to the one that the kingdom was prepared for them; to the other, that the fire was not prepared for them, but for another race of beings. They will inherit it because they have the same character as the devil, and are therefore fitted for the same place, not because it was originally prepared for them.

God prepared heaven for us. In Matt. 25:34 we read, "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." What a wonderful day this will be for the saved, and oh what a dreadful and terrible day for the sinner! The saint looks forward to this day with great joy. On the other hand, the sinner hopes it never

comes; but, sinner friend, just remember if you are lost it will not be God's will. God has done everything necessary for our salvation. Now, the decision rests with us.

In conclusion, I would like to list a few reasons why all will not be saved: (1) They will not hear and learn what God wants them to do; (2) They will not obey the commandments of God; (3) They will not believe the things they have heard; (4) They will not repent of their evil ways; (5) They will not confess Christ; (6) They will not be baptized into Christ for the remission of their sins; and (7) they will not remain faithful until death. Sinner, it is God's will that you be saved, but you must accept Him.

—905 Bluewood Dr.
Dallas, Texas 75232

HOW TO KEEP PEACE

By Tom E. Smith

Our foregoing articles have pointed out God's part in bringing peace to a world torn with strife, by giving His Son that peace might reign in our hearts; and how that man can have peace with God, but after having done this man yet has the responsibility of maintaining this peace both with God and his fellow-man. God's children can not have peace with Him and be at variance with one another. Love is the avenue through which peace comes (John 3:16). Notice these words of John: "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us, God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casteth out fear, because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love him, because he first love us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar; for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, that he who loveth God love his brother also" (1 John 4:16-21).

This is plain language and cannot be misunderstood unless we close our eyes against the truth. Paul further said: "Render therefore to all their dues; tribute to whom tribute is due, custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour. Owe no man anything but to love one another; for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. For this thou shalt not commit adultery, thou shalt not kill, thou shalt not steal, thou shalt not bear false witness, thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law" (Rom. 13:7-10).

Christ taught that we must love even our enemies, for He said: "Ye have heard that it hath been said, thou shalt love thy neighbor and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you. That you may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth forth rain on the just and unjust. For if you love them which love you, what

reward have ye? do not even the Publicans the same? And if you salute your brethren only what do ye more than others? Do not the publicans so? Be ye therefore perfect even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" (Matt. 5:43:48).

God is a God of peace (Heb. 13:20-21). "Now the God of peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever. Amen." As relates to our theme, the words of Paul have more meaning here; he said, "For we are labourers together with God" (1 Cor. 3:9). God is our senior partner in this great work of soul-saving and we must let Him direct us in everything we do.

Solomon said: "When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him" (Prov. 16:7). One might ask how we can make our enemies be at peace with us; let Paul explain how this can be done, "Let love be without dissimulation, abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love, in honor preferring one another. Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality; bless them which persecute you; bless and curse not. Rejoice with them that rejoice and weep with them that weep. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate, be not wise in your own conceits. Re-compense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible as much as lieth in you live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourself, but rather give place unto wrath; for it is written vengeance is mine; I will repay saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink; for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good (Rom. 12:9-21). We learn from these scriptures to what extent we must go in order to win even our enemies.

It is human nature to retaliate. Bro. J. C. Osterloh, a pioneer gospel preacher, used to illustrate the 20th verse by telling an incident that happened during the horse and wagon days. The story goes that the preacher went home with a family for lunch and while the husband was unharnessing the team and feeding them the wife was telling the preacher how mean her husband was to her. When she finished, the preacher tactfully asked: "Did you ever heap coals of fire on his head?" The wife replied, "No, but I have tried hot water and that made him worse."

Paul further tells us in Gal. 6:1: "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye that are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness: Considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." He also says in Heb. 10:24: "Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works." The primary definition of "provoke" is to excite or stir to action. How wonderful it would be if everyone would use his own resources to promote peace; Paul says, "As much as lieth in you."

Brother, Sister, have you done your very best to

(Continued on page 8)

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THIS AND THAT

Acknowledgment—Bro. Homer L. King wishes to acknowledge the following donation with sincerest thanks: Healdton, Okla.—\$25.

"Star of Hope"—This is the name of the 1964 song book published by Bro. Homer L. King. It features many of the very newest songs, as well as the old and tried songs that have stood the test through the years. Brother King can fill your order immediately. The price is 65 cents per copy, 50 cents for two or more. Order from Bro. Homer L. King, 1061 N. Pilgrim St., Stockton, Calif.

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Send all orders to Old Paths Advocate, 1061 N.
Pilgrim, Stockton, Calif.

We need your help—It is our hope that all the preachers during their meetings can see fit to mention the merits of this journal and invite subscriptions as they have opportunity. We are striving to make the paper worthy of its name and its mission. We are the

first to concede that errors are made; we do try to profit by our mistakes, and hope we always shall. Be assured, please, that anything you do for this journal is certainly appreciated.

—D. B. McCord

OUR HELPERS

You will find listed below the names of those sending subscriptions since we last went to press, and opposite the name the number of subs sent. We want to express our deepest appreciation for your continued interest in behalf of this journal. May we count on you to continue the good work? Please check the following list, and report any errors to us immediately.

Elizabeth Byford—20; Edwin Morris—17; Wayne McKamie—11; K. G. Wilks—8; Cleo Boek—6; Ronny Wade—6; J. F. Massengale—5; Robert Falvey—5; Mattie Lloidy—5; Clovis Cook—4; Woodrow Black—4; Verlin Elliott—3; Wm. G. Carson—3; Mrs. D. O. Ercanbrack—3; Tom E. Smith—3; Mrs. W. A. Petree—3; Billy Orten—3; E. R. Stevens—3; Paul Carroll—3; Grady Coble—2; Mrs. J. H. Kiser—2; Louis Hopkins—2; T. L. Rickard—2; Mrs. Robert Kramer—2; Mary Cook—2; H. O. Allen—2; Mrs. Lee Turner—2; Tom Cohea—1; Mrs. A. R. Osteen—1; Ellis Lindsey—1; Buster Boyd—1; Ray Asplin—1; Ada Fields—1; James D. Corson—1; Noel L. Hogue—1; Wanda Lee Sloan—1; Eldon Elliott—1; Mrs. B. Wright—1; Hal Woodruff—1; Lloyd Anderson—1; Oliver McCombs—1; Mrs. C. E. Hutchinson—1; Mrs. Jerry Derrick—1; John Modgling—1; Luther Boek—1; Vol Garrett—1; Mrs. J. C. Wilson—1; Elgie Thompson—1; Geo. Masser—1; Lucy Kinder—1; C. L. Tate—1; J. E. Hartman—1; A. R. Stover—1; Bill Reece—1; J. T. Broseh—1; Mrs. Joseph McDowell—1; Mrs. C. G. Pontruff—1. Total—161.

AFRICAN REPORT

For the past month the work here has moved along smoothly; and it seems to us, progress is being made on all fronts. Problems which seemed so monumental at first are yielding to kindly insistence.

The political situation has apparently calmed. Fewer incidents are being reported across the country and we believe we have established rapport with the authorities. We now carry letters of recognition from the central government directing every government official to give us assistance when necessary.

As we work more closely with our African brethren we can feel the bond of affection and fellowship growing. We believe the majority of our preachers are good men who sincerely want to do right. This is not to say they are now ready to be left on their own, but they have shown a willingness to learn, and a desire to teach others what we have taught them.

The churches, too, seem to be developing. They are, to be sure, weak by American standards. They are mainly dependent on the preacher who established them. Many do not commune regularly. Aside from these, there are other matters which must be corrected as we are able. But they are moving in the right direction. It will, no doubt, take years to bring them to the level of responsibility felt by some American churches. If we take an honest look at the restoration in our own country, we will have to admit it took us many years also.

At this time we are concentrating on consolidating and strengthening the churches we have. Our sermons are mainly on Christian living and worship. Consequently, we restore many at every service but we baptize relatively few. The African preachers, however, are going ahead with their work and they report a number of conversions.

At the moment, we are trying to pinpoint the location of all the churches on a good map. We are also making a card file of personal and family history of all the preachers. We think both of these will be valuable to future workers in his field. Also, we spend some time each week visiting preachers in their homes, where we talk over church problems and encourage them in their work.

In summation, we may say the work at this point is both pleasant and very encouraging. We are humbly grateful to God, and those interested churches and individuals back home who made it possible for us to be here and do it.

—James Orten and Jerry Cutter

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Flint, Mich.—The church in Flint, Mich. wishes to express its gratitude for the donations on our building project, which continue to come in; since May 14, we have received the following: Pontiac, Mich.—\$300; Milford, Mich.—\$100; Arlington, Tex.—\$25; Love Joy, Pa.—\$10; Bro. Garry Macy—\$2. **Correction**—Last month, we stated that Brookhaven, Miss. contributed \$150; that should have been the New Salem church near Brookhaven, Miss. Progress continues on the building and the Lord willing, it will be nearly completed by the time Bro. Leon Fancher arrives for our singing school and meeting, July 20-Aug. 2nd. You are invited!

—Franklin E. Staggs,
359 E. Gillespie Ave.
Flint, Mich. 48505

Tulsa, Okla.—The congregation meeting at S. 141 E. Ave. and East 11th St., Tulsa, Okla. hereby acknowledges with thanks the following contributions for our building. Letters of thanks have been mailed to each contributing congregation expressing our deepest appreciation. Deep Dale, Okla.—\$25; Stroud, Okla.—\$25; El Centro, Calif.—\$25; Cottage Grove, Ore.—\$50; Montebello, Calif.—\$25; Lawrence Rd., Wichita Falls, Tex.—\$100; Foster Dr., La.—\$25; Bro. S. W. Lea, New Salem, Brookhaven, Miss.—\$25; Healdton, Okla.—\$50; Jacksboro, Tex.—\$100; Ben Davis, Mo.—\$25; Sunset Hts., Houston, Tex.—\$25; Fairmont, W. Va.—\$20; Total: \$520.00. We express our thanks, too, to those who said they would like to help, but are unable. Please advise us of any errors in this report.

—Gene Hopkins,
1551 N. Irvington Ave.
Tulsa, Okla.

CAN YOU HELP?

The congregation at Sonora, Calif. has purchased a lot, located on Highway 108, about 2 miles east of town. It has highway frontage and is in a choice business location. We are paying \$3950 for it. The down payment is \$790 which we are making; however, before we can build we must pay the full amount, just a little more than \$3,000. Alone, this will take us a long time. We are taking this means of informing our

brethren of the need, hoping that those churches who are able, will help us in whatever way possible. I believe the cause of Christ will be greatly helped when we can have a building of our own. All contributions will be greatly appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. Please send your contributions to the church of Christ, Box 12, Jamestown, Calif.

—Jim Hickey, Box 486, Sonora, Calif.

NOTICE

The congregation formerly meeting at 4524 N. Lewis, Tulsa, Okla. has moved to its new building at S. 141 E. Ave. and East 11th St. (66 Highway). The mailing address is 1105 S. 141 E. Ave. We are approximately 4 miles from the Tulsa city limits near the KVOO radio towers, on old highway 66 east. We invite all brethren to meet with us. For information, you may call LU 37275, HI 67951 or TE 56782. Our services are 10:30 and 7:00 each Lord's Day.

We met in the building for the first time on June 7th. Bro. Garry Macy was our speaker. The building is completed enough to accommodate us; we are yet in need of about \$1500.00 to complete it. Any help from willing and able brethren would be appreciated.

—Gene Hopkins,
1551 N. Irvington Ave.
Tulsa, Okla.

WATCH, LEST WE BE DECEIVED

By Barney Owens

Deception is something that we all deal with everyday. It is, as all will agree, a device of Satan. We expect such things of the world, but when it is practiced by those professing to be in a saved condition, and servants of the Lord, we should begin to take heed. We should like to notice how we can be deceived.

By Sin: Heb. 3:13—"But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." The idea here is that sin can give us a false impression, or to appear to be something that it is not. We then must exhort, teach, and admonish one another, while the time is unexpired, lest that some by giving undue weight to carnal reasoning are lead into unbelief, and thus into immorality.

By Riches: Matt. 13:22—"He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful." Here, we see the deceitful appearance of riches that lure many to an unhappy end. It appears that they are cheated with the shadow but never the substance of happiness. I Tim. 6:9—"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." "Will be rich"—this is a desire that comes from the reasoning faculties, not a passing emotional thing, but the result of the process of reasoning. These are they who study to be rich, and devote their thoughts to increase their wealth. By this desire they are tempted or enticed to sin. They are tempted to do wicked things in order to get gains. Thus they are said to drown or be submerged in their desires for riches. The more they acquire the more they desire, thus true happiness cannot be attained.

By The Tongue: James 1:26—"If any man among you seem to be religious and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain." We must bridle, hold in check, or restrain our tongue. One who does not hold his tongue in check is deceiving himself by mistakenly thinking himself to be pious. His religion is void as a result of the unbridled tongue. Rev. 21:8—"... and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."—All who are false in their statements, their promises, their contracts, this would embrace all those who are false towards God, and towards man. Any manner of deceiving or attempting to deceive is a lie. Let us be very careful that we do not attempt to deceive either God or man. Remember the words of James, "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth" (Jas. 2:5).

We, too, must be careful that we do not let the tongue of others deceive us. Eph. 5:6—"Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience." The meaning here is that the thing mentioned in verses 3-5 were not to be practiced. Perhaps these Ephesians had many friends in such circles as these, and they would attempt to convince them that such were the customs which had long been practiced and that there could be no harm in their indulgence. However, we see from the strong argument of the Apostle, that those who are disobedient and opposed to God's will, He will inflict upon them the punishment they deserve.

Ourselves: Gal. 6:7—"Be not deceived: God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." We shall all reap according to what we sow. We often wonder why those living about us, who disobey the Lord, seem to fair sumptuously each day. But temptation is overthrown when we remember, they as we, shall reap accordingly. We can spoil ourselves by the company we keep. I Cor. 15:33—"Be not deceived: evil companionships corrupt good morals" (R. S.V.). Let us (especially the young folk) be careful with whom we choose to keep company. We can deceive ourselves by thinking the wrong way is right. Prov. 14:12—"There is a way that seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Let us all ever be watching and praying lest we be deceived. May God bless the faithful.

—10579 Thornview
Cincinnati, Ohio

OUR DEPARTED

Russell—Bro. William Russell was born Aug. 31, 1883 and departed this life April 13, 1964. He had lived in and around Davis, Okla. all of his life. He was a member of the church of Christ there. He is survived by his wife, Sister Thelma Russell, three sons, three daughters, two sisters, one brother, six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. The writer was called upon to conduct services from Bahner Funeral Home, in Davis, on April 15, 1964. Singing was by members from Sulphur under the direction of Bro. Rickard.

—Johnny Elmore

Coberly—Bro. Lee Jasper Coberly was born Aug. 5, 1901, and departed this life on May 20, 1964 in an

Okla. City hospital. He had lived near Pauls Valley, Okla. for 51 years. Survivors include his wife, Sister Maud Coberly, one daughter, three sons, 1 brother, two sisters and two grandchildren. Bro. Coberly was a member of the church of Christ at Wynnewood, Okla. It was the good pleasure of this writer to baptize him into Christ on Sept. 10, 1963, though saddened when asked to speak at the final services at Stufflebean Funeral Home, in Pauls Valley. Singers were from various area congregations.

—Johnny Elmore

Thomason—Bro. John E. Thomason, affectionately known as "Buck" by friends, was born Oct. 7, 1900, at Bonham, Texas, and departed this life at Sentinel, Okla. April 28, 1964. He was married to Myrtle Warren in 1924. They moved to Sentinel, Okla. in 1945, where he lived until his death. Bro. Thomason is survived by his wife, Myrtle; two sons, Clifford, and Don, both of Kansas City; two brothers, William, of Olney, Texas, and Roy, of Stockton, Calif.; two sisters, Esther Figgett, of Midland, Texas, and Letha Ford, of Sentinel. Bro. Thomason obeyed the gospel in 1925, and was active and faithful in the Third Street church of Christ at his death. The funeral was conducted from the church, with singers from Okla. City and Sentinel, and with the writer officiating. Myrtle and the boys faced the separation bravely, realizing no doubt, that Buck's influence will live on and on here on earth, even as he does "beyond the veil."

—Johnny Elmore

Smith—Bro. John Wesley Smith was born Oct. 5, 1889, and departed this life on June 2, 1964 in a Norman, Okla. hospital. Bro. Smith had lived in Lexington for the last two years, and was a member of the West Side church of Christ in Lexington, Okla. He is survived by his wife, Sarah, of the home; five daughters, seven sons, one sister, two brothers, 41 grandchildren, and 26 great-grandchildren. A large, sorrowing crowd attended services at Primrose Funeral Home in Norman on April 5, 1964. The writer attempted to warn and comfort, assisted by singers from Okla. City.

—Johnny Elmore

Finley—Sister Rosa Ping Finley was born Sept. 8, 1869 in Arkansas, and departed this life in her 95th year, on June 12th, at Monrovia, Calif. She was the mother of 9 children; 6 of them survive. For many years, she was a member of the Lord's church, and never ceased to be thankful for the Truth. For a number of years, it has been this writer's privilege to go periodically to her bedside and read the Bible to her and pray with and for her; of this she never tired. She was totally blind and bedridden, yet she never lost hope or an interest in spiritual things. She has been a real source of inspiration to me and others. On June 15, the funeral was conducted at Melrose Abbey, near Orange, Calif. The writer, in answer to her request, attempted to say words of comfort and warning. Singing was by members of the church. Thus, farewell was bidden to a loved one, friend and sister in Christ.

—D. B. McCord

Holt—Brother Thomas Allen Holt was born Oct. 6, 1884 at Jasper, Ark. He passed away on Mar. 7, 1964 at the age of 79. Bro. Holt is survived by his wife, Mrs. Annie Bell Holt, Waco, Texas. Of this union there are 5 surviving daughters: Mrs. Grace Lane, Mrs. Lorena Hardy, Mrs. Edna Stultz, Mrs. Willie Mae Hardy, and Mrs. Louise White. Besides his wife and

daughters, he is also survived by 2 sons: Cyrus S. Holt, and Joe D. Holt of Waco; 1 half-brother, Francis M. Holt of Lubbock; 3 sisters and 2 half-sisters. Bro. Holt was best known as the father of one of our gospel preachers—Cyrus S. Holt of Waco.

—J. Wayne McKamie

Keel—Sister Mattie Elizabeth Keel was born Nov. 21, 1878 and passed away April 11, 1964 at the age of 85. Sister Keel was married to Bedford Forest Keel in 1897; he preceded her in death on Mar. 13, 1958. To this home were born 8 children, 6 of whom are still living. They are Mrs. Boyd Bennett, Mrs. Mollie Daniel, Mrs. J. W. Norton, Mrs. E. M. Studer, Mr. Paul Keel, and Mr. Dan Keel. There are also 11 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. Sister Keel will be sorely missed by many, many people in that she was a member of the church for 63 years. She was very faithful to attend to the very last. The funeral was conducted in Graham, Tex. and she was buried in the Graham cemetery. It was attended by an overflowing crowd of brethren and friends; this was indicative of the esteem in which she was held. The children and friends found their greatest comfort in the fact that their loved one was asleep in Jesus.

—J. Wayne McKamie

Pruitt—Sister Etta May Pruitt of Council Hill, Okla., passed away Feb. 21, 1964 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ava Ray, Oklahoma City, at the age of 77 years, 2 months and 1 day, after a long illness. She was born Dec. 20, 1886 at Whitewright, Tex. and had lived at Council Hill and Boynton, Okla. the last 33 years. The funeral service was Mon., Feb. 24th, at the church in Council Hill, Okla. with burial in the community cemetery. Survivors include three sons, Wilburn, Harold and Willard; four daughters, Orpha Staton, Jewell VanBrunt, Jessie Tobey, and Ava Ray; 31 grand children; 8 great grandchildren; a brother, D. D. Ashlock, Clarksville, Ark., and a sister, Mary Belle Finley, Abilene, Tex., and many other relatives and friends. The beautiful singing was by members of the church at Council Hill and other congregations. Bro. Larry Robertson conducted, and was assisted by Bro. Taylor Joyce. (We are indebted to a daughter, Sister Jessie Tobey, for the obituary. Some of my dearest friends are the descendants of this sister in Christ; she was a sweet, gracious lady. I, and other preachers of the gospel, and all others who knew her, will never forget how she was "given to hospitality."—DBMc).

BONDS OF MATRIMONY

Fisher-Thomas—It was a beautiful day, June 13, 1964; a gentle breeze was stirring, the friends and relatives gathered for what was a quiet occasion; the bride and groom and the attendants waited—then came the bridesmaids, the maid of honor, then the bride. I have yet to see a bride who was not beautiful or a groom who was not handsome. Thus, vows and rings were exchanged and Walter H. Fisher and Judy Gail Thomas became husband and wife. It was the writer's privilege to officiate for my son and his bride; they both grew up in the National City, Calif. congregation. They were baptized the same night, about 6 or 7 years ago. Judy is the daughter of Sister Freda Thomas and the late Bro. Cecil Thomas. I have known Freda and Cecil since shortly after they were married. Cecil's goodness still lives in our memory. Our prayer is that

these two, who have begun their lives together, will have many happy years in the Master's vineyard.

—Marvin Fisher

Hickey-Joy—In the evening of June 20, 1964, at the church in El Centro, Calif., in the presence of relatives and a host of well-wishers, Brother Jim Hickey and Sister Nellie Joy exchanged their wedding vows. The setting was beautiful, befitting the occasion. As many know, Bro. Jim is one of our most promising young preachers. Nellie has been so reared that she will be a fine "preacher's wife." She is the daughter of Bro. and Sister Earl Joy. Jim is a member of the congregation at Covina, Calif., where he is held in high esteem. It was the writer's privilege to officiate for this fine young couple. May the Lord, to whom they belong, bless them abundantly; may they serve Him all their lives long.

—Floyd Lechner

THE NECESSITY OF LIVING RIGHT—

(Continued from page one)

sheep and Agag the king. No doubt the cattle saved were the finest and best, and he thought they would make excellent sacrifices to God, but God had said, "Destroy everything." We cannot substitute human wisdom for divine command, nor deviate one iota from what God authorizes. There are many examples like these written for our learning that we should not go beyond that which is written (2 Jno. 1:9, Deut. 4:2). Saul lost his kingship by reason of accepting the advice of his soldiers, instead of taking God at His word. Obedience is the all important thing (1 Sam. 15:22). Samuel, however, said to Saul, "Is it more pleasing to the Everliving to have offerings and sacrifices, than to listen to the voices of the Lord?" Look! To listen is better than sacrifice—and to obey, than the fat of rams, for the result of your idea is rebellion! and delusion! and stubborn idolatry! You have repudiated the command of the Everliving, —and He repudiates you from being leader." (Fenton's Translation). No matter how pompous or ritualistic our worship may be, it will not be accepted. The kind of worship that God requires is plain, simple, wholehearted and authorized by precept or example.

Nadab and Abihu did that which the Lord had not commanded (Lev. 10:1). When we use instrumental music in the worship we do that which the Lord has not commanded. It is based entirely on human judgment, or wisdom. Vocal music is commanded for the New Testament teaches us to "sing." God's instrument, the vocal apparatus, is greater than any human instrument, or anything that man can devise. Human instruments have certain characteristics, namely—"motor," "vibrator," and "resonator," but God's instrument, the human voice, has all these and more. It also has an "articulator"—the ability to speak words. Words are used for edification and we are commanded to "do all things unto edification" (1 Cor. 14:26). If the instrument we use can not speak words, it cannot edify, and to use an instrument of this kind in worship is to violate divine authority, for every act of worship must be for the purpose of edifying. Moses was commanded to "speak to the Rock" but he did more. He did it his way instead of God's. He was charged with unbelief and disobedience and failed to enter the promised land as a result of his action. He accomplished a lot of good

by what he did. He saved the men, women and children and also the sheep and cattle by providing water but he failed to do what God commanded. God always means what He says and says what He means. Haven't we prophesied in your name, cast out devils in your name and done many wonderful works in your name? But Jesus will not recognize such things if not taught in His word (Matt. 7:21-22).

By divinely approved example we have one loaf and one cup in the Lord's Supper—not a plurality of cups as practiced by many. The cup symbolizes the New Testament and its contents symbolizes the shed blood of our Redeemer. This was accepted until 1894 when human wisdom or judgment suggested "individual communion cups." This was rejected by many congregations at first, but was finally accepted as more sanitary and convenient. It is certainly too bad that our Saviour did not live in this 20th century of sanitation. Do you think the "All Wise God" was ignorant enough to institute a supper so injurious to human health? No, He knew what He was doing and His providence will protect men and women of faith.

The same reasoning that would justify "individual cups" and "instrumental music" in divine worship would also open the way for papal authority with all its humanisms, and all other devices based on human judgment and wisdom. Paul says in Gal. 1:10 that we are all to be of one mind and one judgment (opinion—Thayer); and the only way this can be done is to be actuated and controlled by the authority of Christ, or to walk by faith and faith comes by hearing the Word of God (Rom. 10:17).

—Commodore, Pa.

HOW TO KEEP PEACE—

(Continued from page three)

fulfill this command? It is true we may not see "eye to eye," so far as our opinions go on some matters, but if we would consider one another more we could perhaps in time dissolve even our differences in opinion.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, the great general and statesman, writing in the Saturday Evening Post, relative to keeping the peace of nations had this to say: "We should put our lesser quarrels into this perspective (more cooperation), work out friendly settlements, and get on with the overriding job of making democracy work, just as among members of a family, there will always be differences of opinion, but we should be able to thresh these out without breaking up the furniture."

To be continued

—Rt. 4, Box 171-A,
Duncan, Okla.

Love can be planted and cultivated in every heart without fear of an over-production.

Parents who wish to train up a child in the way it should go, must go in the way in which they would have their child go.

The important thing is not how long we live, but how."

Idleness travels very slowly and poverty soon overtakes her.

From The Fields

Andrasani Buimbani, Tapara Vlg., Namphungo, Box 2, P. O. Luchenza, Nyasaland, Africa, June 11—Thank you, brethren in America, for Brethren Jerry Cutter and James Orten.

V. C. Elliott, 3419 Fillmore Ave., Bakersfield, Calif., May 29—The church is doing good in this city. We had a real good meeting for the young people the last week-end. Here are 3 subs.

Antoniyo Chomenya, Tapara Vlg., Namphungo, Box 2, P. O. Luchenza, Nyasaland, Africa, June 11—I believe Brethren James Orten and Jerry Cutter will help us much! I am very, very happy with them. Pray for us here.

Elgie Thompson, Box 112, Piney View, W. Va., May 25—Beginning June 3, embracing 2 Lord's Days, Bro. Taylor Joyce will be here in a meeting. Please send us 50 copies of "Singer's Choice" as soon as possible. Here is our renewal.

Oliver B. McCombs, Rt. 1, Commodore, Pa., 15729, June 13—The church at Love Joy is still working for the cause of Christ. We now have a meeting in progress with Bro. Leon Fancher. Please pray for the cause in this part of the U. S. Here is our renewal.

Peluse Kalongonda, Nkoko Vlg., P. O. Palombe, Nyasaland, Africa, June 2—The Lord's work is going on fine here; Brethren James and Jerry are busy with us fighting for the Lord Jesus Christ. Please pray for us that the work of the Lord must go on.

H. O. Allen, Box 1264, Midland, Tex., June 13—The church at 907 S. Terrell is doing very well. I sure like Bro. Don McCord's article in the June issue. Our best regards to all the faithful. We solicit the prayers of all the churches. Here is our renewal.

Charles J. Freeman, Rt. 1, Douglassville, Tex., June 12—The little congregation at Texarkana, Ark. has moved into its building at 105 Community St. We have been meeting in the home of Brother and Sister Lee. We are thankful for the building. God bless all of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Bill Reece, 6534 Kress Ave., Bell Gardens, Calif., June 15—Here is our renewal; just finished reading the last edition and especially enjoyed reading Bro. Don McCord's article, "Musings on Divorce and Remarriage." May the Lord bless all of you who work so hard compiling and bringing this paper to us each month.

Cicero Goddard, 3803 Garfield, Kansas City, Mo., 64109, June 15—Since my last report, three more have come from digression. The work continues to grow; thanks to Christ. On or about Aug. 5, we plan to set

up my tent for an extended meeting with no time limit. We request your prayers, and any of you who are in our area, please visit with us.

Robert L. Falvey, Box 163, Huntington Park, Calif., June 10—We have just returned from Miss.; I preached both at New Salem and Pearl Haven. We heard Bro. Leon Fancher one night while there. The cause of Christ seems to be on the move in the southern states. The congregation here is small in number, but we are at peace. Here is a list of subs.

Jesus Rodriguez, Nuevo Laredo, Tam., Mexico, June 12—June 7, we had 1 baptism and 2 confessions. We ask the prayers of all brethren so that the work of the Lord will keep growing. With the help I have been receiving, I have bought a piece of land on which to build a house, and I want to build a meeting house on it, but we need help if we are to do so. Will you help?

Tom E. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 171-A, Duncan, Okla., June 8—Wayne Fussell has just closed a good meeting at Marietta, Okla., and Miles King has just begun one at Wilson, Okla., so evangelistic efforts in this part have started. Our son, C. A., was with us again May 31st; and Wayne Fussell preached yesterday at the evening service; most of us then went to hear Miles King.

F. H. Lichapa, Namphungo church, C/O Namlenga Mission, P. O. Mikolongwe, Nyasaland, Africa, June 5—Beyond any doubt, I am grateful to all brothers here and abroad who have materially supported me in past years; I will be thankful if the future will prove as much. There is much to be done here in Africa. Brother, if your love is for Africa as mine is for America, remember me.

Donald Brittain, 19-7th St., N. E., Ardmore, Okla., June 15—This month, it has been our privilege to attend two very good gospel meetings; Bro. Wayne Fussell held one at Marietta and Bro. Miles King was at Wilson. We enjoyed immensely the wonderful association we had with them. Bro. Lynwood Smith has just begun a meeting here; the first few services have been good, and we expect the entire meeting to so continue. Please pray for us.

Leon Fancher, Box 392, Mena, Ark., June 18—In May we conducted a singing school at New Salem, Miss., and preached on a week-end. We enjoyed this work very much. At present, we are in a meeting at Love Joy, Pa. These are fine brethren and the work here is enjoyable. We continue to work with the church at Mena, Ark. between meetings and the work thus far is certainly rewarding. In July, we are to conduct a short singing school and a meeting at Flint, Mich. In Aug., we will be at Lawrenceburg, Tenn. for a ten-day meeting. May God help us all to realize there is much work to be done and that it can best be done by our working together.

* John Modgling, 204 N. Cornell, Fullerton, Calif., June 22—Since last reporting, I have preached at Montebello and Norco, and Lord's Day last I began a meeting at Cypress, all in California. This is my first meeting;

it closed yesterday with 8 baptisms, one of whom is my brother, Karl. Crowds were good; it was good to have preaching brethren Bill Roden and Don McCord for one or more services. Next month, Lord willing, I will be in Okla., Tex., possibly Oregon and northern Calif. I request your prayers.

D. B. McCord, 1414 N. Albertson Ave., Covina, Calif., June 20—Since last report, I have preached here at home, Norco and Orange. Here we have enjoyed having Jim Hickey preach twice for us lately. In the next few days we expect to have Brethren David Macy and John Smith preach for us. I hope to be by the Sulphur, Okla. meeting for 2 days or so, then to Graham, Tex., July 5-12; San Angelo, Tex., July 17-26; Dallas, Tex., July 27-Aug. 2, and Flemington, Pa., Aug. 7-16. I need the prayers of my brethren.

Dennis Cox, 4255½ Altadena Ave., San Diego, Calif., June 9—I have recently been invited to work with the congregation in Gretna, Fla. David Macy has been working there this year and he plans to be traveling this summer. Garry Macy will go there the first part of the summer and I the last. The congregation here (National City) looks forward to seeing David Macy June 21-22. I plan to attend the meeting at Sulphur, Okla. this year. I pray that many will spend their vacations there.

Barney Owens, 10579 Thornview, Cincinnati, Ohio, June 17—May 6-17, I was in a meeting at Harrodsburg, Ind. I felt that much good was done; I was made stronger myself. Bro. Richard Nichols was there during the meeting; I enjoyed being with him very much. One was baptized at Cincinnati recently. I am now in Robertsdale, Ala. doing personal work; we are doing well here and plan a brief meeting June 18-20. I attended 2 nights of Bro. Fred Kirbo's meeting at Lowery, Ala. which was a spiritual feast. I taught for them June 3; I wish for the prayers of the faithful.

James D. Corson, Rt. 2, Mahaffey, Pa., June 10—I have just closed a very enjoyable 2 months' work in Waterloo, Iowa; this ended with a week's meeting. Three were baptized into Christ and one returned to duty. Interest and hospitality were the best. They now have a very nice building in which to worship. To know them is to love them. I am now in Montezuma, Iowa, and with these good folk, trying to build up the church. This, too, is a place of love and generosity. We pray much good will come of our earnest efforts. May God bless the cause everywhere. Here is a sub.

Freddie Lay, 7844 Rancho Fanita Dr., Santee, Calif., June 2—The meeting at Woodlake, Calif. (May 10-17) was a success. We were happy to have four precious ones united with our Lord in baptism. I was glad to see Bro. Billy Jack Ivey. Attendance and interest were very good. The Lord willing, I am to be in another meeting there Oct. 4-11. May 19, I preached at Sonora; since then, at Manteca, Stockton, Highway City and Sacramento (64th St.). Beginning Sept. 1, I am to be at Sanger, Calif. for about 4 months, but will be available for meetings also. Let us all keep in mind that the night cometh when no man can work; let us all keep busy and resist him who deceiveth the whole world. Remember me in your prayers. I plan to attend the meeting at Sulphur, Okla.

James T. Brooks, 1332 N. Watkins St., Memphis, Tenn., June 8—Brethren, we are yet alive in Christ, and are grateful to God to be in unity (Ps. 133:1; 1 Cor. 1:10). We are praying for the saints universal. We hold on to God's unchanging hand, and solicit your prayers. We enjoyed having Bro. Jim Canfield several weeks ago, and we enjoyed him. God blessed us with one soul added, Bro. Frank Williams. We want brethren to know that we are sorry we have not been able to respond to cries for help; when we are able we will. May God bless and keep you. When you are our way, allow us to show our hospitality.

K. G. Wilks, 109 Dundee Dr., Wichita Falls, Tex., June 1—We would like to have someone come here (Lawrence Rd.) to do personal work. We invite correspondence from those interested, and who would like a description of proposed activity. We have some indefinite plans in mind. My wife and I worshipped with the church at Jerusalem, Ark. the morning of May 31st, and that night at Ada, Okla. We found them all friendly people, and left them with warm invitations to return. The Jerusalem brethren have built a substantial building in an ideal location, on State 124. The building is nicely furnished. The church here at 2900 Lawrence Rd. is enjoying some good lessons and the young men are training as speakers and in every phase of the worship which is designed to fit them for later leadership. Here are 5 subs.

Edwin S. Morris, 905 Bluewood Dr., Dallas, Tex. 75232, June 16—I preached here at Boulder Dr. May 24th and 31st at both services. We had 2 baptisms, a man and his wife. June 3-4, I preached at Lee Summit, near Lebanon, Mo.; they have begun work on their new building and should be in it before long. June 5-14, I was in a meeting at Mt. Grove, Mo. We had visitors from several congregations during the meeting. Several preaching brethren attended one or more nights. We appreciated their encouragement and interest. June 20-28, I will be at La Grange, Ga.; then to the Sulphur, Okla. meeting; July 10-19, Pearlhaven, Miss.; Aug. 2-9, Napoleon, Ala. We, here, have enjoyed having Brethren Richard Nichols and Roy Lee Criswell preach for us of late. Bro. Don McCord will conduct our meeting July 27-Aug. 2. I will begin the meeting July 26. Pray for us.

J. Wayne McKamie, Route 1, McGregor, Tex., June 13—May 29-June 7 we were in Levelland, Tex. for a most enjoyable meeting. This was our second work there so we enjoyed renewed friendships and also marvelous cooperation from Lubbock and Portales, N. M. Bro. Fred Kirbo was with us for one night. On June 8, we began in Portales, N. M. and we are to be here through the 28. We are spending one week advertising our meeting that begins next Wed. July 3-4-5 we will be in Olney, Tex. for a week-end meeting which will be the opening of their new building. A great ingathering of brethren is expected for that week-end. July 10-19, we plan to be in Andrews, Tex.; July 24-Aug. 2 in San Antonio (Catalina); and Aug. 7-16 we are scheduled for Lee Summit, Mo.

John Nichols, 709 Garnett, Kansas City, Kans., May 18—The Lord's work here at 10th and Ray continues to progress as the three congregations in this

area continue to press onward and upward in peace and love. I would like to offer a word of encouragement to those congregations who are supporting Brother Goddard. Let them be assured that their money is well spent, as Bro. Goddard is a tireless worker for the Lord, a patient man who does not grow weary in well-doing. To my knowledge there were 25 of his people present last Lord's Day. There is a great work to be done in this city of thousands of colored people and Bro. Goddard is striving to perform this work to the best of his ability. Pray for the work here.

Don Snow, 70 Ruzelle Dr., S. W., Atlanta, Ga., May 30—The church at Marietta, Ga. is doing nicely. We are having visitors nearly every Lord's Day. I plan to begin before long to assemble sermons by different preachers so that the church may begin a radio program sometime this fall or early winter. Bro. Claude Collins, who was baptized recently, has just undergone a second operation, but seems to be recovering real well. Remember him in your prayers. We take this means of announcing the meeting Labor Day to be conducted by Bro. Ronny Wade, Aug. 30-Sept. 6. We extend to all a hearty welcome. Marietta is approximately 15 miles north of Atlanta off Hwy. 41. We are located at the intersection of Hwys. 340 and 280. For further information, you may write me or call 766-1837, or Lee Burson, 143 Guffin, Marietta, or Ollie L. Nix, 1275 Skyhaven Dr., S. E., Atlanta.

R. B. Roden, 3601 S. Roff, Oklahoma City, Okla., June 18—The work at Lynwood, Calif. continues to be fruitful. Three have been baptized. Since these are young married people, we feel the church will be strengthened much; we thus have 2 more young men to assist in the service of the Lord. The church here is blessed with young men to take part; we pray they will continue to grow. June 9, I preached at Norco; one young man was restored, and is now taking part in the service. This congregation, too, is to be commended for its zeal. We are enjoying the meeting at Cypress which is now in progress with Bro. John Modgling; he is a capable young man. We look forward to our work in Corcoran, Calif. in August. This will be our third time to work with these good brethren. Lord willing, we leave here June 22, for Sulphur, Okla. Please pray for us.

Jim Hickey, Box 486, Sonora, Calif., June 12—I am happy to report that the church here is progressing in the Lord. I have grown to love and appreciate them all. This month will be my last here; my work in Aug. will be with the congregation at Atwater, Calif. Next Lord's Day will be our last radio broadcast here. I have been teaching on it for twelve weeks now. We have gotten some very satisfying responses. Last week I had a private discussion with one of the leaders of digression here. We agreed to discuss our differences again two days later, but I came back at the suggested time, he was not home. Lately, I have been corresponding with a Seventh Day Adventist on the sabbath question. He requested a copy of my radio sermon, and replied, showing me my "errors;" I then answered him to which he answered further correspondence would be "unprofitable." May God bless the faithful. I need your prayers.

Ronny F. Wade, Box 564, Lebanon, Mo., June 16—The meeting at El Cajon, Calif. closed with one baptism and one confession of faults. We enjoyed our stay there and learned to love and appreciate the brethren. After short visits in Ft. Worth, Texas and Lebanon, Mo. we began a series of meetings with the church in Pontiac, Mich., June 3. This meeting closed June 14 with one confession of faults. This was our first visit with these brethren in a meeting and we thoroughly enjoyed it. Michigan is a ripe field, with many possibilities. The Lord willing, we begin at Wayne, W. Va. tomorrow night, and thence to Chapel Grove, near Lawrenceburg, Tenn., July 4-12; Memphis, Tenn., July 17-26; Strong, Ark. July 27-Aug. 2, and Brazil, Ind. Aug. 7-16. Here are some subs.

Garry Macy, Rt. 3, Anderson, Mo., June 15—Our meeting with the Sharonville, Cincinnati, Ohio brethren was an enjoyable one. We enjoyed the wonderful hospitality shown by all, especially by the Kenneth Deatherage family. They are a fine couple. There were 2 confessions of faults (1 John 1:9). June 21-28, we return to Reading, Ohio for a meeting. From Cincinnati, we came by home for a few days, and then began in Pocahontas, Ark. May 23. May God bless the brethren there. Since then, we have preached at Tulsa, Okla., Cassville, and Neosho, Mo. We have been enjoying Bro. Jack Cutter and family in the Joplin area; the future looks bright here. The church in Joplin has purchased a good lot on which to build. The churches in Joplin, Burkhart and Neosho are all doing well. Cassville seems to be on the move, too. We hope to be at the Sulphur, Okla. meeting. Our plans are to be in Fla. for awhile, and later in the summer, we may strive to help plant a congregation at Rogers, Ark. Remember, brethren, to be, do!

Jim A. Canfield, Rt. 3, Box 86, Marion, La., June 12—For the last several weeks we have been meeting under the trees while rebuilding our meeting house. Some good brothers and sisters from the other side came to our aid; some knew my father since 1916 when he first began preaching the gospel. This is the oldest congregation of my race in Union Co., La. We have gone through many hardships. About 200 dollars will finish the building; a good brother here will wire it free of charge. The building is not ready as soon as we previously reported. A few can do a lot when they band together and work. Thanks to our kind, precious, heavenly Father for His wonderful blessings in Christ that we will be able to finish before winter. I have not been away preaching since I came from Kansas City in May. Bro. Goddard wrote lately that 2 more came out of digression there. God bless honest brethren and sisters who come out of error. June 20, I plan to go to Memphis, the Lord willing. God bless the faithful.

Luther D. Boek, 133 S. Harwood, Orange, Calif., June 18—Our work with the congregation at Orange, Calif. is swiftly drawing to a close. The past month, one was restored to the Lord and two obeyed their Lord in baptism. The work here has been one of our most fruitful with 11 restorations and 7 baptisms this year. The brethren have shown a real desire to prosper the cause of Christ. We appreciate their wonderful care of us while we have been in their midst. We are

presently in a meeting with the church at San Pablo, Calif. It is a pleasure to be here again. We return to the southern part the month of July to labor there. Aug. 1, we move to Chico, Calif. for the purpose of planting a new congregation, the Lord willing. The church at Covina, Calif. is backing us there. They are to be commended for their constant efforts to further the cause. They are soliciting the help of the brethren for the work in Chico. My son, Lee, and I both solicit your support and prayers as we will be working together there. May we never grow weary in well-doing.

Miles King, 1630 Oakwood Drive, Norman, Okla., June 16—Our work in St. Louis is now history. It is our prayer that the church there will continue to grow and prosper. Enroute to our meeting in Wilson, Okla., we had the privilege of visiting several congregations and different brethren along the way. I preached at Hale church (near Oak Grove, Ark.), Ada, Okla. and the Capitol Hill church in Okla. City. One night I was glad to hear Bro. Johnny Elmore in the meeting at Lexington, Okla. The meeting at Wilson was a good one. Brethren attended with much enthusiasm from the surrounding congregations at Healtown, Ardmore, Graham, Marietta and Fredrick. The first part of this meeting, I was glad to be associated with Bro. Wayne Fussell who was closing a meeting at Marietta with good results. At present, I am in Marietta doing personal work for a couple of weeks. It is good to be associated with Bro. Lynwood Smith who is holding a meeting close-by at Ardmore. Here are the dates of my next meetings: Blue Springs, Ky., July 10-19; Manteca, Calif., July 23-Aug. 2nd, and Medina, Texas, Aug. 21-30th. Lord willing, our work begins with the church in Norman, Okla. Sept. 1st.

E. H. Miller, Box 538, LaGrange, Ga., June 17—I was in a wonderful meeting in Midland, Tex. (Spruce St.), May 31-June 7. The Terrell St. congregation, the congregations at Andrews, Odessa, and others that I do not recall were a great help in the meeting. Attendance and interest were good throughout. Brethren Orville Lee Smith and Ervin Waters attended the first part; they were called to other meetings the last part. There were three confessions of faults. I was certainly pleased to work with these congregations as I had been in years gone by. June 21-29, Bro. Edwin Morris will be with us for our second meeting of the year; we are looking forward to another good one. Wife and I plan to be at Sulphur, Okla.; on July 5, the Lord willing, we will be in a meeting at Huntsville, Ark. Bro. Irvin Barnes is now making plans for this work, and will work with us in the meeting; if we are successful in planting the church, he will continue after the meeting. The first week in Aug. I may debate a preacher at Atmore, Ala. on "Feet Washing in the Church," and "Are all saved people members of Christ's church?" For more details, you may contact Bro. Barney Owens, in care of Bro. Wiley Quates, Star Rt. A, Atmore, Ala.

Noel L. Hogue, 203 W. Birch St., Rogers, Ark., June 10—I enjoy the OPA very much; its editors are to be commended for their efforts, and may the Lord bless them in their future efforts; I am sure the paper will get better and better. Since moving to Rogers, Ark. from Lodi, Calif., I have become more and more

interested in preaching and doing the Lord's work. I have been at the Cassville, Mo. congregation most of the time, but have been preaching at congregations within driving distance. They have been very good in helping me get started in the preaching field. There is a great need for more preaching brethren in this area. The congregations here are so far apart that there is a wide area that needs to hear the truth. We do what we can, but it still does not seem to be enough. We are very happy that we are now getting a congregation started near Rogers, Ark. We ask your prayers in this endeavor. We are in great need of support in this work. We have talked with Bro. Garry Macy, and he is willing to work with us for six months or longer if needed. If there are those who wish to help by either contributing to him or by supporting someone of your own choice, please contact the writer at the above address. The church will be temporarily located at Avoca, Ark., 6 miles northeast of Rogers, on Hwy. 62. Here is our renewal.

Lee Boek, 2214 Granger, National City, Calif., June 12—The past few months have indeed been busy ones. The volume of work here has been immense, and we believe the results are good thus far. The past few months I have enjoyed association with several of our gospel preachers. I especially enjoyed hearing Bro. Ronny Wade at El Cajon. My summer work is thus far scheduled like this: Aug. 1-23, Lawrence Rd., Wichita Falls, Tex.; Aug. 27-30, Gretna, Fla.; Sept. 21-Oct. 11, Ft. Worth, Tex. The work of establishing other congregations in northern Calif. will have already begun by my father in Aug. I plan to join this work in Nov. Any congregation interested in supporting this type of work please contact me or my father. Thus far, we have the actual promise of \$50 each per month. We look forward to a visit from Bro. David Macy to this area next week. Bro. Dennis Cox was ordained by his home congregation, National City, as a minister of the gospel. He will work with the Gretna, Fla. congregation this summer; he is among our finest young men. He deserves encouragement, and to be used. Our love to our friends everywhere. July 17-26, there is to be a meeting at National City; preaching will be by the writer. The week-end of the 26th, we plan a meeting for the young people. We invite all brethren to attend.

J. F. Massengale, Rt. 1, Box 246, Cave Junction, Ore., June 17—The church here meets in its own building about 2 miles south of Cave Jct., on Hwy. 199; there is a large sign, easy to see. We invite all to visit and meet with us. We have an attendance of about 11 members and 11 children, and have prospects of more. These are good and faithful young brethren. I, with wife and 4 grandchildren, were at Cottage Grove, Ore., June 14th; I was glad to give the lesson. We had hoped to see Bro. Gayland Osburn and family, but he was on vacation and had gone upstate preaching. I commend him to you as one who knows how to spend a vacation. May God bless him much and often. Bro. and Sister Russ Permenter returned to Calif., but we expect them back in the fall. The article in the June OPA on "Musings on Divorce and Remarriage" by Don McCord is the truth, and I have put much study on this subject; I am in complete agreement with him. May brethren who have departed to the right hand or to the left

hand now study well these truths, and return to the Old Paths and walk with Him in the straight and narrow way that we may be with one accord, and in one place at His coming. Bro. Don, we love you for your willingness to "stick out your neck." May God, our Father, ever shield it from the axe of contention and strife, and may brethren and sisters heed well the admonition you have so aptly given. It has been given before by Homer Gay, as Don shows; but, oh, so many failed to hear what he was saying. Brethren, pray for us in this small effort here. Here are 5 subs.

A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

You don't have to pay a penny to find out what would be on the mind of one who's parachute failed to open. You know what would be on his mind. You know what is on the mind of all men as they face death. A person in a crashing auto, falling airplane, sinking ship or a collapsing mine has one thought in mind—his God! Drunkards, crooks and other evil men experience this. So do honest laborers and wealthy employers.

We may debate about the existence of God when our skies are cloudless and life is running smoothly. But when danger confronts us, God ceases to be a debatable subject. "There are no atheists in fox-holes." The imminence of death causes us to cry out intuitively to the God whom we have previously denied.

Why is it universally true that men in eternal danger cry out to God? Are they cowards? No. They have known all along that there really is a God. They have wanted to live without Him, so they would not let themselves admit that they believed. How unfortunate!

It is comforting to believe in God in the hour of death. Such faith takes away much of the fear and dread of the tomb. But faith is also important during life. Faith can fill your days with joy, peace, and hope. If you consider these characteristics worthwhile, then stop suppressing your faith in God. It is the part of wisdom to be on good terms with your Maker at all times—beginning right now.

"Have faith in God." (Mark 11:22) "Without faith it is impossible to please Him." (Heb. 11:6) "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." (Acts 16:31) But "faith without works is dead." (James 2:20) So, we need to obey Him when He commands us to "repent and be baptized." (Acts 2:38) Obey God now and begin serving Him today. In this way you will be ready to face Him if your parachute doesn't open.

—Copies available from the church of Christ, 911 No. Lahoma, Norman, Okla.

Talent is that which is in a man's power.

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OLD PATHS ADVOCATE

To continue "speaking the truth in love," "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace;" "keeping the ordinances as delivered."

"Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.' (Jer. 6:16) 'And they that be of Thee shall build the old waste, places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in.'" (Isa. 58:12).

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LEBANON, MISSOURI, AUGUST 1, 1964

No. 8

THE NEW BIRTH

By T. J. Shaw

There is considerable confusion in the religious world today concerning the New Birth. We have the "Faith Alone," "Grace Alone," "Blood Alone," and "Spirit Alone" theories besides other perverted ideas about being born again. Jesus taught the necessity of the new birth without which there is no admission into the kingdom of God (John 3:5).

The word *born* is from the Greek "gennao" which contains two distinct ideas—a *begetting* and *coming forth*. With reference to the male it means to *beget* (Matt. 1:2-16). In connection with the female it means to *bring forth* or a *coming forth* (Luke 1:57). This is God's law in nature without which there can be no birth.

This principle holds true in the spiritual realm, also. Jesus said a man must be "born of water and of the Spirit" to enter a new life in Christ Jesus. The process of the new birth is accomplished in the following way. We are begotten by the Spirit and brought forth from the waters of baptism to consummate our being born again. "No man can come to the Father except the Father who has sent me draw him and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:44). It is impossible for one to come to God without God's drawing power. But what is God's drawing power? Verse 45 of chapter 6 of John shows what power God uses in conversion or in bringing about a *begetting* in the new birth. Let us read. "It is written in the prophets: 'And they all shall be taught of God. Everyone that has heard and learned of the Father cometh unto me.' It is by hearing and learning that we are drawn unto God. According to God's New Covenant He puts His laws in their minds and writes them on their hearts (Heb. 8:10). The person that comes to God must believe that He exists and that He will reward those who diligently seek Him (Heb. 11:6; 1 Cor. 4:15). So faith is essential and faith is based on divine testimony (Rom. 10:17). This agrees exactly with what Paul affirms—that the gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation. The Holy Spirit does his begetting through the gospel by which people are drawn to God and by which they are begotten again. Peter and James also confirm this. Read 1 Peter 1:23; James 1:18; Psa. 19:7; 1 Cor. 4:15.

There is a false doctrine abroad that people are born again by the baptism of the Holy Spirit apart from the word and that the person is dead and can do nothing until the Holy Spirit comes upon him to re-

(Continued on page seven)

GOD'S PLAN FOR RELIGIOUS UNITY

By J. W. Kornegay

Have you ever thought how wonderful it would be if all religious people could be united? If all men professing faith in the true God, Jehovah, could come to worship Him in the one true and acceptable way? Have you considered what happy unity it would be if all those claiming faith in Christ as God's Son, were united in one church? How wonderful if all religious bitterness and sectarian barriers were destroyed, men would love God instead of creeds, and professed Christians would have greater allegiance to Christ than to all the organizations of men! Think what it would mean to families now divided over religion, what a change it would make in our communities, cities and towns. Consider the missionaries, trying to convert the heathen nations of the world to the true God; how much more forceful their appeal would be if they were only united among themselves as teachers of Christ.

For years there has been much discussion concerning the uniting of all protestants in some form of religious unity and understanding. Various plans have been suggested and different movements started, but most of these plans and movements are with the idea of union and not unity. God's plan is a plan for unity not union. It is a plan for a vital, living, working unity, in a religion that would honor God, and exalt Christ, and work for the salvation of the souls of men with a greater force than the world knows today.

Unity is possible in religion. It is possible because God tells us so. It is God's plan, and He would not command the impossible. His teachings are reasonable and practical, and can be followed by men today. God's religion is a religion of unity for all His children. He planned one great kingdom for all who would accept Him. Daniel, the prophet, more than 500 years before the coming of Christ, foretold the time when the God of heaven would set up a kingdom "which shall never be destroyed" (Dan. 2:44), and in this kingdom, God would unite all of His people. It was to be one kingdom, greater than all others.

John the Baptist was sent of God. He came preaching, "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 3:2). His preaching was for the coming of Christ and the preparing of His kingdom, "the kingdom of heaven."

Christ taught His disciples, "I will build my church" (Matt. 16:18). His teaching was to unite men in one great love for God and one another. He condemned di-

vision: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand" (Matt. 12:25). He prayed for the unity of His disciples. In Jno. 17:21, "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me."

Paul taught unity as he was directed by the Holy Spirit. He wrote to those at Corinth, "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment" (1 Cor. 1:10). Paul rebuked them for their divisions, saying, "Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul, and I of Apollos, and I of Sephas, and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?" (1 Cor. 1:12-13). Again in 1 Cor. 3:35, he said, "Whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal and walk as men? For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another I am of Apollos, are ye not carnal? Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?" They were to be one, united as children of God, in one great building, the church of our Lord. Christ is not divided, and His disciples should not be divided.

Division is wrong. God directed Solomon to write about things the Lord hated and he gave as one, "he that soweth discord among brethren" (Prov. 6:19). In Rom. 16:17, we are told, "Mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them." Among the works of the flesh, things which will cause men to not inherit the kingdom of God, we have these: "Hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies" (Gal. 5:20-21). Division is wrong within a congregation, as at Corinth. It is wrong between congregations, between brethren, and wrong in matters of religion in general. When men are divided, at least one of them has violated the teaching of God, and He shall deal with him accordingly. Satan caused man to be separated from God in the beginning, and Satan continues to separate men from God through sin. Read Isa. 59:1-2. Sin separates men from one another. The devil wants division and God wants unity. Which shall we follow? Each man must answer this question for himself. Division is wrong but unity is right and possible for the children of God.

How may unity be obtained? Christ is the answer. He came to call men to God. He took out of the way the old law of Moses that He might unite both Jew and Gentile as Paul said, "For to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; and that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby" (Eph. 2:15-16). Unity can be obtained in Christ and in His body the Church. All men can be united in Christ.

The Bible is the basis for unity in Christ. Men can not unite upon some creed. Creeds change and have been changed thousands of times. They are inadequate and incomplete. Even the best of them fall far short of the Bible. If a creed contains less than the word of God, it contains too little; if it contains more than the word of God, it contains too much. God gave

us the Bible. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). God directed the men who wrote the Bible. Its teachings are "not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Spirit teaches" (1 Cor. 2:13). It contains "All things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue" (2 Pet. 1:13). God has given us His full revelation, it is enough, and it is complete. As we read and apply its principles through obedience, we will be right with God and be united with each other. Creeds have been one of the main causes of division in religion but faith in God's word, the Bible, will unite men. God's word should be our sole authority and final appeal in matters of religion.

To obtain unity, we must lay aside all sectarian and denominational creeds, doctrines, names, and practices. We must learn to follow Christ as our Saviour and recognize only His teaching. "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me" (Jno. 14:6). We must realize that Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (Jno. 14:15). We must not forget His words, "Not everyone that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 7:21). When Bible truths are mixed with the opinions of man, division will be the result.

Notice the simplicity of God's plan for unity. In Eph. 4:3-6, we are taught that we should "endeavour" to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. "There is one body and one spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God, and Father of all who is above all, and through all, and in you all." These seven ones are God's plan for us today. Let us notice them in this order:

1. **There is one God.** Jehovah is the only true and living God. He taught through Moses, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me" (Ex. 20:3). Jesus said, "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve" (Matt. 4:10). He made the heavens and the earth and all things contained therein. He is the giver of "every good gift and every perfect gift" (James 1:17). He is the One of Whom it is said, "In Him we live, and move, and have our being" Acts 17:28). He is the One Who made us, Who has loved us, and Who gave His Son to die for us (John 3:16).

2. **There is one Lord.** He is Jesus the Christ, the Son of God. He was born into the world for us; He lived for us; He taught us; He died for us in the cruel suffering of calvary that He might through shedding of His blood provide the fountain of blood to wash away our sins. Now, He says to each of us, "Come unto me and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28-30). He wants us all to be saved, to accept Him as our Savior, and to obey His gospel, that we might share His salvation eternally.

3. **There is one Spirit.** The Holy Spirit, the third member of the God-head with Christ and God. He was with them in the beginning in the creation. Christ said the Holy Spirit would guide His apostles "into all truth" (Jno. 16:13), as he had spoken through the pro-

phets (2 Pet. 1:21). He guided men in writing the Bible as the complete word of God. He is the same Spirit that is to dwell in the hearts of Christians and comfort the children of God.

4. **There is one faith.** True faith is from God's word, for "faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:17). It is faith in God, in Christ, in the Holy Spirit, and in God's plan of salvation for men. Often, men speak of different kinds of faith and ask, "And of what faith are you?" This indicates that the "different faiths" are based on something besides the word of God. The Bible will create within man the one faith; faith that will cause us to obey God's commands.

5. **There is one baptism** for men today. Men teach many, but the Bible teaches "one baptism." It is a baptism in water (Acts 10:47-48); a burial (Rom. 6:4); for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38); to wash away sins (Acts 22:16); for our salvation (1 Pet. 3:21). It is a baptism into Christ (Rom. 6:3). "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body" (1 Cor. 12:13).

6. **There is one body.** That body is the Church (Col. 1:18). Christ is "head over all things to the church which is His Body, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all" (Eph. 1:22, 23). The Lord adds the saved to the church (Acts 2:47). In the Lord's church, all are to be one, united in the bonds of love and fellowship, as the family of God. The church must be called by Bible names, and its Work and Worship must be directed by the Bible pattern.

7. **There is one hope.** Christ has gone to prepare heaven as the hope of every Christian (Jno. 14:1-6). Jesus taught men to pray, "Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:10). And so shall we know the realization of that great hope when all of God's children get home.

In conclusion, we ask the question, What can we do to bring unity in religion? Each can do his part by studying his Bible, following God's plan, laying aside all things not taught in God's word. Separate yourself from every organization not authorized by the Bible. Be a Christian through obedience to the one faith, in one baptism, into the one body. Wear Bible names, work and worship as the Bible directs.

—Rt. 1, Raleigh, N. Caro.

HOW TO KEEP PEACE

By Tom E. Smith

This is the last of the series under the above caption. Do not think for a moment that this writer considers himself an authority on how to keep peace in the church. I, too, am human and subject to mistakes, but God is divine and does not make them. He is therefore an authority on our theme. In Isaiah 26:1-3 we read, "In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bullwarks. Open ye the gates that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in. Thou will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed in thee; because he trusted in thee." Of what nation is he speaking here? Not fleshly Israel, of course; but the church.

David said in Psa. 33:12, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance." Please read the remainder of the chapter. Now, turn to Isa. 2:2-5, and

read: "And it shall come to pass in the last days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the tops of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills: and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, come ye and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths; for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people, and they shall beat their swords into plow shares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore."

Christ, in His teaching on stewardship, said in Luke 16:8, "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light." Why would a man of the world, a man as Dwight D. Eisenhower, be seeking ways and means of bringing about peace among nations? He has trained the greater part of his life in the mechanics of war. I think I can see why. As General of the Army, he has had a firsthand view of what war really is. He has seen the carnage and bloodshed which resulted in broken family ties, the grief and disappointment and heartbreak of fathers, mothers, children and sweethearts.

No wonder that General Sherman said, "War is Hell." Metaphorically speaking, we would admit the general was right. All of this and more are good reasons for seeking peace. It has been said that battles are not won on the battle field, but at conference tables. Yes, even the children of the world are in this generation wiser than the so-called children of light.

We abhor carnal warfare, and will oppose it to the last stand, as all Christians should. But, may we ask, what about war among the members of the body of Christ? Hear James on this: "From whence came wars and fightings among you? Come they not hence even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust and have not; ye kill and desire to have and cannot obtain; ye fight and war, yet ye have not because ye ask not. Ye ask and receive not because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? But he giveth more grace, wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God, resist the devil and he will flee from you, Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you, cleanse your hands ye sinners; and purify your hearts ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy into heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up. Speak not evil one of another brethren, he that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law, but if thou judgeth the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. There is one lawgiver who is able to save and destroy, who art thou that judgest another?" These may be lengthy passages, but I want the reader to get every word, and ponder them in your heart.

(Continued on page seven)

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THIS AND THAT

Acknowledgement—Brother Homer L. King with sincerest thanks acknowledges the following help: Fredrick, Okla.—\$50; Healdton, Okla.—\$25; Arvin, Calif.—\$100. May God bless the brethren who have seen the need of helping Brother King during his illness and recovery. Brother King has given many of his years, as many know, to the preaching of the gospel. As I see it, the congregations who have been so thoughtful to contribute to his needs, are to be commended and will surely be blessed of God. The Stockton, Calif. brethren, where Bro. King makes his home, have been wonderful. May God bless all such brethren who see the need of sustaining a gospel preacher when he is no longer able to preach as he once was.

"This Do in Remembrance of Me": Under this caption, Bro. Ronny F. Wade has written a very good "treatise on the Lord's Supper, setting forth its scriptural design and observance." It is printed for free distribution by Bro. Robert Strain, Harrodsburg, Ind. Brother Strain informs us that copies are still available, and they are yours for the asking. Why not inform him of the number you can use, then make use of everyone of them? You may address Bro. Strain as above, or Bro. Wade at Box 564, Lebanon, Mo. Surely such men as Brother Strain will be blessed in such gratis endeavors.

"Our Helpers"—Our subscription and renewal list exceeds 200 this month. For this we are so thankful. We need very much for it to reach at least this much every month. Won't you please mention the paper's merits wherever you can; are there those who need the paper for whom you could send; we humbly ask the preaching brethren to mention it during their meetings, if they can conscientiously do so. A mere mention many times is all that is needed to get subscribers. The many hours that are spent every month in editing, bookkeeping, correspondence, etc. are without pay; we willingly spend this time, without remuneration, for the good we believe the paper does, but we need your help in subscriptions, so that we can at least "break even" on the printing, postage, mailing expenses. For your continued help, we are so grateful, please be ever assured.

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—D. B. McCord

OUR HELPERS

You will find listed below the names of those sending subscriptions since we last went to press, and opposite the name the number of subs sent. We want to express our deepest appreciation for your continued interest in behalf of this journal. May we count on you to continue the good work? Please check the following list, and report any errors to us immediately.

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AFRICAN REPORT

We are well into our fourth month in Africa. Our present six-months stay will soon be over; it is difficult to believe time could pass so quickly.

First, it might be of interest to our readers to have a brief report on recent political developments. The protectorate of Nyasaland no longer exists. Independence came to the 4 million Africans in Nyasaland July 6th, and with independence, the name of the new state became Malawi. Visitors from many parts of the world were present to witness the change in government and view the celebrations. Most important, though, the leaders of Malawi have taken a favorable stand on religion. Missionaries and all denominations are protected with only one provision—that religion stay out of politics. One church of Christ missionary has been deported since we arrived, and another was refused re-entry because of unfavorable remarks made against Malawi. So the government has taken a firm, yet sensible stand on religious matters.

The work of the church continues to progress according to schedule. The third study with the preachers and teachers ended with as many as 45 in attendance. We plan to begin the next study August 3rd. The African brethren have scheduled their annual camp meeting to begin on Sept. 12.

We are making some final plans for our work. We hope to complete all the outlines for the booklet we are going to give the preachers within the next month. Also, in the way of printing, we have printed a number of tracts on special subjects to be distributed among the churches; and, if the work is continued after this six months, a bi-monthly paper is planned.

Now that our stay in Malawi is almost over, we hope, inasmuch as a good measure of success has taken place, that the need for continuing this work will be seen. In our opinion, the Lebanon, Mo. congregation has done an excellent job with the work, and will no doubt be contacting some of you about future plans for it. We sincerely hope you will respond favorably.

For the door of utterance the Lord has opened for us, we are thankful. Continue to pray for the work.

—Jerry Cutter — James Orten
Box 573, Blantyre, Malawi, Africa

AT LAST

Yes, at last, the 1964 church directory is off the press. I have filled all orders received unless some have been overlooked. If anyone has ordered, and has not received your order, please notify me at once, and I shall rush your order to you. The directories are 50 cents each; I have filled all orders whether money was sent or not. Please notify me of errors in the directory so that I might correct them for the next printing. There may be errors as to address, telephone numbers, time of service; too, some congregations may have been left out that should be included. Please notify me concerning this, too. If there are congregations listed who are not scriptural in worship, please advise me so they will not be listed in the next printing. Lastly, we need your help—my wife was given \$2.00 at Sulphur, Okla., last year for 4 directories, but the name was lost. Would you please advise us if you were the one.

—E. H. Miller, Box 538,
LaGrange, Ga. 30240

LAST CHANCE

Some three or four years ago, I, with the help of many others, published a book entitled "A Good Soldier." This little book contains some of the sermons and writings of Bro. Homer A. Gay. Along with the good articles, there is a copy of a letter Bro. Gay wrote on "Divorce and Remarriage, and Fellowship." This letter, or the copy thereof, is available nowhere else to our knowledge.

When we published the book we tried to keep the price as low as possible. Sister Gay wanted everyone to have a copy; thus, we set the price at one dollar. This was barely above printing cost, as records will show. Previously, we have sold only to retail customers, but now because of some invitations, we are going to supply several wholesale book dealers. This makes it necessary to raise the price of the book. After September 1, the price will be \$1.50 instead of one dollar. If you have been intending to buy a copy, or would like to have some reserve copies at the original price, ORDER NOW. Remember, this is your LAST CHANCE to buy at the old price. Send all orders to Susie Perser, 2706 Merrill, Shreveport, La.

—Ronny F. Wade

TEXAS LABOR DAY MEETING

Seventeen years ago, the Vaughn Blvd. congregation, Ft. Worth, Texas, conducted the first Labor Day meeting among our brethren. Since we sponsored the first four meetings, and promoted the meeting as an annual affair, we feel that Fort Worth is home for Labor Day. Since its beginning, about half of the meetings have been here. Again, this year, Labor Day is back home, being sponsored by the same congregation, although we now meet at a different location and are known as Trentman Ave.

Bro. Johnny Elmore will conduct a series of meetings beginning September 2 and will close with services on Labor Day. Services will be at 7:30 each weekday evening; 10:30, Lord's Day morning; 6:30, Lord's Day evening; and at 9:30, Labor Day morning. A few of the purposes and desires of this meeting are expressed as follows: To strive to provide more Christian association for our children; have closer contact with each other as congregations, so we may share ideas and work together on how to best serve our God; let love draw our hearts closer together in unity that the glory of God might be magnified.

In behalf of the Trentman Ave. congregation, we extend to each of you a cordial invitation to attend this meeting; we would like to see more congregations represented this year than ever before, so make your plans to be with us and enjoy a spiritual feast.

—B. G. Studer
Joe Norton

WHERE IS YOUR "AMEN"?

"At the close of all social prayers the whole congregation that unites in the petitions, should, like primitive Christians say, with an audible and clear voice, Amen. This is of more importance to the animation and devotion of the social worship than most Christians seem to think. Among the Jews, on all great occasions of public and solemn petition or thanksgiving, the whole congregation said with a loud voice, Amen! Paul intimates that every private person in

the primitive church was to say Amen at the end of all petitions and thanksgivings expressed in the public assembly. Every one feels the value of the signs of sympathy and fellow feeling, of union, harmony, and love at some time of his life; and in the Christian church every one feels the power of all the signs of fellowship and accord which indicate that unity of spirit, of desire, and aim—the very essence of social worship—without which all the forms of Christian communion are a dead letter." (Alexander Campbell, October 1835).

Yes, the New Testament seems to indicate that the early Christians did as Brother Campbell suggests. Paul said: "... how can any one in the position of an outsider say the 'Amen' to your thanksgiving when he does not know what you are saying?" (1 Corinthians 14:16.) Should we not accept all the example of the early church? Even David Lipscomb and J. W. Shepherd, brethren in Christ, believed that this was the custom in the early church. Where is your "Amen"?

—Selected from Midwest Admonisher.

HOW TO BE COMPLETELY MISERABLE

THINK about yourself.
Talk about yourself.
Use 'I' as often as possible.
Mirror yourself continually in the opinion of others.
Listen greedily to what people say about you.
Expected to be appreciated.
Be suspicious.
Be jealous and envious.
Be sensitive to slights.
Never forget criticism.
Trust nobody but yourself.
Insist on consideration and respect.
Demand agreement with your own views on everything.
Sulk if people are not grateful to you for favours shown them.
Never forget a service you have rendered to others.
Be on the lookout for a good time for yourself.
Shirk your duties if you can.
Do as little as possible for others.
Love yourself supremely.
Be selfish.
This recipe is guaranteed to be infallible.
—Selected from Truth in Love

PROGRESS

Recently, I heard a man, a Baptist preacher, make a short talk over the radio on progress. He spoke of what some people call progress—always going on, advancing. But he said that to make real progress, we sometimes had to go back; and he used the prodigal son as an illustration. He did not say so, but he could have said that all the time the boy was away from home he was slipping—losing his money, wasting his time, and destroying his self-respect and his manhood. Yes, to make any progress he had to go back.

Some years ago, some brethren decided to be "progressive." When they went out from us, they soon spent what Christianity they started off with in riotous indulgences in all sorts of innovations. Now, some no longer believe that Jesus in the Christ, the Son of God. With them, the religion of Christ is just one of the religions of the world. They are now in the condition of the prodigal son when he went out to

feed hogs; but they are not as wise as that boy—they are feeding on husks and think it is good eating. Progressive? They will never make any real progress until they return to the Father's house.

—Selected by Jim Hickey, from
"Doctrinal Discourse" by R. L. Whiteside

OUR DEPARTED

2 Guthrie—Sister Sarah Ann Guthrie was born October 18, 1888 at Boxley, Ark., and departed this life June 17, 1964. She was married to W. R. Guthrie, March 17, 1906. They moved to the Council Hill, Oklahoma area in 1920 where she lived the rest of her life. She became a member of the church about 30 years ago. Besides her husband, she is survived by 2 daughters, 2 sisters, 1 brother, 4 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren. The writer was called to officiate.

—Jack A. Cutter

Mattice—Bro. Earl Mattice was born Jan. 23, 1900 at Harbor Beach, Mich., and departed this life May 17, 1964 at Joplin, Mo. He was married to Bertha Norton, March 2, 1946. They moved from Detroit, Mich., to Galena, Kansas in 1952. This is where he heard the Truth and obeyed the gospel in 1957. Bro. Orville Lee Smith taught him concerning the correct worship, and he began to worship with the church here after giving up a digressive practice. Besides his wife, Bertha, he leaves 1 daughter, and 1 sister. Interment was in Bad Axe, Mich. A service was held at the Derfelt Funeral Home in Galeus, Kans., before he was taken to Mich. The writer tried to speak words of comfort and warning.

—Jack A. Cutter

Kinney—Sister Eura Bell Kinney was born at Farmersville, Tex., Dec. 26, 1902. She departed this life July 3 at her home in Duncan, Okla. Sister Kinney was a faithful member of the church. The beautiful floral offering and the large attendance from both the Walnut St. and Jefferson St. congregations bespoke the high esteem in which she was held. She is survived by her daughter, Harriet Kinney; her mother, Sister B. D. Brookins; 1 sister and 3 brothers. Our sincere sympathy to them. The funeral was conducted July 6th at the Walnut St. church of Christ, Duncan, Okla. A group of singers from the church rendered the beautiful song service. Burial was in Comanche cemetery.

—Tom E. Smith

Pruitt—Brother Wilburn (Bill) Pruitt passed away suddenly on the Lord's Day, July 5th, at Oklahoma City, where he had made his home for a number of years. He was in his 48th year. He was the son of the late Ferris and Etta May Pruitt of Council Hill, Okla. As a young man, Bill was married to Lois Robertson, who was his faithful, devoted companion through the years. To this union, 4 fine children were born, all of whom are Christians. Bill had been a member of the Lord's church since very early manhood. He was a member of the Capitol Hill congregation, Oklahoma City. He was at the assembly on his last day when he was not really physically able to be there; he assisted in the service when he had to have support to do so.

It was this writer's distinct privilege to count Bill Pruitt among my most loyal and trusted friends for a long time. Back in my teens when I needed most a pattern for Christian manhood, it was Bill and the other brethren at the old 7th St. congregation, Oklahoma City, to whom I looked and considered as my

"big brothers"; I still so consider them. I have watched his children grow from innocent babyhood to stalwart, Christian manhood and womanhood. This speaks volumes concerning Bill and Lois; I can really think of no better criterion by which to judge a man's sojourn here, than that he would leave all of his children in the church. When a man such as Bill leaves this world, he takes a part of you with him, as those closest to him can attest.

Those surviving are: his wife, Lois; daughter, Mrs. Charles (Loretta Jo) Jameson; 3 sons, Charles, John and Don; 1 grandchild; 2 brothers, Harold and Willard; 4 sisters, Orpha Staton, Jewell VanBrunt, Jessie Tobey and Ava Ray; and a host of other relatives and friends. The final service was conducted from the Vondell Smith chapel, Oklahoma City on July 7th. Hundreds of friends, brothers and sisters in Christ, from far and near attended; the flowers were many; the singing was some of the best ever; the sermons by Brethren Taylor Joyce and Larry Robertson could not have been more aptly delivered. The bearers were Bill's brothers in Christ, whom I have known intimately for a long long time; and I thought, as they were bearing Bill to his grave, a man was never so borne by better, finer men. With tears of regret, I pen these inadequate words, and express again to Lois and the children my sincerest sympathy; in the days ahead, may our Father be near to lead and bless.

—Don McCord

BONDS OF MATRIMONY

Patterson-Brown—In the evening of July 11, 1964, Bro. Milton Patterson, Menard, Tex., and Sister Betty Brown, of the Ottumwa, Iowa congregation, were united in marriage. The wedding took place in the home of the bride's father, Bro. Roscoe Brown, at Pulaski, Iowa. Milton is the son of Bro. Joe Patterson, Menard, Tex. We wish them a long and happy life together in the Master's service. The writer performed the ceremony.

—David Trayler

MY POSITION ON CARNAL WARFARE

I cannot participate in military service in any form, directly or indirectly, in combatant or noncombatant service, because:

1. My duty and obligation to my God is superior to all other obligations (Acts 5:29; Matt. 22:37).
2. My God in the Bible forbids that I engage in carnal warfare in the following references:

"Put up thy sword," "For all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword" (Matt. 26:52)—Jesus.

"My Kingdom is not of this world" (Jno. 18:36).

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal" (2 Cor. 10:3, 4).

"Love your enemies" (Matt. 5:44); "Turn the other cheek" (Matt. 5:39).

"Recompense to no man evil for evil" (Rom. 12:17).

3. To enter any military branch or service, combatant or noncombatant, I would be compelled to "swear" (take an oath), but the Bible forbids that I do so ("Swear not at all"—Jesus, Matt. 5:34).

4. To enter any military service I would be compelled to be yoked with unbelievers, which is forbidden

—"Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (2 Cor. 6:14).

5. To be in any branch of military service in any way, I would be a part of the organization and would therefore have fellowship in the service, but such is prohibited; thus: "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:11).

6. To serve in any way in the military service, I would be deprived of obeying the command to assemble on Lord's day to worship God in the Bible way, at least part of the time, hence would disobey God (Heb. 10:25; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1, 2).

Therefore, I cannot conscientiously engage in carnal war in any form or branch, and for the above reasons, I authorize my name to be listed in support of the above principles.

—Donnie Brown, 1909 Pleasant Ave., Ceres, Calif.

—Johnie Brown, 1909 Pleasant Ave., Ceres, Calif.

—Donald Brittain, 19 7th N. E., Ardmore, Okla.

—Ronnie Jordan, 48-D Stanislaus, Riverbank, Calif.

HOW TO KEEP PEACE—

(Continued from page three)

Lastly, may I commend Brother Don McCord's article in the June issue of this journal on "Musings on Divorce and Remarriage." It is worthy of our consideration; read it again, and I would suggest that you get your dictionary handy and read Gal. 5:16-23. Learn the meanings of all the things mentioned, the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit, and let your life be governed thereby. One sin is as great as the other in the sight of God! What more need I say?

Brethren, let us all work hard to bring about peaceful solutions to our differences when they arise, so that we can as one lift up our voices and sing the song of peace: "Peace like a river is flooding o'er my soul. Peace from the fountain that cleansed and made me whole; peace that unmeasured has calmed my troubled heart; peace of the Saviour that never will depart. Peace that surpasses all mysteries of life; peace that can banish all anguish, pain and strife; peace of the Savior, the one Who died for me; peace that can cleanse the soul, and set the captive free. Peace that surpasses the scope of mortal mind; peace that can lessen the chains of sin that bind; peace freely given by God's own Holy Son. Peace like a river has calmed my troubled soul; peace from the fountain that cleansed and made me whole; peace from the giver of all life's fondest dreams; peace from the healing of Calvary's crimson stream."

—Rt. 4, Box 171-A, Duncan, Okla.

THE NEW BIRTH—

(Continued from page one)

generate him. This cannot be true because the world cannot receive the Holy Spirit (John 14:17). God does not send the Spirit into our hearts to make us sons, but because we are sons (Gal. 4:6). During the personal ministry of Jesus the Holy Spirit was not given in baptismal measure for Christ was not yet glorified (John 6:39). Jesus was not glorified until the day of Pentecost or until after He went to heaven (1 Tim. 3:16; 1 Peter 1:11). On that day the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles in baptismal measure and not upon

the inquiring. The Spirit was to guide the apostles into all the truth (John 14:26; 16:13). They were begotten by the words of Peter who was speaking as the Holy Spirit gave him utterance—hence, they were begotten by the Holy Spirit and in order to consummate the new birth there had to be a coming forth and this was accomplished by their coming forth from the waters of baptism—or being born of water. So, the Holy Spirit through Peter said, "Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38), or as Jesus stated—for salvation (Mk. 16:16). This is for every creature—no one excepted—without which no one can be saved or born again.

The Samaritans heard Philip preaching the glad tidings of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ upon which they believed and were baptized—born of water and the Spirit. This is the same kingdom that Jesus spoke of when He said, "Ye must be born again to enter." They entered it and were saved yet they had not received the Holy Spirit in baptismal measure as advocated by many denominational preachers. It was necessary for Peter and John to go down to Samaria and lay their hands on them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:15-16). The Holy Spirit does not operate independent or separate from the truth in conversion or the new birth (John 16:13; 1 John 4:6). The work of the Holy Spirit in the new birth is to beget men and women by the word of truth, so in the conversion of the eunuch, the Holy Spirit did not work directly on the heart of the eunuch. He did not speak peace to his soul as is usually taught by the advocates of the Holy Spirit baptism but the Spirit spoke to Phillip (Acts 8:29). The purpose was to get Phillip and the eunuch together so the gospel could be preached by Phillip and heard by the Eunuch (Acts 8:35). When he heard the gospel he was begotten by the Spirit through the instrumentality of the word and later was born of water (Acts 8:38), so he could go on his way rejoicing for he was in the kingdom of God (John 3:5).

The same is true in the case of Cornelius. The Spirit operated in this case, but he did not speak directly to Cornelius. The Spirit spoke directly to Peter (Acts 10:19-20). Our Father in heaven wanted Cornelius to hear the gospel that he might be begotten to a new birth so he had to get Peter and Cornelius together so the gospel could accomplish its work (Rom. 1:16; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:23; 2 Cor. 4:3). Peter was to speak words by which they were to be saved (Acts 11:14). It took quite a bit of persuasion to cause Peter to go. The vision (Acts 10:15), and the Spirit's voice (Acts 10:20) were to show Peter that the Gentiles were gospel subjects (Acts 10:34-35). The six Jewish brethren who accompanied Peter had not learned this lesson yet, so it was necessary for God to pour out the Holy Spirit upon Cornelius and his household to convince them that God had accepted the Gentiles as gospel subjects, or as worthy of being born again (Acts 11:17). So, they could no longer resist or restrain God (Acts 11:17-18). Having been begotten by the gospel as Peter preached they still needed to be born of water (John 3:5), so Peter said, "Can any man forbid water that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit as well as we?" So, he commanded them to be baptized. The miraculous manifestation of the Holy Spirit in this case was an argument in favor of water baptism while today those who claim they receive the

baptism of the Holy Spirit use it as an argument against water baptism—quite a difference.

If God's way of saving people today is by the Holy Spirit coming directly into their hearts, and yet they are not saved, it makes God responsible for their souls being lost. He withholds the power and they are not saved. It makes preaching of the gospel unnecessary. It takes away personal responsibility. Man cannot do anything until God acts upon him. It makes God a respecter of persons. Some he saves and others he does not (Acts 10:34).

In all these examples it is shown conclusively that they were begotten by the word (1 Cor. 4:15) by hearing and believing it and born of water by being baptized. The Holy Spirit did not operate independently of the word in any case. Let us therefore yield obedience to Jesus by being begotten of the Spirit through the word and born of water by being baptized (1 Peter 3:21; Acts 22:16).

—Rt. 1, Box 1,
Commodore, Pa.

From The Fields

J. W. Sutton, Box 304, Mackinaw, Ill., July 11—We enjoy the paper very much; may the Lord bless you in your work. Here is our renewal

Elmer Sutton, Bardley, Mo., July 9—There have been some mighty good articles in the OPA; just keep up the good work. Here are 3 renewals.

J. Matimati, Nakhuba Vlg., P. O. Chirazulo, Nyasaland, Africa, June 17—Since March 9 have been baptized in my travels. We are very happy with Brethren Orten and Cutter.

Joe H. Howard, Dora, Mo., July 8—At present, I am in a tent meeting at Neosho, Mo. We are having large crowds and good interest, and will continue thru July 19th. I baptized one man last night. Here is my renewal.

A. C. Severe, Box 562, Limbe, Malawi, Nyasaland, Africa, July 3—This is to thank the church at New Salem, Miss. for their help in the loss of my house by fire. The work of Brethren Orten and Cutter is a success over here.

Antoniyo Chimanya, Tapara Vlg., Wendewende Mission, Box 562, Limbe, Nyasaland, Africa, June 17—I will say thank you, brethren and sisters, who supported Brethren Orten and Cutter to come here and help us; God bless you.

Geo. G. Freeman, Rt. 3, Box 190, Atkins, Ark., June 22—We are doing fine here at Cedar Creek, about 1½ miles west of Jerusalem, Ark. We formerly were known as the Mt. Zion congregation. All seem to have a mind to work for the Lord. Here is a renewal.

H. F. Yarbrough, 1367 Glenhaven, Abilene, Tex., July 14—I now meet with the brethren here on Huckleberry Lane, and I find them to be friendly, devout and sincere Christians, working in perfect harmony with God's Word and with each other. Here are 2 subs.

Earl Johnson, 723 N. Townsend, Ada, Okla., June 21—We had a houseful at church this morning; Bro. Johnny Elmore gave the lesson, and Bro. Clarence Kessinger waited on the Lord's table. The congregation is doing well here; one was baptized last week. Here is our renewal.

Curtis Waymon, Maynard Rt., Pochontas, Ark., June 25—The church here is doing fine; we are enjoying our new building. We have just closed a singing school with Bro. Foster Prince. Since last report, we have had 4 additions—one from digression. Here are 3 renewals.

Jesus Rodriguez, Calle Lincoln No. 4762, Col. San Rafael, Nuevo Laredo, Tam., Mexico, June 23—The work of the Lord down here is going ahead; thanks to God. I have not been well; I, therefore, ask for the prayers of the brethren. We invite brethren to visit us.

A. C. Severe, Box 562, Limbe, Nyasaland, Africa, July 3—The work here continues to move forward. June 14, I brought Brethren Orten and Cutter to Rhonjeni church in Cholo; they preached before many people. Bro. Beneth Severe translated; 8 responded.

B. F. Leonard, 813 West 3rd St., Huntington, W. Va., July 16—The yearly eastern Labor Day meeting is to be held here, with Bro. Lynwood Smith doing the preaching. The meeting house is at 1802 Madison Ave. We shall be looking for many of you. May you have a safe journey.

Elmer H. Stamper, 333 Glynn Dr., Birmingham, Ala., July 8—We are still pitching for the Lord. The spirit is good, and everyone is willing to work. We are looking forward to a good meeting with Bro. Ronny Wade, Aug. 19-26; and are zealously working to that end. We desire the prayers of the faithful.

Ben Frentrup, 226 Glenoak Rd., San Antonio, Tex., July 15—The congregation meeting at 401 Gulf St., this city, has sold its building, and is meeting temporarily at 906 Nolan St., pending construction of a new building. Services are Lord's Day, 10:30 A. M., and 7:30 P. M.; and Wed., 7:30 P. M. All are invited to worship. Here is our renewal.

C. K. Smith, 1058 E. Morningside, Springfield, Mo., July 7—We are enjoying the new song book, "Star of Hope," very much. Jim Hickey is to preach for us next Lord's Day. Bro. Paul Nichols holds our meeting July 24-Aug. 2. Don McCord's article "Musings on Divorce and Remarriage" in the June issue should be read and re-read by brethren. Here is our renewal.

J. F. Graham, Rt. 1, Washington, Okla., July 15—Bro. Johnny Elmore held us a good meeting in June at Lexington. We are looking forward to Bro. Edwin Morris's meeting in Sept. We enjoyed very much Bro.

Don McCord's article "Musings on Divorce and Remarriage" in the June issue. When preaching brethren are passing our way, we would appreciate their stopping by. Here are 6 subs.

John Modgling, 204 N. Cornell, Fullerton, Calif., June 19—Since last report, I have preached at several congregations in Tex., and at Galey and Ada, Okla. I am now in a meeting at Menard, Tex.; so far, two have been baptized and we look for a number of others to obey the gospel. From here, the Lord willing, I will go to Dallas, Tex., and Penna. with Don McCord.

C. A. Smith, 1312 Alpine, Andrews, Tex., July 15—We are now engaged in a glorious endeavor for the Master here — a gospel meeting conducted by Bro. Wayne McKamie. Thus far one has been restored while all have been strengthened and encouraged by this man of God. Preaching brethren Erwin Waters and Jesse Broseh have attended one night or more. Enclosed are new subs and renewals.

Peluse Kalongonda, C/O Nkoko Vlg., N. A. Mkhumba, P. O. Palombe, Malawi, Nyasaland, Africa, July 11—Brethren, the work here is still going on, backward never. Brethren James and Jerry are working hard among us. Please pray for our land; we have received our independence. Even though we have received help from across the sea, we are not idle ourselves. Please pray for us here in Malawi.

Dennis Cox, Box 27, Gretna, Fla., July 8—Recently, I had the opportunity of attending the meeting at Sulphur, Okla., for the full ten days. The superb singing and preaching were spiritually moving. July 5 I preached at Chouteau, Mayes Co., Okla.; they are small in number, but appreciate visitors. I am now in Gretna, Fla. and will be working here for the remainder of the summer. Brethren, we need to be united in prayers and love.

S. W. Lea, Rt. 1, Wesson, Miss., June 23—I enjoy reading the paper very much. The meeting at Hillcrest with Bro. Ervin Waters was a good one; 2 were baptized. July 10, Bro. Edwin Morris will begin his meeting at Pearlhaven; he is among our best, and I have great respect for men like him. We, at New Salem, are keeping house as usual. Our meeting in Aug., will be with Bro. Johnny Elmore. Pray for me is my request. Here is our renewal.

Cicero Goddard, 3803 Garfield, Kansas City, Mo., July 15—Since my last report, 4 have been baptized into Christ; three have expressed a desire to worship with us. I have just closed a meeting in Okemah, Okla.; the attendance was good; there were a few things in the way in the beginning, but we were able to clear them up, thanks to Christ. We hope by Sept. 15, to have a congregation in Clearview, Okla.; we request your prayers for the work there.

E. R. Brown, Box 750, Stilwell, Okla., July 15—We, here at Noel Chapel, are small in number, but growing; 1 was baptized last night by Bro. Morgan. Bro. Taylor preaches for us once a month. Lately, we have had several visitors; they are always welcome. Bro. Bill Roden's mother has met with us; we are al-

ways glad to have her. Bro. Orville Lee Smith's brother preached for us last Lord's Day; he is a wonderful preacher. Remember us in your prayers.

Carl Diamond, 10 Pollock Dr., Va. Beach, Va., June 22—We enjoy the OPA so much; reading of the work of the preachers is such a source of encouragement. We worship in our home on Lord's Days at 10:30 and 8:00; and on Wed. evening at 8:00. We would be very happy, and extend a very warm welcome to all brethren who would be in our vicinity to come and visit with us in our home and worship with us. Sometimes we get a little discouraged, but by the help of the Lord, we will succeed.

Donald Brittain, 19 7th N. E., Ardmore, Okla., July 16—Our meeting here with Bro. Lynwood Smith was a good one; one obeyed the gospel for which we were very happy. We were glad to have Bro. Miles King attend much of the meeting while doing personal work at Marietta, Okla. He did very good work there in building up that small congregation. Presently, Bro. Richard Nichols is in a meeting at Healdton, Okla., which will continue through July 26th. We have heard some wonderful sermons.

Jesse W. Adams, 1616 19th St., N. E., Roanoke, Va., June 30—I enjoy the OPA very much and look forward every month for its visit. The church here is doing very well; we have two young brothers who are doing some real good teaching. Bro. E. L. Gill, who is to have the credit for the church's establishment here has been very ill for sometime; he is past 88. I ask the prayers of all the brethren for him. My son, Algie, has been doing some preaching in the states of Penna. and Ohio this month. Here are 3 subs.

Tom E. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 171-A, Duncan, Okla., July 16—The camp meeting at Sulphur, Okla., was a wonderful feast of good things from a spiritual standpoint. Brethren Roden and Elmore did a splendid job in conducting it and are to be commended for the impartial way in which it was carried on. Our meeting relative to mission work among the smallest congregations in southern Okla., at Healdton, July 12th, was well attended, and more definite plans were made for the future. We solicit your interest in this worthy cause; there will be more later to plans. Here is a sub.

Jack Cutter, 2622 E. 32nd, Joplin, Mo., July 17—The Lord is blessing our efforts here; during the last of May and June there were 5 baptisms. The attendance has increased to the point we have had to add extra seats. There is some doubt that our present building will be adequate for future increases in attendance. Preaching Brethren Clovis Cook and Orville Lee Smith have preached here recently. Bro. Joe Howard is presently in a tent meeting a few miles east of Seneca. One has been baptized in this meeting. We enjoyed the Sulphur camp meeting, and appreciated the fine way it was conducted by brethren Bill Roden and Johnny Elmore.

Melvin Crouch, 220 Roesler Rd., San Antonio, Tex., June 23—While on vacation in Calif., in June, we had the privilege of associating with wonderful people of

like precious faith. The friendliness and hospitality of brethren could not have been better. It was refreshing to visit in the homes of Brethren Luther Boek and Wayne DeGough—we could not have been treated better. It was so good to visit with Don McCord again after so many years. I appreciated the opportunity to speak at one or more services at Bakersfield, San Jose and Covina, and to visit the congregations at El Centro and Carlsbad. Brethren in Calif., Keep up the good work and keep the love and peace you now enjoy.

Edwin S. Morris, 905 Bluewood Dr., Dallas, Tex., July 14—We were in a meeting at LaGrange, Ga., June 20-28, which resulted in 4 confessions of faults. We appreciated the hospitality of the Foster Prince home where we stayed during the meeting. We enjoyed being with Bro. Miller during the meeting. The Sulphur meeting was a spiritual feast indeed; it was one of the best yet. July 5, I preached at both services at Boulder Dr., Dallas, and was at Catalina St., San Antonio, July 8th. I am now in a meeting at Pearlhaven, in Brookhaven, Miss. Interest and attendance are good. I will be at Napoleon, near Wedowee, Ala., Aug. 2-9; and Lexington, Okla., Aug. 21-30. Pray for us.

Jim Hickey, 2419 Leafdale, El Monte, Calif., July 15—Since last report, I have preached at the following congregations: Ardmore, Okla.; Arlington and Wichita Falls (Garden's Edge), Tex.; and Springfield, Mo. The past week we have been enjoying Bro. Lynwood Smith's meeting at Oklahoma City (Capitol Hill). It was certainly a spiritual treat to attend and participate in the meeting at Sulphur, Okla. We have also attended a few sessions of the singing school in the Dallas-Ft. Worth, Tex. area. This is a good example for brethren in keeping individual endeavors separate from works of the church. Brethren, before we accuse others of being too strict, let us take inventory of our own practices. Liberalism always seems to be facing and weakening the Lord's church. May God bless the faithful.

R. B. Roden, Gen. Del., Corcoran, Calif., July 17—We want to thank everyone for their good cooperation during the Sulphur, Okla. camp meeting. It was indeed a spiritual feast. The preaching was inspiring, with good singing; and the prayers along with the fellowship of brethren of like precious faith, made it another record year. I enjoyed the meeting at Davis, Okla., July 6-12; one came back to the church for which we are thankful. We are now enjoying Bro. Lynwood Smith's meeting in Okla. City (Capitol Hill). While here, I have preached at both Capitol Hill and N. W. 21st. It is inspiring to a Christian to visit each of these congregations. In a few days, we will go to Corcoran, Calif., to work with the congregation for about a year. Please address us as above. Here are 5 subs.

Noel Hogue, 203 W. Birch, Rogers, Ark., July 12—Since last report, the Lord has blessed us well beyond measure. Our labors in this area are beginning to show some signs of progress. Instead of putting up a tent in Avoca, Ark. as we had planned, we have located a building in Rogers, Ark. on Hwy. 71 So. and New Hope Rd. We do not know how long we can use it

We met there for the first time on July 5th with 18 present; about 14 will be regular attendants. July 27-Aug. 5, we plan a meeting with Bro. E. H. Miller doing the preaching. We would like to make it known to the brotherhood that Bro. Dennis Calloway and his family have come out of digression to worship the true way. He is a qualified and very good gospel preacher. Let us all accept him and use him as the Lord has given him talents to do His will and work. The Lord's will be done in this and all things.

Ronny F. Wade, Box 564, Lebanon, Mo., July 14—The meeting at Wayne, W. Va., closed without visible results. The brethren there are small in number, yet striving to keep the faith. We had several visitors from different congregations, for which we were thankful. Next, we were privileged to enjoy a few days at the annual camp meeting at Sulphur, Okla. Was it ever a good one! They seemingly get bigger and better each year. There is nothing to compare with it here on earth. Our meeting at Chapel Grove, near Lawrenceburg, Tenn., was a refreshing experience for us. Large crowds filled the building each night; two were baptized, and five confessed wrongs. The Lord willing, our schedule calls for the following meetings: Memphis, Tenn., July 19-26; Strong, Ark., July 26 - Aug. 2; Brazil, Ind., Aug. 7-16; and Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 19-26.

Jim A. Canfield, Rt. 3, Box 86, Marion, La., July 13—Yesterday, we met for the first time in our building since we began re-modeling. We lack only the outside finishing, thanks to the Lord. Our meeting began with Bro. Cicero Goddard doing the preaching with a large crowd present; Bro. Robert Adams brought a truck load from Miss. It is nice having Bro. Goddard and family with us again. I did not get to go to Memphis, Tenn. in June as we were in the midst of trying to finish the building. I will go to Miss., to be with Bro. Goddard in his meeting near Brookhaven. I will then go to Memphis. Bro. Young wrote that Bro. Dave Kemp, 92 years of age, passed on July 3rd; he was baptized into Christ about 60 years ago, about the same time as Bro. Abe Young. Bro. Kemp was blind; I visited him in January and read Psa. 71:9-10—words of courage for those old in age. Thanks again to the brethren for supporting me and helping us with the building here. Lord bless those in far away Africa, too.

Barney Owens, 10579 Thornview Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio (45241), July 17—The work with the faithful at Robertsedale, Ala., has been completed for the time being. We had some problems to overcome; however, I feel that the church is in much better condition now. During this time, I also held a meeting at Lottie, Ala., which is about fifty miles away. The ground work for other meetings was laid; as a result of this meeting, and some private teaching, one obeyed the gospel. I am now attending a singing school, at Lowery, Ala., conducted by Brother Foster Prince. This, I am enjoying very much. July 24-Aug. 2, I will be in a meeting at Chestnut Ridge, Ky.; Aug. 9-16, at Milford, Mich.; Aug. 21-30, at Roanoke, Va. Brother William Cooper is now with me. He shall remain with me during part of the summer. My hopes are that he will be grounded in the faith. We request your prayers, as they are greatly needed.

Wayne Fussell, 3714 Dilg League Dr., Shreveport, La., July 11—Since last reporting, I have held five rewarding meetings. In Springfield, Mo., three were baptized; in Mena, Ark., one was baptized, and two were restored; during the Norman, Okla., meeting, three were baptized; and in Marietta, Okla., three were restored from digression. In all of these meetings, our crowds, interest and cooperation were excellent; and association with several preaching brethren was most helpful. We opened our new building in Shreveport with a meeting which was blessed with good attendance, one baptism and one confession of faults. The building is located at 3146 Midway Street. Lynwood Smith presented two masterful sermons for us last Lord's Day. The church is growing, we feel. The Sulphur meeting, under excellent conduction, was inspiring as usual. At present, I am conducting a meeting at Montezuma, Iowa, accompanied by Joe Norton, of Fort Worth, Texas. J. D. Corson is doing a good work in this area. Enroute, I spoke for the faithful at Lee Summit, Mo. Next meetings: Longwood, Fla., Aug. 7-16; Twelvetpole, W. Va., Sept. 11-20.

Clovis T. Cook, 809 Lyons, Kansas City, Kans., July 14—Since last report, we have visited the Mt. Grove, Mo., congregation where Bro. Edwin Morris was in a meeting; we enjoyed that visit. Besides preaching here at home, I have preached at Joplin, and Lee Summit, both in Mo. At Joplin, we saw many old friends, my old buddy Oscar Johnson and the Fred Renier family being among the number. I was glad to see Bro. Jack Cutter, and to view the good work that he has done there. From Joplin, we went to Sulphur, Okla. where we spent six days during the camp meeting. We think we had one of the best meetings in many years; I do not remember when I have enjoyed anything so much. If you have never attended one of these meetings you owe it to yourself and family to do so. This Lord's Day, I, and perhaps others, from this congregation, are to visit and preach at the church in Alta Vista, Kans. This little band holds on year in and year out while many of the larger congregations argue, dispute and divide. What a shame!

Paul O. Nichols, 1400 Adena St., Bakersfield, Calif., 93306, July 16—Our summer's work began with a meeting at Oklahoma City (21st St.). We had good interest and crowds. The meeting closed with 3 baptisms and 2 confessions of faults. These are wonderful people with whom to work. Our next was at Fruitland, Tex., in their new building. The house is not complete yet, but it is nice and they have done it all without asking for any assistance, even though there are but few members there. We appreciated the cooperation from other congregations; it helped encourage us very much. The Sulphur, Okla. meeting was well-attended and we heard some good preaching as always. Right now, we are in a meeting at Sentinel, Okla., where I first came about 18 years ago. The church here has lost many members—some through death and others have moved away, but in spite of all the setbacks and losses, they continue in the Lord's work as before. They are to be commended. Our next work is as follows: Springfield, Mo. (Benton Ave.) July 24-Aug. 2; Chesapeake, Ohio, Aug. 5-16; Rte 52 (near Wayne), W. Va., Aug. 17-30.

D. B. McCord, 1414 N. Albertson Ave., Covina, Calif., July 22—The time I was permitted to spend at Sulphur, Okla., was indeed most rewarding. The nights of July 4th and 5th, it was my privilege to hear Wayne McKamie at Olney, Tex.; Wayne is a master in the pulpit. I was at Graham, Tex., July 5-12. One obeyed the gospel; I was restored. It was a joy being there; the cooperation from surrounding congregations was appreciated. July 15, I was at Golden, Okla., where it was good to see so many whom I have known and love. July 16, by invitation, I came by Anson, Tex.; it was encouraging to meet the brethren there. July 17, I began at Freeland Ave., San Angelo, Tex., where I am at this writing. The meeting progresses nicely; 2 have been baptized; one has been restored. It is good to have the Lakeview, Eola and Menard brethren who are so kind to attend. July 27, we begin at Boulder Dr., Dallas. Aug. 7-16, we are scheduled at Flemington, Pa.; Aug. 19-26, at Lubbock, Tex. I will then go by home, the Lord willing, and then on to Ceres, Calif., to assist them there with the Labor Day meeting. I need your prayers, please.

E. H. Miller, Box 538, LaGrange, Ga., July 16—The Sulphur meeting was the best it has ever been; each one always seems better than the rest. The crowds were good, and there were some wonderful sermons preached that should cause us all to want to live a little closer to the Lord if possible. This life will soon be over, so we surely want to be prepared to meet the Lord when we leave this world below. The mission meeting at Huntsville, Ark. was good, even though the crowds were not as large as hoped for (between 50 and 70, I suppose was an average attendance). There was not a faithful congregation there, and opposition was strong; but we left a congregation meeting. One man and woman were baptized, and 3 came out of digression, and 2 who lived there, with the nearest faithful congregation about 30 miles away, took their stand with the new congregation. Others were almost persuaded, and I feel sure will stand for the Bible way all the way. We have another new congregation (about a month old) in Rogers, Ark., and I am to be with them in a tent meeting July 27-Aug. 5. This congregation, I understand, was started after Bro. Callaway, who was preaching for a congregation using the Sunday School and individual cups in the communion, saw there was no Bible for those things which have divided the church. He let it be known that he could no longer worship unscripturally, took his stand for the Bible way, and others united with him in this stand. Sept. 3-13, wife and I will be with the Orange, Calif., congregation for personal work and a meeting. We hope to see many in that 11-day meeting. Our June meeting, with Bro. Edwin Morris, was a good one. Interest, as well as attendance, was good throughout, and I feel much good was done; there were 4 confessions of faults. Here are 4 subs.

J. Wayne McKamie, Route 1, McGregor, Tex., July 17—Our work in Portales, N. Mex., ended on June 28 and this was a success in many ways. Good crowds attended the meeting, interest was equal to the good cooperation, and four were restored to their Christian work-places; also 1 fine young lady was baptized into Christ. Bro. Rodney Ross of Michigan, who is attending school there, is a great help to the brethren in that

area. After the meeting, he traveled with us to Sulphur, Okla., where we all enjoyed a season of spiritual refreshment. July 3-5, we were in Olney, Tex. for the opening meeting of their new building. Olney is a good good example of what can still be done when brethren in a given area truly cooperate. Some of the finest cooperation that I have seen resulted in a great week-end of preaching, singing, and true spiritual edification. We had visitors from the town itself, from many cities throughout Texas, and from at least seven states. We appreciated the presence of a number of our preaching brethren. July 5 and 6, we had the pleasure of hearing Don McCord at Graham, Tex.; surely such preaching must be crowned with success. We are now in Andrews, Tex. (July 10-19) and enjoying it immensely. This is our first time here since living and working here some four and one-half years ago. Brethren from Midland, Odessa, Lubbock, etc., are cooperating; the members are working, and God is blessing. Five have been restored to date and we expect others to return to their rightful place in His work. Bro. C. A. Smith is doing a wonderful job in this area; certainly he is to be commended, along with other brethren here, for willingness to spend and be spent for our Christ's cause. Other preaching brethren in driving distance have been good to help us in this meeting. From here we plan to go to San Antonio (Viendo St.), and then to Lee Summit, Mo., Aug. 7-16.

TEN REASONS WHY CHURCHES OF CHRIST ARE WORTH INVESTIGATING

- 1.—You may read about them in the Bible Romans 16:16).
- 2.—They have no creed but Christ and bind no name on his followers but that divinely given (Acts 11:26; 1 Peter 4:16).
- 3.—They speak where the Bible speaks and are silent where the Bible is silent.
- 4.—They exalt Jesus Christ as the only head of the church (Colossians 1:18; Matthew 23:9).
- 5.—Their acts of worship follow the examples given in the New Testament (John 4:23).
- 6.—They teach that Scriptural unity can be attained on all disputed questions. (1 Corinthians 1:10).
- 7.—They plead for the unity of all believers in Jesus Christ (John 17:20-21).
- 8.—They teach that the church is the body of Christ, and that it was founded by the Saviour himself (Colossians 1:18; Matthew 16:18).
- 9.—They seek the salvation of men by preaching the gospel and urging all to live in obedience to Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).
- 10.—The very first church of Christ began in Jerusalem nearly two thousand years ago (Luke 24:47; Acts 2). The future of all faithful Christians is eternal glory with Jesus Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

—From Truth in Love

"He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him." Proverbs 13:24.

Love and kindness speak a language the blind can read, the deaf can hear and the dumb can speak.

Our purpose is to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," and to "prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

OLD PATHS ADVOCATE

To continue "speaking the truth in love," "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace;" "keeping the ordinances as delivered."

"Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.'" (Jer. 6:16) "And they that be of Thee shall build the old waste, places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in." (Isa. 58:12).

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No. 9

SAFETY First

By Ronny F. Wade

There is an ever increasing demand for safety in our nation today. Because thousands of people are being killed annually through carelessness and accidents, safety programs are being initiated in schools, factories, and recreational areas throughout the land. Through printed matter, as well as radio and television, we are constantly reminded of our duties and responsibilities as citizens, to other people as well as to ourselves. We believe that safety is good, and as a general rule precautionary measures are wise. The old saying, "a stitch in time saves nine," is worth remembering, for surely we all do things thoughtlessly at times that later we regret.

But, what about safety first in religion? Here is an area where safety is seldom mentioned. The results are swiftly becoming evident. Perhaps, at no other time in recent years is there so little respect for God and His divine law. Many are brazenly disregarding the oft-repeated warnings of the Spirit, and are fast losing themselves in the doctrines and perversions of man. The message of Pilate to the soldiers is badly needed today . . . "Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can" (Mt. 27:65).

Let us try applying this rule of safety to religion and see how it works. If I make everything as sure as I can, how will I regard controversial issues? Let us see:

1. **Atheism versus God.** How will I react when confronted with the important question, "Is there a God?" I must realize first of all that there are great men educationally speaking on both sides, so that it would be folly to try to settle the question this way. I must keep in mind that faith in God is both reasonable and intelligent; and that atheism cannot be proved, and at its best is mere assumption. It seems to me that if I make it as sure as I can, I will believe in God. Let us suppose that the atheist is right and that there is no God. Is the Christian any worse off than he? Of course not, for if there is no God it will not matter how we regarded the subject. But, let us suppose there is a God. What then? The answer is clear, the atheist will be lost, but the Christian will have the hope of eternal life. In other words, he has two chances to one. He chose the safe way, the one that was right and could not be wrong.

(Continued on page eight)

PROBLEMS IN THE CHURCH MUST BE DEALT WITH

By Preston C. Brown

That the church of the Lord has had problems in every generation since her beginning is admitted by all who are familiar with her history. They have not been the same in each generation, but they have been real and disturbing. There were some that were purely local in nature, but to a degree disturbed and affected the entire brotherhood. Sometimes these problems came from within; at other times they came from without the body of Christ.

In the early record of the church, we read about various difficulties that arose, and how they were settled. The church was very young when problems began to arise. One of the most universal problems in the early church had to do with the acceptance of Gentiles as gospel subjects, and then whether or not they had to be circumcised and keep the law. This was a very disturbing matter; it caused endless discussion and study. It even came to the point of debating; yes, debating among and between brethren (Acts 15:6-7). I pray that no one will misunderstand me. I am not advocating that every problem that arises in the brotherhood should be debated, but I do believe when it becomes necessary, debating is as much the need of the age as ever.

We live in a day when many look with disdain upon controversy and debate, regardless of the serious problems confronting the church. The spirit among many is peace, peace at any price. Peace is what all should want and work for, but I do not believe we are to make a truce with sin and error and enter into an agreement to let each other alone, when the church is not only being threatened, but dangers actually exist in her midst.

No doubt, division threatened, and feelings were very strained when Paul and Barnabas and the apostles and elders entered into a discussion with the sect of the Pharisees which believed "that it was needful to circumcise the Gentiles and they must keep the law." But, this problem was settled and the church survived. No doubt, such was true because the matter was settled by appealing to the right source (divine revelation) and all accepting this as the final word. It seems certain then, as now, there were some in the church who refused to accept and abide by this divinely guided decision, and they kept advocating their own ideas. We read of many encounters that the apostle Paul had with the Judaizing teachers; to them he would give place,

not even for an hour, with their human appendages to the gospel system. Paul said to them, "But there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ (Gal. 1:6-9).

Paul was very conscious of problems and dangers in the church. He believed it to be his obligation to help meet all as they arose. The church at Corinth was full of troubles and problems; such as, division as a result of following men, fornication, brethren going to law with each other, perverting the Lord's Supper, spiritual gifts, the resurrection and others. Some of these were purely local and others were more widespread. The apostle did not ignore these, nor treat them with little or no concern. They were big and vital. He dealt with them.

We need to remember in a study of this kind that the church is perfect only insofar as what Divinity has done. The church today has its problems and they must be dealt with; only the uninformed would deny this. Again, these problems are sometimes general, sometimes local in many places. For example, such sins as fornication and personal troubles between and among brethren are local, and need not affect another congregation. On the other hand, there are always problems or issues which confront the entire brotherhood in the form of some teaching or practice that has grown up; these more or less disturb the church universally.

Proper attitude toward problems in the church

The proper attitude toward anything is important. No doubt, it is because of attitudes that many of the problems in the church reach the awful proportions they sometimes do. We must remember, however, that the proper attitude is not all that is needed in properly dealing with problems. It is possible that there can be no proper attitude without the other essential needs. For the present purpose, we mention the following essentials.

1. **Problems in the church must not be ignored.** This settles nothing and may result in our being destroyed (1 Cor. 5:6). Many try to do this—as the ostrich does, they, as it were, stick their heads in the sand and act as though nothing is wrong. This will not do, and is a shirking of responsibility.

2. **No one should try to hide them.** This cannot be done successfully, and what good would this do if it could be done? Certainly, such can not be hidden from God. In most instances, problems cannot be kept secret from those in the world; neither should they be if we have to falsify and otherwise practice deception to do so. Of course, anyone of good sense knows that such should not be told or advertised needlessly and to the detriment of the church.

3. **We should not try to minimize them;** face them squarely for what they are and seek proper solutions. If minimized, then the treatment may not be sufficient and no real cure accomplished.

4. **Do not allow them to unduly discourage or upset us.** We cannot throw up our hands and quit just because of difficulties or problems. We all need patience; such may be a means of strengthening us (James 1:13). The trying of our faith will work patience. Be vitally concerned about any and all issues confronting the Lord's cause or affecting the welfare of souls, but not discouraged that such things come.

5. **We should not allow any problem to disrupt the church any more than we can help.** Problems naturally

do this to some extent anyway, but we should be careful lest we aggravate the condition by our own blunders. All of us, even in troublesome times, must work for unity and peace. Of course, it must be unity in righteousness and the peace that is first pure. Peace and harmony at the expense of truth is not worth the time.

6. **Last, but not least, realizing that problems and troubles may come, we should bend every effort to avoid them and insure against them.** Elders have a grave responsibility here. They should watch for false teachers and guard the flock from error of all kinds. The church must be taught the truth. By knowing and following the Lord's teaching, all problems could be avoided. I wholeheartedly agree with Bro. Ronny F. Wade that division is a terrible thing, a work of the flesh, a sin. This being true, all should be willing to work with a consuming desire for the truth on all issues regardless of what our former practice or thinking has been. With a burning love for the Lord and His cause, and by seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, we can meet and settle properly any issue which may confront the church.

—2502 Scott Ave., Panama City, Fla.

THE GOSPEL MEETING

By Lee Boek

In some quarters of the brotherhood, we find a growing disenchantment with what we call the gospel meeting; that is, the kind of meeting that goes for ten days or two weeks, during which the evangelist speaks each night. There was a time when a month-long meeting of this nature was a regular occurrence. When the crops were "laid by," folk would gather at a camp ground near the river and for a month hold a real evangelistic "camp meeting." Well, now in our time, there are no crops to "lay by" by most of us, and there are only a few who have the time, energy or courage to embark on such "old fashioned" methods. Sometimes this is good; sometimes it is not.

Has the "gospel meeting," the "revival," or whatever you wish to call it, lost its effectiveness? Is it time to say, as many are saying, that we are wasting our time, our effort and money on such meetings because they are failing to bring about desired results? The answer is emphatically no! In fact, I am convinced that this paragraph contains the answer as to why many of our meetings today result in seeming failure and ineffectiveness. For the most part, we do not spend enough time, money or effort on such meetings. We spend so little, if anything, on preparation. We spend so little time, if any, following up a meeting by visiting those who do attend and show an interest, after the meeting is concluded.

Reader, let us take a look at the last meeting with which we were associated. What time, effort and money were put into the preparation for that meeting? If a post card is sent to neighboring congregations and the meeting is announced once or twice at these congregations, many of us consider the meeting advertised. Why, if a politician campaigned like that, he would be right in expecting little success in winning. Yes, and too many of us usually have that kind of expectation. "You can't get people out to meetings these days" is an oft-repeated cliché. We seemingly can not get many people to attend our meetings. The question is, "Why?"

Is the answer not truly found in the fact that we are not doing our part? Really, the doctrine we believe and practice is no less palatable than the doctrines of many denominations, and it is certainly by far the best for man. We cannot afford to use the scripture, "Many are called but few chosen," as an excuse for our lethargy. The fact is, in many areas, many are not called. In fact, "many" do not even know there is a meeting coming.

We live in an age of greatest opportunity. The system of communication in our country is the greatest ever known to man. People in our country have better jobs, and therefore more money to give to the cause than ever before in our history. What are we doing with these wonderful advantages? We are permitting those who teach falsehood to use the advantages while we often criticize. Would you know that we have many congregations that do not so much as have an ad in the local newspaper telling where they meet? Why, only recently I have heard of opposition to a telecast that was begun last year by some of our brethren; I hope this is not true. There are things wrong with television, obviously, but the primary wrong is that the devil's doctrine and not the truth of God's holy Word is being expounded thereon. Brethren, let us use what God has given.

Is the congregation where you attend planning a series of meetings this year? What kind of preparation will the congregation be making? Too many of us depend on the ten days out of the year to be the only time we devote to making any real concentrated effort at converting outsiders. This is another reason why gospel meetings are often unsuccessful. When we, as individual Christians and as congregations realize that every day of our lives must be directed in some way at influencing people for Christ and teaching them God's Word, then the meetings will indeed become the harvest time at the end of the sowing season. Let us stop trying to harvest without sowing. Let us stop allowing a ten-day meeting to be our only effort of the year devoted to the sowing of the seed of the kingdom. Let us begin advertising, talking, teaching; and most important, living the gospel of Christ everyday.

—302, Chico, Calif.

A BROTHER'S DECISION

For the past several years, I have been fighting myself. I told myself I could not. My first excuse was security. The more I read about Abraham, the more I realized this was not my reason. The question kept occurring to me: "Where is your faith?" Then, I began with the excuse Moses used. "I'm not eloquent." Then, I thought if God would not let Moses use this excuse, why should he let me? Finally, with much discussion and prayer and much encouragement from my wife and others, I have, with a fair picture of the trials and tribulations that lie before me, made the decision to go into the field of full-time preaching.

My first work will begin approximately Oct. 15th at Denison, Texas. This will be a new work, but I already have some encouragement. There are two families now, and with my family, we can begin with six members and five children. We will begin meeting in the home. I already have \$40.00 per month promised. With the two families who are living there, this began the 1st of August. I plan to make a two-week tour,

making appointments, and whatever support I receive will be given to the treasury at Denison. When I begin my work there, they will start me with reasonable support. We know it will take a little time to make the church at Denison self-supporting, but with the help of God and you, we know we can.

At this time, we sincerely and prayerfully ask you to pray for us, to write us letters of encouragement, and if you can, send us any contribution you can afford. If you can send us a little each month or only one time or none at all, we will understand and will appreciate your prayers and letters.

To acquaint you with Denison, I offer the following: It lies just 80 miles north of Dallas and against the Red River and the great Lake Texhoma. It is a resort city with a population of 30,000. It is ten miles north of Sherman, Texas. This is another growing city of 30,000. Just north of Denison and across Red River is another fair city, Durant, Okla. In this 20-mile area lie several little towns and villages and approximately 100,000 souls with no loyal church to attend. At present my parents, who live in Denison, drive as far as Ada, Okla. to worship. I am sure there are many who would attend true worship if they had a place to go.

To acquaint you with me, I submit the following: I have preached in several Texas cities, at Springfield, Mo.; Broken Bow, Okla.; Phoenix, Ariz., and visited the Sulphur meeting several times and many other churches in Okla. My original home is at Ada, Okla. Preachers who know me personally are James and Billy Orten, E. H. Miller, Wayne McKamie, Edwin Morris, Ervin Waters, Orville Smith, Bennie Cryer, Johnny Elmore, Don McCord and others, plus many leading brethren throughout the brotherhood. My work in the church began at the Clements St. congregation in Odessa, Texas. Later moving to the Terrell St. congregation, Midland, I have had an active leading part in the church, thanks to Bro. H. O. Allen, who has done so much for me. I will always remember him for acquainting me with my duties as a male member and allowing me to carry them out. This is a great experience and blessing that I fear many of our young brethren will never know.

We are so determined to have a church at Denison that we are willing to find a job, and work in order to support the work ourselves if necessary. We know this will be a hard work, but a good work. By the time you read this, the work will have begun. Please send all letters and donations direct to me, c/o H. L. Bullard, 632 East Sears, Denison, Tex.

We will make a complete progress report each month in the O. P. A., and to the churches supporting this work.

Once again, pray for us.

—Eddy Bullard
632 East Sears
Denison, Texas

Isn't it strange that men will preach the truth, fret and sweat for it, write and fight for it, dig and die for it, but will rarely exemplify it in their lives?

Worry is like a rocking chair: it gives you something to do but doesn't get you anywhere.

Old Paths Advocate

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MODERN-DAY HINDRANCES TO THE CAUSE OF CHRIST

There have always been those things that would hinder the cause of our Lord. Some would be due to maliciousness on the part of men; some would be due to our weaknesses and lack of concern. Regardless of what may motivate them, and regardless of the good intentions of those who cause them, the cause of Christ suffers! It is a serious error to be guilty here. We here discuss 6 hindrances that seem to this writer to be the most devastating.

1. **Unruly tongues**—James' description of the tongue (James 3) is a masterpiece. He describes it as a "little member," and that it is, but it in all of its littleness, "boasteth great things." It is "a fire," and "a world of iniquity," and "defileth the whole body." It "setteth on fire the course of nature," and is "set on fire of (gehenna) hell." He says that "no man can tame it." He does not mean it can not be controlled. It is an "unruly evil," and "full of deadly poison." Surely, since this member is so vividly described, we need to take the strictest care that we master it, lest it enslave us. We need to steer clear of "backbiting"—devouring those who are absent; "whispering"—malicious, false secrecy about those for whom Christ died; tale-bearing—telling things far and wide that need to die and be no longer remembered. All of these sins of the tongue, when committed involve the offender with so many others; that is, with the God of heaven, Who knows all; Christ, the Son; the Holy Spirit; angels, and by no means of little importance, the person talked to and the person talked about. Beware of the sins of the tongue—this should be an admonition heeded every day by all of us!

2. **Unclean hearts**—"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life" (Prov. 4:23). Hindrances to the cause of Christ have their birthplace in the hearts of men. An unclean heart is one of man's worst enemies, and one of the worst enemies to the cause of Christ. From it proceeds malignity (Rom. 1:29)—the sin of putting the worst construction on the words and actions of others, thinking the worst when thinking the best would be better. Involved in the heart, too, are other sins that can tarnish the soul—detriments to

the cause; such as, envy, jealousy, bitterness, resentment.

3. **Incomplete, unscriptural organization**—One of the greatest assets to the cause of Christ would be as follows: Elders, properly and scripturally qualified, chosen and ordained; deacons who serve without fail, and members who function as ministers and priests of God. On the other hand, one of the greatest hindrances are elders in name only—not scripturally qualified, chosen and ordained. Scriptural organization is so important! Until organization is complete and scriptural, the cause suffers and we who promote it stand as objects of the Father's displeasure.

4. **Members not finding their proper place and function**—We need to read Rom. 12:4-8 and Eph. 4:15-16. All members do not have the same qualifications; where some of us find excellence, others of us find limitations. We need to find our place and work devotedly; all are not singers, song leaders, teachers and preachers, public servants. There is a place in the ranks for us, though; let us assume it and "quit ourselves like men."

5. **A lack of feeling of responsibility**—The responsibility resting on the shoulder of the Christian is so great!—more so than many of us may realize. Let us obey Paul's injunction to the Thessalonians: "warn the unruly; comfort the feebleminded; support the weak." Yes, this is the Christian's responsibility. The lack of feeling of responsibility is contagious! When the many do not assume responsibility, it is time for the few to arise. If we could only remember that there are so many responsibilities, and if members of the Lord's church do not shoulder them, no one will!

6. **Poor teaching**—"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee." The man who functions in the pulpit should never ascend to it without first preparing himself adequately. People come to break life's bread; it is his responsibility to break with them—how can he when he knows not his lesson, is ill-prepared? It takes time, hard work, meditation. So, the cause of our Lord is still hindered due to teaching that is lacking in comfort, edification and exhortation.

Conclusively, I believe the best people on earth are members of the Lord's church. It is never our desire to hinder the cause we love more than life. So many times we hinder, it is due to a lack of knowledge, wisdom or just simply due to our abundance of infirmities. When we are made aware of the enemy and his lurking presence, we can cope with him. I would hope that this brief study has at least sharpened our sense of awareness that enemies to the cause of Christ are ever-present, and that we can do something about them. If so, our moments together have not been wasted.

—D. B. McCord

OUR HELPERS

You will find listed below the names of those sending subscriptions since we last went to press, and opposite the name the number of subs sent. We want to express again our deepest appreciation for your continued interest in behalf of this journal. May we count on you to continue the good work? Please check the following, and report any errors to us immediately.

Wallace Lea—10; Edwin S. Morris—8; Frank C.

Taylor—7; Mrs. Clarence Moore—6; Mattie Lloyd—5; C. K. Corbell—5; Earl Helvey—5; Paul Nichols—5; Jim Hickey—4; John H. Lemmon—4; Miles King—4; Wayne Fussell—3; Dee Aldridge—3; J. W. Kornegay—3; Johnny Elmore—3; Barney Owens—3; Clovis Cook—3; George Powell—3; Albert Bledsoe—3; A. W. Fenter—2; Mrs. C. L. Tate—2; D. B. McCord—2; E. J. Smith, Jr.—2; Byron Kramer—2; W. E. Joslin—2; George Stover, Jr.—2; D. V. Taylor—2; Mrs. Tony Smith—2; Mrs. Robert Townsend—2; K. G. Wilks—2; Lina Halstead—2; E. H. Miller—2; Mrs. Charlie Dove—2; Orville Johnson—2; Cecil Cude—2; Alice Sipes—1; Herman Fink—1; C. E. Pate—1; Melvin Hale—1; Marie Nichols—1; John Rankin—1; J. E. Stidham—1; Mrs. Geo. Phelps—1; Andy Shores—1; Lee Roy Jackson—1; Florence Plunkett—1; Veda Meyer—1; C. E. Thomason—1; Nadine Jones—1; Kenneth Jackson—1; Mrs. James Orten—1; Louise Varmon—1; Glenn Lewis—1; Lee Kenney—1; Harvey Williams—1; Jack Mansfield—1; Clifford O. Loret—1; Cora Campbell—1; Jerry Pardue—1; Charles McClellan—1; Lee Boek—1; Ida Moseley—1; J. B. Carter—1; Vivian Chapman—1; Veta Wissinger—1; D. O. Fancher—1; Jerrel Caffey—1; John Stephens—1; Dean Crossman—1; H. A. Sloan—1; Thomas R. Chappell—1; Mrs. James Walters—1; George Freeman—1; Lonnie Krider—1; Clint Webb—1; Mrs. J. L. Thompson—1; Francis Holt, Jr.—1; Edna Wyatt—1; Mrs. T. F. Keele—1; Hubert Tobey—1; Donald Brittain—1; Elmer Snow—1; Ed Nichols—1; Ruth Pasley—1; Freddie Lay—1; Mrs. Ted Jones—1; Christine Walkup—1; Ken Boek—1; Mrs. Francis Holt, Jr.—1. Total—173.

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AFRICAN REPORT

*Last month we made our first trip into Central Province. The church we visited was approximately 125 miles north of Blantyre; and because the roads were better than usual, we were able to drive that distance in just over 4 hours. This church is many miles

from any of the other congregations. We were pleasantly surprised to find a nice building (for this country), and what appeared to be a rather well-established congregation. The preacher who established the church seemed to be an intelligent and dedicated worker. We hope to use this congregation as a starting point for spreading the Word more fully in the northern part of this country.

The political climate is calm at this time, and the work with the preachers and churches in the Blantyre-Limbe area goes on much as usual. Our fourth study ended Aug. 8th on a note of success. At the conclusion of the study, we gave out about 70 booklets of outlines and tracts we had compiled for future reference and study. The booklets, written in the native language, had a wide variety of subjects ranging from marriage to infant baptism. Each subject varied in length from one to four pages.

Soon, we shall be leaving for home. We hope to arrive in the States by Sept. 22nd. It hardly seems 6 months could have passed. We cannot give enough thanks to all who have helped in this work; but we can all thank God. The helpers have been many and varied; all have been necessary. They have ranged from Lebanon, Mo. to the poor unknown widow who has prayed daily for us and the work. May God bless you all.

—Jerry Cutter and James Orten

Box 573, Blantyre, Malawi, Africa

FT. SMITH, ARKANSAS

Beginning about the first of November, we plan to begin meeting in this city with the intention of planting a new congregation after the New Testament order. Several of the preaching brethren have offered to give of their time in order for us to have several series of meetings in the beginning months of this effort. We undertake this task with much faith and enthusiasm.

Do you know of those whom we may contact? If so, would you please very soon send their names and addresses to me at the address below.

—Taylor Joyce, 1713 Savannah Rd.
Ft. Smith, Ark.

ELGIN, OREGON

Do you know of members or others who might be interested in the truth in the vicinities of Elgin, La-Grange, Ambler, Summerville or Wallowa, Oregon? When I was visiting my mother in Elgin this summer, she was baptized into Christ. We are desperately in need of a congregation in that area. My mother is trying to teach her other children and get them to become Christians; she, too, is studying with several neighbors. She found the true way by studying her Bible in her own home with the help of literature we sent including the Old Paths Advocate. If you know of persons who might be interested in planting a congregation with true worship in that area, would you please address the writer as below.

—Amos E. Doud, 2052 Auburn Blvd.,
Sacramento, Calif. 95821

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Flint, Michigan—We, at the church of Christ, 1658 Delaware, are now meeting in our new building and wish to thank the following contributors (also the ones

acknowledged in previous editions of this paper) for making this possible, by sharing their finances: Le Contes Mills, Pa.—\$25; a brother in Tex.—\$30; Sister Esil Thomson, Pontiac, Mich.—\$10; Brother and Sister Carl Willis, Pontiac, Mich.—\$45. Total, including amount previously reported—\$1637.00 May God bless all of you.

—Franklin E. Staggs, 359 E. Gillespie,
Flint, Mich. 48505

Chesapeake, Ohio—The church wishes to acknowledge the following contributions used to help buy seats for our new building: Modesto, Calif.—\$100; Harrodsburg, Ind.—\$75; New Salem, Miss.—\$50; El Centro, Calif.—\$25; Cincinnati, Ohio—\$20; Dallas, Texas—\$10; Wayne, W. Va.—\$10; Brazil, Ind.—\$10; Grand Rapids, Mich.—\$5. Total: \$305. We wish to thank all who have helped in this way, and will acknowledge any other help we receive. We were expecting to have our seats for our meeting in Aug. We have them on order, but the seating company burned, and we can not get them until later.

—Frank C. Taylor, 609 Rockwood Ave.,
Chesapeake, Ohio

TEXAS SINGING SCHOOL

The Gospel Singers Association of Fort Worth, Tex., wishes to report the completion of a very successful three-week singing school on the Arlington State College campus from July 6-25. Under the instruction of Johnny Elmore, the school had a morning attendance of approximately 75 and an evening attendance of 75 to 100. Purpose of the school was to teach the rudiments of gospel music and to further an interest in the singing of gospel songs. Supported solely by donations from interested parties, the school was a private endeavor by several men in the Fort Worth-Dallas area and had no connection with any local congregation.

Those who attended a part or all of the school came from an area bounded by California, Mississippi, Indiana, and South Texas. On the closing night, there were approximately 30 song leaders, 10 special groups, and 150 people who had an enthusiastic interest in the singing of religious songs.

Since the Association plans to make the school an annual affair, it requests that all preachers and church leaders throughout the United States cooperate by encouraging anyone who can, especially young people, to attend future schools. Plans are to have it each year during the three weeks following the Fourth of July meeting at Sulphur, Okla. Next year's school will include the teaching of rudimentary music as did this year's but it will be expanded to include advanced classes taught by professional instructors. A small tuition may be charged to cover the additional cost of the instructors if private donations are not sufficient.

Another future plan of the Association is to sponsor a monthly singing on the Arlington State College campus. Dates and times for these will be announced later.

The planning committee for this year was composed of John Spradley, chairman; Charles Goodgion, secretary; Grady Coble, treasurer; and Hugh Hinton, Edwin Morris, J. B. Spradley, and Bobby Studer.

Officers who were elected for the coming year are as follows: J. B. Spradley, president; Charles Goodgion, executive vice president; Joe Norton, vice president in charge of publicity; Grady Coble, vice president in

charge of budget and finance; and Bobby Studer, vice president in charge of membership.

Since plans for next year's school are being made now, the officers request that anyone who wishes to make a contribution send it to the Association headquarters, 4701 Forest Knoll Drive, Fort Worth, Texas. Any suggestions for improving next year's school should also be sent to this address.

—Joe Norton

GIVE ME THE TRUTH

If you are my friend, if you are concerned about my soul, give me the truth.

Do not flatter me; do not praise my virtues while remaining silent about my vices.

Do not fear that the truth will offend me. Do not treasure our friendship, our friendly relations above my salvation. Do not think that by ignoring my sins, you can help me. Do not think that being blind to my sins will prove yourself charitable. However I may react to it, whatever may be my attitude toward you after you have done it, give me the truth, for the truth, and only the truth, can make me free from the shackles of sin, strengthen me in the pathway of righteousness and lead me to the joys of heaven.

If I am wavering, weak, lukewarm, indifferent, neglectful; if I have been overtaken is a trespass; if I have been drawn into the pleasures of the world; if I have left my first love; if I have been led astray by error, or if I have done none of these, but simply need to grow in knowledge and to be edified, give me the truth.—By Bill Crews. (Copied from the notebook of Bro. Harvey Jackson, Lubbock, Tex.)

DR. MAYO ON LIQUOR

Dr. Charles Mayo, famous surgeon, once delivered the following on the use of alcoholic beverages:

"You can get along with a wooden leg, but you can't get along with a wooden head. The physical value of man is not so much. Man as analyzed in our laboratories is worth about 98 cents. Seven bars of soap, lime enough to whitewash a chicken coop, phosphorus enough to cover the heads of a thousand matches, is not so much, you see.

"It is the brain that counts, but in order that your brain may be kept clear, you must keep your body fit and well. That cannot be done if one drinks liquor.

"A man who has to drag around a habit that is a danger and a menace to society ought to go off to the woods and live alone. We do not tolerate the obvious use of morphine or cocaine or opium and should not tolerate intoxicating liquor because I tell you these things are what break down the command of the individual over his own life.

"Through alcoholic stimulation a man loses his coordination. That is why liquor is no advantage to the brain. You hear people tell how their wits are quickened for the first half-hour by liquor but they don't tell you how later their body could not act in coordination with their voice."—Western Voice. (Selected here by Regis McCord from "Youth's Living Ideals," Elon College, N. C.; read in the home of Kenneth and Wanda Jackson, Lubbock, Tex.)

YOU CAN NEVER TELL

You can never tell when you send a word—

Like an arrow shot from a bow

By an archer blind—be it cruel or kind

Just where it will chance to go.

It may pierce the heart of your dearest friend,

Tipped with its poison or balm;

To a stranger's heart in life's great mart

It may carry its pain or its calm.

You never can tell when you do an act

Just what the result will be;

But with every deed you are sowing a seed,

Though its harvest you may not see.

Each kindly act is an acorn dropped

In God's productive soil;

Though you may not know, yet the tree shall grow,

And shelter the brows that toil.

You never can tell what your thoughts will do

In bringing you hate or love;

For thoughts are things, and their airy wings

Are swifter than carrier doves.

They follow the law of the universe,

Each thing must create its kind;

And they speed o'er track to bring you back

Whatever went out from your mind.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox

—(Selected by George Stover, Jr.
Flemington, Pa.)

OUR DEPARTED

Wade—Bro. William Frank Wade was born Oct. 20, 1877 in Tennessee, and departed this life July 6, 1964 at Ft. Worth, Texas. He is survived by: 1 daughter, Mrs. Vera Morris, Ft. Worth; 3 sons, Foy and Coy, Ft. Worth; William, San Antonio; 3 sisters, Mrs. Sally Inman, Corsicana; Mrs. Callie Wilson, Lockney; Mrs. Mary Cundieff, Houston, Texas; 9 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandchild. Bro. Wade obeyed the gospel in early life, and worshiped with Trentman Ave. congregation in Ft. Worth. He was a grandfather to Bro. Ronny Wade, one of our gospel preachers. Services were from Gause-Ware Funeral Home in Ft. Worth on July 8th, with burial in Laurel Land Cemetery.

—Johnny Elmore

Lawson—Sister Martha E. Lawson was born Nov. 28, 1882 at Daughtry, Ark., and departed this life July 6, 1964 at Sonoma, Calif. She is survived by 4 daughters, 3 sons, and 22 grandchildren. She was a sister to Sister Bowerman of the Ada, Okla. congregation. Services were from Dunn Funeral Home in Sulphur, Okla. on July 11th, with burial in Box Cemetery, near Ada.

—Johnny Elmore

Roy—William "Bill" Roy, Bakersfield, Calif., passed away suddenly, July 18th, at his home, as the result of a heart attack. Bro. Bill was a personal friend of mine and his death was a shock, to say the least, but knowing that he was a Christian helps us to bear the pain. Bill was a man of conviction and was not ashamed of what he believed, and I think that he and his wife influenced more people to attend the services of the church than any other couple I ever knew, except perhaps some preachers.

Brother Bill leaves his dear wife, Dorothy, who also suffered the loss of her only son not long ago and even

more recently a granddaughter. Our sympathy goes out to Dorothy and Bill's other people, his mother, his sisters and brother. There was a beautiful floral offering and Bill's remains were laid to rest in the beautiful cemetery near Shafter, Calif. I was privileged to speak words of comfort and warning to a large crowd of friends and relatives.

—Paul O. Nichols

Ratliff—Bro. William M. (Bill) Ratliff was born July 6, 1891 at Sulphur Springs, Tex. He departed this life July 24, 1964 at the home of his daughter and son-in-law, Bro. and Sister Raymond Bray. He was married to Ada Knutson, Dec. 3, 1917 at Tishomingo, Okla. To this union two daughters were born: Sister Juanita Bray and Sister Ray (Polly) Smith. He leaves to mourn his passing the two daughters; his wife, Ada; four brothers: S. M., Fillmore, Calif.; C. N., Bakersfield, Calif.; I. F., Amherst, Tex.; Ben, Modesto, Calif.; two sisters: Mrs. Stella Robbins, Firebaugh, Calif., and Mrs. Alvis Barry, Modesto, Calif.; 7 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. There is also a number of nieces, nephews and other relatives as well as a host of friends and brethren and sisters in Christ.

His most important step in life was taken in August, 1960 when he became a member of the Lord's church. He lived a faithful Christian life since that time so far as I know, and I believe he is happy in the spiritual realm, for John commanded to write, "Happy are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the spirit, that they shall rest from their labors, and their works do follow them" (Rev. 14:13).

The funeral service was held in Healdton, Okla. The large concourse of fellow-townsmen, friends, neighbors, and brethren and sisters in Christ, the profusion of beautiful floral offerings bespoke the high esteem in which he was held. Several congregations were represented by those who took part in the beautiful and appropriate song service. Bro. Richard Nichols, who had just closed a meeting at Healdton, assisted in the singing. The writer, assisted by Bro. Lynwood Smith, spoke words of comfort to the sorrowing ones. Bro. Johnny Elmore said the benediction at Mt. Olive cemetery where Bro. Bill was laid to rest to await the resurrection in the last day. He will be sadly missed by all of us, but some sweet day we expect to meet him again.

—Tom E. Smith

CARD OF THANKS

We appreciate so very much the many, many words of comfort, the cards and the beautiful floral offering during the death of our dear husband and father and grandfather, Brother Bill Ratliff. The beautiful service rendered by Bro. Tom Smith and Bro. Lynwood Smith brought comfort to our hearts. The song service was most appropriate and the old hymns, loved so much by the deceased, were never sung more beautifully, and we are grateful to each one who sang. We shall ever be thankful for Bro. Tom Smith's untiring efforts that brought about the conversion of our loved one four years ago. Our hope in Christ is our only consolation in times like these.

—Mrs. Ada Ratliff,

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Bray and Family,
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Smith and Family

SAFETY First —

(Continued from page one)

II. Faith only versus faith plus works. Another subject causing much concern in religion is the subject of faith only. Does a sinner have to do anymore than believe to be saved? Is baptism necessary? Without going into a lengthy discussion on this question, let us look at it from this viewpoint. Suppose faith alone will save; will the man who believed in baptism be lost? Of course not, for he believed too and if believing saves he will be saved. But, now let us suppose that baptism was necessary. What about the man who only believes? Again, the answer is evident; he will be lost. Now, which do you perceive to be the safe course, the one that is right and cannot be wrong? The man who believed in faith plus baptism had two chances to one.

III. Innovations in the Church. Many innovations are troubling spiritual Zion today. The proponents of these innovations are aware of the fact that the scriptures do not teach them, but on the grounds of expediency or present-day need, they argue for their existence. Let us look at these things from the viewpoint of safety first.

Instrumental Music—All agree that vocal music is acceptable and even taught by the scriptures (Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19). In fact, all religious people practice vocal music. But, what about instrumental music? Can it be justified by the scriptures? We believe not, but suppose it is all right as an aid. All will agree that one will not be lost for failing to use it. But, suppose it is really contrary to the teaching of the Bible, what then? Again, the evident conclusion—safety first demands that we refrain from using it.

The Sunday School—Is this institution scriptural or anti-scriptural? May we divide the church into classes for the purpose of teaching them the Bible? All will agree, even the advocates of Sunday School that it is scriptural to meet in an undivided assembly and teach the Bible. In fact, they all do this very thing. The disagreement is over this man-made innovation. What course will I follow to be safe? Again, the answer is plain. I will do only that which the scriptures authorize me to do.

Individual cups—The same principle applies here as with the above. No one condemns the use of one cup, but many believe the use of individual cups unscriptural. Even if they are scriptural, this does not mean that one cup is unscriptural. But, if there is only one way, it then becomes necessary for me to select the one that is right and cannot be wrong, to make it as sure as I can; practice safety first.

It seems to this writer that the majority of our problems could be dissolved if we would use a little common sense. Brethren, why not start a **SPIRITUAL SAFETY PROGRAM** for your life. Do only those things taught by the word of God. Make it as sure as you can. Be safe. The casualties now, and later, will not be nearly so great.

—Box 564
Lebanon, Mo.

God made man "a little lower than the angels," but man has often made himself much, much lower.

In some hearts you find justice; in others, just ice.

From The Fields

S. Bumbani, Makwangmala Vlg., N. A. Nkanda, P. O. Palombe, Malawi, Africa, Aug. 10—We have been thankful for the studies we had. I have been busy preaching the gospel here.

A. C. Severe, Box 562, Limbe, Nalawi, Africa, July 20—On July 17, we went to Namaroko where Bro. James preached; on July 10, we went to Bonwe where Bro. Jerry was preaching. Brethren, help us.

Cicero Goddard, 3803 Garfield, Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 14—Since my last report, I has been baptized here. I was with Brethren Canfield and Adams during July; 5 were baptized. The work here continues to grow slowly, but surely men can see that God is still in business. We request your prayers.

Edwin Muyaya, Mpvesha Vlg., Namphungo Ct., P. O. Mlanji, Nyasaland, Africa, Aug. 8—May 10, I was at Munlo; May 17, at Mukhunyeriwa; May 24 and 31, I was again at Munlo; June 7, I was at Mukhunyeriwa; June 19, at Mphatama church; June 21, at Mukhunyeriwa. Brethren, pray for us in this continent of Africa.

M. E. Mountain, Rt. 4, Waterloo, Iowa, Aug. 4—The congregation here is growing in number and in spirit. We have had 23 baptisms and 3 confessions in 2 years. We have tripled our number. We were quite small when we moved to our new location. Keep up the good work in the OPA. May the Lord bless all in His cause. Here is a sub.

Jameson Kusamale, Cafikana Vlg., Mpsa Local Ct., P. O. Palombe, Nyasaland, Africa, Aug. 10—The church here is getting along very nicely. Brethren James and Jerry are very busy from Mon. to Fri. traveling to and fro visiting the Christians. Pray for the cause of Christ here. We enjoy the paper very much indeed.

W. H. Hawkins, Raleigh, N. C., Aug. 4—The church here is doing very well. Aug. 2, two were baptized by Brother Jerry Harris. We thank our Lord and Master for these two babes now in Christ; they are Brother and Sister Malcom. Our love goes out to all true members of Christ. Pray for us that we may "keep on keeping on."

J. B. Carter, A. F. 14277620, A.P.O. 74, Box 270, USAF Hosp., San Francisco, Calif. 96274, Aug. 5—Thank you so much for sending the paper; here is our renewal. We are anxious to see the Aug. issue and read the reports on the meeting at Sulphur, Okla. Lord willing, we plan to attend next year. We leave the Phillipines in May. Brethren, stand fast, pray earnestly and strive always to do God's will.

Nelson Tuanje, Mapweshera Vlg., C/O Ndata Estate, P. O. Mikolongwe, Malawi, Africa, Aug. 11—We give thanks for these two brethren, James Orten and Jerry Cutter. They are very busy here in Malawi land; they have not rested at all. I would be very pleased if they should be here for 5 years. They are good men. The work of our Lord Jesus Christ goes forward. Please, brethren, you must remember us here, as you know this our country is a poor country.

F. H. Lichapa, Namphungo church, C/O Namlenga Mission, Mikolongwe, Malawi, Africa, July 30—I thank you very much for continuing to send the OPA. We are doing well here with the two brethren who arrived on April 7. July 5, I was at Namphungo church; July 12, at Manyumba church; July 19 at Natulli with Brethren Orten, Cutter and A. C. Severe—a journey of 120 miles from home. The preaching took two days with 410 people assembled. July 26, I was at Namphungo church.

Barney Owens, 10579 Thornview Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio (45241), Aug. 10—I have just closed a meeting at Chestnut Ridge, Ky. with no visible results, yet I feel that much good will come forth. Word has reached me that some visible good has already been seen as a result of the meeting. I go from here to Milford, Michigan. I taught for the faithful here last night (Aug. 5). I was sorry that I was unable to attend more of the Sulphur, Okla. meeting; I missed it. Brethren, I desire your prayers, they are needed.

Dee Aldridge, Box 163, Paden, Okla., Aug. 14—The church at 621 N. 7th, Okemah has just closed its second series of meetings. Bro. David Macy preached July 6-15; I was baptized. Bro. Elmo House preached for us Aug. 2-9; there were no additions but the members seemed to be strengthened in the faith, and are still talking about those wonderful lessons from the word of God. We hope much good unseen has been done. Let no man beguile you of your reward (Col. 2:18).

Garry Macy, Box 564, Waterford, Calif., Aug. 17—The work is progressing rapidly here—beyond our highest expectations. One has been baptized. The attendance has doubled, tripled at nights; I have about thirty prospects in my file. For this, we are all so thankful! It was good to attend Miles King's meeting in Manteca. It was good to see the faces again of those we had met previously. Preaching brethren Billy Orten, Richard Nichols, and Jim Hickey were in attendance.

Earl B. Helvey, 7608 Prince St., Citrus Hts., Calif., Aug. 7—Aug. 1, Bro. Richard Nichols started a six month's work here with Bro. James Woolsey training with him. I am sure he will be good for they have already contacted several families. It makes us feel good when these young men work on a job of this kind. The Lord's field is white and the laborers are few. If you have relatives or friends in this area that you would like for Brother Richard to contact, please send to me their names and addresses. Here are 4 subs.

Earl B. Helvey, 7608 Prince St., Citrus Hts., Calif., Aug. 17—As our meeting with Bro. Billy Orten comes to a close at 64th St., Sacramento, there have been 2 baptisms and 2 confessions, and the brethren have been

built up spiritually. We have had good attendance every night. We wish to thank the various congregations for their support in attendance during the meeting, especially the surrounding congregations. Brother Orten brought us some very good lessons from the word of God. Here is a sub.

James R. Stewart, 312 E. Nugent, Temple, Tex., Aug. 8—The work here continues. The first of May, we had a tornado with lots of damage to our meeting house; we are about to recover. We hope to have some new ones attend since we have the building in order. About 2 weeks ago, we baptized 2, and prospects for more are good. July 9-10, we were glad to have the Kornegays visit in our home. He preached here July 19th. We attended 4 nights of his meeting at Sand Grove. He did some wonderful preaching; may the Lord bless him. Pray for us and the work here.

Irvin Barnes, Rt. 2, Mtn. Home, Ark., Aug. 12—The church at Arkana, south of Mtn. Home, where we have made our home, continues to grow. Recently one came from digression and another was baptized. In July, it was our privilege to work ten days in Harrodsburg, Ind.; this, as usual, was enjoyable. Also, we were with Bro. E. H. Miller in Huntsville, Ark. We worshipped with them recently to find them zealously working. Presently, we are in a good meeting at Clio, Mo. Our next meetings are at home with Bro. Arthur Wade, Aug. 21-30; Chestnut Ridge, Ky., Sept. 2-13; Mozier, Ill., Sept. 27-Oct. 11.

Orvel B. Johnson, 2200 Burney Way, Sacramento, Calif. 95821, Aug. 20—Bro. Billy Orten concluded a very profitable two-weeks' meeting at 64th St., Sacramento on Aug. 16. Results were very visible, including 3 confessions of faults, 2 conversions, a great manifestation of love and fellowship among the members and splendid cooperation from many congregations. Bro. Richard Nichols began 6-months' work with 64th St. on Aug. 1. We anticipate greater things for the Lord in the future and continue to further plans in that direction. Brethren have a mind to work with no shortage of opportunity. Pray for us.

Donald Brittain, 19 7th Ave., N. E., Ardmore, Okla., Aug. 15—Bro. Richard Nichols' meeting at Healdton, Okla. ended on July 26th with 2 confessions of faults; we enjoyed it very much. The meeting at Graham, Okla. with Bro. James Vannoy, Aug. 2-9, resulted in 2 confessions. We heard some very fine lessons. It was my privilege to hear Bro. Johnny Elmore, Aug. 14, at Ada, Okla.; he was preaching in the place of Bro. Edwin Morris who was ill. We hope to begin our new building soon. We have had many obstacles to overcome; we hope we have overcome them all. We need your prayers. Here is a sub.

John H. Lemmon, Rt. 1, Box 270, Hammond, La., Aug. 12—I am yet preaching for Hammond, Thibodaux and Baton Rouge. The fourth Lord's Day in July was my last regular appointment with Pearlhaven (Brookhaven), Miss. I very much enjoyed the fellowship with the brethren there. They have several young men who are very competent; too, Bro. Carlos Smith is again able to take an active part for which all have been praying. I do not think their need for my services

exists any longer, as I feel that as soon as younger men are able and willing, the older ones should step aside and assist them in becoming qualified for the task yet ahead.

James D. Corson, Rt. 2, Mahaffey, Pa., Aug. 7—I have just completed a two-month series of preaching and personal work at Sunnyside, Iowa. There was 1 confession before Bro. Wayne Fussell and Bro. Joe Norton came for a meeting. Bro. Wayne preached 10 nights; there was good attendance, and we feel that the seed was well sown and watered and God will give the increase. Bro. Orville Lee Smith is in a meeting at Bloomfield, Iowa; it is a joy to be near. It has been good being with both Bro. Wayne and Bro. Orville. They, too, carry a high banner for the cause of Christ. We are now at Oskaloosa, Iowa completing some work in these parts. We need your prayers.

Marvin Fisher, 3003 Luna Ave., San Diego 17, Calif., Aug. 10—The National City congregation continues in peace, and its efforts to fill "empty seats" continue. Bro. Lee Boek has just completed 5 months of work with the church here. We commend Bro. Lee for his work's sake and we recommend him to all as a minister of the gospel. May we have more young men, and older ones, too, who will dedicate their lives to showing others the way, as Bro. Boek has done. Bro. Dennis Cox, of the National City church, is serving the Master with the church at Gretna, Fla. Dennis is of good character, sincere and shows great promise. Why not contact him if you have need for such a young preacher as he? When you pray, mention us.

Jim Hickey, 2416 Leafdale, El Monte, Calif., Aug. 17—This past month, since returning from the east, I have preached at the following congregations one or more times: El Centro, Covina, Sonora, Lodi, and Atwater, all in Calif. At the present time, we are at Atwater, Calif. We have just begun our meeting. We have had quite a few visitors. One sister who had been out of duty for several years has been restored. We are hopeful for more good to come. We are to remain here at least another month after the meeting. We are grateful to the Sacramento (64th St.) congregation and Lodi, Calif. for their support in this work. Recently, I have been corresponding with a digressive preacher on the "Sunday school" question. Brethren, we cannot "speak where the Bible speaks" and have such things.

Paul O. Nichols, 1400 Adena St., Bakersfield, Calif., 93306, Aug. 17—The meeting at Sentinel, Okla. closed July 19 with 6 confessions. July 22, I preached at Bakersfield, Calif. (So. H St.). July 24-Aug. 2, we were at Springfield, Mo. which was my first meeting there in about 10 years. The hospitality and inter-congregational cooperation was good; during the meeting, we had as many as eight or nine congregations represented. Aug. 5-16, we were with the congregation at Chesapeake, Ohio. We had a number of outsiders attend and appreciated the encouragement and help of members of other congregations in the area. Our next is at Wayne, W. Va., Aug. 19-30. The Lord willing, in Sept., we resume working with the home church in Bakersfield. We solicit your prayers.

A. L. Adams, 1616 19th St., N. E., Roanoke, Va., Aug. 11—I have spent most of the summer working among the faithful in Pa., Ohio and Mich. I still help the faithful at Clintonville, W. Va. when I can. The meeting at Greenville, Pa. closed with no visible results; however, I feel we were all strengthened by it; there were visitors from Indiana, Flemington, Prospect and Youngstown. I enjoyed working with Jimmy Albert. I heard Leon Fancher at Love Joy, Pa. and Flint, Mich.; Leon did his usual fine job. The following meetings are scheduled in this section: J. W. Kornegay at Clintonville, W. Va., Sept. 13-27; Preston Brown at Raleigh, N. C., Sept. 10-20. I can sincerely recommend both to you. I ask prayers of all the faithful.

Noel L. Hogue, 203 W. Birch St., Rogers, Ark., Aug. 15—The congregation at Rogers is progressing very well. We, with regrets, closed our meeting Aug. 5th with Bro. E. H. Miller; it was a very successful meeting. Four were baptized and since the meeting closed 2 more have come from digression. We have hopes of others obeying the truth soon. Since last reporting, I have preached three Lord's days at the new congregation at Huntsville, Ark.; they seem to be doing very well, but they need help in the preaching and teaching until at such time as they are more qualified themselves. We ask your help and prayers in future efforts here in northwest Ark. Remember, brethren, Christ gave His life on the cross for all. Let all of us do what we can for the cause of Christ while we can, for our journey here is but for a little while.

Miles King, 1630 Oakwood, Norman, Okla., Aug. 17—The camp meeting at Sulphur, Okla. was a great success. We were glad to have had the opportunity to be there for a week of the meeting. After leaving Sulphur, I went to Blue Springs, Ky. for a meeting; we were glad to have visitors from Ohio and other surrounding congregations. For the past month, we have been in Calif., preaching at several congregations. The meeting at Manteca, Calif. was a good one. This was our first meeting in the state. We also visited and enjoyed the fellowship of brethren at the following congregations: Ukiah, Stockton, North Hollywood, Covina, National City and El Cajon. While here we had the privilege of visiting with several of our preaching brethren. We leave tomorrow for our meeting in Medina, Tex. Brethren, pray for us as we begin our work at Norman, Okla., Sept. 1st.

Garry Macy, Rt. 3, Anderson, Mo., July 22—We conducted a meeting with the church at Reading, Ohio, June 21-28. Love and hospitality abounded and interest was good. We had several visitors from neighboring Kentucky; among them was Bro. Tom Murphy, a gospel preacher. We plan to return next year for another series of meetings. The meeting at Sulphur, Okla., was very enjoyable. It was simply wonderful to see everyone again. Bro. Joe Howard has been conducting a tent meeting for two weeks in the Swars Prairie community in Mo. Bro. Joe is truly an inspiration to us. We are now in Calif. for our fourth time working with the congregation at Waterford; you may address us at Box 564. You can reach us here or at our home address. Brethren coming this way are invited to come by and visit us.

Willie C. Jones, 800 W. Griffith Ave., Crestview, Fla., July 14—I am happy to report that we departed from digression the latter part of last year under the good and wonderful preaching of Bro. Goddard and Bro. Wallace; thanks to the Lord for these two wonderful preachers. Since we have been loyal to Christ, we are progressing in the Lord; thanks to God for all of His wonderful blessings in Christ. July 5, one more came from digression; July 12, we had one baptism and one more came from digression. I pray and hope that more brothers and sisters will study all the truth and return to the Lord and walk in His path that we may be with one accord and lean not to our own understanding (Prov. 3:5-6), and the Lord will direct our path. We recently enjoyed having Brother and Sister L. C. Grimes from Opp, Ala. visit us here; they encouraged us. (Sorry this reached us too late for last issue—DBMc).

R. B. Roden, Gen. Del., Corcoran, Calif., Aug. 18—Our work here has been blessed with the baptism of a young man which we feel will be of great benefit to the church. We are thankful for the interest and good attendance on Wed. night; these brethren strive together for unity and fellowship. Aug. 23-30, we look forward to a good meeting here. Sept. 18-27, we will be in a meeting at Norco, Calif. We invite all in that area to attend. Oct. 4-18, we will be at Lodi, Calif. From there, we go to the Northwest states of Ore. and Wash. for meetings; then back to Corcoran to complete the work here. We ask the prayers of the faithful that these meetings and others will be blessed with fruit for the Master's use. Amos 3:3: "Can two walk together except they be agreed?" Phil. 3:16: "Let us walk by the same rule; let us mind the same thing." May we use the Bible as our guide. Pray for us.

Jim A. Canfield, Rt. 3, Box 86, Marion, La., Aug. 9—The church here is doing fine since we began worshipping in our new building. Bro. Goddard's meeting here was a great success. We regret the death of his sister's husband which made it necessary for him to leave the meeting; Bro. Goddard did some wonderful preaching. The last part of the meeting the Baptist people had their meeting; this hindered our interest some. We strive to convert the people who come our way by using such passages as Mk. 7:12-14; Matt. 15:9-13; 2 Cor. 4:2-3; 2 Cor. 11:13-14. July 25-Aug. 2, I was with the faithful near Brookhaven, Miss. Bro. Goddard did the preaching; he left on Fri. night, and I preached Lord's day morning, Aug. 2nd; 3 were baptized and 3 more were baptized here at home. Aug. 22, I will go to Memphis, Tenn. I pray the Lord will continue to bless all the faithful.

J. W. Kornegay, Rt. 1, Raleigh, N. C., Aug. 12—The church here continues to grow in spirit and number; a fine young man and his wife obeyed their Lord in baptism Aug. 2nd. Bro. Jerry Harris is doing a fine job in preaching and has a lot of zeal. My wife and I enjoyed the summer meetings. In June, we were at Mt. Pleasant, Fla.; 2 were baptized. June 14, we baptized 2 at Memphis, Tenn. June 19-28, we were at Chouteau, Okla.; 1 was baptized. We enjoyed very much the last 4 days of the meeting at Sulphur, Okla. July 10, I began a 10-day meeting at Sand Grove, Tex.; I confessed faults. It was a pleasure to be in the home

of Bro. and Sister James R. Stewart at Temple, Tex.; he is a strong soldier to associate and work with. Next, we were at Batesville, Ark.; 3 were baptized. We are now at home and will be in a tent meeting at Robsville, N. C., Aug. 16-30; we are looking forward to a good meeting. We hope to be at the meeting on Labor Day at Huntington, W. Va.

Pat Adkinson, 309-B Cedar Crest, Tuscaloosa, Ala., Aug. 10—We are moving to Atlanta, Ga. where I will teach this coming school year; we will be worshipping with the Marietta congregation. We have enjoyed the 5 years in Tuscaloosa; for the past year we have been worshipping in our home and have had many visitors come by and worship with us. I believe it has helped strengthen us. It has pointed out the simplicity of our worship and the reverence we should have for God. Often times, I am afraid we go to church more for social purposes, and forget the real purpose of our coming together. During the past month, I have preached at the following congregations: Marietta, Ga.; Early, Ala.; Memphis, Tenn.; and Robertsedale, Ala. We certainly enjoyed all of this. The building at Robertsedale, Ala. is very nice; I believe the congregation has grown in strength also. I understand that Bro. Barney Owens has done a wonderful work there.

Lee Boek, Box 302, Chico, Calif., Aug. 15—Our five-months' stay with the National City, Calif. congregation was one of the most enjoyable we have had. The cooperation there serves as a wonderful example for brethren everywhere. We closed with a meeting designed especially for our young people; there were overflowing crowds the last Sat. night and Lord's Day morning. Eight fine young Christian men gave very inspiring talks Lord's Day afternoon. We are presently working with the good brethren at Lawrence Rd., Wichita Falls, Tex.; we will be here until Aug. 23. Sept. 21-Oct. 11, we will be at Trentman Ave., Ft. Worth, Texas. Enroute to Tex., we visited and preached in Tucson, Ariz.; Bro. Wooster and family cordially gave us night's lodging. The brethren are capable and extremely interested in the cause of Christ. Preachers are always welcome there. We continue to make plans to join my parents in the work in northern Calif. in Nov. We solicit your prayers. May the Lord bless all.

Edwin S. Morris, 905 Bluewood Dr., Dallas, Tex., 75232, Aug. 18—The meeting at Pearlhaven, Brookhaven, Miss. resulted in 4 baptisms; as usual, this was a very enjoyable meeting. It was my privilege to attend the first four nights of our meeting in Dallas with Bro. Don McCord. I certainly enjoyed the inspiring sermons delivered by Don. We appreciated the cooperation of other congregations who were good to attend. Our next meeting was at Napoleon, Ala. This was certainly an enjoyable meeting as we have labored with these good people many times in the past; one was restored. I was at Ada, Okla., Aug. 15-16. Our next is at Lexington, Okla., Aug. 21-30; and then to Oklahoma City, (21st St.), Sept. 13-27. I enjoyed hearing Bro. Johnny Elmore the first night of his meeting in Miss. at the New Salem congregation. We also enjoyed staying with Johnny and family while at Ada, Okla. Let us all continue to work and pray in the Master's vineyard.

Tom E. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 171-A, Duncan, Okla., Aug. 15—Our meeting at Healdton, Okla., July 12-26, was conducted by Bro. Richard Nichols. We had fair crowds, some good sound preaching, some soul-stirring singing and good fellowship. There were 2 confessions of faults, and even though there were no more visible results, I am confident that eternity will show some fruit as a result of this meeting. We closed with an all-day service, which embraced our monthly fourth Lord's Day singing; it was, as usual, a wonderful get-together. There is a wonderful cooperative spirit among the congregations in these parts. Graham, Okla. closed a good meeting with Bro. James Vannoy doing the preaching. Bro. James Vannoy, his wife, and Bro. Richard Nichols are good personal workers; many people in this vicinity were contacted which I believe will show some fruition in the future. Bro. Richard will be at Marietta, Okla. in Feb., 1965 for some extended work in helping to build up that congregation, and working with other smaller congregations. We are looking forward to some good results.

Preston C. Brown, 2502 Scott Ave., Panama City, Fla., Aug. 7—Since my last report, 2 have been baptized, and one came from digression in Panama City. June 8-11, I was engaged with Mr. Don Patton in a religious discussion concerning the number of drinking vessels used in the distribution of the fruit of the vine; classes and women teachers. It was a pleasure to have Brethren J. W. Kornegay and David Macy as my moderators; these brethren did a wonderful job, and we appreciated having them in our home. This was my first discussion concerning these subjects since I took my stand with the faithful 5 years ago. I believe religious discussions like these will contribute to the spiritual growth and development of the cause of Christ in any community. Mr. Patton's own people said it was the cleanest debate they ever attended. We were with the Pansey, Ala. congregation the first week in July; 2 were baptized and 2 confessed faults. This was the third year I have been there in a meeting. My next will be with the congregation at Raleigh, N. C., Sept. 10-20. Remember us in your prayers.

E. H. Miller, Box 538, LaGrange, Ga. 30240, Aug. 13—The meeting at Rogers, Ark. was indeed a good one; 4 were baptized and the next Lord's Day 2 came confessing their sins in the use of cups in the communion, instead of "a cup," and had prayer for forgiveness. It was indeed a pleasure to work with Bro. Dennis Callaway, Rt. 4, Rogers, Ark., a deep preacher in the scriptures who came out of digression in July; also with Bro. Woodrow Black of Seligman, Mo., and Bro. Noel Hogue of Rogers, Ark.; these are three preachers now in the congregation established on July 5th. Several congregations were a great help in the meeting (Cassville, Mt. Home, Burkhardt, Neosho, and Joplin, all in Mo.; besides Tulsa, Okla., Union Star and Huntsville, Ark., and Lodi, Calif.). I returned home in time to attend the last part of Bro. Morris's meeting at Napoleon, Ala.; he gave some good strong lessons, condemning sin and pleading for the Bible to be followed in our daily lives as well as in our worship on the Lord's Day. The church directories are gone, but perhaps in 2 or 3 months, I will re-print, and will fill orders from the corrected printing. I hope you will send in corrections as soon as possible; a printed form is being mailed to each congregation for correction. I also have a few of the nice communion sets for \$25. These are regularly priced at \$29.50, but no import tax was charged on this shipment, and I sell at cost, there is a \$4.50 saving to those who order from this shipment.

Clovis T. Cook, 809 Lyons, Kansas City, Kan., Aug. 19—We attended two services at Lee's Summit recently, where Bro. Wayne McKamie was holding a meeting. During this visit the new church building was opened and the meeting was held in it. There was a special service last Lord's day afternoon, in which Sonny Gay, Lynwood Smith, Wayne McKamie and I took part. These brethren worked hard to get this building, which is a very nice one. It is conservative but adequate; it is no architectural masterpiece, yet decorative. In this,

I think the brethren used good taste and wisdom. Let us hope that as many gospel sermons will be preached from its pulpit as from the old one; as many preachers trained and sent out as was the case at the old location. As I stood in the pulpit in this new building last Sunday afternoon and looked into the faces of the young men who compose their competent leadership, I was filled with mixed emotions, sad to think of what was left behind, but glad to think of the great potential for good this church has. Some of these young men were babies when I first went to this congregation, and some were not even born. Sticks and stones, brick and concrete, will tumble down, but the lively stones such as those hewed out by this congregation and placed in the Lord's house, should stand forever. Bro. Lynwood came home with us and spent a couple of days, which we enjoyed so much. I recently read that a good listener was one who could hear the same thing over and over without complaining. Keep preaching and telling the old, old story, brethren, and see how many good listeners we have.

D. B. McCord, 1414 N. Albertson Ave., Covina, Calif., Aug. 22—The meeting at San Angelo (Freeland Ave.), Tex. closed with 2 baptisms. It was a joy to work with these brethren. Our next was at Boulder Dr., Dallas, Tex. We had splendid cooperation from the Industrial Ave. congregation, Ft. Worth, and Arlington. There were 2 confessions of faults. It is always encouraging to be in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area—some of the Lord's best dwell there. I certainly enjoyed the association with Edwin Morris, who makes his home there. David Macy came by one night between meetings; this we appreciated. My next was at Flemington, Pa. This was my first among these brethren, and I must say all the good things I had heard, are true. It is true that brethren in Christ are devoted it matters not where they live. Enroute to Tex., it was my privilege to preach once at Capitol Hill, Okla. City, Okla. These are my brethren and friends of long years standing, and it was an inspiration to be among them again. At this writing, I am enjoying very much a meeting with the brethren at 3rd and Temple, Lubbock, Tex. Our crowds are good, and the brethren have much enthusiasm, which is so important to a meeting. This is my first among them. Next week, I return home after an absence of 2 months. Sept. 1, we will be at Ceres, Calif. to assist them in the meeting prior to Labor Day. Brethren have been kind this summer, and I appreciate them and their steadfastness and devotion more than they know. To them, I owe much thanks. Above all, to my wife, who has had to remain home to keep "home fires burning," I owe the greatest debt of gratitude. I need your prayers, please remember.

J. Wayne McKamie, Rout 1, McGregor, Tex., Aug. 18—Aug. 2, we closed a most enjoyable meeting in San Antonio, Tex. (Catalina St.); 16 made things right with God during this time. Cooperation was marvelous from Bro. Jack Jones and the Southside congregation, from Bro. Melvin Crouch and the Nacogdoches Road congregation. This was our first time to preach at this home-state congregation; we are happy to know that we have such men and congregations near us. While in San Antonio, we stayed in the home of Raleigh Perkins, a true preacher's home. The hospitality of all the members was outstanding. Aug. 7-16, we were in Lee's Summit, Mo. for our second meeting; one that we will not soon forget. Preaching brethren Ronny Wade, Clovis Cook, Lynwood Smith, Arthur Wade, H. E. Robertson and Larry Robertson were with us for one or more services. Brethren from many congregations worked with us during this meeting; Lebanon is to be especially commended for very close cooperation. On Aug. 16, the last day of the meeting, we had a great in-gathering of brethren for the opening of the new building of the Lee's Summit congregation. Clovis Cook and Sonny Gay delivered the main talks, with Lynwood Smith and me assisting with short talks. The brethren at Lee's Summit are to be commended for their advances in the Lord's work and for such adequate preparations for the meeting we had. Bro. Ronny Wade is doing a great amount of good in that area.

Our purpose is to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," and to "prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

OLD PATHS ADVOCATE

To continue "speaking the truth in love," "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace;" "keeping the ordinances as delivered."

"Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.'" (Jer. 6:16) "And they that be of Thee shall build the old waste, places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in." (Isa. 58:12).

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No. 10

"WALK AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT"

By Edwin S. Morris

In the Ephesian letter, chapter 5 and verses 3 through 11 the apostle Paul points out to us several things that are darkness and things that we, as children of light, are to have no part in. We, being children of light, are to follow Christ and His teachings.

In verse 3, Paul points out three things that are not to be named among us as becometh saints. The first is fornication. This is illicit sexual intercourse in general. Uncleanness is in a moral sense, the impurity of lustful, luxurious, profligate living. Covetousness is the greedy desire to have more. Now, he says "let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints." Once is "not even." *Expositor's Greek New Testament* says: "The strong negative (Greek-mede) gives it this force—not to speak of doing such a thing; let it not be even so much as mentioned among you." Such sins must be banished, not only in deed, but in word. The position of sainthood or separation to God, in which the gospel places the Christian, is so far from the unrestrained liberty of the world as to make it utterly inappropriate to speak of the sins of a corrupt heathenism.

In vs. 4, filthiness is baseness, dishonor, obscenity, shameless, immoral conduct; all kinds of indecency. Foolish talking is talk which is both foolish and sinful; foolish in the sense of the lack of forethought and wisdom. It is impious, godless, because such a man neglects and despises those things which relate to salvation. It is more than random or idle talk. Jestings is wit of doubtful morality, words and suggestions of doubtful and double meaning. The word is from "eu," well or easily, and "trepo," to turn. It is that which easily turns and adopts itself to the moods and conditions of those with whom it may be dealing at the moment. The sense of the word here is the polished and witty speech, as the instrument of sin; refinement and versatility without the flavor of Christian grace. Sometimes it is lodged in a sly question, in a smart answer, in a quirkish reason, in shrewd imitation, in cunningly diverting or cleverly retorting an objection. Paul says that these things are not convenient; that is, not becoming, seemly; are not becoming. It is much more becoming to a Christian to be engaged in thanksgiving. Too many Christians today are guilty of "jesting." Too many times their speech is doubtful. Our speech and actions are to be above any doubt at all times.

(Continued on page seven)

A FRESH LOOK AT THE WORSHIP

By Dennis Cox

Brethren, let us progress one step further in the restoration of the ancient order. We have purged the Lord's table of the leaven and defilements improvised by men. Now, let us purge our hearts. We have prayed with a well disciplined tongue. Now, let us pray with the ardor of the Spirit. We have reached truth, not without struggle or opposition, and this is good—but let us not settle on the island of Truth and fail to venture forth by means of the Spirit. Haran is comfortable enough, but the land of Canaan is where our salvation lies.

Man needs the soul-searching operation of worship. Regardless of how primitive he may be, man has sought to worship one higher than himself—one who could expiate his sins. The Christian needs worship to purify himself. By drawing nigh to God, he leaves more of his worldly self behind and strengthens his faith by more closely apprehending the source of all purity and power (James 4:8).

Worship manifests love in its ideal function. First, we perceive God's love for us—He gave His only Son to suffer and die that we might have life. Then, we express love to God for His bountiful gifts. As we assemble together to break bread, it is not the time for pre-occupation with self and selfish needs. This should be the time of praise and thankfulness—a time when we 'give unto the Lord' His due glory. "Sing unto the Lord, all the earth; shew forth from day to day his salvation. Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvelous works among all nations. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised: He also is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the people are idols: but the Lord made the heavens. Glory and honor are in his presence: strength and gladness are in his place . . . worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness" (I Chron. 16:23-29).

True worship is no longer at Jerusalem for one nation, but at Jesus for all nations. The veil is rent! God is a spirit and worship to Him must be a thing of the spirit. Animals communicate with animals, man with man, spirit with spirit, all on different planes. "The Spirit alone gives life," and the "flesh is of no avail" and does not profit in Christian worship. (Note John 6:63, New English Bible). Fine robes, stained windows, music flowing from well-tuned instruments come to naught when the Spirit is absent. Worship without the ideal is superstition.

Our singing must be from the heart and our voices will be raised if our heart is right. It may be just a noise, but if the Lord knows it is joyful, can we say that He will reject our worship?

Under the New Testament, because there are a minimum of physical ceremonies in comparison to Moses' time, the emphasis is on the Spirit. We are out from under the ritualistic busy work of the Mosaic schoolmaster to worship in a new and living way.

Let us stand fast in this liberty and be in the "Spirit on the Lord's Day."

—Box 27, Gretna, Florida

THE GREAT SALVATION

By Ronny F. Wade

Salvation is an impelling word, especially to one lost in sin. It represents security and safety as well as escape. The writer of Hebrews asks the question many have since pondered: "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him." Here is a great salvation. Not only does it offer to free one from the shackles and penalty of sin, but it also affords the hope of eternal salvation. This salvation of which our writer speaks is unparalleled and unsurpassed. There are very definite reasons why it is referred to as a "great salvation." Let us notice a few.

I. This salvation is universal in scope, and eternal in duration. Many years before Christ came into the world, the prophets had spoken of His mission. It was evident from their writings that "all men would know the Lord." Spiritually speaking, men would no longer be classified as Jew, or Gentile, bond or free, male or female, but all would be one in Christ. Furthermore, no people would be exempt. All regardless of color, nationality, social standing, etc. would be invited to share in the benefits of His salvation. When giving the great commission, Jesus said, "Go preach the gospel to every creature, he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mk. 16:15-16). Again, when Jesus spoke in Matt. 11:28, He invited all to partake by saying "come unto me all ye—." No wonder, then, it is described as a "great salvation," for surely no other ever transcended all human barriers as it does.

Equally as great as its universality, is its eternal duration. Rom. 6:23—"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Matt. 25:46—"And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal." What a blessed thought to realize that even after death we shall still grasp the "great salvation" given us by the Christ. Life, with its sorrows, may disappoint us, and strip us bare of all our earthly possessions, but here is one gift that cannot be taken away. It is ours through the death of Jesus. A great one, indeed.

II. It is the Masterpiece of God. Everyone has his masterpiece. For Milton, it was "Paradise Lost;" for Bryant, it was "Thanatopsis;" and for Shakespeare, it was "Hamlet." With God, it was the "Gospel Plan of Salvation," the "Remedial Scheme of Redemption." The unfolding of it took years and years. Before it was fully revealed, angels desired to look into it, but were

not permitted to do so. It is without doubt the greatest masterpiece ever made known to man. Paul said, "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." Some have mistakenly applied these verses to heaven. From the context, however, it may be seen that the writer is referring to none other than the "great salvation," or "scheme of redemption" revealed by the Spirit through Christ and the apostles.

III. This Salvation is great because of the price paid. No ordinary price was paid for our salvation. Silver and gold could not buy it, but instead the precious blood of Jesus. It cost God His son (John 3:16) and Christ His life (John 15:13). Hear Jesus at the institution of the Supper: "For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Again, in Eph. 5:25, Paul said: "Husbands love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and gave himself for it."

Several years ago at the conclusion of a masterfully delivered sermon an old coal miner approached the preacher and said, "Preacher, I would like to be saved and be a Christian, but I just can't believe that merely my turning to God and obeying the gospel could do the job. That all sounds too cheap to me."

To this the preacher replied: "Sir, how did you get up to ground level today?"

To this the miner answered: "A steel cage."

"How much did it cost you," asked the preacher.

"Oh, nothing," said the miner, "the cage is provided by the company."

"Weren't you afraid to trust it," asked the preacher, "wasn't it too cheap?"

"Oh no," said the miner, "it cost the company thousands of dollars to sink that shaft and get that cage down there to bring us men to the top . . ." but before he could finish the truth had broken upon his understanding, and he truly grasped the words of the preacher, who broke in and said . . . "Yes, and it cost God a lot to sink that shaft to bring you to the top of life and make something useful out of you."

Truly it did, and this is just one more reason why this is such a "great salvation."

—Box 564, Lebanon, Mo.

MORE ON THE "NEW BIRTH"

By T. J. Shaw

The August issue of the O. P. A. had an article entitled "The New Birth" written by me. It stated that we are begotten by the Holy Spirit through the word, after which we are brought forth from the waters of baptism, consummating the New Birth, a birth of water and the Spirit (Jno. 3:5). But, it must be understood that all religious activities must be motivated by love; if not, they are empty, worthless and vain (1 Cor. 13:1-3). We read of God's redemptive plan as revealed in the New Testament. Its purpose is to create in man a conviction of heart known as Faith. God has made a demonstration of love which is beyond all human love (Rom. 5:6-11). This love causes us to love them because they first loved us. This undying principle of love, if we really possess it, will cause us to accept all terms or conditions, essential to our salvation or spiritual wel-

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

(Hebrews 9:27-28)

An Outline

By William F. (Bill) Stover

- I. Evidence (John 14:1-3; Phil. 3:20-21; 1 Thess. 1:10, 5:23; Heb. 10:37)
- II. Manner
 - A. In person—1 Thess. 4:16
 - B. Visibly—Rev. 1:7
 - C. Without warning—Matt. 24:42
- III. Time (Only God knows—Matt. 24:36)
- IV. Purpose
 - A. Not to set up His kingdom—Mk. 1:15; 9:1; Acts 1:8; 2:4; Col. 1:13; Heb. 12:28; Rev. 1:5-9; (Lk. 22:29-30 and 1 Cor. 10:21); (Dan. 7:13-14 and Acts 1:9-11)
 - B. Not to sit on David's throne—(Zech. 6:13 and Acts 2, Heb. 7) (Amos 9:11 and Acts 15:13-20)
 - C. Not to reign 1,000 years—1 Cor. 15:25-26
 - D. Not just to convert the Jews—2 Cor. 6:2; Heb. 9:28
 - E. Not to restore Canaan to the Jews—Josh. 21:43; 23:14
- V. Why then is Christ coming?
 - A. To raise the dead—John 5:28-29; Acts 24:15; John 12:48
 - B. To judge the world—Acts 17:30-31; Rom. 14:10-12; Matt. 25:31-46
 - C. Reward the righteous—Rev. 22:12
 - D. Sentence the wicked—2 Thess. 1:7-9
 - E. Deliver up the kingdom—1 Cor. 15:24-28 (so God may be all in all)
- VI. Conclusion: Let us watch and be ready!—Matt. 13:40-49; 24:44; Mk. 13:33, 37; 1 John 3:2, 3; Matt. 25:1-13; 2 Pet. 3:9-12

—749 Sturdivant,
Flemington, Pa.

Every man must live with the man he makes of himself.

The unforgiving is the unforgiven, but the most loved

We often ask God to bless the very people God told us to bless.

The most impressive evidence of tolerance is a golden anniversary.

A hypocrite is a person who is white-washed instead of washed white.

Always do right. This will gratify some people, and astonish the rest.

The tongue is a deadly weapon, whether it be blunt or sharp.

fare. This love constrains us (King James); impels us (Schonfield); compels us (Twentieth Century); or, as Phillips puts it, "The very spring of our actions is the love of Christ" (2 Cor. 5:14). Jesus said, "If you love me you will keep my commandments" (Jno. 14:15). "The reason you do not keep my commandments is that you do not love me nor my Father" (Jno. 14:23). Paul said he did all things for Christ's sake.

Two questions are profounded by a brother, concerning the process of the "New Birth." Question number one: "Were those in John 12:42, who believed on (Grk. EIS-into) Him, but because of the Pharisees did not confess Him, begotten of God?" No, they showed their lack of love by failing to confess Him. Paul said he "did all things for Christ's sake" which they failed to do. They were not actuated by the principle of love; if so, they would have confessed Him, and even died for Him, as many early Christians did. "For, my dear short-sighted man, can't you see far enough to realize that faith without the right actions is dead and useless?" (James 2:18-19, Phillips Translation). The demons believe and tremble but there is no reciprocation of love. The rulers who would not confess Him had no reciprocation of love on their part.

On the day of Pentecost when Peter had convinced his hearers of their awful crime in putting their Messiah to death, they were cut to the heart and said, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" An expression of devotion! The Holy Spirit through Peter told them what the terms of pardon were and they complied with the conditions, and consequently were begotten by the Holy Spirit through the Word; they were reconciled, pardoned or saved. They not only believed, repented and were baptized, but love was so intermingled with what they did that it can be said they were truly born again. Remember, John, the apostle, was associated with the church at Ephesus for a period of time before his banishment to the isle of Patmos; also, Paul labored three years with that church before being imprisoned by the Romans. Yet, in later years, that church was engaged in several activities—toiled, labored, etc., but when the penetrating eye of Jesus looked upon it, He denounced it as having left its first love and no longer in fellowship with Him. It was commanded to repent and do its first works.

If we lack love in our worship, it will not be accepted. How much love do you express in your contributions? Do you love to meet to commemorate our Saviour's death? How about other church activities? Do you love them? Righteousness means to "think right," "feel right" and "act right"—(Thayer). How do you measure up?

Question number two will be answered later, God willing.

—Commodore, Pa.

It's what you learn after you know it all that counts.

I classify all men as big and little: the big ones would not offend me, and the little ones cannot.

Obstacles are those things you see when you take your eyes off the road.

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THIS AND THAT

Acknowledgment—Bro. Homer L. King wishes to acknowledge with sincerest thanks the following donation: Arvin, Calif.—\$100.

"More on the New Birth"—In this issue is a timely article under this caption. It is by Bro. T. J. Shaw, Rt. 1, Commodore, Pa. I hope our readers will let Bro. Shaw know that you appreciate his article. He has not been well. It was my great privilege in August, one day, to visit him at the hospital in Spangler, Pa. His prayers, the prayers of his family and his brethren have been answered. Bro. Shaw is the kind of brother one longs to meet. He is a tower of strength for primitive Christianity in the East. It grieves us when such a man becomes sick. Please pray for him.

"The Second Coming of Christ"—Under this caption, in this issue, appears a very good outline submitted by Bro. Bill Stover, 749 Sturdivant, Flemington, Pa. Bro. Bill, a young man of 37, is suffering from Hodgkin's disease. It was my great privilege to spend some precious moments with him in hospitals at Lock Haven and Williamsport, Pa. this past summer—they were the kinds of inspirational visits one never forgets. I quote here from a personal letter from him written under date of Sept. 2: "Just arrived home from hospital and still so very weak. Thanks be to God that I am as well as I am, and with the help of the Almighty God, I will endure. It is nice to be home again to the simple surroundings, all from God. The sun is shining brightly here this day, Sept. 2, 1964. Over yonder land the sun always shines and no darkness ever comes, no end, no sorrow and tears; all will be peace and joy and love." Would our readers, too, please let Bro. Bill know you appreciate his outline (I have not seen a better one), and please pray for him; his wife, sons, mother and father, brothers and sisters.

Two abuses and misuses of Matt. 19:9—It grieves me, to see us, in trying to have Matt. 19:9 apply under the old law go to the case of Joseph and Mary for an example of fornication, divorce and re-marriage. I refer to the time that Mary and Joseph were espoused and Mary was found with child of the Holy Spirit. The Bible reads this way: "Now the birth of Jesus Christ

was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost" (Matt. 1:18-20).

Notice, there is no fornication, divorce or re-marriage in this case; so, logically, it can not be used in any stretch of the imagination in connection with Matt. 19:9. Joseph could not divorce her for fornication, because a divorce was not granted under the law of Moses on such grounds. If so, where is the example? When we assume that Joseph had in his mind that Mary had committed fornication, we assume too much; he was a just man, and so much so that I would not be one to accuse him of such a false accusation against his wife, Mary. After all, she knew about this and no doubt had informed Joseph of her condition. Read Luke 1. For us to prove that Matt. 19:9 applies under the old law, we must, of necessity find just one example of fornication, a divorce granted and a re-marriage taking place. This scribe wants the truth on the matter, and just one example would help a great deal.

Another abuse and misuse of Matt. 19:9 is the attempt to make it mean more than it really does. It simply teaches this sequence of events and none other: a couple are married, one commits fornication (married people can commit fornication—a general term, including adultery), the innocent party may put the guilty away, and for that reason alone and so stated. It does not teach that a man or woman may put a companion away for any and every cause and then claim fornication later; even though fornication is committed, it does not allow the divorce to be obtained on other stated terms. Matt. 19:9 does not teach that people can divorce for any reason and re-marry and only commit sin with the first union—then confess, get forgiveness, and go on. "Living in adultery" is not mentioned in the Scriptures in so many words, but we need to remember that the present tense of a verb, as "commit," often carries with it the idea of continuous, habitual action. I am afraid it does in Matt. 19:9. Let us prayerfully study all phases of this.

May I, hereby, go on record, for whatever little worth it may be, as one who does not believe that people can divorce for just any reason, re-marry and after the first union confess adultery and pray forgiveness and go on in purity. It is not that easy. Matt. 19:9 does not teach this. I do not know of any other passage that does either. I do not profess to be a master exegete of any passage, but I think we can deduce enough evidence from this passage to know for sure that it does not teach such looseness in morals. Christians can not lawfully divorce each other either for any and every cause, and play a "waiting game"—one waits for the other to re-marry, and the one who waited longer then thinks he has the right to re-marry, and on the grounds of adultery. Matt. 19:9 will not fit here—the reason seems so self-evident that it requires no elaboration.

In the interest of greater understanding among brethren, and in the interest of being better understood myself, I quote from my article, "Musings on Di-

vorice and Remarriage" that appeared in the June, 1964 issue of this journal: "May I first express some personal convictions that may assist you, the reader, to better understand, me in the premises that follow. I am not myself divorced and remarried, nor do I anticipate ever being, and I resent being treated as though I were. I do not advise divorce and remarriage for anyone. In fact, I have gone with a member of the body whom I had told she was wrong in divorcing her husband, and with her, advised the attorney-at-law to drop the proceedings. I hardly see how a brother or sister can go before the civil courts (to law) against each other for a divorce or for any other reason. See 1 Cor. 6:1-8. Yet, I can not disregard my Savior's statement in Matt. 19:9, which can not apply to the Old Law, nor can it apply in heaven, so it must apply under the law of Christ.

I feel so strongly about this matter that I will not officiate for a couple if one or both is divorced. I will not anymore encourage a divorced person under any circumstance to remarry. There are some things that may be lawful, but they are not expedient. At the same time, when the situation does exist, I refuse to drive such ones from the church. It is a fact, they will not be saved away from the church. I believe as did our lamented Brother Gay—it should be our aim to get as many in the church as we can, and not see how many we can drive away. This does not mean that discipline is not to be used. The hurt many times is not due to discipline, it is the unwise, unscriptural enforcement of it. We need to know the difference.

It is unwise to become radical on any issue. "The chickens come home to roost" has more truth in it than folly. I have seen brethren who disfellowshipped, radically expelled brothers from the church, ran them away, who later had the misfortune themselves of having a child become involved in divorce and remarriage. The radical brother himself has been known to become involved, too. Tragic is this—it can happen to anyone—the best of us, let us not forget! I know men today whose father and mother were driven from the church because of divorce and remarriage, when these men were small boys—they are now out in sin, and not divorced and remarried either, but so far from the church they will likely never be members. Some-one, some day is going to answer for this! These men remember as children their parents being driven from the church due to no fault of their own. Remember, brother, before you "square off" against your brethren on this issue, you need to consider such as this!

No one can justify "splitting the church" over this any more than he can justify "splitting" it over the war question, the covering question, etc. I do not see how preachers, even if they agree with me, can be justified who cause trouble over this issue. All concerned, regardless of how we may view this, should be willing "to bend over backward" to keep the peace on this issue. God help us all on all sides." There is neither rhyme nor reason to division on this!

From a fellowship angle, this issue can not be logically or scripturally classified with the communion, the teaching, mode of baptism, and other matters that pertain to the public worship and function of the church. If a man is going to be consistent, how can he "draw the line" on divorce and remarriage and not draw it on other matters that pertain to sound doctrine, such

as not being grave, not being sober, not being patient, and not of sound speech. I can hardly see the consistency or scripturality in my drawing the line on divorce and remarriage and being at the same time a gossip, backbiter, whisperer, jester, quarrelsome man. The first thing a man knows he will have withdrawn from everyone, and be over in a corner somewhere by himself, and in his smugness and self-righteousness do nothing constructive for the church and in the end lose his own soul.

It can hardly be reasonable, can it, for me to disfellowship one brother on this issue and in turn fellowship a brother whom he fellowships. God's way of fellowship simply does not work that way. God's way does not put us into dilemmas like that. It is not right for brethren to divide and sub-divide, and one or both sides blame the "marriage question" when such is not the case. This is dishonesty, deceit, sin!!

"Our Helpers"—Under this caption each month, we list the names of those sending subscriptions and the number they send. We need very much for this list to be at least 200 strong every month, or nearly so, to "break even" with the expenses of publishing this journal. We appreciate all that you do. Won't you please put forth a little extra effort each month to send the paper to someone new; it will be a help to us and we hope to them, too.

When you move—Won't you please notify us immediately when you have a change of address? Every-time your paper is returned, due to the fact it can not be forwarded under most circumstances, we must pay the post office ten cents. This month, alone, this has amounted to quite a sum. We kindly request again your consideration in this matter. Thank you kindly.

—D. B. McCord

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The loveless life is unloved, unlovely and unlovable.

OUR HELPERS

You will find listed below the names of those sending subscriptions since we last went to press, and opposite the name the number of subs sent. We want to express our deepest appreciation for your continued interest in behalf of this journal. May we count on you to continue the good work? Please check the following list, and report any errors to us immediately.

Elizabeth Byford—20; Ronny Wade—10; Mattie Lloyd—8; Edwin Morris—6; Eric Gilstrap—6; Cicero Goddard—5; K. G. Wilks—4; Jim Hickey—4; Raymond Orner—4; Cleo Book—4; Clovis Cook—3; Bertie Newman—3; Mrs. Clyde Goff—3; George Hogland—3; Irvin Barnes—3; Lou Spradley—3; Eddy Bullard—3; Lee Book—2; Eston Cate—2; I. P. Stockton—2; Byron Jones—2; Floyd Morrow—2; J. C. Fry—2; Paul Walker—2; Ruby Willis—2; John Hickey—2; Grover Cawthron—2; Glenn Neal—2; Jimmy Terrell—2; Albert Moore—2; Edna Wyatt—2; Ellen Lucas—2; Louis Hopkins—1; Amos Doud—1; Jimmy Winchester—1; Fred Lay—1; E. H. Miller—1; Marvin Fitzgerald—1; Ola Holland—1; L. A. Moore—1; Larry Connor—1; Albert Brown—1; Mabel McGee—1; Gilbert Wilson—1; Mrs. M. Broughton—1; Jack C. Lee—1; Hershell T. Young—1; Harold Longacre—1; Carl Reynolds—1; Fred Reynolds—1; J. H. Hinton—1; George Meyers—1; George Stover, Sr.—1; Noah Graham—1; Richard Garbrick—1; Tommy Shaw—1; Ollie Cook—1; W. H. Jones—1; Minnie Foster—1; A. W. Fenter—1; Mrs. Oliver Stephens—1; Ethel Chancellor—1; Evelyn Owens—1; T. A. Hedrick—1; Clarence Claypool—1; Jim Canfield—1; J. C. Butler—1; J. E. Jones, Jr.—1; M. G. Starrett—1; Ralph Kitson—1; Earl Caffey—1; Roy Barnes—1; Oscar Bradford—1; L. C. England—1. Total—164.

NEW LOCATIONS

Pottsville, Ark.—The church formerly meeting near Dardanelle, Ark. has moved to the home of this writer on Crow Mt., near Pottsville. Inquire for Kenneth Wiliker's place, telephone 478-2507. Bro. Joe Spitzer and family have moved to El Dorado, Ark.; we are going to miss them. We are looking for a place to build. We would appreciate help from anyone in regards to building. Pottsville is on Highway 64 between Russellville and Atkins.

—Timothy Phillips, Rt. 1, Box 31-A
Pottsville, Ark.

Anderson, Calif.—The church formerly meeting in Redding, Calif. is now meeting at 223 W. Center, Anderson, on the Lord's Day at 10:30 A.M. and 7:30 P.M. You may either contact the writer or Michal Sampson, 2885 Bechelli Ln., Redding, telephone 241-7228 for further information.

—Archie Book, 5861 Fagan Dr.
Redding, Calif. Telephone 243-0295

Chico, Calif.—The new congregation meeting at this place is at 951 E. 8th on the Lord's Day at 10:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M.; and on Thurs., at 7:30 P.M. For further information, you may please contact the writer.

—Luther D. Book, 1292 Parque Dr.,
Chico, Calif. Telephone 343-6409

West Los Angeles, Calif.—There is a new congregation meeting in the West Los Angeles area a 12792 Washington Blvd., Culver City, Calif. The meeting times are as follows: Lord's Day at 10:30 A.M. and 6:00

P.M. and Wed. 7:30 P.M. For further information, you may contact the writer or Bro. Burnell S. Rawls, 4127 Neosho, Los Angeles 66, Calif. Telephone 398-3075.

—Walter H. Fisher, 345 N. Euclid,
Apt. 5, Pasadena, Calif.
Telephone 795-1902

Orangevale, Calif.—This new congregation wishes to invite you to worship whenever you have the opportunity. The address is 12398 Fair Oaks Blvd., Fair Oaks. We meet Lord's Day at 10:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M.; Tuesday, 7:30 P.M. For further information, you may contact the writer.

—Charles Everett,
8536 Noel Dr., Orangevale,
Calif. Telephone 988-0601

Abilene, Texas.—The Huckleberry Lane and the North 8th congregations, this city, have recently merged and are meeting at 1049 Huckleberry Lane. The future looks bright for this congregation. Bro. John Snow, Jr. has worked hard to build up this congregation along with his father, Bro. John Snow, Sr. Bro. Gene Robertson, too, has been a diligent worker. For further information concerning this congregation, you may contact Bro. John Snow, Sr., 609 Chestnut, Abilene, Texas.

—David Macy, Box 27,
Gretna, Fla.

BONDS OF MATRIMONY

Lay-Meents—In the evening of Aug. 22, 1964, Bro. Freddie Lay and Sister Brenda Meents exchanged their wedding vows at the meeting house at Lee Summit, Mo., with Bro. M. Lynwood Smith officiating. Brenda is the youngest child of Pearl and Ralph Meents, Phillipsburg, Mo., and Freddie is the son of Bea and Fred Lay of Santee, Calif. Both are from Christian homes. May the Lord bless them with a long life devoted to Him and to each other.

—Fred Lay

OUR DEPARTED

Parsons—Brother Lloyd W. Parsons, of Bowie, Tex. passed away Aug. 25, 1964 at the age of 45 years. Lloyd was a member of the Fruitland, Tex. congregation; I baptized him in 1954 and he had remained faithful to the Lord until the end. He succumbed to cancer. His funeral was conducted at Bowie on Aug. 27th and the large crowd that gathered testified to the many friends that he had. He is survived by his wife, Vera; one daughter, Loy Dell; his father and mother, Bro. and Sister W. D. Parsons; two sisters, Mrs. Raymond Cansler and Mrs. Bob Cansler all of Bowie. Lloyd will certainly be missed by all who knew him. The writer endeavored to speak words of comfort to the bereaved.

—Edwin S. Morris

Hagan—Mr. William L. (Pete) Hagan, Healdton, Okla. was born June 21, 1897 in Marietta, Indian Territory. He passed away Aug. 27, 1964 at the age of 67. Pete was the husband of Sister Jessie Hagan, whom he married in 1932; Jessie is well-known in the brotherhood for her genial and loveable disposition. Pete was a devoted husband, a good neighbor and friend. Our sincere sympathy goes out to Jessie in this her great loss, and we pray God for her guidance as well as our's until we wend our way finally to our heavenly home where sickness, sorrow and death will never come.

He is also survived by 5 sisters and a large number of nephews and nieces. The funeral was conducted at Healdton, Okla., Aug. 29th; interment was in the Mt. Olive cemetery.

—Tom E. Smith

MY POSITION ON CARNAL WARFARE

I cannot participate in military service in any form, directly or indirectly, in combatant or noncombatant service, because:

1. My duty and obligation to my God is superior to all other obligations (Acts 5:29; Matt. 22:37).
2. My God in the Bible forbids that I engage in carnal warfare in the following references:
"Put up thy sword," "For all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword" (Matt. 26:52)—Jesus. "My Kingdom is not of this world" (Jno. 18:36). "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal" (2 Cor. 10:3, 4).
"Love your enemies" (Matt. 5:44); "Turn the other cheek" (Matt. 5:39).
"Recompense to no man evil for evil" (Rom. 12:17).
3. To enter any military branch or service, combatant or noncombatant, I would be compelled to "swear" (take an oath), but the Bible forbids that I do so ("Swear not at all"—Jesus, Matt. 5:34).

4. To enter any military service I would be compelled to be yoked with unbelievers, which is forbidden—"Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (2 Cor. 6:14).

5. To be in any branch of military service in any way, I would be a part of the organization and would therefore have fellowship in the service, but such is prohibited; thus: "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:11).

6. To serve in any way in the military service, I would be deprived of obeying the command to assemble on Lord's day to worship God in the Bible way, at least part of the time, hence would disobey God (Heb. 10:25; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1, 2).

Therefore, I cannot conscientiously engage in carnal war in any form or branch, and for the above reasons, I authorize my name to be listed in support of the above principles.

—Paul Ray Asplin, 2440 S. W. 54th, Okla. City, Okla.

—Kirby Smith, Rt. 1, Box 99, Wesson, Miss.

—Charles Mountain, Rt. 4, Waterloo, Iowa.

—Tim Everett Dougherty, 1477 S. Blythe, Fresno, Calif.

"WALK AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT"—

(Continued from page one)

In vs. 5, Paul reminds the Ephesian saints that they are absolutely convinced of the truth of the facts which he is about to call to their attention: "For this ye know." None of the classes he names here are heirs of the kingdom, and hence have no promise of heaven. In vs. 6, he tells them not to be deceived with vain or empty words, because of just such sins as they excuse, God's wrath will be visited upon all who live in them—that is, the children of disobedience. In vs. 7, they are warned against falling back into old vices. They are to shun all these things. He points out in verse 8 that in times past they were in darkness, but now they are

light in the Lord. Not only are they light, but they are to so live as to enlighten others. They are to be a shining light by letting the truth shine to others in their lives.

In verse 9, he shows them that the fruit of the Spirit consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth. Goodness is uprightness of heart and life; kindness. Righteousness is integrity, virtue, purity of life, uprightness, correctness in thinking, feeling and acting. Truth is to profess the truth; that is, true doctrine. They are to prove what is acceptable to God in verse 10. Proving is to test, examine, prove, scrutinize. They are to prove by their walk or manner of life. Acceptable is "well pleasing." The one point of all moral investigation is, "DOES IT PLEASE GOD? Everything that we do, this one question should ever be on our mind—Does this please God? Everything we say; every place we go; everything we do, we should want to please God in this. We should ask ourselves, "Does our worship please God?" "Does our manner of life please God?" We can know how we can please God by studying His word and obeying it.

In verse 11, we are to have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness. Fellowship is to become a partaker together with others, or to have fellowship with a thing. The word refers to a joint-participation between two or more individuals in common interest and a common activity. Anything that is not of Christ is darkness, not only the things mentioned here but all other things not of Him would be darkness, and we are not to have fellowship with it and, furthermore we are to reprove it. This would certainly set forth a principle here that would cause us not to have any fellowship with all the modern innovations in the church today such as cups in the communion, Sunday school and mechanical instruments of music. They come from either light or darkness. If of light, we are to use them; and, if of darkness, we are to reject them. So, those that do use them, we must have no fellowship with them. Reprove is to convict, refute, confute; contextually, by conviction to bring to light, expose—not only to silence the adversary, but silence him by exposing his error to him. Expositor's explains verse 12 in this manner, "The secrecy of the works in question is the reason why they require to be openly reprov'd; and the point is this—the heathen practice in secret, vices too abominable even to mention; all the more is the need of open rebuke instead of silent overlooking. In the works of darkness are many secret sins, some too shameful even to be named." All these secret sins can be made manifest by the light. The gospel will uncover them when it shines forth. The Christian is to be light and let that light shine in his holy life. Fellow-saint, let us live closer to the Lord, and shun the very appearance of evil.

—905 Bluewood Drive
Dallas, Texas 75232

The church is a workshop for wideawake Christians; not a dormitory for sleeping ones.

In some hearts you find justice; in others, just ice.

Build well the foundation for your children in their youth and they will have something upon which to build their character in life.

From The Fields

W. H. Jones, Box 43, Alta Vista, Kans., Aug. 24—We are still trying to serve the Lord in His acceptable way. Here is my renewal.

F. Gibson Mberah, Samuti Vlg., Box 135, Limbe, Malawi, Africa, Aug. 14—Bro. James Orten and Bro. Jerry Cutter are good men. Please, brethren, you must remember us in Malawiland; this is a very poor country.

Albert E. Moore, 109 Bacon St., Lockland 15, Ohio, Sept. 5—The Reading church is growing spiritually for which we are thankful. We are looking forward to our meeting, Sept. 11-20, with Bro. Ronny Wade. Here are 2 subs.

Ralph Kitson, Mozier, Ill., Sept. 14—Since last reporting, I have been in and out of the hospital 4 times. I am home now and getting along very well for which I thank God. Remember me when you pray. Here is a sub.

W. H. Hawkins, 4 Rocky Branch Dr., Raleigh, N. Caro., Sept. 17—The church here is doing very well; of course, there is always room to do better. Bro. P. C. Brown, of Panama City, Fla. is holding a 10-day meeting which closes the 20th. Do not forget to pray for us.

Cicero Goddard, 3803 Garfield, Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 14—Thanks to Christ, the work continues to grow here; 4 have been baptized. Sept. 24, we plan to go to Clearview, Okla., if God permits; we hope to move the innovations out of the worship there. Here are 4 subs and my renewal.

J. C. Butler, 2225 S. W. 36th, Oklahoma City, Okla., Sept. 14—Lately, I have been at Thomas, Okemah and Wilson, Okla. I feel the gospel needs to be taught throughout the country. I feel that each of us as a Christian has a duty in seeing that the gospel is spread. Here is a sub.

F. H. Lichapa, Namphungo church, C/O Namlenga Mission, P. O. Mikolongwe, Malawi, Africa, Sept. 1—Aug. 2, I was at Namphungo with 5 confessions; Aug. 8-10, I was at Nambila church where 206 assembled; there were 6 baptisms. Aug. 16, I was at Wendewende; Aug. 23, at Namphungo, and Aug. 30, at Chilemba church.

Elmer Stamper, 333 Glynn Dr., Birmingham 15, Ala., Sept. 15—We sure did have a good meeting here with Bro. Jack Cutter. It was more like a feast or revival than an ordinary meeting. Although there were no baptisms or confessions of faults, everyone was built up and refreshed. Bro. Cutter is a wonderful personal worker. We enjoyed his staying in our home. Pray for us that the kingdom may be enlarged in this area.

M. P. Thomasson, Rt. 1, Box 343, Waterford, Calif., Aug. 24—The church here is showing more improvement now than in several years. Bro. Garry Macy has been with us for about 6 weeks and will continue for an indefinite period. He is working hard and has created a lot of interest, especially among the young people.

Pat Adkinson, Rt. 2, Kinston, Ala., Sept. 1—We did not move to Atlanta, Ga. as previously reported; I am teaching school at Milton, Fla. We are not too far from Early, Florala and Robertsdale, Ala. I plan to go to Early the first and third Lord's Day, and to Robertsdale, the second and fourth. Last Lord's Day, I preached at Lowery. Please pray for us.

T. A. Hedrick, Box 15, Rupert, W. Va., Sept. 10—We are glad to know that Bro. King continues to improve; may good health stay with him for the years to come. The church here at Clintonville, W. Va. is still in debt, but with God's help, we will get it payed off some day. Pray for us that we may always be found faithful to Him Who gave so much for us. Here is my renewal.

John B. Snow, Sr., 609 Chestnut, Abilene, Texas, Sept. 6—The church on Huckleberry Lane is moving along very nicely with steady growth and in perfect unity. The church here at North 8th has disbanded and the brethren are now meeting with us, so we have a very nice congregation. We welcome anyone passing this way, including the preachers; they will find a big welcome.

Eric H. Gilstrap, 3231 E. Ventura Ave., Fresno, Calif., Sept. 18—I certainly enjoy the fellowship of the church at 757 Orange Ave., Fresno. The preaching and teaching of Brethren Billy Jack Ivey, Paul Hamett, and Howard Walker and others we certainly enjoy and appreciate. We are all commanded to watch in Mark 13:33, 37. The article by Bro. Barney Owens in July OPA is timely and a good one. Here are a few subs.

G. O. Schultz, Rt. 2, Box 171, Everson, Wash., Sept. 1—My wife and I are going to try to start a congregation here. Do you know of those near Bellingham? If so, please send me their name and address, and I will try to contact them. This is about 110 miles from Seattle; it is on the coast, and is a pleasant place to live, in case there are those who might contemplate moving here. I will try to advise brethren as to progress.

R. A. Berry, 4706 69th St. No., Birmingham, Ala., Sept. 15—We had a very good meeting with Bro. Jack Cutter. He is a very wonderful speaker, and very humble. We all learned to love him very much. I feel that he did a lot of good, and although there were no baptisms the members were built up in the faith. Please pray that we may be stronger Christians and continue to work together for the Lord. Bro. E. H. Stamper is doing a good job with the church here; we appreciate him very much.

Garry Macy, Box 564, Waterford, Calif., Sept. 18—The work here continues to show results; there have been 3 baptisms and 2 restorations. The future looks very bright here. We have a full house on Lord's Day

morning, and the attendance is growing at night. The Labor Day meeting at Ceres, Calif. reminded me a lot of the meeting at Sulphur, Okla. We will be in a short meeting at Modesto this week-end, and will speak at Stockton, Oct. 9, in the meeting there devoted to the young people. We solicit the prayers of all.

Donald Brittain, 19 7th St., N. E., Ardmore, Okla., Sept. 14—We have finally gotten under way on our building plans here. Our old building at 1012 First Ave., N. W., is being torn down; meanwhile, we are meeting in a small building at the corner of 4th St. and "A," N. E. Some of us here had the privilege of attending a few nights of Bro. Freddie Lay's meeting at Wynnewood, Okla., Aug. 28-Sept. 6. He is a very fine preacher. Bro. Johnny Elmore preached for us Lord's day, the 13th. We heard 2 wonderful sermons. Please pray for us.

Eddy Bullard, 519 W. Acheson, Denison, Tex., Sept. 10—My last efforts in this area (West Tex.) were well blessed. I spoke at Odessa the last Lord's day in Aug.; one was restored. The first Lord's day in Sept., I was at Midland where one confessed faults and one was baptized. Sept. 9, I spoke at Andrews where one was restored. I now leave Midland to fill several appointments, then will go to Denison to begin the new work there. We have much encouragement, but ask everyone everywhere to pray for us. Here is our renewal and 1 sub.

Jack Cutter, 2622 E. 32nd, Joplin, Mo., Sept. 18—The work in this area continues to progress. We should begin erecting the new building by the first of the month. Recently, I held meetings at Birmingham, Ala. and Marietta, Ga. for Ronny Wade, who had become ill and unable to hold them. These two meetings in the South were two of the most enjoyable that I have been privileged to hold. The Marietta meeting ended with 2 baptisms and 1 confession of faults. It was my privilege to visit and associate with preaching brethren E. H. Miller, Lynwood Smith, and Lee Boek during my stay in the South.

Tommy Shaw, R. 1, Box 1, Commodore, Penna., Sept. 14—This past summer I have had opportunity to preach at various places in Mo., Ark., Okla., Ala. and Penn. The association with my brethren in Christ was uplifting to me. Due to my father's illness, a meeting at Earlytown, Alabama, had to be closed at the midpoint. In a meeting at Lecontes Mills, Pennsylvania, one was baptized and two confessed faults. Our eastern Labor Day meeting was a rewarding experience, causing us to look forward to next year and the meeting to be held at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Clovis T. Cook, 809 Lyons, Kansas City, Kan., Sept. 14—Since last report, I have preached here in Kansas City, several times. We visited the Hugh Milner family, in Middletown, Ohio, over the Labor Day holiday. I preached twice for the Reading congregation, at which location they have been meeting for a short time. They have a very nice congregation and some able leaders. I predict a firm steady growth for the brethren who seem to be well balanced and free from extremism in either direction. We enjoyed this visit and had a great time. We hope we can go back some time.

Paul Walker, Rt. 2, Ethridge, Tenn., Sept. 18—Our summer meetings in the Lawrenceburg area with Brethren Ronny Wade and Leon Fancher were very good. Several were baptized. Ervin Waters, Don Snow and Dennis Smith have come our way recently, too. We enjoyed their preaching and association. My brother-in-law, Franklin Staggs, preached at Chapel Grove and Union Hill last week. John Fisher baptized 4 before our summer meetings. John and I continue the work here with the help of several of our young men. We always enjoy the OPA. Here are 2 subs.

Tom E. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 171-A, Duncan, Okla., Sept. 15—We were at Andrews, Tex., Lord's Day, Aug. 23, and heard our son, C. A., at the evening service. We drove to Lubbock the following evening and heard Bro. Don McCord. On Wed. evening, C. A. and I taught on Rom. 4 at Andrews. We had a very enjoyable time, but were called home to assist in the funeral of Pete Hagan, reported elsewhere in this issue. We have preached at Marietta and Wilson, Okla. since our return, and have heard some good teaching in our home congregation at Healdton.

E. R. Brown, Box 750, Stilwell, Okla., Sept. 4—The congregation at Noel chapel is small in number, but is still having worship each Lord's Day. Bro. Morgan still preaches for us each Lord's Day evening. Bro. Butts from Sapulpa held a meeting for us last week; there were no visible results, but we hope for some later. We were glad to have the Taylors from Fayetteville, Ark. and the Morgans from Tahlequah and some from digression attend the meeting. You who may be passing our way, please always feel welcome to stop by and worship with us. Remember us in your prayers.

T. J. Shaw, Rt. 1, Commodore, Pa., Sept. 15—I arrived home from the hospital a week ago after spending 29 days there. I want to express my thanks for the many cards, letters and phone calls I received while there. I was pleasantly surprised to awaken from sleep one day to see Bro. and Sister J. D. Corson, who had just returned from the West, standing beside my bed. I had the great privilege of meeting Bro. Don McCord one day who stopped at the hospital to visit me. I hold him in high esteem and think he is doing a good work for the OPA.

Roy Lee Criswell, 445 E. Amity, Cincinnati 37, Ohio, Sept. 21—Our work here with the Sharonville congregation continues to make some progress. Since last report, there have been 3 confessions of wrongs. Our series of meetings with Bro. David Macy begins next Fri. We trust much good will come from his efforts. It has been our privilege to attend Bro. Ronny Wade's meeting at Reading. He has been doing some wonderful preaching. It should be the attitude of all Christians to love one another. If we expect the love of God to be upon us, we must so love our fellow-man. Pray for us in doing the Lord's work here.

David Macy, Box 27, Greta, Fla., Sept. 3—I have been on the road nearly 3 months now. I am thankful for the small amount of success I have had in my meetings, but I wish much more could have been accomplished. We had good attendance generally at

Healdton, Okla.; one was baptized. Two were baptized at Woodson, Tex. The meeting at Abilene, Tex. closed without visible results. I have since been informed that Huckleberry Lane and another congregation there have merged as one; this is the way it should be. We had several outsiders visit the meeting at Stidham, Okla., but it closed without visible results.

Fred Lay, 7844 Rancho Fanita Dr., Santee, Calif., Sept. 15—Since this was the first day of school, our children brought home books. This indicates that homework is necessary and should be encouraged. As Christians, maybe we should re-evaluate our study habits. We may have more home-work than we realize. Maybe we need some regular study periods in which to study God's word. Some one wisely said that a self-made man was all right if he does not consider the job done too quickly. The same might be said of Christians who feel no need of study and improvement. We have nejoyed many good lessons from evangelists as well as local preachers and teachers. Christian fellowship and cooperation are evident in this area. Here is a sub.

Jimmy B. Terrell, 2312 Beachwood Dr., Ceres, Calif., Sept. 15—Since Jan. 1, 1964, I have worked 1 month in Ceres, Calif., 1 month in San Angelo, Texas, 3 months in Escalon, Calif., 2 months in Hiway City, Calif., and have preached at a number of different congregations with a ten-day meeting in Burkhardt, Mo. I am presently in Ceres with the congratulations here and will be here for an indefinite period of time. We have just begun a fifteen minute program on radio station KLOC in Ceres to be aired each Sunday morning at 9:15. The meeting Labor Day was an enjoyable one and the Ceres people are to be congratulated for a superb job well done. "BY THIS SHALL ALL MEN KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES: IF YOU HAVE LOVE ONE FOR ANOTHER."

Jim Hickey, 2419 Leafdale, El Monte, Calif., Sept. 17—Presently, we are with the Atwater, Calif. congregation and will be here for two more months. Aug. 23, we concluded a series of meetings here. I believe good has been done. We have begun mid-week service; we meet Thurs. at 7:30 P.M. Our crowds have increased some; a few visitors have seemed quite interested. From here, my wife and I look forward to working with the church at Manteca, Calif., beginning Oct. 1. I recently enjoyed attending Bro. Don McCord's meeting at Ceres. The Sat. before Labor Day, there were over 500 people in attendance. I have certainly enjoyed the paper recently; I believe it is a useful tool in spreading the gospel.

Carl R. Diamond, 10 Pollock Dr., Co. View Tr. Pk., Va. Beach, Va., Aug. 23—We certainly enjoy the paper. July 26, it was our privilege to have the Willis Bowmans from Neosho, Mo. with us for worship; they were here to visit the Larry Johnsons who meet with us each Lord's Day. In addition, Sister Nellie Kuchera and her 3 children meet with us. So, with the help of the good Lord, we will continue to work for the up-building of the cause of Christ in this area; our goal is to have a meeting conducted in this area within the next year. Aug. 23, it was our privilege to have the Harold Spears and Hugh McKeands from Huntington

and Kenova, W. Va. worship with us; this was most encouraging. We look forward to being home for the meeting Labor Day at Huntington, W. Va.

Dennis Cox, Box 27, Gretna, Fla., Sept. 5—The work here at the Mt. Pleasant congregation is progressing well. We have had 4 restorations in the last 2 months and two baptisms. Much good was done here by the meeting with Bro. Lee Boek, Aug. 27-30. It was encouraging for me to see an old friend from Calif., and the congregation here was pleased to be re-united with one of its early preachers. The church here will develop rapidly; and others, too, if we are all zealous with a godly zeal. Our life is but a vapor upon this earth, so let us lay up treasures in heaven and bid adieu to materialism and worldliness. I plan to work here until Oct. 18; then, I shall be in Okla. for a week and return to Calif., at which time I will be free for preaching engagements.

R. B. Roden, 1704 Osage St., Corcoran, Calif., Sept. 19—Our meeting here was a good one; we had good fellowship and singing throughout. We want to say thanks again to those who visited us during this meeting. We enjoyed the Labor Day meeting at Ceres. Bro. Don McCord did the preaching and as usual it was superb. It always builds me up spiritually to attend such a meeting. We are now in a meeting at Norco, Calif. The meeting started with good attendance; we had visitors from the start; among them was Bro. Don McCord and his family. We hope to see others during this meeting. Our aim is to do all the good we can and no harm at all. Pray for us in the work. If there are those who need to correspond with me at an Okla. address, I can be reached at 805 N. Arnold, Moore, Okla.

Rodney R. Ross, Box 3177 ENMU, Portales, N. Mex., Sept. 17—For the first time, I was able to attend most of the meeting at Sulphur, Okla. The meeting truly was a spiritual feast. If the Lord wills, I plan to attend as many of these meetings as possible. Afterwards, I was in my home state of Mich. for several weeks. It was good to be able to work with the brethren there again. Brother Leon Fancher held a very inspiring meeting at Flint during that time. I attended the week-end services of the eastern Labor Day meeting. I met many Christians for the first time. I traveled with Brother Leon to Mena, Ark. The brothers and sisters were real encouraging. They are putting their lives to work for Christ. Now, I am ready to begin college studies for the next few months. Please pray for me, and also for the Lord's work everywhere.

Leon Fancher, Box 392, Mena, Ark., Sept. 16—The meeting at Lawrenceburg, Tenn. was one of our most enjoyable this year. Crowds and the cooperation were excellent. There were two baptisms and nine confessions. After this, I was in W. Va. for two weeks. I preached twice at St. Albans and attended several nights of the Labor Day meeting at Huntington. It was a treat to visit with the many friends we have in W. Va. and other eastern states. The work here in Mena continues to progress. It was a pleasure to have Rodney Ross accompany me back to Mena and spend a week with us. He is a junior this year at Eastern New Mex-

ico University and plans to preach when he graduates. While here, he preached twice at church services and twice on our radio program and did a splendid job. We predict Rodney will make a fine preacher. May the Lord give us all a greater portion of His spirit.

Edwin S. Morris, 905 Bluewood Dr., Dallas, Texas, Sept. 11—The meeting at Lexington, Okla. was enjoyable. We appreciate visitors from various places in Okla. I preached at Norman, Okla., Aug. 23, and then heard Bro. Barney Welch preach a good sermon there on Aug. 30th. It was my privilege to hear Bro. Johnny Elmore three nights during the meeting Labor Day at Ft. Worth, Tex. The meeting Labor Day was most inspiring; all the talks were real good. I preached here in Dallas, Sept. 6. Lord willing, I will be in Okla. City, Sept. 13-27, and Houston, Mo., Oct. 2-11. I will be at Lawrence Rd., Wichita Falls, Tex. the third Lord's day in Oct., Nov. and Dec. Several other congregations have asked for weekend appointments this winter and I plan to visit as many as I can. Pray for me and mine.

George Powell, 1509 Laguna, Farmington, N. Mex., Sept. 14—The faithful few here are still striving to carry on the Lord's work. Bro. David Macey, from Gretna, Fla., closed a wonderful meeting here last night. We can surely say we have never heard better preaching; his lessons each evening were most fitting and the singing was very good. We had several visitors from digression. Bro. Carson was restored to duty; we are very happy to have him with us. With work and patience, we hope to gain his wife and son, too. Others have shown more interest than in the past. We already count on having Bro. Macy next year, if he has the time. We pray that more faithful preachers will come our way or can stop enroute to other places. Since our last report did not reach the printers in time, we will say again that we truly enjoyed every visitor this summer—the ones who did such good teaching and the song leaders. Too, we want to say thanks for the extra support we received to help us have Bro. Macy with us. Pray for us here that we may not grow weary in doing His will.

Ronny F. Wade, Box 564, Lebanon, Mo., Sept. 15—The meeting at Strong, Ark. was certainly a good one. Two were baptized and one resolved to live more closely to the Lord. Some of our dearest friends live here. It was very refreshing to spend some time in the presence of Bro. J. H. Stegall, a brother beloved, and an untiring worker in the Lord's vineyard. Our next meeting took us to Brazil, Ind. at the Jackson Ave. congregation. Crowds were extra good and cooperation from other congregations was excellent. At present we are engaged in a very profitable meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, with the brethren who meet in the Reading section of town. They are a very zealous group of brethren, intent on working for the Lord. With His help they shall succeed. Bro. Roy Criswell is here at present and rendering full cooperation. This we certainly appreciate. From here, we will go home, Lord willing, to resume some work in Mo. Our television program, "Let The Bible Speak," is now back on the air, and we are hoping for much good. One new congregation has already been started as a result of it, not to mention the many other individuals who have been led to the truth. May God bless the church with a mind to work.

Jim A. Canfield, Rt. 3, Box 86, Marion, La., Sept. 13—We had a good service today. Since we re-built, the church has put on new life. This is the only way for the church to grow; that is, for every brother and sister to let his light shine so that outsiders will obey the glorious gospel of Christ (2 Cor. 4:3-4). I planned to go to Memphis, Tenn., Aug. 22, but due to illness I could not go. My doctor has advised me to be careful during the hot weather, as my blood pressure has been too high. Sept. 26, the Lord willing, I will go to Memphis. I received my OPA yesterday; oh, how wonderful to read the good reports! Brethren, it is so much joy in my soul to hear from you all every month. Bro. Wade's article on "Safety First" is a good one, as is Bro. Preston Brown's on handling problems in the church. I hope to visit again at Marshall, Tex., in Oct. They are yet faithful in the Lord's work there. Brethren, pray for me and mine and thanks again for support. May God bless all the faithful.

Luther D. Boek, 1292 Parque Dr., Chico, Calif., Sept. 16—Since last report, we have begun the work at Chico, Calif. We had some difficulty locating a place for worship, but we are finally located at 951 E. 8th. We meet Lord's Day at 10:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M.; and Thurs. 7:30 P.M. I have some fifteen families to visit; some are among digressives and others are members out of duty; most are of the latter class. I feel the future holds much good for the cause here. I have received to date support from the following congregations: Covina—\$50; Orange—\$50; San Pablo—\$50 (for 2 mos.); San Antonio (Nacogdoches Rd.), Tex.—\$100 (for 2 mos.); Winters, Calif.—\$100 for first month's rent on bldg. and Vinton, Calif.—\$50. Regular support of \$175 has been promised. We are grateful for the support of these brethren. We are looking for cheaper rent, but the prospects are not too good at present. We enjoyed the Ceres, Calif. Labor Day meeting immensely. The brethren there did all that could be done to make it a success. Brethren, pray for the work here. My phone number is 343-6409.

E. H. Miller, Box 538, LaGrange, Ga., Sept. 16—We arrived home last night from the enjoyable meeting in Orange, Calif. The meeting was a good one, all working together and striving to build up the cause of Christ in that section. They have done a fine job remodeling their meeting place, after the law would not permit them to tear down and re-build; it looks like new. That goes to prove what we can do if we have a mind to work. There were visitors from quite a distance as well as from near-by congregations. It was certainly a pleasure to meet so many of our old friends again. There were 2 confessions. Before leaving for Calif., wife and I attended the meeting at Birmingham, Ala. with Bro. Jack Cutter; at Temple, Ga. with Bro. Lynwood Smith preaching; and the first night of the meeting at Marietta, Ga. with Bro. Jack Cutter. So, we have enjoyed being in several good meetings the past month or so. Bro. W. G. Fulmer, 2936 Lenox Ave., Jacksonville 5, Fla., will assist us in our 3rd and last meeting of 1964, Oct. 17-25. Bro. Billy Orten will then be here for our first meeting in 1965, Feb. 20-28. We are swift passengers from time to eternity, so let us strive to lead many in the footsteps of Jesus.

Freddie Lay, 7844 Rancho Fanita Dr., Santee, Calif., Aug. 31—Since last reporting, I have preached at El Centro, Calif., and Ardmore, Okla., and then attended the meeting at Sulphur, Okla.; it was a spiritual feast to say the least. July 8, I preached at W. Monroe, La., and then accompanied Bro. Lynwood Smith to Okla. City where he held a meeting at the Capitol Hill congregation. While there I preached at the 21st St. congregation and at Norman. July 26, I preached at Lee Summit, Mo. and Aug. 2 at Lebanon, Mo. I was in Calif. from Aug. 4 to Aug. 20th and preached at El Cajon, Orange and Sanger. Aug. 22, I was married to Miss Brenda Meents of Phillipsburg, Mo. I preached at Springfield, Mo. on Aug. 23, and we are at this writing at Wynnewood, Okla. (Aug. 28-Sept. 6). So far, attendance has been very good. The brethren here are to be commended for their zeal. We plan to attend the meeting at Ft. Worth on Labor Day, the Lord willing. Sept. 10, we begin about 4 months work with the brethren at Sanger, Calif. We have high hopes for the Lord's work there. Oct. 4-11, we are to be in a meeting at Woodlake, Calif. We solicit your prayers.

W. B. Black, Rt. 2, Box 67, Seligman, Mo., Sept. 7—Sometime ago, Bro. Noel Hogue wrote an appeal to the OPA asking for financial assistance to support Bro. Garry Macy to do personal work and help start a congregation in or near Rogers, Ark. Before any response came in answer to that appeal, Bro. Dennis Calloway, a good gospel preacher, left digression and took his stand with us for the Bible way of worship. Later, another family did the same. Bro. E. H. Miller held a tent meeting for us which was well attended. Since that time, our attendance has been good, as has been the contribution. Bro. Noel Hogue stated to us that he wanted to be free to help other congregations that were not blessed with the talent we have, so has been away most of the time. We would like to take this means of expressing our deep and sincere appreciation to each and everyone who has offered assistance. At the present time, the Lord has richly blessed our efforts and we do not need financial help or anyone to take charge of the work here. There are other little congregations near us that need help badly and we hope and trust all will help them rather than us. We do need your prayers, your interest and if you know of those in the area whom we may contact, we would appreciate your notifying the writer, or Bro. Dennis Calloway, 220 N. 4th St., Rogers, Ark., or Bro. Bennie Nichols, 208 S. W. "F" Street, Bentonville, Ark. We always enjoy every bit of the OPA.

D. B. McCord, 1414 N. Albertson, Covina, Calif., Sept. 20—The Lubbock, Texas meeting closed with some confessions of faults. We had headquarters in the good home of Bro. and Sister Albert Bledsoe—such a fine, devoted couple. We visited in other homes as well. Lubbock is blessed with capable, devoted young family men. May God bless them; my stay among them inspired me more than they know. Enroute to Ceres, Calif., we came by home for a few days. The Ceres brethren are to be commended for the fine way in which the meeting, closing on Labor Day was conducted. The sisters, with the help of neighboring ones, fed hundreds of people—such as example of genuine hospitality, on such a large scale, I have never seen. There were 3

veteran soldiers there; they were Brethren John Reynolds, T. F. Thomasson and Homer L. King. They may be old in years, but as active and as strong in the faith as ever. It was so good to see Brother Homer King looking so well, and much better than when I last saw him. Brother T. F. Thomasson is now in his 92nd year, and still able to go and assemble. Brother John Reynolds is a living monument of God's care for His people. May God bless them! We are home now for the school year. I enjoyed attending 1 night of Bro. E. H. Miller's meeting at Orange, Calif. My heavy responsibilities do not permit my going as much as I would like. We have enjoyed hearing Bro. Bill Roden at Norco. Bill promotes peace wherever he goes; he is an example in this respect. We need your prayers and good-will, and will try to merit both. Lord Bless you!

James D. Corson, Rt. 2, Mahaffey, Pa., Sept. 9—This is a brief summary of the summer's work. Leaving home in Pa. on Mar. 9th, enroute to Colo., I visited and preached in Mozier, Ill., the home of Bro. and Sister Ralph Kitson. It was a great joy to be in their home again, and to find them as before, about the Father's business. May God bless them with many happy days ahead. At Delta, Colo., I labored with the faithful about 2 weeks. They are still growing in strength and number inspite of death claiming some of their elder members. On our way back to Iowa, we stopped in Casper, Wyo., finding our family group faithfully meeting from house to house each Lord's day for worship. They know the way of the truth, and follow its precepts. April 1, I began 2 month's work with the church at Waterloo, Iowa. Here, I had the pleasure of baptizing 3 young people into Christ; also, a grand soldier was restored to his post of duty. The cause there has grown rapidly in the last few years, being under the best of leadership. The first Lord's Day in June, my wife and 2 sons joined me in Montezuma where we labored for the cause through July. We feel some of God's best people live there. Their progress is slow because of some opposition, but they continue to strive for the sacred cause. There was one confession of faults, and I feel the seed has been sown there many times. We learned to love them all. The month of Aug. was spent at Oskaloosa. The few good brothers there drive many miles each Lord's Day to have service for the little congregation. They are bravely standing for the truth and right. All these places appreciate good, faithful brethren. Lord bless them all. We are at home at present with some short visits in the home churches; they are pressing forward. We enjoy reading the progress of all the brethren each month in the OPA. May God keep us all close in His loving care.

Neglect your children in their youth and they will neglect you in your old age.

The wrongs which we refuse to correct today will be stones in our path tomorrow.

Neglect your home to increase your earnings and you will lose more than you will gain.

Nothing is opened by mistake more than the mouth.

Our purpose is to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," and to "prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

OLD PATHS ADVOCATE

To continue "speaking the truth in love," "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace;" "keeping the ordinances as delivered."

"Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.'" (Jer. 6:16) "And they that be of Thee shall build the old waste, places; Restorer of Paths to Dwell in." (Isa. 58:12).

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NOVEMBER 1, 1964, LEBANON, MISSOURI

No. 11

THE ART OF TEACHING

By Joe D. Yancey

Many things have been learned in the last century relative to the best approach in the science of selling. Make no mistake about it, every member of the church who makes it his business to teach or preach the Holy Scriptures to a person outside the kingdom, is by definition a salesman. Every Christian, of course, is to a certain extent involved in this part of the Lord's work. Not all of us are able to work at this job in the same capacity, because we were not all given the same talents or spiritual gifts. Matt. 25:14-30—"For the Kingdom of heaven is as a man traveling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey—" I Cor. 12:7-14—"For the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues; but all these worketh that one and the self-same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

Upon examining the parable of the talents carefully, it will be noted that the man did not give his servants talents except according to the severable ability of each. Neither did he expect a servant to increase a talent which was not imparted unto him before he took his leave. It, therefore, becomes the individual responsibility of each and every Christian, sincerely interested in the Lord's work, to submit himself to a self-imposed aptitude test. A man given by nature, crooked, tarnished or imperfect teeth would not go on television as a specimen for a tooth paste ad. If he did, his appearance would be an insult to the intelligence of the public. A man with a withered leg does not go out for track or broad-jump. By the same token, it behooves each member of the church to evaluate himself. If he has an impediment in speech, he should have enough interest in the Lord's work and enough honor and respect for his fellow man, Christian or heathen, to refrain from trying to be a public teacher.

It is not hard to understand, and fully realize, that we would often like to be something for which we are not best suited. A good Biblical example of this is found in Acts 8. Simon desired the gift of the laying on of

(Continued from page 3)

WORLDLINESS

By Jim Hickey

Jesus teaches that we are in the world, but that we should not be like the world in its godlessness. "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world" (John 17:15, 16). Even though we live and associate, to a certain extent with the world, this does not mean that we can be partakers of its evil deeds.

It has not been too long that worldliness and sin were condemned for what they were. Today, however, it seems that we are getting away from a standard of right and wrong and have placed the title "Old Fashioned" on the morality of our fathers. Some modernists today, for example, claim that modesty in apparel is only relative; that is, a person is modest or immodest only in relationship to another person's code of modesty, and that no one can be absolutely modest or immodest. If we say that a certain type of apparel (or lack of it) is wrong or sinful, then we are told we are being puritanical and "mid-Victorian" in our concepts of morality. Adam and Eve made aprons of fig leaves to clothe themselves, but God's apparel for them were "coats of skins." This goes to show that our sense of modesty may not be as God might have it.

Some people ask concerning worldliness, "Does it matter where I go or what I do?" The Bible teaches that it certainly does matter where we go and what we do. All Christians should exercise their senses to be able to discern between good and evil (Hebrew 5:14). The Bible does not always name specific places to avoid, but it gives us general principles to regulate our conduct. In James 1:27 we find, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

We should not try to see how close we can get to the "fire" without getting "burned." This was the downfall of Samson, playing with "fire" in his relationship with the harlot Delilah. He was "burned." Samson lost his great power, his eyes, and finally was imprisoned for his worldliness and weakness. How many Christians do you know who have backslidden into the world because of their loose morality. Paul charged Timothy to "neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure." If we are going to have a pure religion, we will have to keep ourselves pure, free from the spots and blemishes of the world. Jesus

will receive unto himself a glorious church without spot or blemish (Eph. 5:27).

The apostle Peter in II Peter 2:13 tells us the lot of such blemished people, "And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the daytime. Spots are they and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you." We should be concerned about the places we go and the things we do. Let me suggest that you test your entertainment or amusement by the following scriptures:

1. Would Christ approve? (I Peter 2:21);
2. Is it edifying, constructive, profitable? (I Cor. 10:23);
3. Is my light shining here? (Matthew 5:13-16).

I believe we should prove all things and hold fast to that which is good. God's word also teaches us that any place we go, and by going, we cast a bad reflection on the church, we sin. "Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil" (I Timothy 3:7). Bringing shame and disgrace on the church that Christ bled and died for is a serious thing. We all ought to take heed, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world."

—Box 521, Manteca, Calif.

SUPPORT FOR THE AFRICAN WORK

By Edwin S. Morris

Recently, in my meeting at Oklahoma City, I was privileged to visit with Bro. Jerry Cutter who had just returned from Africa. I was very favorably impressed with the report that Jerry gave of the work there. It is my understanding that Jerry plans to return in November, and then Bro. James Orten plans to return next summer.

I questioned Bro. Jerry about several phases of the work. One of the phases I was interested in was whether he and James had sufficient support for themselves and for their families who remained here at home. Jerry and James had to maintain a home in Africa while their families maintained a home here in the States. Readily, anyone can see that they had quite a bit of added expense. They were supported \$400 per month while there. Of this, Jerry used about \$100 for himself and that left about \$300 per month for his wife and 3 children here at home. I believe we will admit that they were certainly not over-supported. If anyone has the idea that they made money on this trip, they should remove those thoughts at once. In fact, I would say they just "got by." Now, Jerry was certainly not complaining and would not have told me if I had not asked him. He and James had determined to get by on the support given regardless.

Now, they could have been supported more if more congregations would have had a part in this work. There is a need for more congregations to give to the monthly support. Even if a congregation can give only ten, fifteen, twenty or twenty-five dollars per month for two years, that would certainly help. The congregation in Lebanon, Mo. is taking the lead in this work and why not contact one of the brethren there and tell the con-

gregation how much you can send each month directly to James or Jerry.

We must continue the work in this field. Remember, it has only been about ten years or so since Bro. Paul Nichols made the first trip to Africa. The work is still new and will need our help for years to come. Just look how far we need to go here in the states, and the church has been established here for years. Our opportunities are good and we have two men ready and willing to continue the work there. It is our duty to support them sufficiently and see that they have all the necessary things while there. There is travel expense there, and many times they have to spend their own money for materials, grape juice, etc.

Jerry and James are giving reports regularly on the work there, and even though the outlook is bright, there are problems just like we have here in the States. They are constantly working on those problems to solve them. They feel that we here should know about the problems and are reporting them as well as the good news.

Jerry reports that most congregations in foreign countries, that he has been in contact with, worship identically as we. Most of them use one cup in the communion and have no classes. It is wonderful to know that just poor, humble people will do what sometimes the high and mighty will not do. We must support this work. I give 100% backing to this work and encourage more congregations to support the work regularly. Brethren, do not wait, but make arrangements now to do your part. Your support is needed, both moral and financial.

—905 Bluewood Drive
Dallas, Texas 75232

THE SECOND QUERY DEALING WITH THE NEW BIRTH

By T. J. Shaw

1 John 5:1—"Does John mean here that the "believer" is one who has been baptized and is born of water and Spirit—a child of God, or that he is only a potential child of God, as the begotten, but unborn child, physically is a child of his father?"

The believer in this verse is the one who has fully accepted the divine testimony of God concerning His son, as opposed to those who accepted the teaching and testimony of antichrists. "Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ. This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. No one who denies the Son has the Father. He who confesses the Son has the Father also" (1 John 2:22-23). God gave plenty of prophetic testimony concerning His Son, and Jesus on several occasions gave testimony to the fact that God sent Him (Jno. 7:28-29; 8:28-29; 5:39-40). He came not to do His own will but the will of Him who sent Him.

He came through the door of prophecy. John the baptist opened that door. He did not climb up some other way (Jno. 10:1-4). He was really what He claimed to be, the antichrists to the contrary notwithstanding. He was to be the seed of Abraham, of the house of David, born of a virgin; He was to suffer and die on the cross for atonement, to arise from the dead, to be seated at God's right hand, crowned both Lord and Christ; Lord—"Lawgiver, Christ—"The anointed one."

Jesus is our anointed High Priest and our anointed King. He is King-Priest upon His throne (Zech. 6:12-13; Jno. 8:28-30).

God's testimony of Jesus at His baptism (Jno. 3:16-17), and on the mount of Transfiguration (Matt. 17:5), clearly proves Him to be the "Christ." 1 Jno. 1:1-3 gives us the testimony of the apostles to confirm this fact, so whosoever believeth that Jesus is the "Christ" is begotten of God. If I accepted Jesus as the Christ—my High Priest and King as opposed to the stand the antichrists held, I certainly would be on God's side (Jno. 8:47). So, with the proper motivation of love necessary to complete the "New Birth" I would be baptized—born of water and the Spirit. The Spirit inspired these men to give the testimony which proves Jesus to be the Christ. It takes more than a "begetting" to complete the "New Birth." Coming forth is necessary also—"Born of water and the Spirit" (Jno. 3:5).

—Commodore, Pa.

THE ART OF TEACHING—

(Continued from page one)

hands—"Saying, give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost." Peter rebuked him. Simon repented for erroneous desire (Acts 8:24). "Then answered Simon and said, pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me." Neither is it hard to understand how we can be jealous of those having, what seems to us to be, a more colorful position in the Lord's work than we. A good Scriptural example of this may be found in John 21:20-22. "Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do? Jesus saith unto him, if I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? Follow thou me." The name of this disciple was John, sometimes referred to as the disciple of love. Jesus seemed to favor this disciple, most likely because of this virtue. The prophecy mentioned here was fulfilled when John was on the Isle of Patmos, where he was placed in a trance and allowed to view the second coming of Christ. Peter's spark of jealousy here is quite obvious.

Oftentimes it is not the fault of the untalented brother that he continues to hamper the Lord's work by trying, with all his might, to do that for which he is not suited. How many of us are guilty of having hypocritically shaken a brother's hand after having squirmed, fingered a song book, or slept through 1/2 or 2/3 of his 45 minute to 1 hour talk for which he was poorly prepared, or presented in an amateurish sort of way, and said what a wonderful lesson he presented and how much we enjoyed it? If his lesson were good, we would have heard it. If not, we should have enough interest, both in the speaker and the Lord's work, to say nothing of the insult to the intelligence of the non-Christian who might have been in the audience, to tell the speaker what was wrong with his presentation. Remember, we can not always see ourselves as others see us.

While we are on the subject of public speaking, it would be well for us to realize that it is not an old-fashioned, uneducated public with which we are dealing, but an advanced civilization. One can reasonably

be expected to have the equal of a high school education and some an education the equal of one or two years college. It will be further noted that, if visitors we have, they will most likely make their appearance on Lord's day morning. It, therefore, becomes the responsibility of those having the oversight of each congregation to cease being shirkers and choose wisely, with some degree of discretion, the one who is to represent the church each Lord's day morning. Give that person at least one week to prepare himself. If no qualified man exists among you and no one is available, it would be much better to choose one who is a good reader to read a few verses or chapter. Most any one, with a good voice, can practice reading a chapter for a week and do a good job of it the next Lord's day. If he is capable of 5 minutes, 10 minutes, or 15 minutes of constructive comment, let him do so. If not, let him read, and honor his audience by sitting down.

Those of us having any knowledge of the Scripture, will recall that absolutely no place in God's Word are we commanded, either directly or by example, that we have someone deliver a lengthy discourse on Lord's day morning. It is true that the disciples came together upon the first day of the week to break bread (Acts 20:7). "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." It was on this occasion that a young man went to sleep and fell from the third loft, and was taken up dead. It is intimated here that Paul restored his life. We are not so apt to have someone go to sleep and fall from the third story and be killed. If such a thing should happen, I am afraid we do not have any among us who have the gift of raising the dead, since the days of miracles are past. However, many young people, as well as old, can be driven from our midst, or be put to sleep spiritually by boring them to death each Lord's day. Christ said "feed my sheep"; not, fill them with nothing. We should try to make certain that everyone hearing a talk, or lesson, on Lord's day will be able to describe it as sound doctrine. When the church gathered together upon the first day of the week, it was for the purpose of breaking bread. Paul, a qualified spokesman, preached to them. He preached to them only because he had something to say, knew how to say it, and it was convenient. It follows then, that the leadership of the congregations, who take advantage of the fact that Christians are commanded to come together on the first day of the week to break bread, and who impose upon them, as well as anyone else that might be in the audience, an untalented speaker, is taking unfair advantage of them and insulting their intelligence. By the time the man has rudely spoken, repeated himself several times because of inability to compose his subject, and butchered the English language to the point of disgrace, no Christian in the audience is in any condition to take communion. If they (the Christian audiences) would but be honest with themselves and God, they are either out of patience, disgusted or just plain mad.

Somewhere along the line, some (meaning us, the Christian) have lost sight of the fact that the Scriptures teach that by words we shall be justified and by words we shall be condemned (Matt. 12:36-37). I should like to make it clear at this point that it is not always the

(Continued on page eight)

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THIS AND THAT

Our Helpers—We continue to appreciate all that you do and say for this journal. It is our sincerest desire that our readers know this, and for this reason we mention it often. Our number of subscribers continues to grow. With this issue, we must again ask the printing company to increase the number of copies. Subscribers can always help in the following ways: Renew promptly when "Time Expired" is stamped on your copy. Tell others of the paper's merits and ask them to subscribe, too. Subscribe for a friend. When you move, please tell us, so we will not send your copy to the wrong address, and thus incur added expense. Try to understand when we err, or when we may not be understood. Ask our critics to be more understanding and tolerant until they know more of why we say or do, or do not say or do, as they may think we ought.

An Apology—We apologize for the fact that your paper was late last month. We will try to improve on this. Those receiving sample copies did not receive as many as usual, due to our having to use some of them for our growing subscription list. Too, all copies intended for the McAlester, Okla. area went astray, finding their way to Tennessee, and then finally coming back to us; this sometimes happens, and we are always sorry, and ask your patience and understanding.

"Proclaimer of Truth"—We are sure that Brother L. G. Butler would appreciate your subscription to this paper. We mention it without solicitation. Why not send your subscription to him at 7765 Florado, Denver, Colo. The price is \$1.00 per year. If we were not doing it, too, I would ask how can a paper be published for so little in these inflationary times. The more wholesome reading we can have for ourselves and our children, the better for us and the church.

A Good Soldier—This is the book, published by Bro. Ronny Wade, containing some of the writings of the late Brother Homer A. Gay, for many years an editor of this journal. If you do not have this book, you need it. Our young people and children who did not have the privilege of knowing Brother Homer Gay deserve to read this book. Why not order as many as

you can use for the low price of \$1.00 per copy from Sister Susie Perser, 2706 Merrill St., Shreveport, La.

The African Work—In a letter under date of October 20th, Bro. James Orten had this to say concerning the African work. I use this with his permission. "Don, I still feel, and most definitely so, that the African work should be carried on under congregational sponsorship as it was done this time. As I told you some months back, I believe a preacher can scripturally determine to go to a place to preach, and churches can help him without any one church especially sponsoring that particular work. In this event the preacher would be subject to the discipline of his home church, as is everyone else. It is my understanding that there never is a time when any Christian is not subject to the oversight of some church, though sometimes this is not recognized. However, the African work is so large that, in my opinion, it would be very unwise to try to do it in any way other than by congregational sponsorship. In fact, I feel so strongly about this that I would not agree to go again under any other arrangement; and I am sure Jerry feels the same. I could list a number of advantages both to the preachers involved and the work itself that would convince most anyone. Since you have asked both of us to write on the matter, I am trusting Jerry will do so, for I am too pressed with other matters to do it in time for this month's issue. If he doesn't, I will try to do so by next month."

As I have said before in this column, if a congregation of believers does not have the authority to choose preachers, set the amount of support, plan and implement a work of the church, who does? It is conceivable that congregations could cooperate in such. This has been done, with the Lebanon, Mo. congregation taking the lead. Other congregations have cooperated and scripturally so. The contributions of congregations have not been centralized in the hands of men or in the treasury of the Lebanon church. This is the Bible way. Contributions have been sent by churches cooperating directly to the preachers, Brethren James Orten and Jerry Cutter.

So, Brethren Orten and Cutter have gone and returned with much good accomplished for Him Whose we are. Now, as Brother Jerry indicated in his report, he and his family will leave Nov. 17th for 2½ years in Malawi, the Lord willing. The Lebanon, Mo. congregation must be commended for its untiring efforts and undivided attention to this great work, as are the congregations who so liberally give to make this work possible. May God bless our brethren and sisters who work so diligently "behind the scenes," our unsung heroes, the church's backbone; the fire-lighters and -keepers, the pillars.

Worldliness—In this issue, Brother Jim Hickey deals this problem a telling blow. For sometime now, we must admit that the line so clearly drawn between the world and the church has been crossed over far too much. What with prosperous times, the still booming movie industry, television, flagrant emphasis on unlawful sex, indifference to modes of dress, ultra-modern transportation and communication systems, the line at sometimes and some places is nearly rubbed out. "Worldliness" as a topic is shunned by us in the pulpit, resulting in members of the body becoming increasingly indifferent it seems, and at the same time allowing the world to choke out the word. Shame! Shame!

OUR HELPERS

You will find listed below the names of those sending subscriptions since we last went to press, and opposite the name the number of subs sent. We want to express our deepest appreciation for your continued interest in behalf of this journal. May we count on you to continue the good work? Please check the following list, and report any errors to us immediately.

Church of Christ, Flemington, Pa., by Bro. Geo. Stover, Jr.—25; Charles Hurst—12; Elizabeth Byford—10; Wayne McKamie—9; Wayne Fussell—7; Tom E. Smith—6; Eddy Bullard—6; Hugh Milner—5; Byron Kramer—4; Mattie Lloyd—4; Mrs. G. I. Snodgrass—4; Barney Owens—4; Cecil Tidmore—4; Edwin Morris—3; Crockett Byars—3; J. W. Kornegay—3; Arlene Williamson—3; Geo. Powell—3; Frank Meents—3; C. A. Smith—3; Tim Dougherty—2; James Vannoy—2; Howard Hefley—2; John B. Snow, Jr.—2; Zade McClure—2; Edgar Claywell—2; Harley D. Ballard—2; Don Willis—2; E. O. Evitt—2; Ronny Wade—2; Mrs. Carl Oettle—2; Billy Orten—2; Ruby Kenney—2; Taylor Joyce—2; Elizabeth Wilson—2; Betty Aldridge—2; Veta Wissinger—1; Cecil F. Cox—1; L. C. Dent—1; Wm. R. Heimer, Sr.—1; Arthur Frazier—1; M. L. Hargrove—1; Mrs. Roy Finley—1; Viola Hopkins—1; Mrs. L. W. Parsons—1; Mrs. Ethel Chancellor—1; Lucille Jenkins—1; Mrs. N. J. Smith—1; Monta Ray Terry—1; Dairyl McCracken—1; Minnie Tip-ton—1; Perry Allen—1; Lehman Harris—1; Robert McKeand—1; Helen Duvall—1; A. Lincoln Coble—1; Clovis Cook—1; Miles King—1; Mrs. Larry G. Taylor—1; E. H. Miller—1; Mrs. Harvey Staton—1; Ralph Kitson—1; Reba Anderson—1; Delton Cogburn—1; James Orten—1; E. L. Lemmons—1; Clyde Smith—1. Total 184

—D. B. McCord

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There are three modes of bearing the ills of life: by indifference which is the most common; by philosophy, which is the most ostentatious; and by religion, which is the most effectual—Colton.

THEY NEED HELP

The congregation meeting in Birmingham, Alabama, is in dire need of a preacher to do personal work. The church is only a little over three years old, and has about thirty members. The brethren there feel that there is great potential in that city of nearly one million people. They are unable to fully support someone by themselves, and will need help. Who will go, and who will assist in the support? If you are a preacher and would be interested in this work, or if the congregation where you attend would be willing to support someone in mission work, contact Bro. Robert A. Berry, 4704 69th St. No., Birmingham 6, Ala.

—Ronny F. Wade

WAIT

By E. H. Miller

Yes, wait: that is what some of us want to do regarding the answers to such questions as follows: We want to wait until we see which way the majority, or some outstanding preacher or preachers, are going to answer. Some are saying, "Yes" to each of the following questions; others are saying, "No"; therefore, some of us are wrong! This condition could cause many to be lost; for this reason, I mailed articles by first class mail a few weeks ago against the things in these questions, and gave an example of such teaching and practice of those things, at least in part. It is human nature for us to want to be with the crowd; I admit I do, but we must oppose such or we would all drift with the crowd of Matt. 7:13 instead of remaining with the

few of Matt. 7:14, those who "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3; Matt. 28:19-20; Rom. 10:17; Rom. 14:23; James 1:21-25; and Heb. 12:1-2).

I am open for teaching on all questions that have the church divided or that might divide the church. In fact, I am far more willing to be taught the truth than I am to teach what I just think is the truth; therefore, if anyone knows of an error I am teaching, I beg you to correct me. I believe where there is disagreement over things that have, will, or might divide the church, we should do our best to come to an agreement; and I do not believe brethren who believe they have Bible for what they believe, teach, or practice should be unwilling to let it be known. So, will each of you please answer the following questions for me? My answer to each question is "No." Therefore, if your answer is different, one of us is wrong?

Questions

1. Do you believe it is safe to call upon anyone to take an active part in any church service as long as that person is a member of any congregation that uses cups, loaves or fermented wine in the communion; or that breaks the loaf into two or more pieces for any reason other than for each one who breaks to eat; or that uses classes in their teaching?

2. Do you believe it is safe to receive into the membership of any faithful congregation a person who has been a member of any congregation described in question 1 without that person first repenting of sins, confessing sins and having prayer for forgiveness?

3. Do you believe a child of God can divorce for any cause other than fornication (adultery) committed by the one who is being divorced and both or either of them be free to marry again, and live together as husband and wife, as long as the first husband or wife is living?

4. Do you believe when children of God divorce for other reasons than fornication (adultery) and remarry, the adultery committed after the divorce (before or after the second marriage of either husband or wife) will cause the first marriage to be no longer binding in God's sight, and that the second marriage of either or both will ever be acceptable in God's sight as long as the first husband or wife is living?

I am for unity upon the way the Bible teaches. It is contended by some today that in an unscriptural marriage a party can commit adultery only once with the first union; but Jesus said in Matt. 19:9, according to **The New Testament in the Language of Today** by William F. Beck, "I tell you, if anyone divorces his wife, except for adultery, and marries another, he's living in adultery." Brethren, let us unite against this great sin.

I appreciate Brother Don McCord's fine article against such in the October issue under "This and That," on pages 4 and 5. His article covers much of the sin I was fighting in my article, "Are We Drifting with Our Eyes Shut?", mailed to many a few weeks ago by first class mail.

—Box 538, LaGrange, Ga.

Man must be disappointed with the lesser things of life before he can comprehend the full value of the greater—Bulwer.

HEAR YE HIM

By C. A. Smith

The apostle Paul said in Gal. 2:16, 21: "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we believed on Christ Jesus, that we might be justified—I do not make void the grace of God: for if righteousness is through the law, then Christ died for nought." There is a great deal of misunderstanding in the religious world on the matter of the doctrine of Christ, especially in view of the Old Testament or law of Moses. Some want to take what they like best in the law of Moses and bind that with what they like best in the law of Christ, leaving out anything and everything that would condemn their practice.

There are two fundamental principles to be noted in this study. The first is that Christ is greater than Moses. Moses was indeed great as a servant of God and the children of Israel. The writer of the Hebrew letter said of Moses, "And Moses indeed was faithful in all his house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were afterward to be spoken" (Ch. 3, vs. 5). No student of the Bible will ever doubt that Moses occupied the most important seat among God's children, because he was a mediator between man and God in his time, and was God's lawgiver.

However, when we look at Christ we see that He was not only great as a servant but as a Son. The same writer who wrote of the greatness of Moses said of Christ, "So Christ also glorified not himself to be made a high priest, but he that spake unto him, Thou art my son, This day have I begotten thee: as he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedec (Heb. 5:5-6). Moses could make no claim as the Son of God and neither did Christ glorify Himself in this, but it was spoken of old that He should occupy this position and become high priest, not after the order of Moses and Aaron but after the order of Melchizedec. The greatness of Christ as God's Son over Moses as a servant is also seen on the mount of transfiguration. There, God turns the apostles' thoughts from Moses and Elijah to Christ and says, "This is my beloved Son, hear ye him."

Christ also received more glory than Moses. In Heb. 3:1-3, Paul stated, "Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our Confession, even Jesus; who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also was Moses, in all his house. For he hath been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, by so much as he that built the house hath more honor than the house." Christ is even greater than angels—"Having become so much better than the angels, as he hath inherited a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, This day have I begotten thee? and again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?—but of which of the angels hath he said at any time, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies the footstool of thy feet?" (Heb. 1:4, 5, 13).

The second fundamental principle is that the doctrine of Christ is greater than the doctrine of Moses. Even Moses recognized this for he said, "A Prophet shall the Lord God raise up unto you from among your brethren, like unto me; to him shall ye hearken in all things whatsoever he shall speak unto you" (Acts 3:22).

Jesus showed the same thing that Moses taught the people concerning the two doctrines. Christ said in the sermon on the mount, "Ye have heard it was said to them of old time, Thou shalt not kill, and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: but I say unto you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be in danger of the judgment, etc." Now if Moses recognized that the teaching of Christ would be greater than his and Jesus showed the same, who are we to doubt? If the gospel of Christ is not greater than the law of Moses there is no purpose at all for the New Covenant, and "Christ died for nought." (Gal. 2:12).

Let us notice now the purpose of the two doctrines. Paul asked, "What then is the law (of Moses)? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise hath been made; and it was ordained through angels by the hand of a mediator" (Gal. 3:19). The law of Moses was added because of transgressions and became, to the Hebrew, a schoolmaster to bring him to Christ. Paul again says: "So that the law is become our tutor to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith" (Gal. 3:24).

All purposes of the law of Moses were fulfilled and this law removed. In the words of Paul, "—now that faith is come, we are no longer under a tutor" (Gal. 3:25). The schoolmaster has been taken away. Do you want more proof? Alright, here it is in Hebrews 10:9-10: "Then hath he said, Lo, I am come to do thy will.—" What is God's will? "He taketh away the first that he may establish the second. By which will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." More proof may be obtained by reading Romans 8.

Now, what is the purpose of the doctrine of Christ? It was revealed for the salvation of men's souls. Christ came for the sole purpose of providing salvation for the whole world. Paul stated: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel; for it the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek" (Rom. 1:16).

The doctrine of Christ is the perfect guide in the Christian way of life; therefore, "Give diligence to present thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, handling aright the word of truth. But shun profane babblings; for they will proceed further in ungodliness" (2 Tim. 2:15-16). Need we go elsewhere to find a guide in the Christian way of life? John says, "Whosoever goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching of Christ, hath not God: He that abideth in the teaching, the same hath both the Father and the Son" (2 John 9). The doctrine of Christ is established until time shall be no more and will judge us in the last day. It was once for all delivered unto the saints.

In our next study, we wish to notice the contents of the two doctrines.

—1312 Alpine, Andrews, Tex.

THE HOLY BIBLE

This book contains — The mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners and the happiness of the believers. Its doctrine is holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true and its decisions immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer

you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Here paradise is restored, Heaven opened and the gates of Hell disclosed. Christ is its grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at the judgment and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its holy contents.

—Anon.

BIBLICAL DAY — GOD THE CREATOR

- I. Specific and General senses of the day given (12 and 24 hours) Gen. 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31; 2:2
- II. When told to begin their days Lev. 23:32
- III. Kept passover accordingly Exo. 12; Lev. 23; Numbers 9; Deut. 16; Joshua 5; Matthew 26
- IV. New Testament in harmony with Old Testament Matt. 26:20, 34; Mk. 14:12, 17, 30; 15:25, 42; Acts 20:7; Luke 22:1-34
- V. Prophesied some would think to change time Daniel 7:23-26 (Relative to Roman time)
- VI. Israel of old, Christ, Apostles and early Christians honored God's time. Can man change what God has done? Ecl. 3:14
- VII. Whom shall we serve? Matt. 6:24; Acts 5:29; Gal. 1:10; Isaiah 55:8, 9

—Irving P. Stockton,
Rt. 1, Box 26-A,
Richmond, Texas

OUR DEPARTED

Cansler—Brother Arch C. Cansler was born May 11, 1876 in Cook County, Tex.; he passed away Sept. 17, 1964 in Bowie, Tex., at the age of 88 years, 4 months and 6 days. Bro. Cansler was baptized about ten years ago by the writer and was faithful until death. He was a member of the Fruitland, Tex. congregation. He is survived by his wife, Lula; one daughter and 5 sons. He was the father of Brethren Raymond and Gene Cansler of the Fruitland congregation. The writer, assisted by Bro. James Vannoy, endeavored to speak words of comfort and warning to the living. The funeral was in Bowie, Tex., on Sept. 18th.

—Edwin S. Morris

Pearce—Brother Everett Lee Pearce was born June 4, 1895 in Oklahoma. He departed this life in Santa Ana, Calif., June 24, 1964, in his 69th year. He had been a member of the church for several years; at the time of his passing, he was numbered with the Bush St. congregation, Orange, Calif. He is survived by his devoted, Christian companion, Sister Mattie Pearce, two sons of Calif., and one daughter of Mo., and other relatives, brethren and sisters in Christ and friends.

Brother Lee Pearce was one of the humblest men I have known. He was a hospitable man, strong in his convictions, sincere and honest. In knowing Brother and Sister Pearce, any Christian would say, "They are my kind of people." The final service was conducted at Orange, Calif. The very pretty singing was by mem-

bers of the church. There were many pretty flowers. Bro. Pearce was buried in one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the land. The writer tried to speak words of comfort and warning.

—D. B. McCord

Bednar—Brother Ed C. Bednar was born Feb. 14, 1906, at Eola, Tex., the son of the late John and Johanna Bednar. He passed away suddenly in the afternoon of Sept. 1, 1964, at the age of 58. He was married Dec. 18, 1930, at Carlsbad, N. Mex., to Miss Margie Williams, the only daughter of Bro. and Sister Claud Williams of Eola, Tex. To this union 3 children were born: Mrs. C. Nelson Nichols, Mrs. Larry Oley and Van Bednar; all of them survive. Ed lived to see all of his children baptized into Christ; his two sons-in-law are members of the body, too. That a man leaves all of his children in the church speaks volumes concerning him.

Margie, Bro. Ed's devoted companion for nearly 34 years, wrote in part: "The spring after we married, Ed obeyed the gospel. Soon to follow him were his parents. They were good, honest people and when they learned the truth, they obeyed it. It was a dark, sad hour when Ed passed away. Many scriptures came to my mind in which I tried to find a blessing. I felt like my Saviour cried with me."

It was the writer's privilege to meet Bro. Ed Bednar several years ago. That he was a member of the Lord's church is most important of all. He was a good citizen, a useful man in his community, too. He was a director of the Central Texas Telephone Co-op, a member of the board of directors of the Eden (Tex.) Hospital, president of the Cemetery Asso., Eola, Tex., and president of the Farm Bureau of Eola. The funeral was conducted at the Eola High School, with hundreds of brethren, sisters, and friends in attendance. Bro. Barney Welch officiated. Interment was in the Eola cemetery. We are indebted to Sister Bednar for the obituary. May the Lord bless her and the children in the days ahead, until all the faithful are safe home at last.

—D. B. McCord

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincerest thanks to our brethren and sisters in Christ for being so wonderful to us in the passing of our loved one, Ed C. Bednar. The many cards, letters and prayers have helped us to see so many blessings to which we were blind at first. Thank you again for every kindness.

—The family of Ed C. Bednar

BONDS OF MATRIMONY

Jones-Lum—On Oct. 2, 1964, Jackie Jones and Carolyn Lum, of Corcoran, Calif., were united in matrimony. Many friends and relatives gathered to witness the ceremony and share in the festivities. I have known Carolyn several years, and had the privilege of baptizing Jackie. It was indeed a beautiful wedding. A well-planned reception was held in the Veterans' Bldg., immediately after the wedding. I wish for them a happy Christian life together. May God bless them and supply their every need. The writer had the honor of officiating. Music was furnished by a quartet, in the persons of Bro. Billy Jack Ivey, Bro. Jim Russell, Bro. Lester Dougherty and Sister Marie Nichols; it was indeed beautiful.

—R. B. Roden

REALIZATION

Life holds much of satisfaction
When we fill our days with action
In the workroom of the world in which we strive;
We affect a contribution
Toward our problem's sound solution
When our faculties are vitally alive.

Most of us have time and talent
To be pleasant, helpful, gallant,
To the people in whose company we live;
If we fill the niche we're born to
Do our duty as we've sworn to,
We shall always share the pleasure that we give.

If we play the game like brothers,
Share the gains we make with others,
If we treat as we'd be treated, all the way;
It will minimize dissension,
Aid in total war's prevention,
Make a world worth waking into every day.

—Gerald F. Fisher.

(Selected by Geo. Stover, Jr.)

THE ART OF TEACHING—

(Continued from page three)

fault of the poor soul who is pushed into this assignment; the fault lies with the leadership of the congregation. Everyone, so pushed, seems to have obtained the false impression some place that it is his painful duty to speak at least 30 minutes to 1 hour whether he is capable or not.

It has been noted that in some congregations the trend toward selecting a Lord's day speaker is for a leading brother to circulate among the brethren until he finds some brother who does not have up his guard and say, "will you have the lesson for Lord's day?" or more slothful than this, wait until Lord's day morning and wait at the door until some willing, but unprepared and maybe untalented brother appears and says, "you are it for today!" Brethren, if you were in business for yourself and the success of your business depended on the successful representation of your product, you would not select your salesmen in any such slipshod manner. This is the Lord's business and we are entrusted with it. We are exhorted to be not slothful in business but fervent in spirit; serving the Lord (Rom. 12:11).

Conclusively, God will expect us to avail ourselves of every Scriptural opportunity made available to us to develop our talents with the least amount of expense to the cause. Do not be such a slow driver, that you will receive a ticket when you stand before the judgment bar of God on resurrection morning, for holding up traffic on the straight and narrow road to heaven. Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we have the greatest piece of merchandise ever offered for sale on the world's market, the dividend of which is joy, peace of mind, and absolute safety and confidence. It is the most liberal religion ever conceived upon the earth. Let us prepare ourselves to sell it!

—12939 So. Roselle Ave.
Hawthorne, Calif.

What others say of me matters little, what I myself say and do matters much.—Elbert Hubbard.

TWO CAREFREE DAYS

There are two days in the week about which I never worry. Two carefree days—kept sacredly free from care and apprehension!

One of these days is yesterday—yesterday, with all its frets and cares, burdens and disillusionments, its unfulfilled promises. It has passed beyond control. I cannot undo a single minute of it, a single act of mine. I cannot blot out or recover a single word that passed my lips nor can I fill the silence with the words I should have spoken. It was MY day, but now it is God's day. It has passed into the keeping of Him who is the wise and understanding judge, who can love us when we err, forgive when we repent and can give "beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning and the garment of praise for heaviness."

The other day is tomorrow, tomorrow with its hopes, promises and its opportunities. It may come with glorious splendor, or it may be a dawn veiled with tears. But no worry today can change one bit of it any more than it could change yesterday. It, too, is God's day. He will entrust it to me for only one 24-hour span, and take it back. I must patiently wait for tomorrow, and when it becomes mine, do my best with it.

But today! Now is the accepted time! Today is the day of salvation! Let me think of life and do and journey one day at a time. God does not expect me to handle the broad expanse of my life all at one time, but he offers it to me bit by bit, one day at a time. A wise Oriental once said, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with one step," and that is how it is traveled, one step at a time.

It is not the cares and burdens of one day that break us, or drive men mad. It is when we add to today's responsibilities the remorse for Yesterday and the fear of Tomorrow that we crack up and fall beneath the load. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

"Give us this day our daily bread." That is all you need or will ever need. Grace for today, strength for today. Today is too late for the cares of yesterday and too early for the responsibilities of tomorrow.

Make the most of today—for God has given it to you—only for today.

—Selected from "A Moment of Cheer"

A FORMULA FOR SUCCESS

You can have anything you want, provided that you

1. Know exactly what you want;
2. Want it hard enough;
3. Confidently expect to attain it;
4. Persistently determine to obtain it; and
5. Are willing to pay the price of its attainment.

—Selected

We should remember the wrongs done us — only, that we may forgive them.

To have too much forethought is the part of a wretch; to have too little is the part of a fool.—Cecil.



Perry Allen, 2520 Clinton Ave., Richmond, Calif., Sept. 26—The congregation here is doing fine. We surely enjoy the OPA; keep up the good work. Here is a sub.

James Vannoy, 1448 Kinsdale Ct., Wichita Falls, Tex., Sept. 19—We enjoy the OPA, and appreciate the work that is put into it to make it what it is. Here is our renewal.

Arthur Frazier, Rt. 2, Box 6, Checotah, Okla., Sept. 21—Everyone at the Council Hill congregation is doing fine; we had a nice crowd yesterday in spite of bad weather. Here is our renewal.

John B. Snow, Jr., 5357 Questa, Abilene, Tex., Oct. 6—We enjoy the OPA so much, and appreciate every effort that is put forth in making it the fine paper it is. Keep up the good work.

Ralph Kitson, Mozier, Ill., Oct. 17—My health is improving. We have just closed a 2-weeks meeting with Bro. Irvan Barnes; he did some good preaching. He is a fine young man and has a good wife. We enjoyed having them in our home. Here is a sub.

Cicero Goddard, 4441 Agnes, Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 16—The work here is making progress. Since my last report, one has come from digression; he is a family man. We hope his wife and two daughters soon follow him. Please notice my new address.

Zade McClure, Rt. 1, Box 12, Mt. Vernon, Oct. 2—The church here at Blue Springs is doing well. Bro. Lynwood Smith closed a meeting here Sept. 27th. We had a wonderful meeting; the attendance was good and one confessed wrongs. Here is our renewal for 2 years.

Jesus Rodriguez, Calle Lincoln No. 4762, Col. San Rafael, Nuevo Laredo, Tam., Mex., Sept. 23—Over here, the work of the Lord is going ahead. I have been sick for about 6 months, but have been improving little by little; I am ready when the Lord needs me. May God bless you and keep you in His holy love.

Ojesi Kapalamula, Mkhhanje Church, P. O. Magomero, Malawi, Africa, Sept. 30—Sept. 21, I baptized 10 people; Sept. 28, I baptized 6. We are still existing to do the work and duty of God. We shall not leave the church. We shall be pleased to know that Brethren Orten and Cutter have arrived safely.

L. C. Dent, 110 Braddock E., Alexandria, Va., Sept. 20—At this time, there are 5 or 6 families meeting in Washington, D. C. We have to rent a room at a motel in order to meet. I believe if we can send preachers to other lands, surely there could be some way to build a church in this city. We are all poor people here. Here is my renewal.

James R. Stewart, 312 E. Nugent, Temple, Tex., Oct. 13—I am happy to report that the church here at 29th St. is progressing nicely; interest is good and our attendance is better. The last 2 Lord's days, we had near 40 present. We would be glad if other families would move here and help us with the church. All brethren are welcome; preachers passing this way, please visit us.

Charles Hurst, 15800 Patton, Detroit 23, Mich., Oct. 6—The church here is growing in spiritual strength daily. I sincerely believe that the possibilities for a large, strong congregation in this city are great. We humbly ask for the prayers of the faithful that our work here will always be according to God's will. We are now in the process of purchasing a building. Here are 12 subs.

C. A. Smith, 1312 Alpine, Andrews, Tex., Oct. 1—We have been enjoying the paper so much, and everyone else seems to enjoy it if I may judge from the good comments I have heard. The church here is doing fine. We continue to plan and look forward to the day when the church here will be greater in number, wisdom and power. Pray for us as we go about doing the will of Him who loved us and gave Himself for our sins.

Peluse Kalongonda, Mkoko Vlg., P. O. Palombe, Malawi, Africa, Oct. 7—I appreciate getting the OPA. Sept. 13, 4 were baptized at Mahorya church; on the 20th, I was at Nkhulambe church; the 26th, I was at Wendewende with 8 baptized; on the 27th, I was at home, Zenje church, where 5 were baptized. Pray for us here in Malawi. The work must not stop. Do not lose your hope; we are still fighting. The church here offers best wishes to all the brethren and sisters in America.

Cecil A. Tidmore, Box 224, Sunray, Texas, Oct. 19—We are still meeting at Dalhart, Tex.; we are planning on 2 or 3 months' personal work in the spring with Bro. Freddie Lay; he will also conduct a 2-weeks meeting. We have received some help from the church in Broken Bow, Okla. on our building. El Cajon, Calif. has sent \$50.00 to help with the work next spring. It would be our hope that other churches might help us. We ask the prayers of all the faithful that we may continue the work here and grow in faith and in number. Here are 4 subs.

Jerry Cutter, Rt. 1, Crescent, Okla., Oct. 21—I arrived home safely from Africa, Sept. 18th. I have since preached at Norman, Okla.; Okla City (Capitol Hill and 21st St.); there were 2 confessions at the last two places. I was at Crescent, Okla. for one week-end; there were 2 baptisms. Oct. 12-19, we were in Highway City, Calif.; 1 was baptized and 2 confessed faults. As always, this was a most pleasant meeting for us. Nov. 17, my family and I will be returning to Malawi, Africa, for a period of 2½ years, the Lord willing. Reports concerning the African work will be out before long.

Freddie Lay, 7844 Rancho Fanita Dr., Santee, Calif., Oct. 10—We are now settled and working with the congregation at Sanger, Calif. The brethren here realize the importance of working together in the Lord's vineyard, so I look for a lot of good to be done. Fri. and

Sat., Oct. 2-3, I attended a study on "Worldliness" at the Ceres, Calif. congregation. We are now at Woodlake, Calif. in a meeting where one has already been baptized. We hope more will come to the knowledge of the Truth. Pray for us.

Ronny F. Wade, Box 564, Lebanon, Mo., Oct. 13—The meeting closed at Cincinnati, Ohio, without visible results. It was indeed a very enjoyable meeting. These are fine brethren, with a desire for peace and a mind to work. May God bless their kind. At present, we are working in this area with the Lebanon congregation. We plan several meetings in the near future, the Lord willing. Beginning the 15th, we plan to be at Huntsville, Ark. for several services. The Lord willing, we will be in Arlington, Texas, in December. May God bless all the faithful.

Ray Roe, 517 W. 6th, Stroud, Okla., Oct. 5—Wife and I have recently attended meetings at the following places: Two meetings at Okemah, where Bro. David Macy was preaching in one, and Bro. Elmo House in another. We then heard Bro. Macy again at Stidham, Okla. We attended 2 nights of Bro. Edwin Morris's meeting at Oklahoma City (21st St.); we also heard Bro. Paul Nichols earlier at the same place. All are fine gospel preachers, so we enjoyed the fellowship. Bro. Van Butts preaches for us on the fourth Lord's Day, and Bro. Copeland, the second. We appreciate all of you brethren. We solicit your prayers.

Tom E. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 171-A, Duncan, Okla., Oct. 17—Since our last report, Bro. Eddy Bullard has been with us and preached two times; we enjoyed his association and the two good sermons. We have had some favorable reports since he moved to Denison, Tex., and we rejoice that the cause of the Master is being sponsored there. Bro. K. G. Wilks was at Healdton last Lord's day and preached a very edifying sermon on "Responsibility." Come again, Bro. Wilks; we are in need of such teaching. Bro. Lee Boek began our fall meeting last night with a good start, and we hope to be able to report a glorious meeting. We shall work and pray to that end.

D. B. McCord, 1414 N. Albertson St., Covina, Calif., Oct. 20—We enjoyed hearing Bro. Bill Roden at Norco several times. Since last report, I have preached here at home, Norco, Orange and Lynwood. We look forward to our meeting, Nov. 20-29 with Bro. Paul Nichols. Our next spring meeting will be with Bro. Miles King; the fall of 1965, we will have Bro. Taylor Joyce; and the spring of 1966, Bro. Lee Boek, the Lord willing. Tomorrow, I go to the old congregation in Bakersfield for 3 sermons. We look forward here to having Bro. Chester King, Bro. Lee Boek and Bro. Jim Hickey in the near future for 1 or more sermons. We need the prayers of all. May the Lord bless the faithful is our constant prayer.

Jim Hickey, Box 521, Manteca, Calif., Oct. 14—My wife and I moved here Oct. 1; we will be here for an indefinite period of time. We are starting a religious paper here to circulate in the community; we plan to send out about 500 copies in hopes that we may discover interested individuals. During our stay here, we will be available for gospel meetings elsewhere. Nov.

8-15, we will be in a meeting at Boulder Dr., Dallas, Tex. Recently, I enjoyed participating in a study on "Worldliness" at the Ceres, Calif. congregation. Topics included: "The Christian's Language"; "The Christian's Appearance"; "The Dance"; "What is Worldliness?"; "Where Christians Should and Should not Go"; and "The Spiritual Church." Please note my new address.

Wayne Fussell, Box 3922, Shreveport, La., Oct. 15—Three were baptized at Longwood, Fla., a congregation that masters in preparing for a meeting. Inspiring sermons both on the radio and in the pulpit characterized our meeting in Shreveport with Johnny Elmore. I had the good fortune to attend the Eastern Labor Day meeting under the able leadership of Lynwood Smith. Interest and attendance were the best during the meeting at Twelvepole, W. Va. We are now in a meeting at Kansas City, Mo., (85th & Euclid), in their beautiful new building, with good crowds so far. We are happy to have preaching brethren Cook and Goddard in attendance. Next meetings: Fieldstone, Mo., Oct. 19-28; Golden, Okla., Nov. 8-15; Temple, Ga., Dec. 6-13; Lowery, Ala., Dec. 25-27.

Jim A. Canfield, Rt. 3, Box 86, Marion, La., Oct. 12—Sept. 26-30, I was with the faithful in Memphis, Tenn. I had not been with them since last April. With the help of our Father, and His loving Son, our Saviour, we nearly have our building paid for. The last of Oct., the Lord willing, I plan to be with the church near Crestview, Fla., in Dec. I would like to meet the faithful there who came from digression about a year ago. I am yet under the doctor's care, but am thankful to be back preaching. I express again my love and respect for all the faithful who continue to help support me in teaching my people.

Richard Crawford, 2505 N. Drumond Ave., Panama City, Fla., Oct. 11—The church here is much stronger and growing in grace and knowledge, though small in number. Many have moved and it is almost impossible to get outsiders interested in the church. There are so many worldly places they had rather go. Bro. Preston C. Brown is doing a wonderful work here. We are in need of financial help; we are in need of benches and work done on the building. Bro. Brown has to work when he is able to help support himself; he is not a well man. We would appreciate help from any congregation. You could either send to the church in care of the writer, or Bro. Preston C. Brown, 2502 Scott Ave.; or Bro. Albert Noles, 3901 W. 25th Ct. Please pray for us.

Clovis T. Cook, 809 Lyons, Kansas City, Kan., Oct. 13—In addition to preaching here in Kansas City, I have recently preached for the brethren at Mt. Grove, Mo., where we held the plan meeting for mission work for 1965. The meeting was an inspiring one. I am greatly impressed with so many young leaders from so many different congregations. They show the ability to become great leaders and teachers in the church. These Mo. brethren, with the help of the 10th and Ray St. congregation, Kansas City, Kans., worked out a plan, and pledged the support for four full-time preachers in the state of Mo. Where can you beat that? It

will do your heart good to attend a meeting like that. Next year, it will be conducted at the Lee Summit congregation.

Edwin S. Morris, 905 Bluewood Dr., Dallas, Tex., 75232, Oct. 15—We certainly enjoyed the meeting at Oklahoma City (21st St.), Sept. 13-27. We made our home with the Raymond Brays. Their hospitality, and the hospitality of every home we visited, was at its best. We had visitors from several congregations and some of these came regularly. Preaching brethren Jerry Cutter, Miles King, Lee Boek and Leon Fancher attended one or more services. Our next meeting was at Houston, Mo. We enjoyed the meeting and the good hospitality there, too. We stayed with the Lloyd Lankfords. I am now home for the winter and plan to visit on week-ends at various congregations. Pray for me and mine.

Miles King, 417 W. Daws, Norman, Okla., Oct. 16—We are now happy to be settled here working with the congregation at 911 N. Lahoma St. This is a rather new congregation; the work is being sponsored by the Capitol Hill congregation, Oklahoma City. Bro. Taylor Joyce, who has been working with this congregation, and the brethren at Capitol Hill are to be commended for the good work they have done here. We are now engaged in a gospel meeting, with good outside interest. I believe the church here has a bright future. During Sept., we enjoyed hearing Bro. Edwin Morris during the meeting at 21st St., Oklahoma City; Bro. Freddie Lay at Wynnewood, Okla., and Bro. Jerry Cutter at Crescent, Okla. Lord willing, I am to hold a meeting at Marietta, Okla., Oct. 30-Nov. 8; and at Washington, Okla., Nov. 22-29.

Harley D. Ballard, 305 Magnolia St., Midland, Tex., Oct. 15—I have only been in the church of Christ for a few months. My wife and I formerly were Baptists. However, after being taught the truth by Bro. Orville Smith, and studying the Bible for myself, I was convinced that the church of Christ is right, and was baptized for the remission of sins. Shortly after, my wife, too, was baptized into the body of Christ. My ambition is to become a preacher of the gospel. I greatly appreciate the help Bro. Orville Smith is giving me in this direction. We regret that he is leaving here and returning to Mo. I am thankful that Bro. Ervin Waters has promised to begin training me after Bro. Smith moves. I ask the prayers of all the brethren that I may become a full-time gospel preacher. Here are 2 subs.

R. B. Roden, 805 N. Arnold, Moore, Okla., Oct. 19—The meeting at Norco, Calif. closed with one confession of faults. We appreciated the cooperation of the surrounding congregations. We were happy to have Bro. Don McCord and his family attend several times. Just closed a meeting at Lodi, Calif., Oct. 18. The nearby congregations were very faithful in their help and attendance. We were so happy to have Bro. Homer King and wife attend the meeting; also, Bro. Jim Hickey and his wife. Bro. Jim is a young gospel preacher and very zealous in the Lord's work. I will be at Sacramento, Calif. (64th St.), Wed. night, Oct. 21. We will be in a meeting at Cottage Grove, Ore., Oct. 23-Nov. 1; Kennewick, Wash.; Nov. 6-15; Yakima;

Wash., Nov. 20-29. We wish to invite all who can to attend the annual meeting Thanksgiving at Yakima. From Yakima, we go to Forst Grove, Ore., Dec. 4-13. Pray for us as we journey from place to place preaching the gospel.

J. W. Kornegay, Rt. 1, Raleigh, N. C., Oct. 8—The church here continues to grow in spirit and truth, as well as in number. We have had a wonderful meeting conducted by Bro. Preston C. Brown. He is a man well-read in the Scriptures, and is able with the same to defend the truth. I recommend him to the brotherhood as a fine and faithful minister. I just closed a meeting in Clintonville, W. Va. with one coming from digression. I enjoyed 2 nights with the Huntington, W. Va. brethren; Bro. Ronny Wade was doing the preaching and gave some inspiring thoughts well worth heeding. I enjoyed being in the home of brethren B. F. Leonard, Charley Ross, and Frank Taylor. I enjoyed the meeting Labor Day at Huntington, W. Va. Next year, it will be here at Raleigh. We invite all to be with us; we will let the people know who is to conduct the meeting. I enjoy the OPA very much. Here are 3 subs. Oct. 9, I begin at Fairmont, W. Va.

Eddy Bullard, 519 W. Acheson, Denison, Tex., Sept. 30—The church here met for the first time Sept. 27 at 200 So. Crockett with 28 present; one was restored. We meet at 10:30 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. The following churches made this possible: in Texas—Odessa—\$30; Andrews—\$10; San Angelo—\$50; Anson—\$25; Olney—\$25; Ft. Worth—\$100. In Okla.—Frederick—\$50; Ardmore—\$25; Healdton—\$50. The individual contributions were as follows: Bro. S. W. Lea—\$20; Bro. L. E. Blanscett—\$10; Bro. Howard Smith—\$5; Bro. A. D. Alpin—\$5; Bro. R. W. Ruark—\$10; the Bullards—\$75. Total—\$490.00. I made appointments at the above places, and this was the support I received. I then placed it in the bank at Denison, and am using it to pay the rent on the building and as my support; thus far, I am using \$25 a week for my support; this will soon have to be increased. I will give a progress report next month, and recognition of all supporting congregations and brethren. Pray for us in this work.

Billy Orten, Rt. 3, Box 48, Marion, La., Oct. 15—My summer meetings ended Sept. 15th when the meeting at Seymour, Mo. came to a close. We returned home to work with the congregations at Fairview and Conway in La., and Strong, Ark. Bro. James Orten is back in Monroe, La., laboring to build up the church in that city, and other congregations in this area. The churches in La. and Strong, Ark. have experienced growth in the past few years. Several young men have been baptized who are energetic workers and teachers. We plan to use more printed material in our efforts to reach people with the gospel. The congregation at Strong welcomes the Joe Spitzer family who moved to El Dorado, Ark. Conway enjoyed some wonderful preaching by Bro. Johnny Elmore during their meeting, Sept. 20-29. The interest was good, and the preaching was excellent. We look forward to Johnny's returning in '65. Fairview supports a weekly radio program that is stirring some interest. Brethren, let us use the radio, T.V., printed material, and every medium of communication available to get the full and true gospel to everyone, because the time is short.

Barney Owens, 10579 Thornview Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45241, October 15—Since last report, I have held meetings at Milford, Mich., and Roanoke, Va. Crowds were good and outside interest was encouraging. One confessed faults at Roanoke. I was able to attend three nights of Bro. Irvin Barnes' meeting at Chestnut Ridge, Ky. Irvin is very capable; it would do any congregation good to have him. He is a zealous worker. Too, I am thankful that I was able to attend my first Labor Day meeting; Bro. Lynwood Smith did a fine job conducting it. I enjoyed it very much. In Sept., I met with the churches located at the following places: the 6th, Wayne, W. Va.; the 9th, Cincinnati, Ohio; the 18th and 19th, Columbus, Ga.; the 20th, LaGrange, Ga.; the 23rd, Napoleon, Ala.; the 24th and 25th, Temple, Ga.; the 26th and 27th, Marietta, Ga. Oct. 4, I was at Chesapeake, Ohio; the 7th, Cincinnati, Ohio; the 11th, at Pontiac, Mich. I enjoyed being at all of these places, seeing old friends and meeting new ones. I had the pleasure of being with many preaching brethren during the past two months; for this I was made to rejoice. I earnestly ask the prayers of the faithful.

E. H. Miller, Box 538, La Grange, Ga. 30240, Oct. 16—Our third and last meeting for 1964 begins tomorrow night with Bro. Fulmer, of Jacksonville, Fla. He was with us for a week-end meeting, Oct. 4th. Wife and I were with the congregation in Arlington, Tex. for a short meeting of 4 services, Oct. 2-4. It was indeed an enjoyable one. Attendance and interest were good. Several from Dallas attended each service. Bro. Edwin Morris was away in a meeting, but Sister Morris and their children were with us; also, Bro. and Sister Will Perser from Shreveport, La. were with us for all services. Ft. Worth began a 10-day meeting the day we arrived, so they did not get to attend. I will now have more time to work with nearby congregations, since I am about caught up with my work at a distance. I am to be with the Birmingham, Ala. congregation for 2 services this week-end; then with the congregation at Marietta, Ga. the first week-end of Nov. Of course, I never catch up with the work here in LaGrange. There is more to do than the Lord has workers for; so let us all strive to win more Scriptural workers. Here is a renewal.

WHAT THINK YE OF CHRIST?

Artist: "The One Altogether Lovely."
 Architect: "The Chief Corner Stone."
 Astronomer: "The Sun of Righteousness."
 Baker: "The Living Bread."
 Biologist: "Life."
 Builder: "The Sure Foundation."
 Carpenter: "The Door."
 Doctor: "The Great Physician."
 Educator: "The Teacher."
 Farmer: "The Sower."
 Florist: "The Rose of Sharon."
 Geologist: "The Rock of Ages."
 Philanthropist: "The Unspeakable Gift."
 Servant: "The Good Master."
 Blind: "The Light of the World."
 Lost: "The Savior."

—Selected

F. E. Wade Nov. 64
 4000 Crenshaw

TIME EXPIRED

Our purpose is to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," and to "prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

OLD PATHS ADVOCATE

To continue "speaking the truth in love," "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace;" "keeping the ordinances as delivered."

"Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.' (Jer. 6:16) 'And they that be of Thee shall build the old waste, places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in.' (Isa. 58:12)."

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No. 12

THE WAY FORWARD—IS BACKWARD

By Ronny F. Wade

The general talk of most people concerns progress in some form or another. Nationally, we think of space, economics, etc. Domestically, we think of terms of housing, better wages, and medical progress. In religion the theologians are pondering such questions as modernism, and the genuineness of the inspiration of the Scriptures. To many, America is moving forward at a pace unequalled in the history of the world. However, from where this writer sits, things look differently. I fear instead of moving forward, we are moving beyond reason, and the help of God.

A few weeks back, a great American passed away. Herbert Clark Hoover will be accorded by history his rightful place in shaping and molding the political and social affairs of this nation. He was one of the very few men who live long enough to see history vindicate him of national shame and disgrace; and certainly any serious student of political science must admit that he was in many ways an outstanding man. On August 30, 1951, Mr. Hoover made a speech at the Iowa Centennial celebration at Des Moines. The following is an excerpt from that speech: "The practical thing we can do if we really want to make the world over again is to try out the word 'old' for awhile. There are some old things that made this country. There is the old virtue of religious faith. There are the old virtues of integrity and the whole truth. There is the old virtue of incorruptible service and honor in public office. There are the old virtues of economy in government, of self-reliance, thrift and individual liberty. There are the old virtues of patriotism, real love of country, and willingness to sacrifice for it.

"These old ideas are very inexpensive. They would even help win hot and cold wars. I realize such suggestions will raise that word, 'reactionary.' But some of these old things are slipping badly in American life. And if they slip too far, the lights will go out in America, even if we win these hot and cold wars.

"Think about it. Our greatest danger is not from invasion by foreign armies. Our dangers are that we may commit suicide from within by complacency with evil, or by public tolerance of scandalous behavior, or by cynical acceptance of dishonor. These evils have defeated nations many times in history. The redemption of mankind by America will depend upon our ability

(Continued on page eight)

THE NEED FOR MORE EFFECTIVE TEACHING

By Ronald DeWitt

Teaching in the church of Christ is not as effective as it needs to be. There are many faithful, sincere brethren who are doing a wonderful job of building up the individual congregations and some are helping to build up several congregations. These brethren put in many long hours doing the tasks they have seen fit to do: studying God's word to get a better understanding; visiting and studying with individuals, both Christian and sinner; traveling long distances to help a congregation where teaching is either weak or non-existent. It is a certainty that God will reward them for their labors.

Despite the example of these zealous brethren, there exists an obvious lack of interest in making the effort to teach with interest, enthusiasm, and effectiveness. Members of the church of Christ in general, and male members in particular, seem to take for granted the concept that the lack of training or the lack of natural ability is a fair excuse for permitting undernourished teaching to continue. This idea finds no support in the scripture nor does it find support in the ungodly ways of even the worldliest of men. It has come to be an accepted fact that the church of Christ will have some weak teachers and there is very little we can do about it, except tolerate it.

Perhaps the biggest cause of non-effective teaching comes from the idea that all male members of a given congregation should make an effort to teach. Brethren soon get the idea, therefore, that if they do not make an effort to teach they have committed a sin. In order to avoid this uncomfortable feeling of incompetence, they set out to perform the difficult task of teaching the assembly: a task which to them is not desirable, hence their lack of desire makes them unqualified because they have not done it "heartily, as to the Lord" (Col. 3:23). Brethren should not be put in this position. Paul placed two restrictions on a man becoming a teacher. He said that (1) he must be faithful and (2) he must be able to teach others also (II Tim. 2:2). It is important that both of these requirements be met. It is undesirable and unscriptural to put an unqualified teacher in the pulpit, but the same is true of one who is unfaithful, regardless of his teaching ability. A teacher must be both "faithful" and "able." That all brethren in the early church did not have the same offices and the same spiritual gifts is made quite ob-

vius in Paul's second epistle to the Corinthians (chapter twelve). In verse four, he talks about the "diversities of gifts;" in verse five he states: "there are differences of administration;" and in verse six he states: "There are diversities of operations." He ties the differences together by stating that each is by the "same Spirit," the "same Lord," and the "same God." He was telling them that, even though they were doing different things, they were doing it for the same cause. In the church of Christ today we do not need to expect every brother to do the same work as every other brother. Let those teach who are faithful, able, and desirous. Let those lead songs who have the ability and desire. Let those who can pray publicly do so. Some are excellent when personal relations or private teaching are required, so let them do that work. Let each Christian accept willingly the limitation God has placed on him, and let him also accept the responsibility that comes with the talent with which God has entrusted him.

This final warning made to those who would teach is found in James 3:1 (R.S.V.): "Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, for you know that who teach shall be judged with greater strictness." The teacher has a great responsibility because of the nature of his public conduct as a teacher. He is responsible for what he teaches because it could have an effect on a greater number of individuals than it would were he not a teacher. Any man who must bear a greater responsibility wants to be certain that he qualifies for that position. The responsibility is quite great for the qualified man, then what of the one who is unqualified?

The purpose of this essay is not to discourage brethren from being teachers. On the contrary, it is hoped that more brethren will take up this obligation with more interest, enthusiasm, effectiveness, and with an awareness of the responsibility this position entails.

It should be pointed out again that the scriptural qualifications are that a man be faithful and able. Nothing is said about formal training or education. If formal education were a requirement for being a public teacher, the church may never have gotten past the first century, for Paul alone is the only apostle known to have been well-educated.

—509 E. Radburn, Tucson, Ariz.

LET'S PREACH THE GOSPEL

By Freddie Lay

The apostle Paul once said, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation" (Rom. 1:16). The way men of today want to dress up the word of God to appeal to the so-called "educated" amazes me to say the least. Do they not forget that Solomon says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge?" To make the record even clearer he also says in Eccl. 1:18: "that he that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow." So, let us proceed with this in mind. People seem to feel the need to mix psychology, etc., in sermons which are not only full of broad generalities, but confuse, mix up, and bore those who hunger and thirst after righteousness. Why is this? Does God not know how to appeal to a creature that He created? Certainly we know that He does. Notice Paul as he speaks to young Timothy: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction

in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

Have you ever noticed that God does not always choose the well-educated through whom to work? Consider Peter and John and the story we find in Acts 4:13—"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them that had been with Jesus." I do not say that an education is not important for I believe quite to the contrary. However, let us make sure we do not mix or misplace our values. More education does not make you a better person in the sight of the Lord; nor necessarily does it make you more effective as a servant laboring in His vineyard, though it can. I have seen speakers who have less education than others excel in preaching the gospel. I, too, realize the command that men are to be apt to teach, but see no educational requirements above the ability to edify spiritually. The word of God need not be garnished with the ideas of psychology to convert souls. Paul said, "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:17).

Increasing, too, at an alarming rate is the tendency of some toward soft-preaching. The fear of convicting those in error should not be present. I offer for an example those gone on before. Paul once withstood Peter to the face. John the Baptist once said, "Ye offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruit meet for repentance." Consider the preaching of Peter on the day of Pentecost. Did his straight preaching run off prospective converts. **No it did not!!!** Some 3,000 souls were added to the church. Today, instead of asking men and brethren what must we do, they ask, "What did he preach on; we don't understand," or "Oh, well, it was a good smooth sermon." Again, I call your attention to John the Baptist as he tells Herod that it isn't lawful for him to have his brother's wife. Listen to our Lord, "Woe unto you, scribes, Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he is become so, ye make him two fold more a son of hell than yourselves." Stephen said, "Ye stiff necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do ye."

The apostle Paul was another champion in this field. Space does not permit us to list them all but I think the point has been clearly set forth. This was straight preaching, and was the attitude characteristic of preachers in the church of the apostolic days. They stood for something and they stood without compromising with error. This is the kind of preaching that convicted sinners and strengthened the church. These men knew nothing about modern psychology. They knew the gospel of Christ and how to preach it!! They loved the souls of men and preached as if they meant what they said.

The modern broadminded method of approach "tread lightly," "go easy" attitude prevalent in so many places is worse than useless. It will not condemn error, will not convict sinners, will not strengthen the church of the Lord. Can you picture in your mind Peter or Paul preaching in the following manner: "Unless you repent, in a measure, and are baptized, by some mode, in order to be saved, so to speak, you are, I am sorry

to say, in danger of hell and damnation, to a certain extent?" **Certainly not!**

Brethren, let's preach the unsearchable riches of Christ. Let's convict the erring of his unrighteous ways, reprove all error and strengthen the church.

—7844 Rancho Fanita Dr.
Santee, Calif.

NEWS AND VIEWS ON MISSION WORK

By James Orten and Jerry Cutter

Interest in the current second phase of the African work has been tremendous. So many churches have cooperated that Bro. Cutter's monthly support and traveling expenses are provided for, and, the Lord willing, he and his family will fly from Okla. City, Nov. 20th for Malawi. Present plans are for them to stay two and a half years. Bro. Orten and his family are scheduled to return to Africa next summer. The Lebanon, Mo. church, with its usual diligence, is already at work with the financial arrangements.

To some, the highlights of this work is the way it is being done, that is, both promoted and directed by a single congregation. This is not to say the papers cannot play an important part in informing the brotherhood. They can, but the real work of sponsoring and guiding the project is in the hands of a congregation. Such an arrangement is not only eminently scriptural; it is advantageous both to the preachers and the work.

In this way, the responsibility of a great work can be shared. Probably few realize what a favorable circumstance this is. In a new field decisions must sometimes be made which will effect the whole church in that field. No man needs that much responsibility, and no one who is aware of his human failings wants it. If the wise men in a congregation are supplied with information, they can assume a part of this burden of decision-making. Not only can they share the responsibility of making a decision, they can shield the preacher from those who may not agree with the policies under which the work is conducted. During our six months in Africa, we tried to faithfully execute the wishes of the Lebanon church. On our way to Africa, we were asked to contact brethren in England and Belgium. This we did. Later when we were questioned about our procedures, we referred the brethren to the Lebanon church. This alone alleviated many problems.

A congregation taking such a lead can share the great amount of work involved in a mission project. As all of you who contributed to the first project know, Lebanon mailed out detailed reports on the work to all churches contributing. We would never have been able to do this ourselves. Thus, by combining our efforts, the brotherhood was much better informed and we were left more free to concentrate on the work in the field.

It is a distinct advantage to the work for the authority for its direction to be centralized in one congregation. Because Lebanon had committed themselves, we were able before we left to assure the African brethren we would be back. It was not necessary to wait until some vague feeling of brotherhood interest crystallized. We did not feel the insecurity of trying to put into action the ill-defined wishes of the entire brotherhood. Though likely all churches would have directed the work similarly, we were able to consult with Lebanon and know exactly what they wanted. It was also good for the Africans to know precisely who was guiding

the work. If they wished to commend or complain, they knew exactly to whom to write, and a number did. On this point, it is important to mention that a Christian (preacher or otherwise) must always be subject to the discipline of some church. Even if we had used our own personal funds for all the work this would still be true. In this case, we would have been subject to our home church—a fact we often overlook.

It is important that we crystalize our thinking and begin laying concrete plans for more mission work. There are so many opportunities in this country, Mexico and Africa. The English churches, who are very close to us in practice, are at this very moment being rocked by a division over the individual cups question; and we might add it is a division caused by preachers from the States who went there and introduced them, reminiscent of the 1920's and 30's in this country. We will not be able to make the church a really world-wide organization until we decide upon plans and begin to execute them with dispatch. No one doubts the scripturality of a congregation doing as Lebanon has done. They are able to secure the help of sister churches and promote this work, not because of their size, but because of their determination and wisdom. Let's look ahead and begin creating some new spiritual frontiers. A good place to start would be for some church to choose a preacher, let him begin training in the Spanish language, and when he is ready send him to Mexico to work with the Mexican preachers and groups we already have there. Denominations do it with error. Why not we, with the truth?

NEWS FROM MEXICO

Lord's Day, October 25th, Brethren Joe Martinez, E. E. Perkins and the writer went to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico and worshipped with the brethren. We arrived about 9:00 A.M., and left about 2:00 P.M. We got a lot of talking done, learned much, and instructed some. Brother Jesus Rodriguez, the preacher there, seems to be a very conscientious man, zealous for the gospel, and respected by the members who were present there that day. They are mostly young folk. All of them were pleasant, friendly, alert, and seemed happy though very poor. They welcomed us warmly, men, women and children shaking hands with us.

Brother Rodriguez is building a house where they will live and where the church will also meet. The tiny lot of land cost about \$500, and the concrete block house about the same. I do not know if it is paid for or not.

Brother Joe Martinez is such a very kind man, humble and has a most soothing manner of speech. He did most all of the talking, for none of the brethren speak English. Brother Perkins speaks more Spanish than I do, and can carry on a simple conversation with them. He also is very interested in the furtherance of the gospel there. The assembly was one of simple dignity, except for the slight noise of some of the little ones. They sang with vigor, and quite well; they prayed fervently and with seeming sincerity, twice during the service. They read the scriptures with calm, dignified feeling, divided the talking between themselves and Joe, and invited me to talk; several took part in leading the singing. Though the whole of their speech was too fast for me to catch much of it, I felt that I was in the

(Continued on page eight)

Old Paths Advocate

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THIS AND THAT

Acknowledgment — Brother Homer L. King acknowledges with sincerest thanks the following: Mozier, Ill.—\$50; J. E. Van Stavern, Levelland, Tex.—\$7; A. M. McCord, Sr., Hugo, Okla.—\$5. Sister King wrote under date of Nov. 16th that Brother King's physician had recently told him that he has made the best progress of any cardio-vascular accident (stroke) patient that he has had since beginning practice in Stockton. I am sure that Brother King does not only credit this to the skill of his physician, but also to the prayers and faith of the many who have mentioned him to our Father.

Have you noticed? Yes, have you noticed the fine articles of recent months written by our younger brethren? We appreciate these so much and always invite our younger brethren and older ones, too, to submit articles whenever they wish. I regret we are not always able to publish articles the month they come in, but we will do our best to publish them as soon as we can. We humbly ask your understanding and patience.

My thanks—I, again, express my sincerest thanks to all for their help with the publication of this journal—to our faithful subscribers, and the editors for their help and understanding. To my wife, too, I always wish to express thanks for the many hours she gives every month in keeping books and records that are so necessary in such a work as this. Too, Sister Veta Wissinger deserves our thanks for the hard work that is involved every month in mailing the paper from Lebanon, Mo. Too, our continued thanks goes to Laycook Printing Co. for the fine job they do in printing every issue, as they have done for over 30 years.

The New Year—As we come to the close of another year, we find it to be a good time for reflecting, resolving and repenting. There is so much to be thankful for—the church, and the many blessings, too many to mention, that accrue to all who are members. At this time, we share the following with our readers. I am sorry I do not know the author so credit could be given.

'A year untried before me lies; what it shall bring of strange surprise,

O joy or grief, I cannot tell,—but God my Father knoweth well;
I make it no concern of mine, but leave it all with Love Divine.

'Be sickness mine, or rugged health; come penury to me, or wealth;
Though lonesome I must pass along, or loving friends my way may throng;
Upon my Father's Word I rest,—whatever shall be will be best.

'No ill can come but He can cure; His Word doth all of good insure:
He'll see me through the journey's length, for daily need give daily strength.
'Tis thus I fortify my heart, and thus do fear and dread depart.

'The sun may shed no light by day, nor stars at night illumine my way;
My soul shall still know no affright, since God is all my life and light.
Though all the earthly lamps grow dim, he walks in light who walks with Him.

'O year untried!—thou hast for me naught but my Father's eye can see;
Nor canst thou bring me loss or gain, or health or sickness, ease or pain,
But welcome messenger shall prove from Him whose name to me is Love.'

'**ALMIGHTY GOD, MERCIFUL FATHER** — who hast granted me such continuance of life that I now see the beginning of another year,—look with mercy on me; as Thou grantest increase of years, grant increase of grace. Let me live to repent what I have done amiss, and by Thy help so to regulate my future in life that I may obtain mercy when I appear before Thee, through the merits of Jesus Christ. Enable me, O Lord, to do my duty with quiet mind; and take not from me Thy Holy Spirit,—but protect and bless me, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.'

—D. B. McCord

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Send all orders to Old Paths Advocate, 1061 N. Pilgrim, Stockton, Calif.

OUR HELPERS

You will find listed below the names of those sending subscriptions since we last went to press, and opposite the name the number of subs sent. We want to express again our deepest appreciation for your continued interest in behalf of this journal. May we count on you to continue the good work? Please check the following list, and report any errors to us immediately.

Elizabeth Byford—20; E. H. Miller—10; Tom Greenwood—6; Ernie Lewis—5; William F. Sifford—5; Neomi McCracken—5; Mattie Lloyd—5; Sue Mongeon—5; Preston C. Brown—5; Edwin Morris—4; Byron Kramer—4; Laura Kelley—4; Ronny Wade—3; Mrs. Wm. J. Bunner—3; John B. Snow, Sr.—3; Gillis Prince—3; Paul Nichols—2; Mrs. T. L. Modgling—2; W. M. Nicholas—2; Dewey Best—2; Jim Hickey—2; Pete Howard—2; Earl Butts—2; Ray Pafford—2; Earl Wooster—2; Thomas J. Shaw—2; L. A. Shipley—2; Mrs. E. L. Mason—2; Ron Courter—2; Mrs. Charlie Warren—2; Laura Smith—2; Ronald DeWitt—2; Judy Morris—2; Marjorie Mason—2; Eugene Bryson—1; Jerry Magar—1; Clell Kendrick—1; M. D. Byrd—1; H. A. Sifford—1; Claud Collins—1; Bertha Wiseley—1; Mrs. Frank Walker—1; Bessie Hamilton—1; Jettie Ogletree—1; Lem Satterfield—1; John Sharp—1; Mollie Wright—1; Veta Wissinger—1; Louis Mearse—1; L. H. Meridith—1; A. H. Cutter—1; Wayne McKamie—1; Mrs. Thomas J. Shaw—1; Earl Bunner—1; Eddy Bullard—1; J. W. Stevens—1; R. M. Stavern—1; Curtis Morrison—1; Jack Leverett—1; Bill Roden—1; Dee Aldridge—1; James Virgin—1; D. O. Fancher—1; Leon Lindell—1; Doris Bunner—1; Pearly Marshall—1; Carl Willis—1; Mrs. Robert Kramer—1; Barney Owens—1; Ralph Kitson—1; Claude Ridenour—1; Mrs. W. A. Macy—1; Herschel Massie—1; Garry Macy—1; Carl Rodden—1; Earl Helvey—1; Vernal Bumgardner—1; J. N. Tidmore—1; A. R. Noack—1; Richard Nichols—1; Fred Lay—1; Barbara Costa—1; B. E. Cato—1; Wayne DeGough—1; Verlin Elliot—1; A. B. Rush—1; Cecil Miller—1; Ruth Burns—1; C. W. Van Stavern—1; Wanda Turner—1; Dan Keel—1. Total—183.

CAN YOU HELP

The brethren at Lockhart, Ala. have recently bought and paid for a 100 by 50 foot lot on highway 331 in Florala, Ala. Our treasury was completely exhausted after we paid for the lot; we are therefore asking for help from faithful churches to construct our building. We are small in number, but willing to work for the Lord. We are planning a modest building, concrete block, 30 by 60 feet. Three years ago, Brethren James Orten and David Macy planted this congregation; we have grown and there are prospects for further growth. These two brethren will vouch for our loyalty. You may direct donations either to the writer at Rt. 2, Box 157, Florala, Ala.; or Ed Carpenter, Lockhart, Ala.; Edward Harrison, Rt. 2, Florala, Ala.; or Dan Rutherford, Lockhart, Ala. Thank you for any help you may be able to give.

—I. D. Harrison

CHURCH DIRECTORIES

I have mailed out forms to each congregation in order that all errors made in the 1964 directory may be corrected. Two dozen or so were returned marked "Unknown," "Moved, not Forwardable," "Moved, Left no Address," etc. More than 100 others have not been returned. Brethren, we often need a good church directory, so please help me make an up-to-date one for 1965. I plan to give the material to the printer in Jan., so please rush me correct information.

Many orders that were filled in 1964 were never paid for, some were returned unclaimed, and I wrote to some about their order, but could not get a reply. The new directory will sell for 50 cents, as in the past.

—E. H. Miller, Box 538,
LaGrange, Ga. 30240

CHANGE OF LOCATION

The congregation meeting at 2622 E. 32nd, Joplin, Mo., will move into its new building by the first of the year. It is located at 46th St. and Range Line. This is one-half mile south of the intersection of Interstate 44 and U. S. Hwy. 71. If you should desire further information, contact Bro. Fred DeMasters, 4429 Wall, phone MA 3-9945, or Fred Renier, 1213 Montana, phone SU 1-1671.

—Jack Cutter

NEW YEAR'S MEETINGS

Ada, Oklahoma—The New Year's Meeting will be conducted Dec. 27-Jan. 1, with Bro. Lynwood Smith in charge of the services twice daily. All-day services are planned for Jan. 1 with talks by young men of the church, and also by leaders of various congregations. A highlight of this meeting each year is on New Year's Eve when many stay up late to "sing the old year out and the new year in."

The church of Christ, 8th & Oak, in Ada extends a warm welcome to all to attend these services. Judging from past meetings, you will be glad you did.

—Johnny Elmore

Lynwood, Calif.—The congregation here will not hold the New Year's meeting this year as previously planned.

—Ray Fox

NOTICE

We would like for the brethren to know that there is still a congregation meeting in Redding, Calif. The address is 2322 California St., the same one given in the Calif. directory by Bro. Luther Boek, and the U. S. directory by Bro. E. H. Miller. Times of service are: Lord's Day, 10:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M. My phone number is Area code 916 241-5750; my home address is 3050 Bechelli Lane, and mailing address is Box 1266, Redding, Calif.

—Jesse French

FROM SULPHUR, OKLAHOMA

We, the Sulphur, Okla. congregation, would like to make improvements on the tabernacle where the Fourth of July meeting is conducted every year. It is impossible for us to do this alone at this time since we purchased the lots for parking around the tabernacle earlier.

Our plan is to concrete the floor, and install "lift up sides" all around. The sides when lifted would provide more, and much needed, covered seating capacity. We

can do this at a cost of \$2,750.00. Congregational and individual contributions will be appreciated and acknowledged through the OPA. Donations may be sent to Bro. Jerry Gilbert, 1107 Tahlequah St., Sulphur, Okla.—Brethren of the Sulphur congregation

(Note: Brother T. L. Modgling, 1621 W. Harris, San Angelo, Texas, who has attended these meetings faithfully for years, made a public appeal for the above mentioned improvements and offered his help during the last service of the meeting this year. He also asked me later in the summer to make another appeal in the paper. We had been waiting for the Sulphur congregation to make plans known. This has now been done. I feel sure the Sulphur brethren can depend upon Brother Modgling to help in anyway he possibly can. Too, I am sure, other brethren will see the need of helping, also.—DBMc)

SUPPORT NEEDED

Sometime in July, 1965, we plan to conduct a meeting at Elgin, Oregon for the purpose of planting a congregation. The preacher is engaged, but we will need funds for rent on a building, advertising, etc. The preacher deserves to be paid, too. I will help in every way possible without support. Are there interested brethren who would help in this effort? If so, would you please very soon communicate with the writer at 2052 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento, Calif. 95821.

—Amos E. Doud

A WORD OF THANKS

The Lebanon, Mo. congregation would like to express thanks to all who are helping in any way in the African work. We believe that much good has been accomplished, and that much, much more good will be in the future. Those who have promised monthly support to Brother Cutter may send their checks to Brother Jerry Cutter, Box 9, Lebanon, Mo., and we will deposit them to his account in a Lebanon bank for him.

Full support promise has been made for Brother Jerry, and his plans are to leave this week. We would like to hear from more of you as to your plans in helping send Bro. James Orten back to Africa in early summer, 1965. Our plans are, as before, to send a first-hand report periodically to all supporters of this work. Would each congregation so interested please send us again your correct mailing address? Some of your letters have been returned. Communications intended for the church here may be directed to Box 9, Lebanon, Mo.

—Bill Van Stavern

A LETTER OF ENCOURAGEMENT

541 S. Adams,
Lebanon, Mo.,
Nov. 15, 1964

Dear Bro. Don: I was very glad to hear from you a few days ago. I believe I realize more fully your job as co-editor and publisher of the OPA, and I think you are doing a good job. Your humbleness and your spirit of fairness are to be appreciated. I believe the paper gets better from time to time. Many good articles are being published by various brethren that are both interesting and constructive. I am sure many readers are neglectful as I in commending the various brethren on their good articles.

I wish to say a big "Amen" to the article, "The Art of Teaching," by Bro. J. D. Yancey in the Nov. issue. We who are occasional teachers and amateurs in the business of teaching God's word should read and reread this good article. Too, those younger brethren who as yet have not begun, but have the desire to teach or preach, should take heed. Personally, I believe God is very critical of all of us who teach and preach His word, and are slack in our appearance, our preparation, our presentation, our grammar, our manners, etc. It is a blessing to the cause of Christ that we now have so many young preachers and those aspiring to become preachers, who are attending various schools on a part-time basis to better prepare themselves for one of the most important jobs in the world. Many do this while holding down full-time jobs. I would venture to say it is not this group of whom Bro. Yancey writes. To me, the use of bad grammar and slang in the pulpit is almost as bad as telling jokes in the pulpit. It is deplorable when we stop studying God's word and the art of presenting it. I say "Amen" again to such a fine article.

—C. W. VanStavern

GOOD NEWS FROM FLORIDA

For several years, many of the people in attendance at the assembly in Longwood, Fla. have been driving a distance of 30 miles from Winter Garden. The number at Longwood has grown sufficiently that we have deemed it wise for a new congregation to begin meeting in Winter Garden. This small congregation is strong and enthusiastically encountering this labor of love. The leadership is excellent. Some of the women are going from house to house informing people of the church; they, too, are visiting the local hospital. With fine Christian people such as these, success is a certainty.

The church solicits the support of the entire brotherhood. The members invite visitors. The meeting place is temporarily located in the center of town in the American Legion Hall. A building program is being planned and the prayers and financial help of all will be needed. For further information concerning this congregation, please write to Charles Frazier, 136 N. Hastings, Orla Vista, Fla., or Henry L. Stewart, 128 S. John, Orla Vista, Fla.

—Gene Cumbaa

HEAR YE HIM (II)

By C. A. Smith

In the Law of Moses, the ten commandments were the basic commands (Exo. 34:27-28). Upon those basic commands given to Moses hundreds of other rules and regulations, ceremonies, etc. were given, but none of these apply today. These commandments, regulations, etc. were given to the children of Israel and are commonly known as the Old Testament or Covenant. We cannot and must not go back to the old law for any practice today in the Christian life. If you think it is permissible to keep the law of Moses, hear what Paul says about it: "Ye are severed from Christ, ye who would be justified by the law; ye are fallen away from grace" (Gal. 5:4). He who would keep any part of the law is debtor to keep the whole. "Behold, I Paul say unto you, that, if ye receive circumcision, Christ will

profit you nothing. Yea, I testify again to every man that receiveth circumcision, as a part of keeping the law of Moses that he is a debtor to do the whole law" (Gal. 5:2, 3). Need we say more about the contents of the old law? We can, for the text read at the beginning of this study said, "—knowing that man is not justified by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we believed on Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law—"

The contents of the doctrine or gospel of Christ are facts for our faith in Christ. Paul said, "Now I make known unto you, brethren, the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye received, wherein also ye stand, by which also ye are saved, if ye hold fast the word which I preached unto you, except ye believed in vain. For I have delivered unto you first of all that which also I received: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried; and that he hath been raised on the third day according to the scriptures—" (1 Cor. 15:1-4). These are the facts that a man must believe in order to receive salvation from sins.

The contents of the doctrine of Christ include commands for our obedience. It is possible, Paul says, for a person to believe in vain. How so? Because his belief is not unto salvation. If it were, then he would complete his obedience to the rest of the contents of the doctrine. The jailer was commanded, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and thou shalt be saved, thou and thy house" (Acts 16:30). Christ said, "Except ye believe that I am he, ye shall die in your sins" (John 8:24). Another command in the contents teaches man to repent or to turn away from his sins. "Repent ye" was the command on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38). . . "Inasmuch as he hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by the man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead" (Acts 17:31). The contents of the doctrine commands that we confess our faith in Christ as the Son of the living God. (Matt. 10:32; Acts 8:37). In every case of conversion in New Testament times the faith suggested is an active faith, a faith not in vain. An active faith will persuade men to obey all the commands in the contents of the doctrine of Christ which includes baptism for remission of sins. Hear the great Master as He commands: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned" (Mk. 16:15-16). Why does the church of Christ mention baptism so much? Friends, if you will stop to notice, we do not mention it any more than we do faith, repentance and confession of faith in Christ. The reason it stands out so much is because so many people have been accustomed to leaving it out of the contents of the doctrine of Christ. Other passages which point to proof that it is to be included in the doctrine of Christ are Acts 2:38; 10:48; 22:16; Rom. 6:3, 4; Gal. 3:27; 1 Peter 3:21.

The contents of the doctrine of Christ also include promises for the encouragement of the faithful. Such encouragement as "Be ye free from the love of money; content with such things as ye have; for himself hath said, I will in no wise fail thee, neither will I in any wise forsake thee" (Heb. 13:5). Another: "Be thou faith-

ful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Rev. 2:10). Then with regard to temptation, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as man can bear; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation make also the way of escape, that ye may be able to endure it" (1 Cor. 10:13). "So, let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Gal. 6:9).

The contents of the doctrine of Christ include warnings against failure in the Christian way of life. Paul warned, "Take heed," brethren, lest haply there shall be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in falling away from the living God" (Heb. 3:12). It is very possible and highly probable that man will fall away from faith in Christ—"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:12).

The New Testament has laws, commands, promises and warnings, and it is highly essential that men do something about these laws and commands. For, "Not everyone that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven," so said Christ in Matt. 7:21. This statement from James 1:22, 25 is not so soothing to some, but nevertheless it is true, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves—but he that looketh into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and continueth therein, being not a hearer that forgetteth but a doer that worketh, this man shall be blessed in his doing."

The things commanded in the doctrine of Christ are not a part of Moses's law, but are the distinct teachings of Christ and as such are necessary to salvation. The law of Moses was for the children of Israel until Christ came. Christ is our law-giver and mediator today. Let us hear Him only, as suggested by the voice which spoke from heaven.

—1312 Alpine, Andrews, Tex.

OUR DEPARTED

Reeves—Sister Margie Feque Reeves, who lived in Pontiac, Mich., passed away at her home on Wed., Oct. 29th; she was sent to Franklin, N. Caro., for burial. She is survived by her husband, Mr. James Reeves, and a sister, Mrs. Claude Stomey, Rt. 2, Franklin, N. C. The writer spoke a few words of comfort to the bereaved.

—J. W. Kornegay

Bull—Bro. Adrian H. Bull was born Jan. 13, 1901, and departed this life Oct. 31, 1964 at Joplin, Mo. He was a life-long resident of this area. He is survived by his wife, Ida; they were married Nov. 10, 1922; one daughter, Myrtle Compton; and two grandchildren, Mike and Ilene. He was greatly respected in this area, and a large number gathered at his funeral to manifest their respect for him. Bro. Orville Lee Smith and the writer attempted to speak words of comfort and warning to the large crowd of friends and relatives.

—Jack Cutter

Smith—Sister Ruby May Smith was born Sept. 24, 1918 in Muskogee, Okla. She passed away on Oct. 30, 1964 at the age of 46. On Mar. 25, 1936, she was married to Lee Smith and to this union were born 6 children. Her daughter, Joyce Worster, the only one of Ruby's family who had obeyed the gospel, preceded her in death a short time ago. Ruby obeyed the gospel about 14 years ago. Left to mourn her passing are

her husband, Lee; her daughters, Mrs. Margaret Winter, Mrs. Cora Lee Carper; her sons, Eldon, Davis and Glen; 14 grandchildren; her brothers, Boyd and Quitman Ford; her father, John Henry Ford, all of Calif.; and her sister, Mrs. Bonnie Smith, Weatherford, Okla., and a host of friends. The funeral service was held in Merced, Calif. The writer tried to speak words of comfort and warning.

—Richard Nichols

BONDS OF MATRIMONY

Dougherty-Lewis—On the night of Oct. 16th, Brother Lester Dougherty and Sister Karen Lewis were married in a beautiful candlelight ceremony at the Palm Ave. church of Christ, Fresno, Calif. The wedding was attended by a host of friends and well-wishers. The bride is the daughter of the Glenn Lewises, Fresno, Calif., and the groom is the son of Sister Fay Dougherty of Sentinel, Okla. May the Lord's richest blessings rest upon this young couple and their Christian home.

—Jerry Cutter

Crouch-Spradley—On Aug. 21, Bro. Thomas Clifford Crouch of San Antonio, Tex. and Sister Beverly Ruth Spradley of Ft. Worth, Tex. were united in marriage. Many, many relatives and friends gathered in the beautifully decorated Trentman Ave. meeting house in Ft. Worth for the happy event. A reception followed at the bride's home. The entire wedding procedure was most fitting for the spiritual occasion. I have known Tommy and Beverly for several years; without a doubt they are among the finest of our Christian young people. Expectations and prayers are met together as we wish for them one of the best things in life—a happy Christian home.

—J. Wayne McKamie

THE WAY FORWARD—IS BACKWARD—

(Continued from page one)

to cope with these evils right here at home. Think about it . . ."

It seems to me that these remarks made by Mr. Hoover some thirteen years ago were never truer than now. Scandals in government are commonplace and even laughed at. Immoral behavior by public officials is almost expected by many. The text books of our schools are filled with the atheistic doctrine of godless evolution, and a crime wave is sweeping our nation unequalled in recent history. The Bible has been banned in many institutions and for the first time in many, many years it is considered out of place to pray. Is this progress?? No, a thousand times no! I must agree with the late president, what we need is a re-birth of the word "old." The way forward for our nation is backward.

In religion, and more especially in the Lord's church, I feel that the same principle should be applied. Many people seemingly feel that greater progress is presently being made than ever before. Again, I must dissent. I feel that we need more of the "old" things now than ever before. We need the old gospel that can save the sinner from his unrighteousness. We should banish from our presence all attempts to change and modernize its commands or promises. We need the old church with its old name and way of worship. The "new" ideas of the scholars and the innovations of the digressives have riddled and destroyed the sanctity and purity of the "holy way." We must go "back" to

the scriptures, if we expect the blessings of God to rest upon us.

We also need the old way of life, free from impurity and low, questionable morals; the old way of modest dress, instead of these "new" styles that unclothe our bodies and offer them for public spectacle. We need the old God-ordained practice of women letting their hair grow long, in place of the modern cropping and cutting that has replaced it. We need to return the sanctity and grandeur of the Christian home to its rightful place, and realize without it, the church can never be what it should. Yes, brethren, we need to move forward—but the way forward is backward! Back, all the way to the Bible; back to the "old paths" wherein is the good way. Let's go back!

—Box 564

Lebanon, Mo.

NEWS FROM MEXICO—

(Continued from page three)

house of the Lord because of the communion service and their unaffected naturalness in speech and manner. It made me realize that in truth there is the hope of the gospel in Mexico and in Brother Jesus Rodriguez is the spirit of determination to continue the work. We must not let them down. We must realize that they have only now begun to think for themselves—that they must now learn to act on their own initiative. We are, in our country, 150 years this side of the "restoration" and yet shamefully weak in some areas of faith and practice. How can we expect perfection from them—who have come out of such a wilderness of ignorance (spiritually)? They are a lovable people and if we want to make allowance for their shortcomings and inexperience, allowing them time to grow, they will make good Christians. I just hope that ample support continues to them so much that the gospel that we love can go forward.

—K. G. Wilks, 109 Dundee Dr.
Wichita Falls, Tex.

RUMORS

Let not your heart be guided by
The rumors that you hear,
But give the victim every chance
To prove he is sincere.

Let not your mind be poisoned by
The darts some people throw;
Investigate, and try to find
The facts you ought to know.

It is so easy to condemn,
And play a dirty game,
To manufacture lies, and to
Besmirch a worthy name.

Be careful when you read reports,
Or hear them on the air;
Some words escape the censors, and
They could be quite unfair.

Be careful in your judgment of
The rumors you receive,
And take your time before you choose
The things that you believe.

—Selected

From The Fields

Ernie Lewis, Box 393, Armona, Calif., Nov. 14—We appreciate the work you are doing on the OPA, and the fine articles by the brethren. Here are 5 subs.

J. J. B. Malowa, Pumula Estate, Box 1, Cholo, Malawi, Africa, Oct. 16—The work here is going forward. We are now waiting for the preachers to come back. All brethren here send greetings to all brethren in America.

Claude Ridenour, West Plains, Mo., Nov. 10—We enjoy the OPA so very much; we do not want to miss a copy. Keep up the good work. We at West Plains are striving to remain faithful and solicit your prayers. Bro. Arthur Wade is still with us and doing a good job, we feel.

Cicero Goddard, 4441 Agnes, Kansas City, Mo. 64130, Nov. 15—The work here continues to make slow progress; since my last report, one more man has come from digression. I feel that the Lord is still in business when men are willing to study God's word with an open mind. We request your prayers for us.

C. K. Smith, 1058 E. Morningside Dr., Springfield, Mo., Nov. 5—I must let you know that we are enjoying the paper. We would like to announce that beginning Dec. 1st, our schedule of services at Benton Ave. will be as follows the year around: Lord's Day, 10:30 A.M., and 7:00 P.M.; Wed., 7:30 P.M.

L. A. Shipley, Rt. 2, Wynnewood, Okla., Nov. 12—The congregation here is improving in the Lord's work. We enjoy the OPA. It has some good food for thought for the children of God. We hope the paper continues to grow. Enclosed is my renewal for 2 years.

Pete Howard, 427 White Oak St., Marshfield, Mo., 65706, Oct. 25—We are still keeping house for the Lord at Seymour. Bro. Dan McCord's piece in the Oct. issue was very good; we need more such teaching. Here are two renewals.

Ron Courter, 4625 2nd, Detroit 1, Mich., Nov. 17—The congregation here is working on the purchase of a building. It will be a tremendous aid for spiritual growth, as we will be able to meet more often and have more meetings.

Dennis Calloway, 220 N. 4th St., Rogers, Ark., Nov. 10—I am happy to report that the interest and attendance are good here. Attendance last Lord's Day was 34, about average for the past 2 months. We enjoy reading the OPA very much and learning of the good work being done elsewhere. Please note my new address.

C. A. Smith, 1312 Alpine, Andrews, Tex., Nov. 13—The church here is doing fine. We are now contacting

those interested persons in this community, and devoting Monday night of each week to studying with them. We pray that much good may come from our efforts. We enjoy the paper immensely. Keep up the good work. Pray for us.

Jack Leverett, 1501 S. 11th St., Duncan, Okla., Nov. 8—We surely do enjoy the timely and scriptural articles that are being written by fearless men of God and published in the OPA. Surely the exhortation that we derive from these articles will compel us to have a greater desire to be doers of the Word and not hearers only. Here is a sub.

H. A. Sifford, Alton, Mo., Oct. 23—We hope Bro. King continues to improve, and will be able once again to preach as he once did. Nov. 10-18, we plan a meeting with Bro. Irvin Barnes doing the preaching. The OPA is coming along fine; we think Bro. McCord is doing a fine job as publisher. We always look forward to the paper each month; it has so much good reading in it. Remember us when you pray.

Jesus Rodriguez, Nuevo Laredo, Tam., Mexico, Nov. 10—The work of the Lord in this place is going ahead, with the help of God. Last Oct. 18, we baptized Sister Juana Garza. We keep on working every day for the enlargement of the work of Christ. Pray very hard for us, so we can go ahead. May God bless you all and keep you in His holy love.

J. J. B. Malowa, Pumula Estate Box 1, Cholo, Malawi, Africa, Nov. 12—The church here continues to go forward. Oct. 4, I met at Gogoya church; Oct. 11, at Maoni church; and on Oct. 18, I worshipped at Pelusi church; Oct. 25, I preached at Nameta where 12 men were baptized. All Christians here send greetings to all brethren in America.

Amos E. Doud, 2052 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento, Calif. 95821, Nov. 11—The church here is meeting in unity. We had 2 baptisms and 2 restored recently. We need a series of meetings here, but since we rent the building, it is difficult to get it for a meeting. We have been looking for another building, hoping to be able to have more freedom. We enjoy every issue of the paper, and the many good articles. Keep up the good work.

F. H. Lichapa, Namphungo church, Namlenga Mission, P. O. Mikolongwe, Malawi, Nov. 14—I am greatly moved with pleasure to learn of the coming of Brother Cutter. Preparations for his arrival are well on the way. The work of preaching the gospel is progressing; please help me. My report is as follows: Oct. 4 at Manphungo; Oct. 11, Dzenje church; Oct. 18, Jenala church with 4 baptisms; Oct. 25, Khukhumba church in Zomba.

J. Wayne McKamie, Route 1, McGregor, Tex., Nov. 9—Bro. Lynwood Smith has just closed a meeting for us in McGregor. We had capacity crowds during the meeting. Brethren from many places gathered to encourage and be encouraged. Both the church and its influence were greatly strengthened by sound, to-the-point gospel preaching. One has been added to the church since last writing. We were in Ft. Worth yesterday (Nov. 8) for two services and a singing. Bro.

Jim Hickey and wife were with us for the singing; he is currently in a meeting in Dallas. We are to be in San Antonio (Catalina) Nov. 26-29.

Donald Brittain, 19 - 7th Ave., N. E., Ardmore, Okla., Nov. 12—We have had the privilege in this area lately of hearing two fine preachers in gospel meetings. Bro. Lee Boek held one at Healdton in which there were 5 baptisms and 3 confessions of faults. We all felt it was a marvelous meeting. Bro. Miles King conducted one at Marietta; Bro. Miles did some very fine preaching. There were no visible results, but the meeting increased the enthusiasm of the members immensely. We need the prayers of all.

A. R. Noack, 722 N. E. 32nd, Grand Prairie, Tex., Oct. 18—We, at Arlington, are striving to keep the ordinances as delivered (1 Cor. 11:2). We enjoyed very much hearing Bro. E. H. Miller in four good sermons Oct. 2, 3, 4th. We look forward to hearing Bro. Edwin Morris on Oct. 25th. We enjoy very much the OPA and the many articles by various writers. May God help us all to continue steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine, looking upward, toward Jesus. Please renew our subscription.

Erwin Hale, 1913 Shadyside S. W., Albuquerque, N. Mex., Oct. 31—We had a good meeting here with Bro. David Macy doing the preaching. There were no visible results but we had visitors every service except Lord's Day morning. We would certainly like to have Bro. Macy here for a longer time to do personal work. That is what we need here. Bro. and Sister George Powell from Farmington, N. Mex. came for one service. Anyone passing this way has a cordial welcome to stop by and visit with us.

Dee Aldridge, Box 163, Paden, Okla., Nov. 8—Brethren, we are still meeting in Okemah, Okla. at 621 N. 7th St., 3 blocks north of hwy. 62. Bro. Elmo House preached a good sermon today; we had visitors from Stidham and Cromwell, Okla. We appreciate our brethren and sisters in Christ being with us: it is encouraging. The subject of the lesson is found in Heb. 11:32-34. Anyone passing through or living nearby, we extend to them a hearty welcome. By faith ye stand (2 Cor. 1:24). Here is one sub.

Dan Keel, 5101 Miller, Ft. Worth, Tex., Oct. 23—We enjoy reading the OPA very much; would like to help others have it. We like the "fillers;" such as, "We often ask God to bless the very people God told us to bless." That is quite a sermon within itself. I wonder how many stop to think what it really means to bless. We had not. I wish more young men and women would take heed to the saying: "Neglect your home to increase your earnings and you will lose more than you gain." It is all so true.

Harley D. Ballard, 305 Magnolia St., Midland, Tex., Nov. 13—Nov. 8, I taught at Big Springs, Tex., where we greatly enjoyed fellowship with these brethren and sisters. Nov. 1, we were here in Midland at Terrell St. Both congregations here are doing well. Bro. Orville Lee Smith is greatly missed; we know he is doing well wherever he is. I hope to travel with him several months beginning in the Spring. We plan to visit sev-

eral congregations. Let us all everywhere renew our enthusiasm for the cause of Christ. Pray for us at this place.

Jerry Cutter, Box 573, Blantyre, Malawa, Africa, Nov. 16—We are scheduled to leave Okla. City, Okla., Nov. 20th and arrive in Blantyre on the 28th. My stay in the states has been a most enjoyable one. I have had many pleasant visits with brethren and fellow-preachers from Calif. to La. The last few weeks I have been in the Okla. City area, preaching mainly for the 21st St. congregation. These brethren have been very thoughtful and considerate of us; we baptized one recently and another confessed faults. Remember us and the church in Africa when you pray.

John L. Reynolds, 3434 9th St., Ceres, Calif., Nov. 11—The church here is still going forward. Nov. 1, two backsliders renewed their first love. Several have been baptized since last report. We have the house full each Lord's Day. The church here has engaged Bro. Billy Jack Ivey to conduct the Labor Day meeting in 1965. We are looking forward to a good meeting. Several of our young men are taking part in the teaching. Ceres is well blessed with young people, and it thrills my heart to watch them. There is not one word out of them during worship; they are so well-behaved. They are truly an asset to the church.

Jack Cutter, 2622 E. 32nd, Joplin, Mo., Nov. 17—The new building here should be completed in the next few weeks. It is now about seventy-five percent completed. We believe that the congregation's having a building of its own will help greatly in firmly establishing the Cause in this city. The work continues to show good progress in every area vital to its success. Two have been baptized this month. Several more are showing excellent interest, and we believe that some of these will soon obey the gospel. We were saddened because of the death of Bro. Adrian Bull. He suffered a fatal heart attack while helping work on the new building. Last week, we were in Okla. visiting with Jerry, Pat, and family before their leaving for Africa.

Jesse French, Box 1266, Redding, Calif. 96002, Nov. 13—Since last report, we enjoyed the Labor Day meeting at Ceres and attended the singing in Chico the first day services were held there. Again, last Lord's Day we were there for lunch and singing. It was good. We are hoping to have these meetings every month at one of the congregations in northern California. We hope to create a greater interest in the Lord's work and closer fellowship. With only one congregation in the Northern Sacramento Valley for many years it is good too see other congregations being established. We welcome all passing through Redding to visit us and if possible be with us for worship. May the God of heaven and earth grant unto us all an abundant share of His wisdom.

E. R. Brown, Box 750, Stilwell, Okla., Nov. 9—The Noel Chapel congregation is small in number but is still having services every Lord's Day morning and night. If any of you are passing this way, always feel welcome to stop and worship. Bro. Eddy Bullard preached for us one night lately. He preached a won-

derful sermon. Bro. James Morgan from Tahlequah, Okla. still preaches for us on Lord's Day evening. He is a wonderful preacher. Bro. Taylor from Fayetteville, Ark. preaches for us once a month, too. Bro. Howard from Mo. preached a very good sermon for us last night. Some visitors came with him; we were glad to have them, too. Everyone is always welcome. Remember us in your prayers.

R. B. Roden, 1704 Osage St., Corcoran, Calif., Nov. 10—We are now in a good meeting at Kennewick, Wash.; 3 have been baptized thus far. We are hoping others will obey the gospel before the meeting closes. Interest has been good thus far. Our meeting at Cottage Grove, Ore. was a good one. We enjoyed working with Bro. Gayland Osburn and others. Crowds and cooperation were excellent. We thank those from other congregations who helped to make the meeting a success. The Northwest is trying to get a preacher to work with the churches. We feel that much good can be accomplished at this time if they can find some one. The harvest is ripe. Brethren, pray for the work in this area and elsewhere.

Jim Hickey, Box 521, Manteca, Calif., Nov. 16—We have just completed a meeting at Boulder Dr., Dallas, Tex. Some confessed faults; the crowds were fairly good. In all, I believe we had a good meeting. There are certainly some fine brethren here; we could not have enjoyed our stay more. My wife and I enjoyed staying in the homes of Bro. Edwin Morris and others. We slowed down with quite a bit of illness. Nov. 1, we were at Covina, Calif. for 2 services. Nov. 3, I preached at Tucson, Ariz. This next Lord's Day, we plan on being at El Centro, Calif. I believe that the Bible teaches us not to fellowship a brother that "walketh disorderly," even though there are some that teach and practice otherwise.

Jim A. Canfield, Rt. 3, Box 86, Marion, La., Nov. 14—The church here continues to go forward in the work of the Lord. Oct. 22, I received a letter from Sister Adams at Brookhaven, Miss. that Bro. Robert Adams is very sick with a nervous breakdown. He is in the hospital at Jackson, Miss. Bro. Adams has worked 6 days a week carpentering for a long time and has worked diligently for the church. He has driven miles taking people to Lord's Day assembly and gospel meetings. What a loss to the church if Bro. Adams can not get well. I know that Bro. Fred White will do all he can in carrying on. I plan to be there the first Lord's Day in Dec. and once a month until Bro. Adams gets able to carry on. Nov. 28, I will be with the church near Marshall, Tex., and with the church in Memphis in Dec. God bless the faithful.

J. W. Kornegay, Rt. 1, Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 5—The church here is still growing; I baptized 2 last Lord's Day, and prospects look good for others to obey and be added to the church. It surely was good to have Bro. Carl Diamond from Norfolk, Va. give us a wonderful lesson lately. We enjoy Bro. and Sister Diamond being in our home. Bro. Jerry Harris is doing a good job helping me in the work here. I would like to thank all the congregations who are supporting me in this work. They are Pontiac, Mich.—\$50; Flemington, Pa.—\$50; Roanoke, Va.—\$50; Raleigh, N. C.—\$50; Green-

ville, S. C.—\$50; Huntington, W. Va.—\$100, and Norfolk, Va. gave \$50. this past month, making a total of \$400. I desire the prayers of all that the work in the Lord's vineyard will continue to go forward. I enjoy the OPA very much.

Louis Mearse, 105 Guinn St., Marietta, Ga., Nov. 16—The church here is still having visitors from the denominations around us. Bro. Alton Bailey from the church in La Grange, Ga. was with us last Lord's Day; we always enjoy hearing Bro. Bailey. We had a wonderful meeting with Bro. Jack Cutter; 2 were baptized and 1 confessed faults. We enjoy the OPA every month; we always look forward to it. The last weekend in Sept., we had Bro. Barney Owens with us for a short meeting; we certainly did enjoy such a fine preacher, and such a young one doing so much for the cause of Christ. Bro. Lee Boek and family visited us during the Labor Day meeting. I am glad to hear that Brethren Orten and Cutter are planning on going back to Africa. Here is my renewal.

Miles King, 1533 Camden Way, Norman, Okla., Nov. 18—The church here continues to progress. Several of the brethren have been doing the teaching at our services lately and giving some good lessons. Recently I closed a meeting at Marietta, Okla. It was good to be with these brethren again. We were glad to have visitors from Ardmore, Wilson, Healdton, and Denison, Texas. The church at Marietta is looking forward to Bro. Richard Nichols working with them soon. During the past month we have been closely associated with Bro. Jerry Cutter and his family who are now preparing to leave for Africa. Our prayers are for them, that they may have a safe trip and do lots of good in that field. Our meeting begins at Washington, Okla. this Lord's Day. We are also looking forward to the New Year's meeting at Ada, Okla. Brethren, pray for us.

Richard Nichols, 15102 Jersey Ave., Norwalk, Calif., Nov. 17—For the past few months I have been working in the Sacramento, Calif. area for the church that meets on 64th St. Sept. 28-Oct. 9, it was my pleasure to conduct a singing school here. The 64th St. congregation was gracious enough to allow me to hold a meeting at the newly established congregation in Orangevale, Oct. 16-25. Attendance was very good throughout, and the meeting closed with two being restored. Recently, I spent several days in the Lake Tahoe area where a few Christians began meeting Oct. 11. I received word since, that a sister with whom I talked is now convinced that we are right on the cups question, and that another family has begun to meet with them. The effort of these people to establish a faithful church deserves our interest and prayers. Nov. 20, I am to begin a meeting here at 64th St. It will continue thru Thanksgiving day. Lord willing, my work will continue here through the latter part of Dec. Jan. 1, I am to begin the work for the churches in Okla. I look forward with much enthusiasm to this work. Brethren, pray for me.

E. H. Miller, Box 538, LaGrange, Ga., 30240, Nov. 17—We certainly had a good meeting, Oct. 17-25, with Bro. Fulmer of Jacksonville, Fla. doing the preaching. Fulmer came out of digression several years ago and has been a great help to the faithful in Jacksonville.

His wonderful sermons were enjoyed by all in the meeting here. After the LaGrange meeting, we enjoyed several nights of the meeting at Napoleon, Ala. with Bro. Arthur Wade of West Plains, Mo. doing the preaching. The Lord willing, I will be in Bandy, Ky., for a meeting, Nov. 23-29. I have been in that section for more than 20 meetings in years past, so will be glad to meet many of my old friends again and work with them in striving to win lost souls for Christ and to strengthen those who have been won already. I enjoyed all the articles in the Nov. OPA, but especially the one on "Worldliness" by Bro. Jim Hickey. We need more such articles to elevate "righteousness" above "worldliness!" We need to remember as long as the ship is only in the water it will float, but when the water get into the ship it will sink; so let's keep the church (the old Ship of Zion) floating. Let us keep the world out of the church by all members refraining from "worldliness!"

Paul O. Nichols, 1400 Adena Street, Bakersfield, Calif., 93306, Nov. 17—Recently we had the opportunity to visit the congregation at Sonora, Calif. We had some excellent services. The singing was wonderful, due to the fact that there are good singers in the congregation, and also we had fine cooperation and assistance from so many folks who drove so far to be present. Several preachers were there, including Gary Macy, Jimmy Terrel, and Freddie Lay. It was so good to see all. The work with the Southwest Bakersfield congregation (just one year old in October) is going fine. Of recent date, we have had some unusually large crowds for services, and there have been several confessions of faults. Others are expressing interest in becoming a part of the congregation. Our contributions have averaged just under \$200 a Lord's Day so far this month. I think I have never worked with a congregation where there was a greater degree of cooperation and harmony. To God goes the glory. Our budget runs over \$620 a month, which includes half sponsorship of a weekly thirty-minute radio program. We hope in the not too distant future to have our own permanent place of meeting, if the Lord wills.

Tom E. Smith, Rt. 4, Box 171-A, Duncan, Okla., Nov. 14—We wrote at the beginning of our fall meeting with Bro. Lee Boek that we hoped to be able to report a glorious meeting. Well, with the help of our God, and with a preacher with a desire to heed Paul's admonition to Timothy to "preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine," and with cooperation of the members of the Healdton congregation and surrounding congregations, we have seen the fruition of our hopes. Five were added by baptism and there were three confessions of faults. The church seemed to take on new life during the meeting. I hope and pray that the enthusiasm manifested in the meeting will continue so that when Bro. Leon Fancher comes for the summer meeting in 1965, we can report another glorious meeting. All who were baptized were young folk; one young man was baptized not long before the meeting. This is indeed encouraging to us, knowing that the church will have a bright future. Bro. Miles King closed a good meeting at Marietta, Okla.; even though there were no visible results, we feel that with his untiring efforts we

are gaining ground there and will be prepared to reap a harvest when Bro. Richard Nichols comes to work in that community in 1965. Pray for us, and for our work for Him Who doeth all things well.

Garry Macy, 506 Western Ave., Box 564, Waterford, Calif., Nov. 6—The work here continues to move forward. Since last report, 3 have been added to the Lord, causing us to rejoice. This makes 6 baptisms and 2 restorations; prospects are good. We have a full house on Lord's Day mornings; good crowds at night. Contribution is upwards toward \$100. We started a program aimed at training teachers; this is helping. We begin a week's meeting here this Lord's day; we look forward to a good one. I have been teaching music in Modesto one night a week but we have had to discontinue this for the present. We have a weekly radio broadcast. It is already bearing fruit to His glory; one Baptist preacher is already seeing the light. We plan to send the tapes to other places where they can be used. Cave Junction, Ore. has asked first. If you would like to have them for radio purposes, write us. We have heard some good preaching lately. Bro. Paul Nichols gave an excellent sermon in Sonora the other night on "The Second Coming of Christ." Glad to have Jimmy Terrell working so close to us; he is at Ceres. We visited the congregation at Cave Junction, Ore. this last weekend; we had a good visit. They are very interested in contacting a preacher who will come and work with them. Would you be willing? We plan to hold a short meeting in Rogers, Ark. in Dec. and be at home, Neosho, Mo., around the holidays. Brethren, we must do or be doomed!

Eddy Bullard, 632 E. Sears, Denison, Tex., Oct. 21—Oct. 19 was our first day of full-time work here. Since Sept. 10th, we have worked 7 days and have had services the last four Lord's Days with an average attendance of 26. We are sure we can double this number very soon. We have the rent payed until Jan. 1, 1965. We have on hand \$603.87. I appreciate so much these men who came here and preached during my absence: Brethren Ervin Waters, Glen Elmore, Ted Warwick and Jeff Cantrell. All the money I have received has been placed in the bank, and is used for my support and to pay the rent. Our helpers since last report follow: Andrews, Tex.—\$10; Anson, Tex.—\$25; San Angelo, Tex.—\$50; Olney, Tex.—\$25; Ft. Worth, Tex.—\$100; Odessa, Tex.—\$30; Frederick, Okla.—\$50; Ardmore, Okla.—\$25; Ada, Okla.—\$50; Galey, Okla.—\$20; Springfield, Mo.—\$45; Loy Blanscett—\$10; Glen Van Stavern—\$5; Tulsa, Okla.—\$25; Okemah, Okla.—\$8; Chouteau, Okla.—\$25; Stilwell, Okla.—\$9; Stroud, Okla.—\$15; Golden, Okla.—\$15; Broken Bow, Okla.—\$35; Healdton, Okla.—\$50; Washington, Okla.—\$17.50; Mt. Home, Mo.—\$40; S. W. Lea—\$20; A. D. Alpin—\$5 Total—\$679.50. We are now buying the building that we are meeting in, and have already received some help. If you would like to be a part of this work, please send us any amount you can. The bank will finance most of the cost, but we need to keep the payments small so that we will not have to exceed our present budget. Our budget presently consists of the usual utility bills plus \$50 a week for me. By the time our reserve is exhausted the contribution will be enough to meet our budget and make a small building payment. Please address us as above. Pray for us. (Sorry this reached us too late for Nov. issue.—DMC).