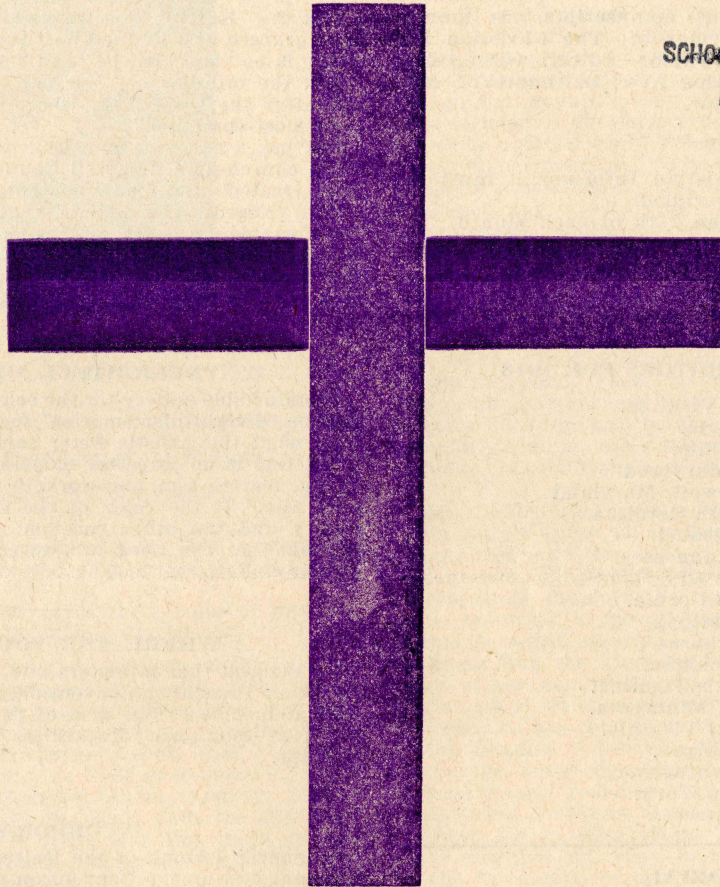


The Christian Informer

Vol. 2

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No. 5



In The Cross of Christ I Glory

In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'er take me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more lustre to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

THE CHRISTIAN INFORMER

A Monthly Publication Devoted to the Restoration of Primitive Christianity, Its Doctrine, Its Ordinances And Its Fruits

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If you saw it in the Christian Informer it must be true. We print the truth unbridled. All news must be in by the 25th of each month.

A NATIONAL JOURNAL

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EDITORIAL

"THE REAL FACTS"

"Being a Virginian and therefore acquainted with the Negro in his Southern bailiwick where he is best known, best treated and most contended, we have from time to time dipped our pen in his behalf.

"Calling up the delightful memories of childhood, there are pictures of two churches in the little village of our nativity: one, the white church, provided with a comfortable gallery where the colored brethren worshipped with us and had fellowship at the Lord's Table; the other, a little log meeting house on Goose Creek, at the edge of the town, a Negro church where Uncle Sam, as we affectionately called him, dispensed The Gospel, and where we dropped in occasionally to listen to his startling exegesis and hair-raising eloquence." End quote.

The above is a part of an article which appeared in the March issue of "The Restoration Herald," a paper of our Faith, with the name "Negro" spelled with a little "n," which is an insult to the people of my race. The name "Negro," written with a little "n," appeared more than a dozen times in the article.

Being "acquainted with the Negro" and being a "Negro" are two different things. The "Negro" knows better than

anybody where he is "best treated" and "most contended." Give the "Negro" credit for knowing something about himself, and "where he is best treated."

Why not ask the "Negro" who knows where he is "best treated" and "most contended." Do not ask the "Uncle Sam," the "Uncle Tom" type "Negro" where he is best treated, or most contended; that type of "Negro" is looking for a TIP, or a HAND OUT, or some kind of POLITICAL FAVOR.

That type of "Negro" will tell you a BARE-FACED LIE. He will tell you that he is "best treated" and "most contended" in Virginia, than he could be in Heaven with God and the Holy Angels.

Ask the "Negro" who knows that he is an American, where is he "best treated" and "most contended."

Ask the "Negro," who wants all of the rights and privileges granted him by the Constitution of the United States; where is he "best treated" and "most contended."

Ask the millions of "Negroes" who left Virginia before and after the Civil War, where were they "best treated" and "most contended"?

Ask me, a minister and American citizen, who once pastored churches in Tazewell County, Va., if the "Negro" is "best treated" and "most contended" in Virginia?

The "Negro" who knows what it is to be away from "comfortable galleries in the white church" and other things, does not mean it when he sings, "Carry me back to Old Virginia." The only way you will get some of them back is to carry them back in a Casket.

"DELIGHTFUL MEMORIES"

"Comfortable gallery for the colored brethren to worship," may be "delightful memories" for those who do not appreciate what the Apostle Peter said in Acts, tenth chapter: "That God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him." If the color of the skin put one race in the gallery and the other race on main floor; I am of the opinion, that the Lord was absent from the Lord's Table in that church, and had no fellowship with it.

WHERE ARE YOU LOOKING

We suggest that ministers and churches in the National Christian Preaching Convention, look to Jesus for leadership. Remember, "The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own." Regardless to the color of arm, look to Jesus.

INCORPORATED

Whenever I think of the United Missionary Society, the National Missionary Convention and the Long Range Program. I think of slavery, open-membership, modernism, and liberalism INCORPORATED.

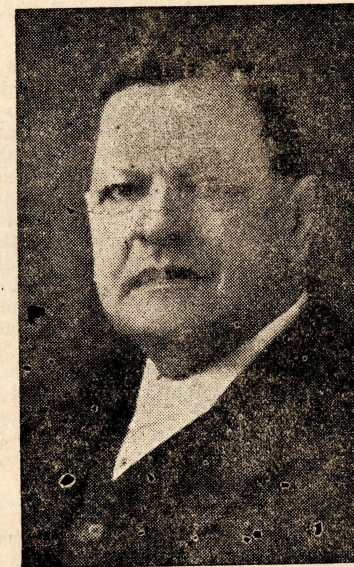
"OUT OF LINE"

We quote from the Calhoun Street Christian Church Bulletin. This Church speaks with authority to the United Missionary Society.

"Open-membership is scriptural; closed membership is unscriptural, and out of line with the spirit and purpose of the movement known as The Disciples of Christ. Dr. Peter Ainslie is living today among The Disciples Churches and having a greater influence for reformation than when he was with us in the flesh." End quote.

Closed Membership may be unscriptural, and OUT OF LINE with the spirit and purpose of the movement known as The Disciples of Christ. But Closed Membership is IN LINE with the spirit and purpose of the Movement which Christ and the Apostles brought into being. Christ said in John 3:5: "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Again we quote the Bulletin: "If you are a Christian in any communion, you may be received into full fellowship of this church irrespective of baptism." End quote. The New Testament tells us that all who came into the Church on Pentecost, and at other times, were baptized in water.

CANONS OF INTERPRETATION



By the late ELDER PRESTON TAYLOR

Pastor of Lee Avenue Christian Church, Nashville, Tenn.

Founder and first President of the National Christian Missionary Convention.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Tim. 2:15.

Horn, in his introduction, gives three rules of interpretation: (1) Literary, (2) Metaphor, (3) History.

1. When you open a book or subject, throw all the literary productions you can command on it, from the beginning get the view of your subject well in hand, and walk up to it, be master and not servant, for the revealed things belong to man and hidden things to God. Half a century ago most men dared not open the Book of Revelation; could not understand it; the book was a hidden mystery; but the student of today, on opening the book, finds the deficiency that confronted our fathers years ago. But there are the literary lights of Scott, Clark, Barns, the voice of seven thunders and others, all opening up with new ideas, aiding the disciple in reaching the conclusion. Traveling in company with these beacons, one is made to feel he can do all things through Christ that strengtheneth him and the dark Satan he has so much dreaded, has burst forth with the most pleasant fruit.

There may be some things that we are to see through a glass darkly, but God has opened wide the storehouse of wisdom to all, that the way of life and the plan of salvation may stand out in full view with this inscription. 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.

Nothing is lacking in the Book of Life to supply man's fullest needs, and he is prohibited from adding or taking from the contents of this book. He is admonished to study this revelation of God, not to change or improve or destroy its laws and precepts. Man cannot show himself approved unto God unless he has used the material that God has given him. "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all; One link out of the chain destroys the usefulness of the entire cable."

Let us picture out a ship crossing the ocean full of cargo and living freight. Proudly she sails with all her mammoth machinery in motion and her sails unfurled to the breezes,

but, alas, she springs a leak, soon the water of the mighty deep pour in and all goes down in destruction. How many ships of Zion labeled the people of the most high God, apparently well equipped with the ordinances of the Lord Jesus, are sailing through life with banners? But every man's work must be tested, for many will say in Judgment, Lord have we not done many wonderful works? But then the Lord will say to them, I have never known you. My ways are not your ways, says the Almighty. As the heavens are high above the earth, so are my ways above your ways.

Absolutely an adherence to the word is necessary to make a working man that needeth not to be ashamed. Put yourself a few years hence, when your work will have been finished, at least the time allotted for you to finish it when you will stand before the judge and say to him, Behold here is my work that thou gavest me to do. When the examination begins it will be on the basis that God made with Moses, "Make all things according to the pattern shown to thee in the mountain." But what if the judge should say, This garment is not cut according to my pattern, have you not made new patterns? Friend, why are you here without a wedding garment on? To be speechless without a defense, would be a position of a criminal of great magnitude, and to preach any other gospel than that which has already been preached would be to call down a curse on the promulgator. Decide now which will you take, the reward for doing duty, or the punishment for negligence. Her paths are paths of pleasantness, and all her ways are ways of peace to them that walk in them, and so teach others. But if the blind lead the blind both will fall in the ditch together. The Bible is not a catacomb. "Why seek you the living among the dead?" There has been a resurrection and ascension of our Saviour, and he invites all nations of the earth to come unto him and be saved. But those who come must recognize him as the author of their salvation and not expunge his conditions and institute those of men.

Man's redemption is conditional. God changes the heart by faith, but if there is no faith in the heart God cannot change the heart, for faith is the condition of the change. Repentance changes the life; but if the supplicant refuses to repent, he destroys the new life; baptism changes the state, but what if the candidate refuse to be baptized, he cannot be regenerated or translated out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of God's dear Son. These are some of the conditions that Jesus converts sinners into Christians, there bring them from the world into the church, and then he has conditions to carry them from the church to the kingdom of heaven. Add to your faith, courage; and to courage, knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, charity; for if these things be in you, and abound they make you that you shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

2. The Metaphor; to study the Bible with any degree of intelligence and candor one must get all the similitudes that can be found on the subject in hand, bring out every analysis and resolve them into the principle. No one has ever been able to discover a single contradiction in all the Bible. What at may seem to be a mystery to the reader from the surface, he needs only to harmonize the passages in hand, and always allow the Scriptures to interpret themselves. If God cannot make himself understood through the Holy Writ surely our construction of things would bring greater confusion and scatter the true meaning to the four winds of the earth. Already the curvation is too visible. Indeed, the curves have been made so sharp until accidents are unavoidable, and many good intentions might have been fruitful, and garnered the ripened grain for the kingdom. It does not take the eye of an angel to discover the state of things already existing among the followers of Christ.

Men have regarded the rights of the Bible so little until it is a common occurrence to see a man call his neighbors together and set himself up a little kingdom or church, and declare himself monarch, and proclaim his mandates to his subjects; and, at will, take in and turn out those whom he

may choose, and thus sets aside the prescribed conditions of the New Testament. On the fellowship and withdrawal, we would refrain from describing much of the preaching that is altogether foreign to the teaching of the Bible, to say nothing of the wild emotions that are practiced in many of the churches of today. The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated. If we would only accept of the wisdom of God, through the gospel of his son Jesus, what a breaking down of the middle wall, that has so long separated the people of God; and there would be a union of all the vast army of God, marshaled by the great head of the church, and reviewed by the host of heaven; and what an ingathering there would be of converts, enrolled upon the register of the saved. To be in the midst of such a grand sight would be joy and gladness to the constituency of heaven. We cannot charge it to the Bible for the deluded state we are in, for the inspired book of God is for a united people; and when one is born of its regeneration it brings him into a union with God and his church, and there he is to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. The law of nature, as well as science, has taught us we cannot find interpretation until we have first found the law of agreement, and make the beginning and ending blend into one. We are afraid too many think of the Bible as the man said of the mill, "There are five brothers, and each one owns five-fourths of that mill." But when he was told there were only four-fourths in anything, said he, "Yes, you will remember that is a big mill." The Bible is a big book covering thousands of years and treating on all the important subjects of the world and many of its visitors to its pages get entirely lost and will hardly find themselves until Gabriel finds them in judgment. Reading the Bible is much like the prayers offered, instead of reconciling ourselves to the will of God, we try to blend God to our will.

A woman once said to me, "God doesn't answer prayer." Said I, "What is it he has to answer?" "Why," said she, "I have asked Him for these ten years to take my husband out of the world that I may marry a Christian man." God answered her prayer by leaving him in the world and making a Christian out of him. A mother sent for me once to preach her child's funeral and said, "I have prayed God to make my boy a pure boy, a useful boy, and here he has let him die." Why, God answered her prayer; if that boy had lived he would have been perhaps contrary to the mother's prayer, and wishing to save him, God took him home where he would be pure and useful. We too often overlook the resignation of our prayers, "Not my will, but Thy will be done."

In the commission of Jesus to his disciples, go, means never stop doing good for your brother man to be a follower of Jesus requires a consecrated life. The erroneous idea of some is when they invited to join the church all they were required to do was to yield obedience to the ordinances and sit down upon the work of others and ride into heaven with folded arms and closed mouths. When the call is made come and join the church it means come work for Jesus, come live a useful life in the service of the Lord. The church is like the ship of Jonah, it is over-loaded with too many "sleepers," the ship master needs to ask them to arise and call upon their God, if so be, God may think upon us that we perish not. A great shaking among the dry bones would greatly replenish and bring about a healthy growth. Indifference is the greatest drawback the church is experiencing today; indifference once invited, is like a contagious disease, it is hard to get rid of. It always wants company, and like the roaring lion, it seeks to devour all; and many times the disciples pray, "Lord increase our faith." Like the poor, the impious we have with us always, and much of the time and labor that ought to be spent in converting the world have to be given to the weak among us. They are those who are always ready to ride on some strong man's back. Help me, is the cry, instead of helping themselves and growing strong to help others.

We should put into practice the words of Jesus, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." But our imperative duty is to lose none that have been committed to our care. The lost one has around him the most of our tears, prayers and labor. Like the seamen we are pulling for the shore with our brother, unwilling to leave him behind to the

breakers. After all it is refreshing to know that God will save the city if a few are faithful, and that Jesus still walks in the midst of His church and holds out His hand to the sinking, saying, "Be thou faithful until death and I will give thee a crown of life."

3. History contains the great events of all ages. It is the arsenal from which we gather the knowledge of all periods, and with it we are enabled to draw nigh up to the very mouth of the speaker, and look into the past and see the lives and characters of the noble and chivalrous, and review their mighty deeds that have been written upon the Rock of Ages; and like the lighthouse out on a dark ocean, throws out the rays of light upon a perilous sea to the struggling seamen. What would this dark world be without the history of Moses, Job, Paul, or Christ? Take away the narratives of these and others, and you know but little. Yes, the Bible is a volume of history, and God and his co-efficients are the historians; and one of these writers said: "And many other signs did Jesus in the presence of his disciples which are not written in this book, but these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." But it is very largely the unwritten law that brings about the confusion. We must take the Bible and the Bible alone, as the safeguard against importation.

The Bible is broad enough for all believers to stand upon, and is the only medium that can be offered as a basis of union for all the people of God. There are some things written in history we all wish could be erased, and the white pages have never been blackened. But as history repeats itself, let the revolution tell of the return to Jerusalem, and the whole family on earth and in heaven wearing the same name. Let God be the referee for all differences, and all his people imbued with the idea of following his example of love, and not speculate upon the word of God. Don't let it be said it is the voice of Jacob, but the hand of Esau. Don't bring into the holy calling deception, but be living epistles of the Lord, and fully represent Him. Worship elevates us if it be of God, or brings us down if it be of the devil. The worship of the god of wars, Mars, was the heathen idea of making the soldier brave; the worship of the god of wine, Bacchus, was the idea of the manufacturers of disseminating their trade; the worship of the god of stars, Venus, was another idea of the savage nations, but our God, who made the heavens and the earth, is the only true God to worship in the beauty of holiness. Let us come before him with the whole armor on; let the church get into the Spirit of God, and when you meet with difficulties remember there are some things that cannot be cast out only by fasting and prayer; for God's ears are ever open to the cry of the righteous, when they call with a purpose to obey him. History divulges an interesting pathway of the church of Christ. Jesus said, "Upon this rock I will build my church."

The world had lived through two dispensations, the patriarchal and Jewish, and now had in their midst an eternal King, who was about to set up a kingdom or a church under the new dispensation of things. How shall we identify this church, and how do we know we are members of Christ, unless we know His church? It is not enough to know we are in a church, but if we wish to be saved we must know we are in the church of the living God.

A church not built on the foundation which God laid is not the community which the Lord calls my church, "for other foundations can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." I Cor. 3:11. A church not founded in the right place is not the church of Christ; "for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the world of the Lord from Jerusalem." Isaiah 2:3. A church not established at the right time is not the church of Christ. "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." Luke 24:47. No church can be the true church that has not been founded by Christ and His apostles." And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Matt. 28:18. A church with any other law than the one given by the head of the church is not the kingdom of Christ. Any church labeled with a human name, not founded in the New Testament, is not the church of Christ, "and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the

mouth of the Lord shall name." Isaiah 62:2. The church was established on the day of Pentecost. Acts 2. The members of this church were named in honor of Christ, "and the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch." Acts 11:26. These propositions are of such great magnitude that we will be forever lost if we don't believe and act upon them. We are begotten by the word of God, and all who are saved by this word are made Christians, and added to the church of Christ; but all who are begotten by the commandments of men, are made sectarians, and become members of a denomination, and are amenable to their laws and customs. But the true church is the temple of God and the pillar of all truth, and God dwells therein, and the invitation is to all, "Come unto me and be saved."

But we must consider the last line of the text, "Rightly dividing the word of truth." May I ask what is your method for reading the Bible? We demand a system for everything. On opening the Bible you will find a place for every thing, and every thing in its place. My rule I have adopted for many years in reading the Bible is to find out: (1) Who the letter is addressed to; (2) Who wrote it; (3) Under what circumstances was it written; (4) What is its contents.

Then I am better prepared to reason with the sender of the document. The first time I read the Bible through from Genesis to Revelation was to find out what was in it; the second time was to comprehend it; the third time was to obey it, and the after times were to converse and better understand the writers. You will find it to be a great advantage to put yourself in the spirit of prayer and reconciliation to fully comprehend the instructors of the inspired word of God. A great deal of self-control is quite necessary to come before the men of the Bible than of the world and its contents. Let the whole heart and life of you be given to the subject for the present, and you will be filled with new life, with the Holy Spirit and will find yourself transfigured into new purposes and work. The half-starved churches get their supply from a half-fed ministry, who depends on gathering the food after he has kindled the fire in the pulpit and his congregation all seated before him. A minister came to me not long since and said: "I find much difficulty in selecting and preparing my subjects." After questioning him I found he devoted only Saturday to the study and preparation of his sermon. I pointed out a barrel that stood under the eave of the house, and asked him could he account for the staves and hoops getting loose and letting in between them the wide crevices. Why, said he, they have drawn off all the water and failed to put more in. You are a walking barrel of the same similitude. If you would be successful in your calling, deliver your goods and refill at once with more. What would you think of a merchant, after his week's trade, to wait until some one called for his articles before having them ready? Keep filled up brim full of the word of truth, for an idle heart is the workshop of the devil, and he will thorough occupy it with his wares of death.

The divisions of the Bible are the Old and New Testaments. The Old Testament consists of the law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms, which are not of force now. Paul says they were our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ. The New Testament contains four divisions: The four Gospels, the Acts, the Epistles and the Revelations. "Rightly dividing the word of truth" does not authorize you to lay the book upon the dissecting table and everyone take what best suits him and his people.

Every day we meet inquiries asking for the good old way, the way of holiness, and you are the sign board in the

forks of the road, with hand pointing to the right hand road, and the imprint is, "Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world." But some of the sentinels have gone to sleep, and let many of the travelers take the wrong road. The world furnishes four inquiries and Jesus furnishes the equal number of answers for them. The first one of the inquiries is the unbeliever. The first thing to do with him is to make him an unequivocal believer, and he must go to the four gospels or the first division of the New Testament to find the convincing power of the gospel.

There he meets face to face the one to which he has objected, and Jesus reasons with him, and he sees and hears for himself and no longer doubts but believes. Now that is the Bible's way of making believers. "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:17. Davis said the law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testament is sure, making wise the simple.

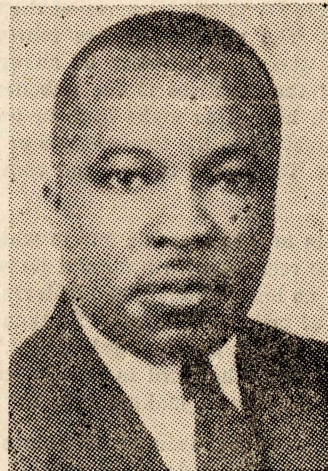
The second inquirer is the sinner. He comes crying, "Men and brethren, what must I do to be saved?" and the only answer is found in the Acts of the Apostles. Here in this book of Acts are all the conversions recorded in the New Testament. It furnishes a complete history of all men and women brought into the kingdom by the ambassadors of Christ, and stands today as the only mile post pointing men to the only way of salvation. This book is to the sinner what the cities of refuge were to the Jews. Under the law of Moses the gates stood open day and night, and the bright lights shined out upon the highway. The road way is kept clear; the watchman upon the wall stands to welcome the penitent into the harbor, and all who enter are within the gates of the city. The third inquirer is the Christian. He comes praying, "Lord increase our faith." He has many difficulties to conquer and needs God's grace to help in time of need, and the Lord has provided for his instructions and comfort.

Here are twenty-one letters, beginning at Romans and ending with Jude, all written for and addressed to the Christians; and no one holds the title to them but the followers of Christ. And the fourth inquirer is the aged pilgrim of many years service for his Master, with eyes dim, and bent over his staff; hoary hairs have long been his crown of righteousness—like Israel of old, he has long waited for his passport.

Here the book of Revelation is to him what Mount Pisgah was to Moses. He climbs upon its summit and views the landscapes over and reads, "Be thou faithful until death and I will give thee a crown of life." Thus how beautiful the other world opens up to us from this life; even before we leave the shore we can see the landing. It was Stephen that caught the sight and sounded out aloud, "I see the heavens open and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God." Let the world stone you all it wants to, God will take care of the martyr's blood. Standing by the side of this aged pilgrim we see the Book of book open, and all the nations of the earth are invited to read thereof, understand, and obey; and then it is yours to reign with the righteous throughout eternity.

Editor's note: If Elder Preston Taylor know that the National Convention he established, and left to them his fortune of more than a hundred thousand dollars, had removed the old landmarks, and have made themselves slaves to an open-membership organization, if possible, I believe he would turn over in his grave; because he lived, fought, gave and died to keep them free.

"LET US SPEAK WHERE THE BOOK SPEAKS"



By ELDER W. H. (BALTIMORE) TAYLOR,

Minister of Second Christian Church, Hagerstown, and
Emmanuel Christian Church, Baltimore, Md.

Have we, as ministers, pastors, shepherds, etc., in the Church of Christ, or Christian, out grown the title of Elder or Brother, and are using the title of Reverend and Mister which are not found in the New Testament?

Those elders who give all their time to the ministry of the Word are called "ministers." "But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word." Acts 6:4. "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine." I Timothy 5:7.

Those elders who give all their time to the ministry of the Word are also called "evangelists." "And he gave some apostles; and some prophets; and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tosed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive." Ephesians 4:11-14.

"But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry." II Timothy 4:5.

Paul exercised the duties of the eldership during his three years sojourn in Ephesus. "Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn everyone night and day with tears." Acts 20:31.

Peter speaks of himself as an elder. "The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed." I Peter 5:1. We find no high-sounding titles in the New Testament. No minister has any authority to wear the title of "Reverend." The word is used only once in the Bible, and in that instance, with reference to God. Psalm 111:9. The word Reverend is not found in the New Testament. Let's speak where the Book speaks. Let's call Bible things by Bible names. As a minister of the gospel, I prefer the title Elder or Brother which is scriptural. I do not like the title Reverend nor Mister because they are not found in the New Testament.

MINISTERS, KEEP YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND!

II Samuel 12:1-8

By ELDER BRADLEY GENTRY,

Minister of Central Christian Church, Louisville, and
Student in the College of the Scriptures.

Immorality has taken its toll of human influence through the ages, in all walks of life, in all professions: doctors, lawyers, scientists, statesmen, educators and preachers.

David was one of the most successful kings of Israel, of a poor family, but God raised him to great honors. In his struggles with Saul, God conditioned him for service. Until then his feet were on the ground and was very sane in his conduct and thinking. Finally the day came when he got puffed up. At this time he had more than one wife.

One day David was enjoying himself on the roof of his palace in all of its splendor and beauty, with a kingly passion. This is the first account we have in the Bible of David allowing his feet to get off the ground, and what happened? He saw the nude body of one of his subject's wives and it immediately stirred his lower passion for her. He made plans to send for her to satisfy his passion. And so he did, an act in violation of the Law of God, all because he let his sexual passion get the better of him.

God has chosen us ministers, as he had chosen David. We are both "readers of the law" and examples of the same.

We must keep our bodies under subjection. I Cor. 9:27. As an example, the trees in the forest are blazed with a knife slash by the traveler, so that he might find his way back out. These marks must not be tampered with, lest the man in the forest won't find his way out. We ministers are marked trees in the forest.

When a minister is tempted by pats on the back by people, especially women, to rise to unwarranted power, let him remember he must keep his feet on the ground and stay off the roof. A rooster flew upon a post one day and crowed, and an old hen said to him, "Come on down, old fellow, you came out of an eggshell like the rest of us."

David proceeded to cover up his crime by have Uriah, her husband, killed and that only made matters worse.

The minister has a hard enough time. Don't make matters worse; our only escape is found in James 4:7. Resistance is the watchword to retain good morals. And by doing it we keep on the ground.

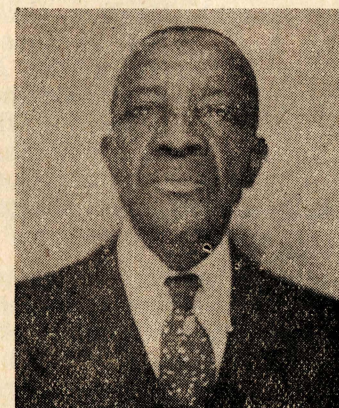
I would like to close with an old fable.

One day an eagle swooped down on a barn to grab in his huge claws, he thought, a rabbit. But when he got away in mid-air he discovered it was a cat. The cat had claws too and commenced pulling feathers out of the eagle's breast. The eagle immediately decided to let him drop, and told the cat so, but the cat said to the eagle, "You have me too far up in the air; carry me right down yonder on the barn roof where you got me."

Preachers, keep your feet on the ground!

"THE BEST TIME TO MAKE FRIENDS IS BEFORE
YOU NEED THEM."

COOPERATION



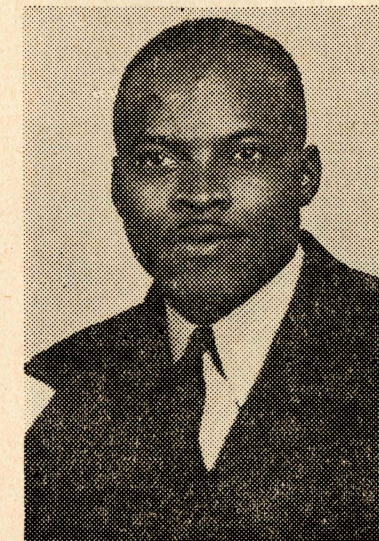
By ELDER J. N. KEYES, Greenwood, Miss.

As I see personally, there should be more cooperation among individuals to succeed in life. Then it should extend to the local churches of Christ throughout the Brotherhood. When you take, for instance, any local church where in you see a few of the men and a small band of women together with their pastor always in a caucus, which means, a political part meeting, to decide upon a line of policy to put over, ignoring the remaining of the rest of the members who have experience in the local church, all for the like of cooperation. A house divided against itself cannot stand. The same goes for the District. Many churches in a District have ministers pastoring who never cooperate, never meet in a quarterly session not unless it convenes in the church he pastors. That minister fails in cooperation. Take the State. It's on the same basis, caucus from the time the meeting opens every day until election time. How, we who say that we are Christians, do such underground work and think we are pleasing God?

I think the best way to understand what it means to cooperate is to take what the Bible says about it. Thus you see cooperation means working together for one common cause. Had not Aaron and Hur cooperated in holding up Moses' hands the battle never would have been won. And if we do not cooperate in our churches in what program that may come before us, we are going to fail. Cooperation assures for success.

There must ever be cooperation even in our prayers if we would make the effective with God. We must agree on and ask for the same thing. "Let there be no divisions among you," says Apostle Paul. "Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth, as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done of my Father which is in Heaven." Matt. 18:19. In the work of winning souls to Christ, there must be cooperation. When the sinner and ungodly men and women see christians devided very little good can be accomplished. That's why Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works." And glorify your Father which is in Heaven. He went forth again by the sea side and all the multitudes resorted unto Him, and He taught them. Had the people not cooperated to the extent, that they went out to hear the words of eternal life, they could not have been saved. We have got to cooperate for our own and the salvation of others.

HUMAN SUBSTITUTIONS



By ELDER R. L. (SILVER TRUMPET) SERCY,

Atlanta, Georgia.

Every thing that is not of faith is sin. Rom. 14:23. Paul had the church to understand that persons who eat doubting, were condemned for the lack of faith. We are living in a time when substitutions are becoming customs and resulting into law. Now, the things for which we stand, by some are not essential to salvation.

If wrong, somebody is the blame; if right then trance it back and you will find Christ behind it. One thing certain; the strongest force will dominate. We do things because somebody else did them. It is just as easy to do good as to do evil. Adam and Eve sinned because they thought one advise was as good as another. Therefore heading to satan and their desire, sin was revealed and death came into the world.

We say one place or thing is as good as another; but fire cannot take place of water. Nadab and Abihue offered strange fire unto God, but there went out a fire from God and devoured them. Lev. 10:12.

Mirom and Aaron wanted to substitute for Moses but God overheard them and called them to toy. Num. 12:1-11. Jerebom like our people said, one place is as good as another it is not the place but what you carry to the place. But listen to God: Where I record my name, there will I meet you and bless you. Ex. 20:24.

Where was His name recorded? Solomon built the house of the Lord in Jerusalem, where the Lord had appeared unto David his father. II Cor. 3:1. Jerebom pled on the grounds of convenience; He built Shechem in Mt. Ephraim and dwelt there. I King 12:25. Saul thought it was alright to go into the sacred place and offer the sacrifice; and was condemned. I Sam. 13:15.

We are finding ourselves in the same rut, doing everything that the denominational people are doing and yet saying we are Bible Christians. Some of us think we are helping God out, but no one can help God and at the same time ignore His word. Uzziah thought he would use his hand to stay the Ark but God killed him for disobedience. Num. 1:51. He had a good motive yet, he was wrong. Let us stop playing church in our conventions, and let us not kind ourselves by saying one church is as good as another. I grant you that one denomination is as good as another, but none of them can be compared with the one Universal Church of Christ. God said: These Prophets ran but I sent them not, they prophesied but I commanded them not. Jer. 23:21. Christ did not leave His program in the hands of a convention board; but that is where they got it. Too bad.

The National Fellowship Meeting



The National Fellowship Meeting, through its host pastor, Elder A. G. Nelson of Kansas City, Missouri, and Vice President of the National Christian Preaching Convention is making plans for the most timely Fellowship Meeting which will have to do with the final plans and arrangements for the National Christian Preaching Convention which will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, in August.

Invitations are being sent out to the ministry. We feel at this time that a number of the leaders who have been misled by false Prophet Master Organizations are beginning to open their eyes and read the requirements of God's word to the leadership of the church. They are crying in a loud voice, "Back to the Book and down with Modernism and false teachings."

Every Church should contribute freely to support the National Christian Preaching Convention Program of Evangelism. Plans should be made to come to this Fellowship Meeting with your mind made up to support the New Testament teachings.

The date: April 24-25-26th. East Side Christian Church, Kansas City, Mo. For information and reservation, write Elder A. G. Nelson, 1921 E. 24th Street, Kansas City, Mo.

EVERY MAN TO HIS BELIEF

By R. L. SERCY

This statement was given by a young man whose judgment did not sound good. He is a victim of UCMS. They have succeeded in making a first class Sect out of him and will do the same thing for you if you stay with them. It is alright to stay with a thing so long as it does not conflict with the word of God. Our job is to resist the devil. When you fail to dance by the music you are out of line. Several years I helped to keep the UCMS promoters fat while the Church was dying. They were talking about China and Africa; they are still talking.

It is strange they never mention Louisiana, where we don't have the first Negro Christian Church. They speak about natives working for 30 cents per day. I was talking to a man the other day who is getting \$1.75 per week and his eats. I don't know about Africa, but I do know that we need to restore the church in America. Come ye out from among them saith the Lord.

Incline your ear, come unto Me; hear, and your soul shall live. Isaiah 55:3.

Letters to the Editor

This is a fine paper. Keep up the good work. I am sending you this donation.—Mrs. Roxie Green, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Christian Informer is a Defender of the Faith and I read it with interest. It puts the food down on the lower shelf where we may get it. Herewith is a check. Sincerely, Fred H. Shaver, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

I am sending you another donation for The Christian Informer. You are doing a good work.—C. L. Johnson, Covington, Ky.

Another donation for The Christian Informer.—Elder and Mrs. B. A. Douglas, Concord, N. C.

A donation for The Christian Informer.—Mrs. Malcoma Brown, Hagerstown, Md.

My monthly donation for The Christian Informer.—Elder J. W. Stanley, Baltimore, Md.

Letters to the Editor

A donation for The Christian Informer. It is a fine paper.—Mrs. Marvenia Wallace, Hagerstown, Md.

I am handing you this donation for The Christian Informer. I enjoy reading it.—Mrs. Mildred Saunders, Baltimore, Md.

The Christian Informer is a great paper, this is a donation.—Mrs. Viola Boatright, Hagerstown, Md.

My monthly donation for The Christian Informer.—Mrs. E. E. Foard, Baltimore, Md.

My monthly donation for The Christian Informer.—Mrs. A. L. Taylor, Baltimore, Md.

My monthly donation for The Christian Informer.—Mrs. Arnita Ford, Baltimore, Md.

Another donation for The Christian Informer.—Mrs. Lillian Gladney, Baltimore, Md.

Another donation for The Christian Informer.—Frank Abram, Baltimore, Md.

This is a donation for The Christian Informer.—Miss Hilda Brooks, Hagerstown, Md.

Dear Editor: Please find enclosed a donation.—John Williams, Greenwood, Miss.

Like the Christian Informer, I'm getting better and better. Had big Valentine reminders. Both Louisville and Winston Salem Schools are thriving, calling for students and friends. Both must be supported loyally and royally. Both are definite attempts to strengthen the Christian Ministry. We sent another box of books to Winston Salem School. Have few more for some worthy young preachers. We're learning that subscriptions and donations to The Christian Informer pay big dividends.

Yes, in the ole Virginia snow, Elder C. H. Dickerson, Box 123 N. Tazewell, Va.

St. Luke's Church,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

The second Lord's Day in February was a big day in St. Luke Church. We had with us Elder W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor, editor of The Christian Informer. The church is moving in a fine way. Elder W. F. Keyes, pastor of Williamsburg Christian Church, with his choir and congregation worshiped with us on the second Lord's Day in the afternoon.

Yours in Christ,
Elder J. A. Dickerson, Minister.

Another donation from Calvary Christian Church, Brooklyn, N. Y. Elder D. L. Kinard, Minister.

Another donation from Second Christian Church, Hagerstown, Md. Elder W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor, Minister.

Another donation from Emmanuel Christian Church, Baltimore, Md. Elder W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor, Minister.

FLOWER TO THE LIVING



By ELDER C. H. DICKERSON,
N. Tazewell, Virginia.

We would pass the Basket to Baltimore Taylor, whose noble work as pastor here in the Hills of Old Virginia, when he served so well our church here at North Tazewell where we now worship with Elder H. G. Flemming.

He also served our Bluefield Church, which still thrives. This was before he went "Back, Back, Back to Baltimore" and we knew him as that wide awake Christian Preacher Elder W. H. Taylor.

He had wondrously kept the glory in the Taylor Preacher name.

The whole Brotherhood, White and Black and Yellow and Brown loved and revered the name of our own Elder Preston Taylor of Nashville, Tenn.

He was the first President of our National Convention. I had the Task of preaching the first sermon at our first National Convention, there at Nashville, Tenn. It was indeed a thrilling occasion.

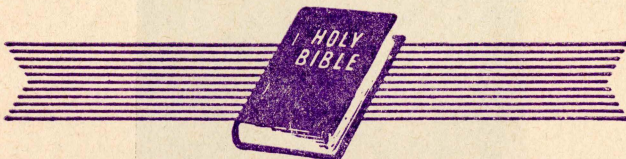
Texas has a Taylor well beloved and "Ole" Kentucky has its Taylor. So we see Baltimore Taylor has need of his "Baltimore" to save us from so often "which Taylor?" as ole Virginia and some other States have Taylors. Perhaps none quite so big as our beloved Baltimore Taylor (smile).

We'd pass the flowers to our ole friend, schoolmate and co-laborer in "Ole" Kentucky, Elder T. R. Everett, now past three-score-and-ten; our successful minister and good pastor at Midway, Ky. By the way, he's again "on the Carpet." After he began preaching he attended our old Louisville Bible School under those two great and good men Prof. A. P. Tompson and Prof. Octavis Singleton, who also is worthy of all the flowers "in the patch." Prof. Singleton still lives and makes men. I still feel the weight of his hand on my head when, in old Louisville, Hancock Street Christian Church, over forty years ago, he ordained me to the Christian ministry. He is still the young preacher's friend.

"Give the Flowers to the living,
Give them now and keep on giving
Flowers will help them while they live
Don't be stingy freely give."
—From the Hills of old Virginia.

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