

The Christian Informer

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THE CHRISTIAN INFORMER

Baltimore, Maryland

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

SINCE 1944

Ye should earnestly contend for the faith - Jude verse 3.

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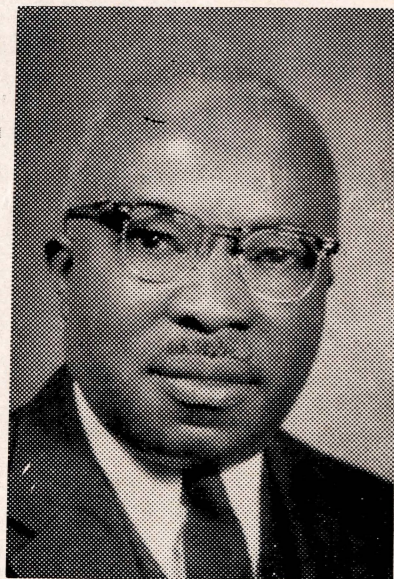
W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor, Editor and Publisher
Doctor of Sacred Literature

Office - Emmanuel Building, 1702 Madison Ave.
Phone: 728-0324 Baltimore, Md. 21217

A NATIONAL JOURNAL
Official Organ of the National Christian Preaching
Convention

If you saw it in the Christian Informer it must be true.

VOICE OF THE EDITOR



W. H. TAYLOR

HOME MISSION

Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and have had compassion on thee. Mark 5:19.

There are those who will let the home field grow up in ignorance, crime, without Christ and His Church and without Bible Colleges.

Christ wants us to do home mission as well as we do foreign mission. He said to the man he had

just healed, "GO HOME." There is a lot to be done at home.

You can let the people at home see that you are not what you used to be. The people at home can tell if there has been a change in your life.

The prodigal son went into a "far country". The 15th chapter of Luke tells us, "but when he came to himself; he went back home."

At home he found much hard work to be done. At home he came alive. At home he confessed how unworthy he had been. At home he saw his mistake. At home he had to deal with his elder brother.

When the sons of Jacob left home for Egypt to buy corn, they did not know their brother Joseph whom they sold as a slave. Genesis Chapter 42.

Joseph knew them and after asking them about the family, he had them to understand that the next time they come to buy corn, bring their brother Benjamin with them.

He said, "Ye shall not see my face, except your brother is with you." Racial prejudice nor anything else can stop me, from going the second or third mile; in order to bring Brother Benjamin with me.

Today the question is, who is Brother Benjamin? Where does he live?

We must go home and get Brother Benjamin, if we want to see God's face.

"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. First John 4:20-21.

In the baseball game, the home plate is very important. Winning or losing the game depends on what goes on at home base. From home plate balls are hit over the fence into foreign fields. All players must come to home plate, some time during the game.

The stronger the home mission field, the stronger the foreign mission field will be.

* * *

DO IT YOURSELF

If the other fellow won't blow your horn, do it yourself. With the help of God and his Son Jesus Christ and my many friends and many enemies, The Christian Informer, has grown beyond my expectation since 1944. The Christian Informer is read in almost every state in America, and in some foreign countries. Through the Christian Informer, God has given me a large congregation to preach to around the world.

My congregation is made up of many races, colors and creeds.

From the letters I receive from different races, colors and creeds, I have discovered that people are hungry, for the word of God, the gospel of Christ and His Church; as found in the New Testament.

IT IS WRITTEN

It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Matthew 4:4.

It is written, But in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. Matthew 15:9.

It is written, Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel (Open membership Brethren) is, that they might be saved.

For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according knowledge.

For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth. Romans 10.

It is written, For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living water, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water. Jeremiah 2:13.

It is written, And the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out, for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him. John Chapter 10.

It is written, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:12.

* * *

"I AM SO GLAD I GOT MY RELIGION IN TIME"

I am so glad, I try to dress like a preacher, going to the pulpit to worship God.

I am so glad, I do not dress, like some one who is going to a Halloween party to cut the fool.

I am so glad, I am baldheaded, so I do not have to wear my hair in a bush or long, like a loose bale of hay.

I am so glad, I do not have to hide behind nor peep through nappy whiskers nor long beard on my face.

I am so glad, I cannot plait my hair like some men. I am so glad, you can tell me from a woman at any distance.

I am so glad, I have never worn my shirt tail on the outside of my pants.

I am so glad, I am old, cranky and out of style.

* * *

WHO IS NEXT?

If any individual, church, college or convention is ashamed of the Christian Informer and want their name removed from our mailing list, just let us know. Not only will we remove your name, but we will refund to you all of the subscription money you have paid since 1944, that is if you have paid any. We say what Christ said in Mark chapter eight.

Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

"NARROW"

Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. Matthew 7:14.

A few days ago a dear sister of the open membership tribe and a denominational lover, wrote me a cold letter. In that letter she told me that I was narrow. I take that to be a great compliment. I wonder if this sister would call Christ narrow. I only repeated what Christ and the apostles said, such as, Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is a partaker of his evil deeds. Second John 1:9-11.

I wonder if this sister would call God narrow. Who only let eight souls go into the ark Noah built, while others drowned on the outside. I also wonder if this sister would call God narrow, for letting two of everything into the Ark; and only eight souls. God let Noah take into the Ark seven clean beast, and unclean beast by twos of every kind. Such as skunks or pole cats, snakes and rats, but only eight human souls. Genesis Chapter Seven.

* * *

IF

If trains had not been invented, we would still be using the stage coach.

If electric bulbs had not been invented, we would still be using the oil lamp.

If elevators had not been invented, we would still be walking up and down steps.

If ditch diggers had not been invented, we would still be digging graves with pick and shovel.

If the farm tractor had not been invented, we would still be following the plow behind the mule.

If baby nursing bottles had not been invented, baby's milk would always be warm.

If God had not heard the cry of the Children of Israel in Egyptian slavery, crying and making brick without straw, He would not have sent Moses and Aaron to lead them out of bondage.

If God had not heard the prayers of the American slaves, He would not have put into the mind of men like Nat Turner, John Brown, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth and thousands of others to fight slavery any way you can.

Thank God, then came Abraham Lincoln and the Republican Party, which was born in Jackson, Michigan on the 6th of July, 1854, and the Union Soldiers, later on. With the help of God and his Son Jesus Christ, these three in one, put an end to human slavery in America.

* * *

HAVE FAITH IN GOD

I am tired of hearing some Christian preachers, and Church of Christ members crying church blues. Some of them cry as if God has gone away, and Jesus Christ cannot be found.

In a time like this, have faith in God. Don't compromise with the devil. Let the devil know that his place is in hell, and you stay out of these hell holes.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

The question is, not where you are from; but where are you going?

Joseph was sold into Egypt as a slave. He was laid on, mistreated and put in prison. But he kept faith in God, and became a ruler in Egypt and saved his brothers who sold him as a slave. He did good for evil.

I knew some men who were born in slavery and when they died they were worth more than a half million dollars. Some of them bought the land they were slaves on.

I knew a man who was worth more than a half million dollars, and the only time he went to college, he went there to deliver the commencement address.

When I was a small boy, I knew a man who was born in slavery. And the first time he went to the bank, it was to deposit several thousand dollars he had made and kept buried in the smoke-house.

I know the grandsons and granddaughters of slaves who are in the President's Cabinet, Supreme Court, Congress, Senate, Generals, Admirals, Mayors, Superintendent of School, Doctors, Lawyers, Dentists, Preachers, Editors, President of Conventions, Bankers, Insurance Men. And they are there in every walk of American life.

I knew the son of a slave whose image is on some of the U.S. money.

I knew the son of a slave whose image is on some U.S. stamps.

Have faith in God and in His Son Jesus Christ. Do good for evil. If thine enemy is hungry feed him. If he is thirsty give him drink. And God will prepare a table before you in the presence of your enemies.

* * *

THE DUTY OF LOVING ONE ANOTHER

1 John 3

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

6 Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: who-soever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.

7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit

sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin; because he is born of God.

10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

12 Not as Cain, **who** was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil and his brother's righteous.

13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.

14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not **his** brother abideth in death.

15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

16 Hereby perceive we the love of **God**, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down **our** lives for the brethren.

17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of **compassion** from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

EMMANUEL CHURCH OF CHRIST

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor, Minister/Emeritus



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TAZEWELL, VA.

Dear Brother Taylor, I am enclosing a gift to you and also my subscription for another year. Mrs. Sharp my wife is very much pleased with the Christian Informer and loves to read it. It would be a good thing if more people would read your fine paper. We have learned so much about the church of Christ through your paper. My husband William Sharp is also sending you a gift. May God bless you in every way, to keep on keeping on.

William and Dionah Sharp

* * *

DURHAM, N. C.

Christmas greetings and best wishes for a Happy New Year.

E. R. Taylor and wife

* * *

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Dear Brother Taylor,

I am thankful that you have recovered from your operation and doing well. Brother Ellis of Orlando, Florida, held a revival here in Memphis. It was the greatest meeting I have ever experienced. Forty-one souls were really added to God's Kingdom and lives were changed.

I have enclosed some other information about the work here.

Keep us in your prayers as we remember you.

In His name, Ruth Ferguson

* * *

OKMULGEE, OKLA.

11-11-72

Dear W. H.:

Hope you are well and enjoying this fine fall weather. Take care and my best wishes.

Very Sincerely Yours,

R. B. Taylor, Sr.

Editor's Note: Thanks for the check.

* * *

SOMEWHERE ALONG THE MASON AND DIXON LINE

Dear Brother Taylor;

You do not remember me but I remember you. I heard you preach in a revival several years ago. Your subject was, When and where was the church of Christ established. In your sermon you made me angry. You tore down the denominational church of which I was a good member. In fact you tore down all of the denominational churches, and the only church you left standing was the church of Christ, as it is found in the New Testament.

Less than six months after hearing you preach and reading the Christian Informer, I was baptized into Christ, and now I am in the Church of Christ with my wife. Please excuse this long letter. I just want to tell you and thank God for what you did for me through the Christian Informer. Please accept this check.

Yours in Christ,

S. J. Lofton and Wife

Editor's Note: Thank you Brother and Sister Lofton, for bringing tears of joy to my heart, and for giving me flowers while I am alive.

AUTUMN OF LIFE — 1968

If it weren't for the changing of the trees and beauty of the -
Enchanting leaves, And the bright blue sky up above us,
And a comfortable and cheering breeze, Autumn would be very drab,
Very woeful, and very sad indeed.

And yet it seems to tell a story about the very estate of Man's Being. In early spring the tree is tender, full of Life and Flexible and green, But as summer wears on and on the tree Becomes less attractive, and the leaves become frayed and Faded and fight for its untimely grip. For soon they seem to know they will tumble and make that Last and fatal slip.

In autumn there are every color, that one's eyes could ever Behold, yellow, red, brown, and rusty, speckle, pink and Burnish gold.

Same as life when we are young, we too are strong and colorful And bold, We scarcely think of what's around the corner, We're so busy making plans for living, We hardly ever think about our soul. Then we follow on through Summer to the harvest of life that Is sure. Which should find us older and wiser to be prepared To meet the autumn that's due.

Now the autumn of life is upon us, what can we so proudly say? Have we labored in this harvest for that shining and perfect day.

So soon we too must shed our leaves to stand up straight as the Naked tree, will our Saviour be there waiting, will he be — There to shelter me. Let's not be like the foolish Virgins With lamps dry, and very dim, But let's fill our lamps, and trim our wicks, and truly we'll go to the wedding with him.

So like the leaves of the trees that fall, We too must take — Our rest in sleep only let it be the sleep of Christians Then our Saviour Jesus Christ we'll meet.

Composed by (Mrs.) Pauline Murel of Emmanuel Church of Christ, Baltimore, Md.



Happiness is the only good. The place to be happy is here. The time to be happy is now. The way to be happy is to help make others so.

EARLY AFRICAN MISSIONARY RECALLS WORK IN MONROVIA

By Dr. G. Augustus Burke



Dr. G. Augustus Burke, minister of the First St. Christian Church, Beaumont, Texas. Dr. Burke is a graduate of Benedict College, Columbia, South Carolina and has spent a year at Oxford University, Oxford, England. Further training was taken at Kings School of Oratory, Pittsburg, Pa. He is a Christian gentleman and a defender of the uplifting of Christ.

Dr. G. Augustus Burke, pastor of the Forrest Street Christian Church, former educator and missionary to Liberia, is celebrating his 59th year as a minister this year.

He draws from the experiences of those years in a Minister's Memo today, based on Luke 10: 30-37.

"I believe that the story of the good Samaritan, as told by Jesus, the incomparable parabolical teacher, could properly be classified as the parable of the takers, keepers and givers," Burke points out.

"The thieves who stripped the victim and left him for dead were takers. The priest and the Levite who passed by, unheeding, took nothing, but they gave nothing, not even an expression of sympathy. They were keepers, giving nothing of themselves. Because the man was of a group they considered beneath their own, they were supersaturated with prejudice.

"However, when the Samaritan came along, he was godly enough to overlook his narrowmindedness, based on prejudice, stepped over the line and, as a giver, helped the injured man.

"The three classes, takers, keepers and givers, have existed in all ages of the world's history and still are found in every community. Man, by nature, is a taker. He not only takes from fellowman but from God.

"Non-tithers are takers; people who do not attend church on the Lord's Day to pay homage to a merciful God to whom they owe gratitude for every breath, are takers.

"The persons responsible for taking and keeping the Holy Bible as an ethical textbook out of the public schools are takers, too.

"It is my belief that most of the troubles in the country today are due to the fact that troublemakers have not been taught the difference between right and wrong, according to the Scriptures. Many children are not learning of the Bible at home because their parents do not know enough about it to teach, they are not receiving enough in church, because it is becoming unfashionable to attend Sunday School and they are not getting training in the school because our atheistic propagandists, the greatest takers of all, have taken the Bible out of the classroom.

"We are being forced to raise a generation of highly cultured, intellectual pagans," Burke concludes.

NEW AND RENEWED SUBSCRIBERS

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Tommy Tucker, Ky.
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W. J. Corchran, Ky.
Milton R. Mansfield, Ky.
Miss Wanda A. Perry, Ky.

(Please turn to page 7)

WIDE WORLD RALLY COLLEGE OF THE SCRIPTURES November 2, 3, 4, 1972 OLD HOME WEEK Buckner Chapel

THEME: "Understanding is the Principal Thing"

Thursday, November 2 President Presiding

8:45 A.M.—Devotions, Eugene Hardaway; Song Leader, Henry Reynolds Girl's Chorus
9:10 A.M.—Lecture and Rap Session: "Taking the College to the People" — Tibbs Maxey
11:15 A.M.—Sermon, James Lee Arnold, Minister, Tabernacle Church of Christ, Kokomo, Indiana.

Afternoon:

1:15 P.M.—Devotions, Tom Reynolds; Song Leader, Jane King, Special Music
1:30 P.M.—Rap Session: "Cross Culture Communication", "Reaching the Alienated on the Streets", Darrell Boyer; "Speaking the Language of the Poor", Ronald Moore "Personal Evangelism", Marvin Dortch, Darrell Boyer
3:00 P.M.—Sermon: "Understanding Unlovable People", Henry Reynolds, Professor
Benediction: William Wilson

Evening:

6:45 P.M.—Devotions, Marvin Tulles; Song Leader, Herman Jenkins; Poetry Reading, Joanne Hendrickson
7:00 P.M.—Mission Message, "Loving Misunderstood People", Marvin Dortch, Student Special Music — College Choir
Sermon — Dr. G. Augustus Burke, Forrest Park Christian Church, Beaumont, Texas.
Benediction: David Zachery

Friday, November 3 Vice President Presiding

MEN'S SESSION in Moore Hall Lounge

8:45 A.M.—Devotions, Chester Lewis; Song Leader, Henry Reynolds; Men's Quartet
9:10 A.M.—Forum "Understanding is the Principal Thing", "Understanding the Prejudiced" Magnolia Clark; "Communicating with the Black Power Community" Vanessa Floyd; "Understanding the Youth Culture" William Brown
11:15 A.M.—Sermon, Erwin Williams, Gary, Indiana; Benediction: William Chaffin
12:30 P.M.—Lunch

LADIES SESSION:

10:00 A.M.—Ten-till-Two-Tea in Buckner Chapel, "Love and Understanding", Presiding: Mrs. Henry Reynolds' Song Leader, Mrs. Henry Johnson. Message — Mrs. Juliet Greene, Guyana, South America. Music: College Girls Group
11:00 A.M.—Panel Discussion
12:30 P.M.—Luncheon

Afternoon: Tour of City — Free Time

4:00 P.M.—Meeting of Alumni with President Maxey

5:30 P.M.—Executive Committee Meeting

Evening:

6:45 P.M.—Devotions, Darrell Boyer; Song Leader, Herman Jenkins; Poetry Reading: Corine Woods
7:00 P.M.—Mission Message, Richard Dye, Church of Christ, East Orange, N. J.; College Choir
8:00 P.M.—Sermon, Dr. W. H. Taylor, Baltimore, Md.; Benediction: John Manning.

Saturday, November 4

8:30 A.M.—Twenty First Annual Youth Breakfast on the Campus
9:00 A.M.—Master of Ceremonies, Jerry Upshaw, Informal Hour of Fun
10:15 A.M.—Devotions, Ronald Moore
10:30 A.M.—Speaker, Dean Ross, His House, Murray State University, Ky. Benediction: James Hodge

GUESTS: Housing will be provided.

New and Renewed Subscribers

(From page 6)

Jim Wood, Ky.
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Owen Johnson, N. J.
Prof. H. L. Reynolds, Louisiana
Clarence Inman, Md.
Mrs. Samuel Jackson, Ky.

REVIVALS

Evangelist William Ellis of Olanda, Florida conducted a great revival at Oakville Christian Church of Memphis, Tenn. Brother David Tillman is Minister. Forty-one souls were added to the church.

Editor W. H. (Baltimore) Tayler conducted a revival at the Shepherds Hill Road Church of Christ, Louisville, Ky., November 4th to 10th. Dean C. Daniels is minister. Full house every night, good singing by the young people's choir.

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF JESUS CHRIST

By Prof. Harry T. Reynolds,
College of the Scriptures

A WILL

1. A legal document by which a person makes a disposition of his property to take place or effect after his death. JESUS MADE A WILL — THE NEW TESTAMENT.
 2. Wills may be changed during lifetime by Testator. Jesus forgave sin of men —
- I. THE WILL INVOLVES
- A. A legacy — A bequest which is a gift of personality (from a person). Jesus had a legacy to give upon his death.
 - B. A Testator — One who makes a will.
 1. Requirements
 - a. Of age
 - b. Of sound mind
 2. Jesus Christ is Testator of New Testament — He is qualified.
 - C. A Will — a document
 1. A legal statement of desires of person who wishes to dispose property.
 2. The New Testament or Gospel.
 - D. An executor
 1. An approved legal official of the court — a lawyer chosen by Testator.
 2. Holy Spirit sent by Jesus. John 16:
 - E. Witnesses
 1. Able witnesses who sign document result of knowledge of Testator's wishes and are not Beneficiaries.
 2. The Apostles — "Ye are my witnesses. . ." Acts 1:
 - F. The Testator is to subscribe or acknowledge that this document is last Will and Testament. "Moses said; but I say. . ." Matt. 5, 6, 7
 - G. The Beneficiary — Those who receive blessing. Acts 2:39
 - H. Time of fulfillment — at death of Testator. Heb. 9
- II. Probate of WILL
- A. A proceeding before a court having probate power to establish the validity of document.
 1. Heirs are present to hear will read.
 2. Will may be contested by people with another will.
 3. The latest will is in force — last will invalidates all previous wills.
 - B. The Holy Spirit has Authority.
 1. The Apostles spake as moved by Holy Spirit.
 2. Jesus said they would receive power.
 - C. The Day of Pentecost 33 a. d., in Jerusalem is the day will was probated.
- III. NATURE OF THE DESPOSITION OF THE WILL
- A. The letter of the law or the expressed desire of Testator in will determines the destiny of legacy.
 - B. Will may be conditional — or conditions may be fixed by court.
- Illustration.

CONCLUSION:

Those who receive the blessings must comply to terms or requirements of Testator. See Acts 2:38.

OAKVILLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Memphis, Tennessee

This Church is identified with the great movement for the restoration of the New Testament Church.

BY WEARING A NEW TESTAMENT NAME

"The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch." (Acts 11:26)

If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed." (I Pet. 4:16)

Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." (Acts 26:28)

BY BELIEVING A NEW TESTAMENT CREED

"Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God . . . Upon this rock I will build my Church." (Matt. 16:16, 18)

Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 3:11)

BY OBEYING A NEW TESTAMENT BAPTISM

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." (Mark 16:16)

"We are buried with him by baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Rom. 6:4)

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ." (I Pet. 3:21)

BY OBSERVING A NEW TESTAMENT COMMUNION

"This do in remembrance of me." (Luke 22:19)

"Upon the first day of the week when the disciples were gathered together to break bread . . ." (Acts 20:7)

BY PRACTICING A NEW TESTAMENT STEWARDSHIP

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)

"Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him." (I Cor. 16:2)

We are a non-denominational New Testament congregation, part of a world-wide movement to restore the essentials of apostolic Christianity as a means to the unity of all Christian believers. We are a free, democratic, friendly people. We believe in Biblical Christianity and endeavor to lead lives of faithfulness and devotion. We acknowledge Jesus Christ as the divine Son of God, and Lord and Savior. We accept the Bible as the inspired record of God's revelation to man. We believe that the New Testament is the only divine rule of faith and practice given to the followers of Christ.

**Get the habit of being sincere
and you will get the habit of being
successful.**

A HUMAN RIDE

Have you ever taken a real good look
At your life, is it based on the Holy Book?
Picture the leaves in deepest fall
All kinds of colors, some big, some small.

Rolling here and blowing there,
Leaving trees completely bare.
What ever happens to leaves that blow,
Before overtaken by the snow?

We step on them to hear them crunch.
We rake them up into a bunch.
We dispose of them, both big and small.
We throw them out or burn them all.

Now, let's look at another side.
Let's go, now, for a human ride.
Imagine a soul that's lost in sin.
Tossing without and tossing within.

Blowing here and blowing there.
Where's the Christian, does he care?
Look over there a great big bunch.
Alcoholics out to lunch.

Sipping here and stumbling there.
On the ground soaked full of beer.
Thick as sheets, they're all around.
Not a Christian to be found.

On that corner, prostitutes,
Mini skirts and shiny boots.
Dresses down below the breast.
Come on, fellows, I'm the best.

Where's that woman's soul to be
When she dies, who holds the key
To her life, look way down deep.
Where's the Christian, fast asleep?

Look at youth now, out for fun,
Searching for something beyond the sun,
Asking questions — big and small,
Is there purpose to life at all?

Running away and testing life,
Learning of hate, not love, and strife,
Trying drugs and sex alike.
Where's the Christian, on a hike?

These souls only number a few.
What about rapist, murderers too?
Children who're learning to steal, cheat, and lie.
Where are their parents at, breaking the tie.

Momma's with John Brown just having some fun.
Daddy'll sneak in around midnight or one.
Children up half the night, no food or clothes.
Where is the Christian at, nobody knows.

Now let us look at the future-ahead.
Something has happened, all live and all dead.
Are taken to stand there, before the Lord's throne.
No one can help us now, we're all alone.

There stands the drunkard; the prostitute too.
Sinners are many and Christians — too few.
Look at them — lost souls you've all seen before.
Were you too busy to knock at their door?

All different colors, some small and some big.
Some of them, maybe their graves you helped dig.
Gathered in bunches like leaves in the fall,
Being disposed of, yes, burning them all.

Well, now they're gone, what will happen to you?
The harvest was white, but the laborers few.
God will judge you by your works — big and small.
Did you remember to answer the call?

Did you reach out to save someone from sin?
Those who were tossing without and within?
Were you asleep, on a hike, to be found?
Or were you never when in need — around?

Examine yourself — look hard and look deep.
Will he accept you, gladly your soul keep?
Or will you also the hell fire share,
With those who were lost because you didn't care?

By Corine Woods, Freshman at the College of
the Scriptures, Louisville, Ky.

HERE AND THERE

November First we left Baltimore in the old car, in company with God and his Son Jesus Christ for Louisville, Ky. We were there to attend the Wide World Rally 2, 3, 4, 1972, and to conduct a revival at the Shepherdsville Road Church of Christ, of which Prof. Cornelius Daniels is the wide awake pastor. The attendance was excellent, the singing was good, the members were lovely and the officers were faithful. The hospitality in the home of the church members was great. We predict a great future for the church.

Lord's Day Morning, November Fifth at eleven A.M., we were the guest speaker at the Prentice Street Christian Church of which Elder Herman Jenkins is the up and going pastor. I thought I was going to a dead or dying church, but I found the church very much alive. The attendance was excellent. Help this young man and we will be proud of this congregation.

Prof. Daniels called me over the phone and told me that Sister Daniels was in the hospital. We are praying for her and her fine family.

While in Louisville we went to see Vice President E. Steve Lawhon. Brother Lawhon has been sick but is much better.

It Must Be Used

There is a universal law enfolding us all to the effect that power can be retained only by use.

To use is to keep. To fail to use is to lose. If your muscles are idle they will grow flabby and soft. If you fail to translate high emotions into actual behavior the emotions will fade and die.

There is no guarantee for the maintenance of exalted moods unless they are transmuted into action. This is the tragedy of tragedies — to have and to lose through disuse.

Wanted--A Real Religion

Here we are, all together, doing our best to bring happiness and comfort to all people

MAN'S religion is the most important thing in his life. If it is not, something must be wrong either with him... or with it. Or, perhaps, it just happens that nothing in all that he has seen of what he calls "religion" has ever appealed to him. He doesn't like it, and what can you do about that? But, maybe, he never had a good chance to know the Christian Faith at its best.

Anyway, if he is a reasonable man, he will listen to anybody who has anything worth while to say. He believes in God, and he wants his children to have an even better chance to learn the truth about Him, and man, and religion, than he had. He will insist on fair-play for the Church if the Church deserves it.

It was Jesus Christ who said, "The Sabbath is made for man, man is not made for the Sabbath." He meant that everything done by the Church, everything taught by the Church, is for the good of human beings everywhere. Man does not exist for the benefit of the Church. The Church lives only because its Founder and its workers want to make a better world for all of us to live in. Sometimes men who represent what they call "the Church" don't behave as though this were true.

He was poor when He could have been rich. He might have run away from the terrible torture of the Cross, but He preferred to let them crucify Him rather than give up the program that He laid down for the Church.

Everything that He did, He did to help human beings. He wanted them to know far more about God than they had ever known. He wanted to show them, by example, how to live together as friends. He wanted them to learn, by watching and listening to His words, how to avoid the evils of this life. And He certainly did not want children, or their parents, to be driven down into poverty and hunger.

Of course, our Lord expected the Church that He founded to do as He had done. He sent the disciples out into the world to teach these wonderful things to all the people. But His followers were to be simple, honest, straightforward, humble men. They were not to pretend that they were better than anybody else, or to try to make money by their work for men, or to expect even to be praised for the sacrifices they certainly would have to make. In truth, no great leader ever detested hypocrites quite so much as He did. However, in His Church it was pretty hard to find a real hypocrite. The going was too tough for that. Men don't long go hungry and even die for the sake of a lie. And most of the men chosen by Him to be "Apostles and Evangelists" were tortured for their loyalty to Christ, and many were killed. It never was easy to be a disciple. It isn't easy even today.

Perhaps you remember one of the great stories

that He told about the kind of people He wished to have in His Church. "Two men went up into the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, the other a poor publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus, 'Thank God that I am not as other men are, even as this publican.' The poor publican knelt and said, 'God be merciful to me, a sinner.'"

We like that story because we all feel like the publican. Every man, after he thinks a little, knows that in comparison with Jesus Christ he is certainly "a sinner." He doesn't whisper to himself, "Thank God I'm not like other men are." Sometimes this natural feeling keeps him out of the Church. This is because he misunderstands what our Lord's message really is. He doesn't realize that the Church of Jesus Christ is meant for people who are honest enough, and also brave enough, to admit that they are really sinners in need of help. As somebody once said, "The Church is not a museum for saints. It is a school for sinners." So there are not any important people in His Church. We are a group of sinners all trying to do better, and all trying to help one another.

Are we? What about Mrs. Smug? Well, what is really going on inside her heart and her head? Only He knows that. And He warned us in the strongest kind of language: "Judge not lest ye be judged; for with what judgment ye judge ye shall be judged." In short, He reminds us that we have enough to do in taking care of our own spiritual and moral health without passing judgment on other people. They may be trying as hard as we are, and in the Church it is the trying that matters. Here we are, all together, doing our best to be better Christians, striving to bring happiness and comfort into other people's lives.

That is one of the great things about the Church. It has the highest ideals in the world at which to aim, but it doesn't set up stiff impossible standards from which to start. It has no social or financial standards. It cares as much for the "down and out" as for the man of wealth and social position. It recognizes "sinners only." And, because none of us is perfect, it is ever eager to use all its powers to help any one of us. Nor does it frown upon the normal amusements of the common man's life. What it expects is moderation. That is the position taken always by our Lord when He was founding the Church as "a home for all people everywhere"... where all the children of God may find help, inspiration, consolation, and joy with their brothers and sisters in their Father's House.

Of course, there is a great deal more to the Church than just this. But, if you are unhappy and hungry for better things, if you are without "a Church," or dissatisfied where you are, this is all that you need for a start. Here you will find not a sect with strange doctrines and irritating rules, but a family eager to share with you their friendship and their knowledge.

What Good Are You To the Church?

IF ALL the members were gathered together and the proposition were made: "All those who have been directly instrumental in bringing one soul into the church and can point to a definite individual as the fruit of their personal mission work, will please hold up their hands," how many hands could be honestly raised? Would your hand go up? If not, why not? The missionary command of Christ cannot be carried out entirely by proxy. You cannot shift your evangelizing duties onto the pastor. Every believer is commanded: "Go and evangelize." We cannot change the word "go" into "send."

Is there anything to do? What a question! In the organized work of the church there is room for everybody. The Sunday school offers a big field. Even if you cannot teach, perhaps you can come and learn. Or you can help the school grow by bringing in recruits. We have quite an impressive group of Bible classes which might well enlist your attention. We also have other organizations which might engage your interest.

But what we want to encourage primarily is that every member may become in his or her circle, according to his or her talents, a constant missionary for Christ. Our city is full of unchurched people. Every one of these people represents an immortal soul, heedlessly living out the time of grace and drifting without the saving influence of the gospel on to eternity. Our contacts with such people establish our responsibility. Our

own time is short. We dare not let it slip by without utilizing it in performing the duties that God has imposed upon us with our discipleship. Speak out. Invite your unchurched acquaintances to the services. Call for them. Bring them to the adult class. Live a life that is a constant witness of the faith that is in you.

The reason why we are not influencing more outsiders is that the personal Christian life of so many of our people is of such a dubious character. The church member whose connection is loose, whose attendance at church is irregular, not only cannot function as a missionary, but is a positive detriment to the church because his superficiality brings the name of Christ into disrepute and strengthens the unbeliever in his unbelief. The contempt in which the unchurched drifter holds the half-hearted church member is justified. The member who comes to the Sunday services only spasmodically, who is only moderately interested in his church's welfare and in his daily life in no wise distinguishes himself from his unchurched neighbor, is a generally hurtful interest as far as his church is concerned. May there be a general personal self-examination among our membership. This means you! If you are consciously or unconsciously offending an immortal soul and hindering the advance of Christ's kingdom, you are assuming a terrific responsibility. Time is passing. Our talents must be invested. "Let us work while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work."

Must I go empty-handed?
Thus my dear Redeemer meet?
Not one day of service give Him,
Lay no trophies at His feet?

Not at death I shrink nor falter,
For my Savior saves me now;
But to meet Him empty-handed,
Tho't of that now clouds my brow.



O the years in sinning wasted,
Could I but recall them now,
I would give them to my Savior,
To His will I'd gladly bow.

O ye saints, arouse, be earnest,
Up and work while yet 'tis day;
Ere the night of death o'ertake thee,
Strive for souls while still you may.

Why Men Do Not Go to Church

By
I. P. JOHNSON

A GREAT deal has been said about the reason why men do not go to church. Before considering their excuses let us consider the purpose of public worship. It is first of all to give thanks not merely for our own blessings but also a corporate act in putting God and His righteousness first in our national life. No man has any right to live merely for himself, but as we are all members one of another we have a responsibility for the example that we set in our community. If all men should cease to take part in public worship, society would become spiritually impoverished. As it is, the majority of men absent themselves from worship and thereby place upon the few the task of keeping the light burning.

We are all familiar with their excuses. The meanest of them all is the statement, "My parents made me go to church so much as a child that I am fed up on worship." Your parents made you go to school. Are you tired of the knowledge that you thus acquired? They made you honest and truthful. Do you get weary of that? And isn't it rather mean to blame your godly parents for your own shortcomings? Suppose that they had let you run loose, would you have attained the position that you now occupy? I will guarantee that 80 per cent of successful business men owe their prosperity to the fact that they had godly parents.

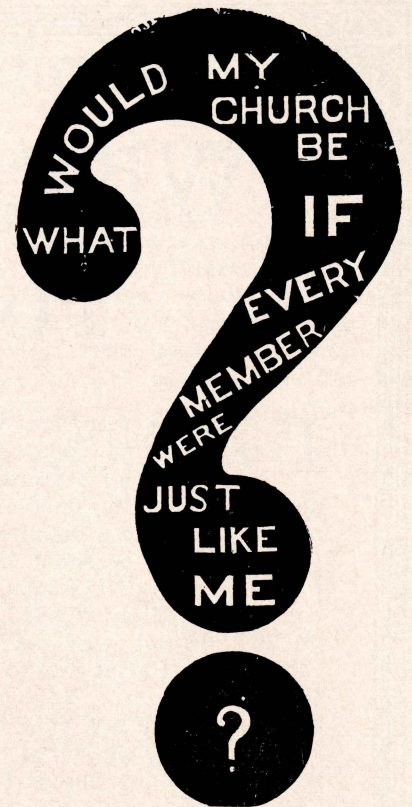
The next excuse is that so many Christians are hypocrites that you do not wish to be numbered among them. So you differ from the Pharisee in the parable only in the fact that he

thanked God in the synagogue that he was not as other men were. You stand on the sidewalk and say the same thing. Of course you are not a hypocrite because if you never try to climb the mountain you can never fall off. You are perfectly safe on the prairie.

A great many others lay the blame for their absence to the parson—either to his preaching or to his ritual or to his personality. You don't get anything out of it is the complaint. In saying this you demonstrate your failure to understand the Gospel in which the vital question is not what one gets but what one gives. The duty of a layman is just as imperative as is that of a clergyman and the fact that the minister forfeits your approval does not release you from your obligation to bear witness as a Christian.

ANOTHER man says that he visits nature's beautiful cathedral and worships God there. The truth of the matter is that he does not think of God during his picnic. If he mentions God at all it is when his auto goes wrong and that is hardly worship. Besides if he should worship the God of nature it is a purely self-centered act and does not add anything to the spiritual welfare of the community.

Again, another man says that he needs the rest of Sunday and wants to relax. He is unmindful of the fact that it is the Lord's day and he owes his day of rest to the Gospel. Really



going to church for an hour on Sunday would inject a change of atmosphere which is the very essence of rest. It certainly would not be a matter of exhaustion.

The true answer to the question "Why do not men go to Church?" is that they do not want to go. They are eager to take all the blessings which the good Lord gives them but do not feel the obligation to do something in return. To receive gifts from anyone without expressing one's thankfulness is to be guilty of ingratitude. To neglect participation in corporate worship is to encourage atheism and in the end will contribute to the loss of all liberty whenever a dictator arises to fill the vacuum in our souls.

The vital question for each of us is not what do I get out of attending divine worship, but quite the contrary, what do I contribute to the spiritual assets of the nation. If we put first things first we will seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness rather than consult our own comforts at the expense of those who bear witness to their faith in God. Otherwise the youth of the nation will follow this line of least resistance without the background which their fathers had.