

# The Christian Informer

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## THE CHRISTIAN INFORMER

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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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Doctor of Sacred Literature

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A NATIONAL JOURNAL  
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Convention

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

### VOICE OF THE EDITOR



W. H. TAYLOR

### DENOMINATIONALISM

Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from me, ye that work iniquity. Matt. 7:21-22-23.

### Denominationalism Can't Stand Before The Judgment Bar Of God

Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. Matthew 15:13.

Denominational plans of salvation are not obedient to the gospel of Christ. II Thess. 1:8, 9.

Denominationalism adds to, takes away from, and compromises the Word of God in teaching and practice. Rev. 22:18, 19; Gal. 11:8, 9; II Peter 2:1-3.

Denominationalism fools people into believing something besides the truth. II Thess. 2:10-12.

Denominationalism does not worship according to the revealed truth. John 4:24; Mark 7:7.

Denominationalism has not been planted by God nor Jesus Christ. Matt. 15:13.

Follow them not. Matt. 15:14.

Come out from among them. Rev. 18:4; II Cor. 14-18.

Beware of them. Col. 2:8.

Avoid them. Rom. 16:17, 18.

Bid them not God speed. II John 9-11.

And he that taketh not his cross, and follow after me, is not worthy of me. Matt. 7:38.

### "THE UNFINISHED TASK"

Let's work on the unfinished "RESTORATION MOVEMENT TASK," which was begun by the Apostles on the day of Pentecost Acts 2:47 and discovered by the Campbells, Stones and Scotts later on.

The open membership brethren, like the denominational brethren, are described by the Apostle in Romans 10:2-3.

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

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If it is convenient put one dollar or more in an envelope and mail it to the Editor, W. H. Baltimore Taylor, Emmanuel Building, 1702 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, Md. 21217.

Remember, The Christian Informer is read in almost every state in America and in some foreign countries.

God has given us 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.

### BOOT STRAP RELIGION

Some preachers and congregations, need a good dose of boot strap religion instead of begging someone or some missionary organization to pull them up. They ought to look to God and his Son Jesus Christ; who is the author and finisher of our faith, and pull up by their own boot strap. I know it can be done, because I did it, with the help of God. About 1924 to 1933, I pastored a certain church in Baltimore, whose deed to the church property was in the name of an outstanding open membership congregation. Because I preached against open membership and denominationalism I was told to stop preaching against open membership or get out of the church building. I would not turn my back on Jesus Christ and the New Testament, and become a slave for an open membership preacher and congregation. I did not have as much Christian Religion then, as I have now. So I told them where to go and how to get there. I told them what Christ said in Luke 16:2-3. And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments.

I quit, "that same hour of the night." And on the first Lord's Day in August 1933, we started the Emmanuel Church of Christ. God helped us to pull up by our own boot strap. We have never asked or begged an outsider or missionary organization for help. If we don't have what we want, we do without it. I am ashamed to beg. I do not beg my members to come to church. I know they will come one day, if the Undertaker has to bring them; and they stay until I say let's go.

In 1944 "The Top Brass, from a certain headquarters, descended on the convention of which I was its seventh president, and was making progress in everyway. Pulling up by our boot strap: and asking them for nothing, but to stay out of my way. Our men were preaching the faith once delivered to the saints, and telling the open-membership gang where to go. See the history of W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor's administration.

Like Japan made a sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, that gang made a sneak attack on my convention. I did not invite them there as president. I was surprised when I saw them. They must have attended the same college Judas attended, because they treated me like Judas treated Christ in the Garden. If I had known in advance that they were coming to do what they did do, I would have called my men together and we would have had an old fashioned prayer meeting or a riot.

Now, where is the convention? DEAD. Where is their national journal? DEAD. Where are their colleges? Where is the two hundred thousand dollar estate left them by the founder and first president of the convention?

When I think of the open membership gang from about 1929 to 1944. I think of what Paul said in 2 Timothy. 4:14,18.

14 Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works:

15 Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly withstood our words.

### WHO AM I?

I am a North Carolinian by birth. Was born in Durham, N.C. Attended College in Raleigh, N.C. Became a Christian in Winston Salem, N.C. Pastored my first church in Winston Salem, N.C. Married my wife in Oxford, N.C. Bought a lot and started a church in Durhan, N.C. I am a Virginian by accident. I was called to Virginia to pastor the Church at Tazewell and Bluefield, Va.

I am a Marylander by adoption. I have been pastoring here since 1924. My plan is to go from Baltimore to Heaven.

I have been pastoring about fifty-five years, in all. (Let's have a laugh) The first ten years of my ministry, they idolized me. The second ten years they slanderized me. The third ten years they criticized me. The fourth ten years they ostracized me. The fifth ten years they hospitalized and glorified me. If I be around another ten years they will funeralize me.

### WHO AM I

I am the voice of one crying in the "RESTORATION WILDERNESS" saying, knock down denominationalism, knock down open-membership and its evils. Build up the true Church of Christ as it is found in the New Testament.

### WHY IS MY NAME TAYLOR?

My name is Taylor, because the last slave master, who owned my granddaddy was a Taylor. Remember, the apples fall close to the tree.

### WHY WAS I EVER A METHODIST?

I was a Zion Methodist and an African Methodist by birth. All of my kinsfolk were Methodist, because the last slave master who owned my fore parents was a Methodist.

I was an Episcopalian by adoption. I was sent to an Episcopalian college, and I became an Episcopalian by adoption.

A few weeks after World War One, I met the late Doctor R. L. Peters, founder of Winston Salem Bible Institute, now Winston Salem Bible College. I told him that I belonged to the Episcopalian Church. He asked me to find the Episcopalian Church in the Bible. I could not find it in the Bible. The only Church I found was the Church of Christ. Matthew 16:18. Rom. 16:16. Acts 11:26.

"I became a Christian by choice. For the love of Christ constraineth us (me)." 2 Corinthians 5:14.

16 At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.

17 Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me: that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

## ASK THE MAN WHO KNOWS WHAT HE IS TALKING ABOUT

On my recent trips through Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, I saw Christianity in action, as I have never seen it before in all my life. The things I saw and heard made me love America and the Church of Christ, more than I ever did.

There was a time I would not sing "God bless America." I would sing God do something else for America.

About 45 years ago, I had a nice looking Hudson automobile. I stopped at a filling station to get some gas. The only way the man would sell me some gas. He told me that I would have to get out of the car, and take my hat off. I do not know what you would have done, but I needed some gas, to get out of that little town.

The other day I stopped in that same little town. And the filling station man came to my car, with a smile, and said must I filler up? I told him what happened to me about 45 years ago, before he was born. As I often do, I asked him to what church did he belong. He said the Church of Christ. I gave him a copy of The Christian Informer. He said I wish you would stay here until Sunday, so you could preach for us, my pastor and members would be glad to have you.

## DON'T BE A FOOL

God is not dead, neither is his Son Jesus Christ on vacation. I talked with both of them this morning, at noon and at evening time. They were with me last night and they promised to be with me always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. Matthew 28:20;

If you don't believe me, ask the Holy Spirit, who is a witness. John 14:26. The fool hath said in his heart. There is no God. Psalm 14:1.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. Proverbs 1:7. The way of a fool is right in his own eyes. Proverbs 12:15.

## OBEDIENT

As Paul said to King Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision. Acts 26:19.

When I found only the Church of Christ in the Bible, I turned aside from all denominationalism, and united with the Church of Christ; and I became a Christian. First Peter 4:16.

As a member of the Church of Christ, I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us (me) from the love of God, (Church of Christ) which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39.

## BIOGRAPHICAL RESUME



Sam Winger, executive director of Inner City Mission, Inc., was born on November 20, 1936 in Vicksburg, Miss. He served in the armed forces from 1954-1957. After his discharge, he moved to Gary, Indiana where he worked and served the Wildwood Church of Christ as an elder. He also assisted in the responsibility of preaching and teaching and was ordained at the Wildwood Church of Christ as a minister of Christ on April 27, 1969.

In 1964 he enrolled in the College of the Scriptures in Louisville, Kentucky. While studying there he served in evangelistic endeavors in Kentucky and Ohio. He also did some supply preaching in New York. He was graduated from the College in 1971 with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Mr. Winger was called to the work in the inner city of Fort Wayne, Indiana in May of 1970. Presently, Mr. Winger and his wife, Arvenia, live at the Mission with their family. The responsibility he has as executive director includes working with existing congregations as well as organizing and directing the Inner City Mission program.

In addition, Mr. Winger is active in evangelism within the Inner City area. He serves on the coordinating council of the National Alliance of Businessmen. He is a member of the board of trustees for the College of the Scriptures and is on their executive committee. Sam is also on the board of directors for the Inter-Agency Drug Abuse Council (IADAC) and has recently been nominated to the board of directors of the Alexander Christian Foundation in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Frequently, Mr. Winger speaks for churches, civic groups, schools, and other organizations. He feels his work is based on First Corinthians 3:9 which says "We are labourers together with God."

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## HE TOLD SOME TRUTH

About sixty-five years ago when I was a boy, a man of another race and color, in a horse drawn buggy, saw me and some other boys picking black berries beside the road.

In order to humiliate us as we thought, he chanted "Black Berries and Black Boys."

He made us angry and we cursed him as far as we could see him. All of us were not black. Some of us were half black, half white, high yellow, brown skin, red skin and dark white. As I remember all of the berries were not black. Some of them were green turning red, only a few were black.

When I hear and read about black Church, black Disciples, black Christians, white Church, white Disciples, white Christians. I wonder where do they get these colors for Christ's Church and His people.

The only church I can find in the New Testament, is the Church of Christ. Romans 16:16, and the members are called Christians. Acts 11:26. The Bible doesn't say if they are black, white, red or yellow. It does say, Ye are all one in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:28. If you preach and teach colors, you must not be in Christ Jesus.

## COLORED BERRIES AND COLORED BOYS

If the man had said colored berries and colored boys, we would not have cursed him, because he would have been telling the whole truth. When someone refer to me as a member of the black Church of Christ, and a black Christian preacher; then I feel bad. I do not ask you to agree with me, I only ask that you understand me.

Theme song at the Piedmont Christian Missionary Rally. Rural Hall, N.C.

Words by Jim Gibbons, Mt. Airy, N.C.

## HIS CHURCH IS MARCHING ON

1. My ears have heard the story of the Christ upon the cross,  
How He gave Himself so freely for the church at such a cost  
How with power the church was started on the day of Pentecost;  
His church is marching on.  
CHORUS:  
Praise the Lord, O hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O hallelujah!  
His church is marching on.
2. I have read it on the pages of the Holy Word of God  
That the church that Jesus purchased under foot of man was trod;  
For the oneness of the pattern in the eyes of men is odd:  
His church is marching on.  
CHORUS:  
Praise the Lord, O hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O hallelujah!  
His church is marching on.
3. The church that Jesus started has endured the test of time  
For the gates of Hell cannot prevail against this church divine;  
And the children of this kingdom will someday the sun outshine;  
His church is marching on.  
CHORUS:  
Praise the Lord, O hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O hallelujah!  
His church is marching on.

## HERE AND THERE

March 11th, 11 A.M. we preached at the Ardmore Church of Christ, Winston Salem, N.C. This church has a loyal to Christ congregation and the attendance was excellent. Dr. Warren Exline is the Minister.

In the evening we were at the Spencer Memorial Church of Christ, to help celebrate the Anniversary of my friend Pastor Mack and his wife. We had a fine time. Pastor Mack and his wife have been married longer than I have.

Monday March 12-14, we were at the Piedmont Christian Missionary Rally held at Jefferson Church of Christ, Rural Hall, N.C. See program.

While in Winston Salem, we were at home with Dean and Mrs. W. E. Johnson and Sister Hawkins.

April 16th, we left Baltimore again for Winston Salem. We meet with the Advisory Committee of the Winston Salem Bible College. We left Winston Salem, April 17th for Johnson Bible College, Knoxville, Tenn. Alone with God and His Son Jesus Christ in the car with me. We went by the way of Ashville, N.C., and across the Smoky Mountains. It was beautiful to see.

At Johnson Bible College, Dean Black, the faculty and students received me gladly. They had me to preach three sermons in the day, and one at night at the beautiful Banquet. I have never enjoyed myself any better.

April 19th, we left Johnson Bible College, for the College of the Scriptures, Louisville, Ky. There we met old friends and spent the night in the home of Brother and Sister William Wilson.

We left Louisville, April 20th, Chicago, Ill., to preach seven sermons, at the Paxton Ave., Church of Christ, 8312 Paxton Ave., of which Dr. David Downey is Minister.

Somebody said it could not be done, but Brother Downey and his good family and loyal members are doing it. Souls were added to the church daily. Baptising every night. Standing room only at some of the services. You had to come early to get a seat and some nights you had to come early to get a place to stand.

Carrie Anna and her husband and the three children were looking good. They were in the Church of Christ, where they ought to be every night. The members and friends of the church made it very pleasant for me, in their homes for dinner and lunch. I lived in the home of Sister Viola P. Taylor and her good family. God bless them.

P.O. Box 212  
Rural Hall, N.C. 27045  
March 27, 1973

Dear Brother Taylor:

We enjoyed having you in the area for our Missionary Rally this year. I have received the Christian Informer and find it very interesting to read. Enclosed is my contribution for my subscription for the Christian Informer and for the good work you are doing in the Baltimore area.

Ralph L. Merritt

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## "COME BEFORE WINTER"

By Dr. Jack Mays,  
 Minister Jefferson Church of Christ  
 Rural Hall, N.C.

Scrip.: 2 Timothy 4:6-21a

Text: 2 Timothy 4:21a "Do thy diligence to come before winter."

### Introduction

- A. Why did Paul want Timothy to come before winter set in?  
 1. Some writers say the ships never traveled in that part of the Mediterranean Sea because it was too dangerous during the winter months.  
 2. They state that travel was almost impossible after September or October.  
 3. Could Paul have meant that he expected to be slain before spring?  
 4. Did Timothy make it in time?  
 (a) of course we don't know, but we hope he did.
- B. Winter is symbolic of Old Age, and death.  
 1. Most all of nature dies to be reborn in the spring.  
 2. Here is a picture of life itself, we die to be reborn in the spring; when we go to meet God.  
 3. Each day we live, we are one step closer to winter, death.  
 (a) Hebrews 9:27—"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the Judgment."

- C. God has been patient with man and longs for him to live with Him forever.  
 1. He has begged and pleaded all through the centuries for man to listen to Him.  
 2. We have chosen three select passages from His Word that we think are some of the saddest words that could be uttered.
- D. First, let's go to the Old Testament.

### I Saddest Words In The Old Testament. Jeremiah 8:20—"the harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

- A. What horrible sadness these words reveal.  
 1. Summer is ended, the crops need that warm sunlight to grow.  
 2. The autumn is now coming on and then the winter, the sun is beginning to fade off.  
 3. The harvest is over, the crops should have been reaped.  
 4. All the edible fruits are now taken,  
 5. What is left—only the chaff which is fit for nothing but to be thrown into the fire and burned.

- B. We are not saved—think of it, too late.  
 1. Now we must face God not as good fruits but as decayed or worthless.  
 2. Just as Jesus taught in Luke 13:6-9.  
 (a) "Behold these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down, why cumbereth it the ground." verse 7.  
 3. Or as Jesus put a curse on the fig tree in Mark 11:12-14.

- (a) "No man eat fruit of thee hereafter forever, vs. 14b.

- C. If we are not faithful to God, the end results are just as these lessons Jesus describes:

1. "Cut it down, no man eat fruit of thee hereafter forever."

2. On another occasion, "cast it into the fire."

D. "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

1. Is it too late?

2. Not if you turn to God today.

### II The Saddest Words In The New Testament. "And you will not come to me that you might have life." John 5:40.

- A. The life of Christ was filled with sadness  
 1. He was born in a stable.  
 2. He had no place to really call His home upon this earth even though He owns it all.  
 3. He was cursed, beaten, spit upon, nailed at and then murdered.  
 4. All of this He was willing to endure if He could save mankind from their sins.
- B. After all He did, "He came unto His own and His own received Him not."  
 1. What more could He do?  
 2. Even His friends deserted Him.  
 3. One sold Him for 30 pieces of silver, the price for a slave.  
 4. Another denied ever knowing Him.
- C. Even with all His divine wisdom, I wonder if the master can understand this.  
 1. He came to give us life everlasting and we refuse it.  
 2. How ungrateful, how thankless, what a horrible thought, to turn down such a friend.  
 3. How can men harden their hearts against Christ, and willfully choose hell instead of heaven?  
 4. Why, will they deliberately call for the release of Barabbas and bow their knees at the feet of the fiendish master of hell?

- D. If we were in God's place, we would have called a halt to this sin infested world long ago.  
 1. But thanks be to God that He is long suffering not willing that any should perish.  
 2. But the question is, how much longer is He going to tolerate this wicked world?

- E. One day, if we continue in our stubborn way of life we are going to hear;

### III The Saddest Words In The Future. "Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." Matthew 25:41.

- A. There are those who refuse to believe in an everlasting hell.  
 1. But one day they are going to realize that God says what He means.  
 2. We can reason all we want to, but that doesn't change the picture.  
 3. God has spoken and we must listen.
- B. There are those who say that God is too good to send anyone to eternal punishment.  
 1. God is not doing it, we are.  
 2. He hates sin and has asked us to come under the blood of Christ, to be born again, of the water and the spirit.

- C. There should not be any question on our part.  
 1. God has shown His love for us, let's accept

(Please turn to page 8)

## Continuing Action

### SOME DISTURBING QUESTIONS!!

By Dean W. E. Johnson,  
Winston Salem Bible College



How do you reach one million people scattered over an entire nation with an urgent message when they are all pre-occupied with hundreds of other demanding "causes?"

How do you convince them they have a responsibility for hundreds of millions of men, women, and children they have never seen?

What do you do to impress them with the need of action immediately?

With 1,940 years having passed since the giving of the Great Commission, and with five times more people alive today who have never heard the Gospel than lived on the entire earth then, what is the use of even trying anymore?

Considering the problems, are there any possibilities of even getting the attention of people to listen, let alone respond?

Why take time and money to stir up church members who seem to be satisfied with present tragic spiritual conditions?

These questions all seem to imply great pessimism, but some exciting spiritual things have been happening in the past few years in spite of the tragedy and the gloom that hangs over the world. This is especially true in missionary activity.

OTHERS

Romans 1:8-17

It is the mission of the church to serve God in the world, to give witness of His purpose for the world and His activity in the world. God made the world. He loves the world. It is in that world, with all of its evil and its good, that He set His people, the church. There is where the Church belongs.

It is in the realm of day by day relationships in the world—where men live and love, work and play, vote and pay their taxes—that the will of God is obeyed or disobeyed, where His name is

honored or dishonored.

This is where the church is meant to be seen, not as an institution but as people—people who visibly demonstrate in word and deed, in their attitudes, loyalties, decisions, that they belong not ultimately to the world, but to God.

The world into which the gospel first came was characterized by frustration and hopelessness. The gospel brought hope and direction.

**THE CONTINUING TASK** Matt. 28:16-20

There are individual tasks in the Christian life which may be said upon completion to be finished. Each of us serves his time and comes to the end of the way. Happy are we if what we have done is a part of the task which continues ceaselessly, like the mountain stream.

Going into all the world, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them, teaching them, is this continuing task.

As we survey the work of the past generation and our own until now, how grateful we should be that we still have an opportunity to carry out this great commission.

The longsuffering of God is very much in evidence in our time. Christians should see this as we behold the raging nations and people in opposition to the will of God.

It is an hour for heart searching prayer, and for the rededication of our lives to this great privilege. God give us all a living passion for souls.

### ANNOUNCING THE ANNUAL SCHOOL CLOSING ACTIVITIES FOR WINSTON-SALEM BIBLE COLLEGE

**Baccalaureate Service:** Sunday, May 20, at 3:00 p.m. Speaker: W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor, Baltimore, Maryland.

**Spring Banquet:** Monday, May 21, at 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Fred Mitchell, Minister, Collier Heights Church of Christ, Atlanta, Georgia. No tickets will be sold, but contributions will be appreciated.

**Music Festival:** Wednesday, May 23, at 7:30 p.m. All churches of the area are invited to participate with singing groups.

**Commencement:** Thursday, May 24, at 7:30 p.m. Speaker: Lewis Styons, Minister, Church of Christ, Reidsville, North Carolina.

### TWINS!

Our "little addition" turned out to be two . . . So here are the facts.

On what's what and who's who!

Names: Ayme Lynn and Anita Carol

Weights: 7 lbs. 20 in. and 6 lbs. 9 oz. 19½ in..

Arrived: 12:01 A.M. and 12:05 A.M. 2-25-73

Parents: Richard and Shirley McCain

### "Come Before Winter"

(From page 7)

it with outstretched arms.

2. Let's show our love for Him.

Conclusion.

A. We don't have to fear those saddest of words in the future.

B. We just need to show our love today and He will take care of us in the future.

## (Sermon Outline)

### GOD'S RIGHTS

Exodus 40.

Today we are much concerned about HUMAN Rights. . . How about GOD'S RIGHTS? (Divine Rights)

Exodus 40 "As the Lord commanded Moses"

It is to the eternal credit of Moses that he lived "as God Commanded" THAT IS WHY HE IS GREAT. . .

When Jerico fell. . . Joshua and Israel did their duty—"As God Commanded"

Ditto—Gideon and his 300 men.

Earlier when Sodom and Gomorah were destroyed every RIGHTEOUS person had a way of escape. . . and a CHOICE. . . GOD MADE THE RULES. . . HE HAD A RIGHT TO DO SO. . . NO ONE COULD SET ASIDE HIS RULES.

GOD HAD A RIGHT TO GIVE THE LAWS ON MT. SINAI, AND HE HAD A RIGHT TO EXPECT COMPLIANCE. Obedience.

IN THE CHRISTIAN AGE

"God sent His Son" . . . John 3:16

(This gave God some rights)

JESUS DIED ON CALVARY. . . This gave HIM some RIGHTS. It is GOD'S RIGHT TO LEGISLATE . . . Make Rules . . . Man's Right is to make a CHOICE (Take it or leave it).

FIRE BURNS . . . God's law . . . I Choose Knowing. . .

JESUS SAVES . . . God's Grace . . . WE CHOOSE—Knowing Jesus died to save me from my sins—I Choose—

A DAY OF DECISION—A Field of service . . . GOD gives the way (Christ) We Choose.

THE CHURCH . . . A FIELD OF SERVICE . . . WE CHOOSE.

GOD HAS A RIGHT TO EXPECT US TO DO OUR BEST.

By Dr. John U. Phelps, of Winston Salem Bible College.

### FLORIDA

Dear Bro. Taylor:

I sincerely hope you are doing fine. Thank you very much for continuing to send the Christian Informer. In closed you will find a check, so you will keep sending it to us. We all enjoy reading the Christian Informer. We still know in some way you are talking to us through it. We often think of you being around the College the Rally and other activities. It was a great privilege to have sat at your feet to hear God's Word.

As you know we were sent back to Orlando, Fla. to minister to the Ivey Lane Church of Christ. The Church is coming along nicely. This is the church which was started by Bro. Ellis. It is a joy to work with him again. Pray with us; hope to meet with you again real soon.

Yours in Christ

Clarence Green, Minister

### MARYLAND

Dear Brother Taylor,

I enjoyed reading the Christian Informer for March-April-May, 1973. I am enclosing \$1.00 for a year's subscription. I enjoyed mostly the true story of the couple whose prayers were answered concerning their son, who was fighting in France, during war time. I too have been blessed to have many prayers answered through Christ our Lord. If I may, one experience that is still very much in my mind happened about 13 years ago. My daughter, who is now 14 yrs., was about 8 months old, became ill. I ran back and forward to the hospital with her, looking for the doctors to give her some kind of help. Nothing the doctors did seemed to do her any good. She seemed to worsen. I prayed for 2 solid weeks, she still didn't get any better. I never forget, it was on a Wednesday night, I fell on my knees before her crib, I got angry with God, and I said this prayer, "Lord," I pray to you not as a sinner, but as a "Mother," I am tired of seeing my baby suffer, if you can't help her, please take her. Whatever is your will is mine.

I had asked Christ our Lord for 2 weeks, through prayer for help. That Wednesday night, I went to bed, turned over on my left side, I began to get numb. I (say) said to myself, in my mind, that God was punishing me for getting angry with him. I was unable to move. A light, that seemed to be in the form of a flame, appeared before me and called my name 3 times. This light spoke to me and told me that he was Christ and that he had heard my prayers. He told me that he loved me. I rejoiced. I asked him if I could see his face, he said no, I told him that I loved him more than I loved anything. He spoke to me again and told me that in the morning, my child would be sitting up in the bed (crib) calling for me. He wanted to say more to me, but I was so rejoiced at knowing my savior was with me that I began to come out of the numb feeling that I had. I went to sleep, I had a good night's sleep, something I hadn't had for 2 weeks. The next morning, like the vision stated, my daughter was sitting up in her crib calling for me. There have been so many experiences to let me know the Christ is real.

Mrs. Gladys A. Wilder

P.S. That morning my daughter was well, she was healed, through Christ our Lord. I thank Him every day, all during the day for his blessings.

Mrs. Gladys A. Wilder

### PENNSYLVANIA

Bro. Taylor,

I am sending one dollar, \$1.00, to renew the Christian Informer. I've enjoyed reading it. Hope you are doing fine.

Sincerely,

Brunette Brown

**PIEDMONT MISSIONARY RALLY**

Held at

Jefferson Church of Christ  
Rural Hall, North Carolina

March 12, 13, 14, 1973

MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 12  
Jack Mays, Presiding

- 7:30 — Song Service
- 7:35 — Prayer Period ..... Owen Emanuel  
(Ardmore)
- 7:45 — Speaker ..... Johnnie Marion
- 8:15 — Song Service
- 8:20 — Special Music ..... Ralph Sproles  
Directing
- 8:25 — Offering
- 8:30 — Speaker ..... Lawrence Hallum
- 9:00 — Decision Hymn
- 9:05 — Benediction ..... John U. Phelps  
Muddy Creek

TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 13

Winston-Salem Bible College  
in charge of services

- 10:15 — Winston-Salem Bible College  
All Missionaries present and speaking  
All invited to attend and share in lunch  
provided by the Bible College

TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 13

Gene Thompson, Presiding

- 7:30 — Song Service
- 7:35 — Prayer Period ..... Roger Covington  
(Capella)
- 7:45 — Speaker ..... W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor
- 8:15 — Song Service
- 8:20 — Special Music
- 8:25 — Offering
- 8:30 — Speaker ..... David Eubanks
- 9:00 — Decision Hymn
- 9:05 — Benediction ..... Mickey Allen  
(King)

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 14

John Snow, Presiding

- 10:00 — Song Service
- 10:10 — Prayer Time ..... Ralph Sproles  
My Most Inspiring Missionary Experience
- 10:20 — Lawrence Hallum, Supt., Cookson Hills  
School
- 10:35 — LaVerne Morse, Prof., Cincinnati Bible  
Seminary
- 10:50 — Johnnie Marion, Dir., S.C., Evangelizing  
Assn.
- 11:05 — Break
- 11:15 — Song Service
- 11:20 — W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor, Editor, The  
Christian Informer
- 11:35 — David Eubanks, Pres., Johnson Bible  
College
- 11:50 — Decision Hymn
- 11:55 — Announcements
- 12 Noon — Benediction ..... Jack Mays  
Lunch (Covered Dish)

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 14

Warren Exline, Presiding

- 7:30 — Song Servie
- 7:40 — Prayer Period ..... Dean Johnson  
W.S.B.C.
- 7:45 — Offering
- 7:50 — Special Music
- 7:55 — Speaker ..... LaVerne Morse
- 8:40 — Decision Hymn
- 8:45 — Benediction ..... Ed Stanley  
Rural Hall

**A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

This College was founded in 1893 by Ashley S. Johnson because of his strong conviction that "the one great need of the cause of Christ" was more laborers and as a fulfillment of his dream to furnish an education for worthy young men who could not afford it. The marble plaque beside the entrance to the old main building still reads, "Open day and night to the poor young man who desires above every other desire, to preach the gospel of Christ."

After more than seventy-five years of continuous operation, Johnson is still fulfilling these two purposes of her founder. The curriculum has been expanded to meet the Christian educational needs of women students who are interested in giving their lives to a specialized ministry in some field of Christian service.

It is our intention to offer a quality education in a Christian environment. Academic excellence is not inconsistent with personal commitment or faithfulness to the Word of God. There is no legitimate reason for a minister or specialized Christian servant to be unlearned by choice. He, of all people, needs an understanding of the Humanities to better his relations with others, a knowledge of English in order to read the written Word and convey it to others, a proficiency in Speech in order to communicate his message, and so forth. To insure such a thorough education we have a faculty who are well qualified scholars, but who, at the same time, are dedicated to the cause of Christ and the validity of the Restoration principles.

However, Johnson Bible College is more than just an institution of higher learning; it is a community, a family. Practically all of our students live in residence halls or houses on campus. All of the faculty members reside in College housing. Meals are served family-style in the dining room. The organization of the life of the campus represents a sincere attempt to meet the total educational needs of the student: mental, spiritual, physical, and social. We would be happy to have you in the Johnson Family.

David L. Eubanks

**MARYLAND**

Dear Baltimore Taylor:

Here is some money for the Christian Informer. We enjoy your paper and we receive it faithfully every quarter.

It sounds like you are getting along just fine and travelling around to Chicago etc.

We hope to enjoy another fellowship with your being here at Creswell again. You were in our home when you preached at Creswell Church and Mr. Rolland Steever was our minister then.

May God Bless and continue to bless you and your Christian Witness.

In Christian Love  
Bill and Agnes Davis

**VIRGINIA**

Dear Brother Taylor:

I have enjoyed reading the Informer, since you started sending them. I meant to send you a dollar last year, but did not, so I'm including one for last year, and one for this year, making two (\$2.00) dollars. Also including a dollar for a young minister, who was on the John F. Kennedy, I baptized him, his home's in Georga; He is getting transferred to the West Coast, so I want him to get some brotherhood material on strong doctrine of the N.T. preaching and teaching, so won't you to mail him the March-April-May issue.

Yours for Christ,  
Brother Moye

**TEXAS**

Dear Brother Taylor:

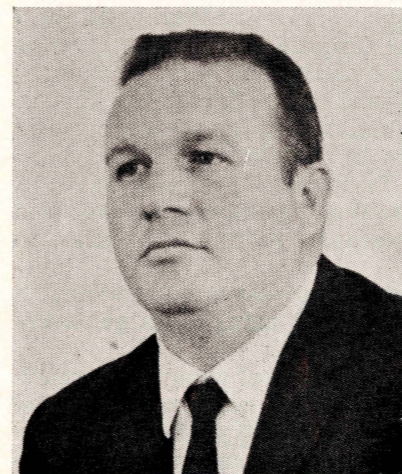
Congratulations on the fine job you are doing with the Christian Informer, keep up the good work. Enclosed please find a post office money order for \$2.00 for 2 subscriptions to the following persons:

- Mrs. Thelma Whittington  
1450 Gill St.  
Beaumont, Texas 77703
- Miss Mollie Bean  
1690 Gill St.  
Beaumont, Texas 77703

It might be of interest to you to know that although I hold an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Universal Bible Institute, Atlanta, Ga., I just received a letter from Dr. Louis C. Ritchardson acting president of Benedict College, Columbia, S.C. informing me that Benedict College Board of Trustees approved a request from the faculty that I be granted the honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity during the Baccalaureate Commencement convocation to be held on Sunday May 13, 1973, at 4:30 P.M. in the Columbia Township Auditorium.

May the Great Head of the Church bless your efforts for good and crown your labours with abundant success.

From your friend and brother in Christ,  
G. Augustus Burke

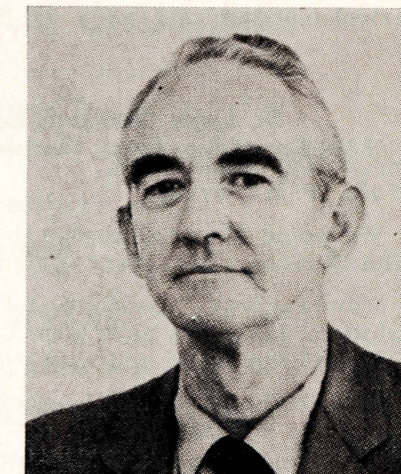


**ANNOUNCING**

**Doctor Steve Lawhon**

to become  
**President**  
of the

**College of the Scriptures**  
LOUISVILLE, KY.



**Doctor Tibbs Maxey is to be Pres. Emeritus and will continue with the College as a field man and Professor.**

## ILLINOIS

(See page 11)

It has been a while since I have written but I am taking time to write a few lines to let you know that you are in our prayers. I do want to keep up my subscription to the Christian Informer as you say if it is printed in the paper it is God inspired. We are sending you \$5.00 this time, we are all fine, the whole family. We did get out to the East coast last summer but could not get by to visit with you as there was so much to do and see in so little time. With God's help we will meet you again, I pray if not here on earth, in heaven. I will close now, and may the good Lord keep you and bless you. Yours in Christ.

John Ray

\* \* \*

## PAXTON TIMES

Paxton Avenue Christian Church,  
8312 S. Paxton 5-2-73  
D. Downcy, Minister

### To God Be The Glory, Great Things He Has Done!

God was really good to us during April! We topped our Bible School Contest goal by 10 on the final Sunday of the contest with 110 present! Our special "30 pieces of silver" offering exceeded \$160.00. A ten year record was set with 122 in morning worship Easter Sunday. Bro. "Baltimore" Taylor preached seven services for us this past week. Average attendance was exactly 100 per meeting. Highest attendance at our Revival was 191 on Thursday evening! This too was a record. There were 13 additions and one public rededication. There was a total of 21 additions during the month of April. Praise God! Those baptized were Ken Madison, Tracey Madison, Robin Madison, Walter Price, Rosalind Meeks, Sheri Johnson, Tefen Goss, Terry Roberts, Greg Roberts, Belinda Phills, Duann Fails, Cheryl Stewart, Regina Rice, Jackie Trotter and Darlene Wiley. Those who came by transfer were Maxino Madison, Catherine Phills, Samuel Simmon, Gail Roberts, Viola Taylor, and Wayne Arnold. May each one be faithful to Christ through out life. Our thanks to the many workers who helped make this a great month and a great Revival meeting.

—o—

### St. Louis Christian College

1360 Grandview Drive, Florissant, Missouri

To Mr. W. H. Taylor,

We would like to subscribe to your publication, "The Christian Informer."

I am enclosing one dollar for a one year subscription. (If prices have gone up, please bill the college at the above address.)

Mail to the library at the above address.

Thank you,  
Mrs. Carolyn Bowme, Librarian

## MARYLAND

Bro. W. H. Taylor,

I received my Christian Informer this week. Thanks very much. I really enjoyed reading them.

When I received one from you last summer saying when you received this I will be in the hospital.

At that time I was in there also from May 1st till August 11, 1972, but by the help of the good Lord I am home and doing great. I love your verse this month.

### Self Examination.

I do this myself. I always ask myself have I been true to God and all the good things you ask yourself I do this every night.

God is so good to me that is why I am here today for his witness not only what he has done but what He has done for me.

I can't tell you all because it would take too long. Only myself and those who know me and God know what he has done for me. I send you a check to renew my subscription for a year. I think I owe you \$1.00 so I am sending you \$2.00.

You know me by name but God knows me and my heart. I am a member of Mount Olivet Christian Church.

Have you meant our new Pastor, D. Gibbs? He is very young but very good.

From Bertie Harris

—o—

### East 16th Street Christian Church

4225 E. 16th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46201

Dear brother Taylor, March 28, 1973

Thank you for the Christian Informer. It helps me keep a little closer to the area of the country that will always be a part of me. Part of me, that is, eight years of studying, teaching, preaching, and sweating, will remain in the Baltimore, Maryland area. You brother Taylor will also always be a part of me, your teaching, faithfulness, love, and determination are examples for me to attempt to follow.

I praise the Lord for your continued good health and power to overcome those things that get average people down.

I will pray for a great revival when you preach in Chicago with brother Downey and the good people there. Perhaps you could go home by way of Indianapolis, Indiana and preach to the brethren here.

I would enjoy being with you in Baltimore and the preaching convention this summer, but I am busy in camp.

Tell all the church hello for me,  
Jesus loves you,  
Weldon H. Robertson

—o—

## KENTUCKY

Bro. Baltimore,

Hello. We were thinking about you and have been praying for you. God bless you in your work and also your health. We hope you are doing just wonderful.

Eugene Hardaway and  
Vanessa Floyd

## QUESTION FOR YOUNG PREACHERS

Are you an hireling or a shepherd?

Christ said in John 10:11-12. The good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. But he that is a hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth, because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep. Be a shepherd, don't be a hireling. If a big salary is what you are looking for, get out of the ministry, and get a job in some bank, Steel mill, or police force. The Church Christ established can do without you. Remember, God is able of these stones to raise up children (preachers). Matthew 3:9.

More than a half century, I have tried to be a shepherd, and not a hireling. No man has ever seen me fleeing from the big denominational or open-membership wolf.

## NOW, GET ANGRY WITH ME

Some congregations I have visited, are headed in the wrong direction. Some of them have more religion in their hands and feet, than they have in their head, heart and life.

Some of them are trying to bring back the "Un-Scriptural mourners bench." All of us need prayer. Why call a few up to the front to be, prayed for. Prayer can reach you, in any part of the building.

They will soon get tired of standing at the front of the church, waiting for a long prayer to end. And they will take a seat, on the front bench, and you will have a "mourners bench," before you know it. And if you do not come up to the front to be prayed for, and use your feet and hands in making noise, they say you do not have any Christ in you.

First Thessalonians 5:22. "Abstain from all appearance of evil."

## Eastern Christian College



J. T. Segroves  
President

Box 629

Bel Air, Maryland 21014

A Loyal School Dedicated to the Restoration of New Testament Christianity That Is:

SCRIPTURAL

SCHOLARLY

SPIRITUAL

SOUL-SAVING

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SERVING

Write for further information

Established in the East to meet the needs of the East

# THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

of the

## NATIONAL CHRISTIAN PREACHING CONVENTION OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST OR CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

will be held at

### EMMANUEL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Madison Avenue near Wilson Street

Baltimore, Maryland

W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor, Minister Emeritus

**AUGUST 10th to 15th, 1973**

Convention Theme: "WHERE THE BOOK SPEAKS"

AS THE BROTHERS ARRIVE THEY WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THEIR PLACE ON THE PROGRAM

**OUR ONLY BUSINESS IS PREACHING CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH**

At some of the Sessions we enjoyed Double Headers and Triple Sermons  
Please let us know by the fifth of August if you will be here. Then we will know how to prepare for you.

# Reverence For God and Man

"Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."—1 Corinthians 5:17



THOSE who stand for decency in the use of language have to wage an uphill fight to recover lost ground. Profanity has become so common that even children shout it at each other on their playgrounds.

The churches have been immorally silent as to this moral deterioration in our American life. Often now in Congress, legislatures, in some public speeches and in the public press vulgar and profane language seems to be taken for granted. It is a time to call a halt. We need to remind the people that decency is as much in the manner of speech as it is in anything else. Profanity is a moral menace, because it so often is a symbol of personal and public abandonment of ideals and common reverence for God, life and persons. It is the stimulant of malice and the forerunner of violence.

## ONE OF OUR NATIONAL VICIES

Imprecations and curses are the most awful instances of profanity. Frequently do we hear men using language of the most profligate character and associating the name of God with it. Many well-meaning persons err in this way and sometimes Christians interlard the name of God with trifling or worldly conversation. How common is this sin! It is one of our national vices. God's people should lay it to heart.

The Christian position is that profanity is forbidden by God. No reader of the Bible can plead ignorance as an excuse for profanity. It strikes at the root of all reverence for religion. How can God be esteemed, adored, and venerated if men use His name profanely? It means that there is no fear of God, no regard for His holy wrath, no respect of His majesty, no acceptance of His authority. All this encourages an irreligious state of the human heart. It destroys any pious feeling and ridicules true seriousness of character.

We have to admit that in the time in which we live men struggle to be gay in an atmosphere of fear; to be as reckless as they wish, to be sensual, to be callous because they wish to be worldly. Actually it is the forerunner of almost every sin, however vile and awful. Profanity goes along with, as well as goes before, a yielding to anger, revenge and bitterness.

It is all so futile. Profanity does not gratify any passion, it furnishes no enjoyment, it produces

a sense of guilt, it does not procure any advantage. It leaves men and women unclean and they are aware of it. It is superfluity of sin, a causeless, stupid, senseless crime against the true and blessed God.

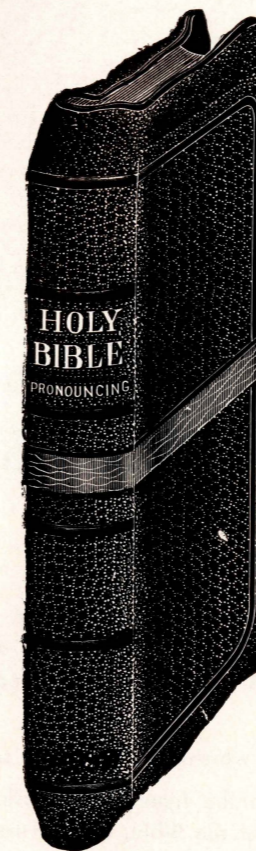
## THE CURE

The cure is to develop the spirit of reverence for God and man. Reverence is the highest religious attitude. We may also say that it is the loftiest social attitude. We degrade not only ourselves but our brethren whenever we address them with profane language. Likewise a reverence for personality increases the respect which we have one to the other. This reverence will make its influence felt on society. It will check vice and keep in bounds certain glaring and impious behavior.

Profanity curses society; it blights every lovely thing; it is fearful in its effect on the young, who soon catch the spirit and imitate what they hear. Filthiness of speech leads to filthy living. As Christians we should contend against profane speech because of this very important consequence; it hardens the heart of the man who uses it.

That is the reason why to blaspheme God's name was made a capital offense under the law. "And he that blasphemeth the name of the Lord, he shall surely be put to death, and all the congregation shall certainly stone him: as well the stranger, as he that is born in the land, when he blasphemeth the name of the Lord, shall be put to death" (Leviticus 24:16). In turn, judgments have fallen instantly upon perjurers, upon wicked persons who have imprecated God's wrath. Heaven cannot be inhabited by the profane. It is a sin peculiar to humanity in its fallen estate. It is to be seriously doubted whether a fallen angel would ever stoop to be so vile.

Let us promote that solemn consideration of the grandeur and glory of God and the elevation of sinful man through the saving work of our Lord Jesus Christ. Advocate wherever possible that people guard their lips and watch against the rising of profanity in the heart. God's Holy Spirit can change any life and, when He does, the best speech will come from it. Further, let every Christian be a striking example in reverencing God's name. Let this conduct and influence check bold transgressors, instruct children and set before men everywhere the beauty of decent speech.



Our English Bible is the combined writings of about forty men. These men were not contemporary, but lived at various times during a period of more than 1,500 years. These men wrote under the most varied conditions. Some wrote in prison, some in palaces, others in caves, in deserts, by the river bank, in exile, in victory, in defeat, in success—in fact, under most every possible condition.

These men were from every walk of life. Kings, peasants, priests, fishermen, generals, shepherds, noblemen, tax gatherers, doctors, lawyers, statesmen and politicians are among its writers. They made use in their writings of every form of expression used by men to convey thought: prose, poetry, law, government, decrees, laws, sermons, parables, pictorial symbols, even personal letters, and, most particular, prophecy. They wrote about every subject which vitally affect men: creation, the origin, working and destiny of sin, death, life, nations, governments; heaven and hell; and the being, character, and plan of God.

Such is our Bible, so majestic, exalted and marvelous in its sweep. The Old Testament ends with a curse; and the New Testament with a benediction.

# CURIOUS Bible Facts

	Old Testament	New Testament	Total
Books .....	39	27	66
Chapters .....	929	260	1,189
Verses .....	23,214	7,959	31,173
Words .....	592,439	181,253	773,692
Letters .....	2,728,800	838,380	3,567,180
<b>Middle Book</b>			
Proverbs .....	II Thessalonians		
<b>Middle Chapter</b>			
Job 29 .....	Romans 13, 14		
<b>Middle Verse</b>			
II Chronicles 20:17, 18 .....	Acts 17:17		
<b>Shortest Chapter</b>			
Psalms 117 .....			
<b>Shortest Verse</b>			
I Chronicles 1:25 .....	John 11:35		
<b>Longest Chapter</b>			
Psalms 119 .....	Luke 1		

As all Bible lovers are eager to gain knowledge regarding the most unique book in all the world, the above tabulation of facts and statistics will be of interest to all. Other facts are the following:

The middle verse of the whole Bible is Psalm 118:8. The longest verse of the whole Bible is Esther 8:9, containing 90 words.

Ezra 7:21 contains all the letters of the alphabet, except J.

2 Kings 19 and Isaiah 37 are exactly alike. Ezra 2 and Nehemiah 7 are similar.

The last two verses of 2 Chronicles and the opening verses of Ezra are alike.

The word "and" occurs 35,543 times in the Old Testament and 10,684 times in the New Testament.

The word "Jehovah" occurs 6,855 times in the Bible.

The name of "God" does not occur in Esther or the Song of Solomon.

The letter Mem in the Hebrew text occurs 77,778 times; the letter Vau, 76,922 times; Teth, 11,052 times; Samech, 13,580 times.

In Psalm 107 four verses are alike, 8, 15, 21 and 31.

Each verse in Psalm 136 ends alike.

The Bible was divided into chapters by Cardinal Hugo de Sancto-Caro, about 1236.

The Old Testament was divided into verses by Rabbi Mordecai Nathan, in 1661.

The New Testament was divided into verses by R. Stephens, a French printer, it is said, while on horseback.

The Septuagint, a translation into Greek, was made in Egypt 285, B. C.

The Scriptures have been translated into 936 languages or dialects.

The first complete English translation was by Wycliffe in A. D. 1380; the first French translation in 1160; the German translation in 1460; the American translation in 1752.

The oldest manuscript of the Bible in the British Museum is the "Codex Alexandrinus"; the "Codex Vaticanus" is the oldest in the Vatican Library at Rome.

The Apocrypha has four books, 183 chapters, 6,081 verses, 252,185 words and 1,063,876 letters.

There is a Bible in the library of the University of Gottingen written on 2,470 palm leaves.



## Fears--Good and Bad

SOME PSYCHOLOGISTS like to tell people they should rid themselves of all fear. Freedom from fear has been suggested as one of mankind's great universal goals. This is wrong because it creates the impression that fear is a scourage and curse. It is nothing of the kind.

Fear is, in fact, a blessing, even though we sometimes fail to realize its worth.

What the psychologists and utopians should point out is that there are wholesome fears, as well as destructive ones. Too few people realize that one of the surest ways to destroy human nature would be to deprive it of all its reasonable and instinctive fears.

The distinction between good and bad fears is clear in Scripture. The Bible says the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. God, of all, is Man's Master and Judge. The Bible also says, however, that men should not be fearful—that is, they should not let petty worries or misgivings over the future dominate their lives.

Fear is nature's weapon to warn and protect men when danger arises. Man is not only bound to protect his life, but is endowed with an instinctive fear of those things that threaten his existence. This moves him to take precautions against such things as epidemics, infections and accidents. When he puts his money in the bank he is reacting in a sensible way to what is a perfectly normal and healthy fear—the fear of some day being in poverty or want.

With far too many people, however, fear is most intimately associated with foolish forms of dread and worry. Some think the greatest misfortune would be to lose their reputation. Others believe the greatest evil would be to become sick or infirm. There are even those who fear mysterious forces of which they know nothing.

Paradoxically, many such people are tormented by fears because they have given up fear of God. The man who is afraid because he thinks people are talking about him behind his back may be quite indifferent to what God might have to say about him. The person who is afraid of contracting a disease may not give a thought to the danger of going to hell.

Men will rid themselves of vain fears only when they surrender to the good and reasonable fear of God.

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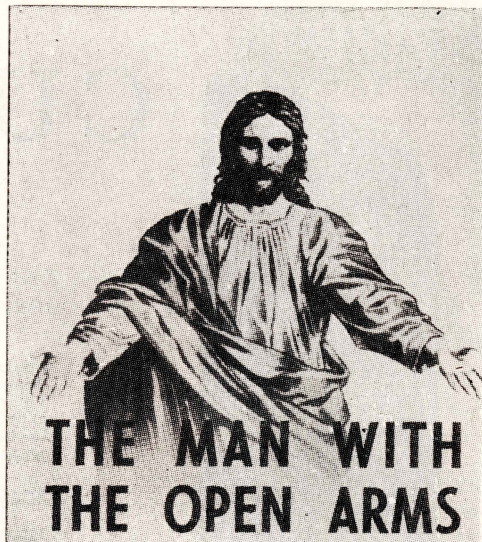
Somehow, until one really is strong in righteousness through asserting dominion over his desires, he may find it easier, more comfortable, to slip back into negative thinking, into coddling dislikes and resentments. But the rewards of holding good, positive thoughts and acting upon them, are great, in true and lasting happiness.

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No mortal man is perfect, without sin. But when we fail, we can and must try again. God is ever merciful; He will forgive the truly repentant again and yet again. He is of "great kindness" beyond human understanding.

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Christ has kept faith with us; let us be faithful to Him.



### At Church

I enter the sanctuary burdened by fear, overshadowed by forebodings concerning the uncertain future, perplexed by problems too great for me to solve.

In the service of worship I hear God speak.

His message is in the hymns, the music, the prayer, the reading of the Bible, and in the sermon.

God speaks to my listening ears.

And when the benediction has been spoken, I leave the sanctuary blessed beyond all that which the world can bless.

I have heard God's voice!

He has spoken to me!

I am thankful for the church where I am privileged to meet God in a service of worship.

It reminds me every day that I am a part of a fellowship which is eternal.

My life is enriched beyond any wealth which the world can bestow upon me.

### The Church IS of God

It requires much courage to be alone with God. It is then that all of self, all subtle egotism, is searched and hunted out of the soul. Selfishness cannot live in His presence. The praise of men becomes as dust beneath the feet and the soul trembles even to receive any honor of men or to be recognized in this world as of any worth.

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What profit? To gain the whole world and lose your own soul.