

Fulton County Gospel News

"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

Second Class Postage Paid

Vol. 2, No. 4

Mammoth Spring, Arkansas

April, 1961

Our Area Wide Radio Program

The Churches of Christ in this area are cooperating in supporting a radio program heard Mondays through Fridays at 11:45 A.M. and Sundays at 9 A.M. over radio station KALM, Thayer, Mo. The only way in which this program is peculiar to the Mammoth Spring and Thayer churches is that they sponsor the program and provide the preachers. Currently preaching on alternate weeks are Bro. Lonnie Smith of Thayer and Bro. Boyd Morgan of Mammoth Spring.

In order that a report may be given in a manner which can be preserved this medium is used:

1. Total cost of the program to Feb. 27, 1961, which covers a period of twenty-seven months is \$3475.00.

2. Contributions from churches to the above date are as follows:

Agnos	\$140.00
Alton	115.00
Ash Flat	170.00
English Bluff	10.00
Jeff	605.00
Mammoth Spring	580.00
Oxford	110.00
Pilot	120.00
Ravenden	270.00
Ring	10.00
Salem	90.00
Thayer	580.00
Welcome Hill	50.00
Williford	580.00

An individual contribution was received from Bee Humphrey 2.00

Total Received to date	\$3,432.00
Less paid out to date	\$3,355.00
Balance 3-2-61	\$77.00
Bill not received	\$120.00
Present Deficit	\$43.00

3. All contributions are to be mailed to Bro. Berry Honeycutt, Thayer, Mo.

4. Amount needed for one year's broadcast	\$1,560.00
Amount needed per month	130.00
Amount needed per week	\$30.00

Since this report the Pilot church has contributed the amount in deficit and the Mammoth Spring and Thayer Churches have increased their contribution to avoid such. Continued contributions are essential to the program.

—Boyd E. Morgan

Contributions Acknowledged

Lady at Williford	\$1.00
Lizzie Yates, Williford	1.00
Mark Anderson, Mammoth Spring	4.00
Mrs. J. C. Tinkler, Mammoth Spring	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Long, Mammoth Spring	5.00
Bee Humphrey, Mammoth Spring	1.00
Mrs. Tom Peck, Mammoth Spring	1.00
Welcome Hill Church of Christ	5.00
Wheeling Church of Christ	10.00
Salem Church of Christ	5.00
Sturkie Church of Christ	5.00
Agnos Church of Christ	5.00
O. L. Grisham, Dixon, Ill.	1.00
Albert H. Dillard, Bergman, Ark.	1.00
Mrs. F. N. Fletcher, Williford	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. Bud Dykes, West Plains, Mo.	2.00
Mrs. H. C. Risner West Plains, Mo.	5.00
Ethel McCool, Pea Ridge, Ark.	1.00
D. D. Collier, Hardy	2.00
Lola May Beaver, Rogers, Ark.	2.00
Orbie Robbins, Elizabeth	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Doris Weaver, Winona, Mo.	1.00

NEWS

The lectureship at Mammoth Spring was a big success. Large crowds were in attendance every night. Probably more people attended this lectureship than has ever attended any of the previous ones. The sermons delivered were all outstanding.

Brother Orby Robbins continues to improve. He hopes to be able to preach again soon.

A letter from Brother Don Fike of

El Dorado states that he will hold two meetings in this area this summer. The dates of these meetings appear in the meeting schedule. If your meeting is not listed please send us the date and location and we will see that it appears in this paper and that it is advertised on the daily radio program as the time draws near.

If any one receiving this paper who has recently changed their address, please notify this paper as it will save time and money.

BERGMAN, ARK. Bro. Bill Graddy of the Bellefonte Church did the preaching in a meeting at Ridgeway, nine miles north of Harrison on Highway 65. The preaching was of the very best. The attendance was good all through and the attention was excellent. There were no visible results. But such a series of meetings will always do some good. We have no hesitancy in recommending Bro. Graddy in this kind of work. Signed Albert H. Dillard.

Send us the results of your meeting or other work and we will be glad to print them in the paper. Quite a few people in North West Arkansas now receive this paper. I am told that the Cause of Christ is growing fast in this area of the state.

Brother Hillard Story has moved to St. Joseph, Michigan to work with the Church there. Our loss is another's gain.

Meeting Schedule

VIOLA, ARK, MAY 31 - JUNE 7 — Don Fike, El Dorado, Arkansas.

CAMP, ARKANSAS, JUNE 26 - JULY 5 — Lowell Blasingame, Grenada, Miss.

THAYER, MO., JUNE 9-18 — Don Fike, El Dorado, Arkansas.

SALEM, ARKANSAS, AUGUST 21-30 — Brad Brumley, Henderson, Tenn.

BURKS CHAPPELL, JULY 29 - AUGUST 9 — Lowell Blasingame, Grenada, Mississippi.

ALTON, MO. MAY 22 - JUNE 1 — C. Ray Miller, Batesville, Arkansas.

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in this area

EDITORS —

Clovis Ragsdale
Boyd Morgan

Questions For Study Pertaining to Money!

By Boyd E. Morgan

The following questions are given for personal study. See if you can answer them.

1. Which passage tells us when to contribute?

2. Why do Churches of Christ refrain from taking collections every time we come together as the denominations generally do?

3. If the Church is to engage in some special program such as a building program and the elders were to decide to see how much could be raised by pledges would this be sinful?

4. Considering the word "covetous" in I Cor. 5:11. Does Matt. 6:3, 4 teach that it is a sin for one brother to know what another brother gives?

5. If a meeting were held to determine whether a certain program could be conducted and one brother said I'll give \$10 and this continued until \$100 was raised and the money was placed in the church treasury would sin be committed?

Caution: Try to answer these questions in the light of bible teaching rather than personal opinions.

The Gospel Of Christ God's Power To Save

The Bible teaches that the gospel of Christ is God's power to save sinners. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto Salvation to every one that believeth; to

the Jew first, and also to the Greek (Romans 1:16). In this passage Paul teaches the sinner must believe in the Gospel of Christ. John also taught this great truth. And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name (John 20:30, 31). Thus we see that faith is produced by the written word of God. Man must learn of the gospel of Christ. So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God (Romans 10:17). Jesus said, "And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). Through all of this we see the great need of learning what God has said in His word that we may be saved.

But hearing the gospel alone will not save. James said, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves" (James 1:22). The gospel must therefore be obeyed as well as heard and believed. The apostle Peter ask the question, "What shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?" (1 Peter 4:17). The apostle Paul gives the answer. "And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels. In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power". (2 Thessalonians 1:7, 9)

For one to escape eternal punishment he must obey the gospel of Christ. To obey the gospel as revealed in the New Testament means: (1) Believe in Jesus Christ as the crucified, buried and risen Lord (John 8:24; Romans 10:10), (2) Repent of past or alien sins (Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30). (3) Confess your faith in Christ (Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:10; Acts 8:37), and (4) Be baptized (immersed) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Romans 6:4; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21).

My dear sinner friend let me appeal to you to obey the gospel of Christ before it is too late. If you do not obey the Lord's will you will be lost and lost forever. Paul said, "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade

men" (2 Corinthians 5:11). It will be a fearful thing to fall in the hands of the living God unprepared.

—Lonnie J. Smith

Preaching To Please Men Or God

Gal. 1:10

Orbie Robbins, Elizabeth, Ark.

Paul said, "For do I now persuade men or God? Or do I seek to please men for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ." Gal. 1:10.

In the light of this statement it is shown that preaching which pleases men will not please God. Therefore, a preacher should preach to please God. Let us notice preaching that pleases men. The lost want to hear that morality will save. The doctrine of faith only also pleases many. The preacher who preaches that one church is just as good as another and join the church of your choice is very popular with the majority.

Many people like to hear; let your conscience be your guide, good people in all denominations, no obedience necessary to being saved, nothing to do to be saved, pray for salvation and that baptism is unessential to salvation.

Many will say that a preacher shouldn't preach on any controversial subjects. That this will offend some. They say that just positive preaching is all that is necessary.

Many brethren don't want preaching against "worldliness", "our sins", "lack of giving" or "unfaithfulness". Neither do they want preaching against denominational error lest some should be offended.

What will the reward be for such preaching? Popularity and financial security here for such preaching. But hereafter Judgement. Peter said of such preachers and preaching. But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who shall bring in damnable heresies even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you; whose judgement now of a long

time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not. 2 Pet. 2:1-3.

Preaching to please men will cause the preachers to hear in that great day "Depart from me ye cursed into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels. Mt. 25:41.

Now let us consider the kind of preaching that pleases God. It is the truth which makes men free from sin and error. Jno. 8:32. To preach the truth is to preach the word, the gospel, the way. 2 Tim. 4:2, Rom. 1:16, Gal. 1:6-9, Jno. 14:6.

Faith and obedience should be preached. James said, "Ye see how that a man is justified by works and not by faith only. James 2:24, Mt. 7:21, Rom. 6:17-18.

Baptism for remission of sins. Mt. 16:16, Acts 2:38, Acts 22:16.

One church, Jesus said upon this rock I will build my church. Mt. 16:18 And the church is his body. Eph. 1:22-23 And Paul says there is one body. Eph. 4:4-6 Which is equal to saying there is one church.

Preach all things profitable. Paul to the Ephesian elders said, "I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have showed you, and have taught you publicly and from house to house. Act. 20:20.

Encourage faithfulness and spiritual growth. The Hebrew writer said, "For-sake not the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is, but exhort one another so much the more as ye see the day approaching." Heb. 10:25.

We are to be steadfast and unmovable always abounding in the work of the Lord. 1 Cor. 15:58. Peter said, "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ". 2 Pet. 3:18.

Liberality, We need much preaching on this subject. 2 Cor. 9:6-7, 1 Cor. 16:1-2, and then practice liberality.

Preaching that warns is needed. The prophet Ezekiel was to warn Israel in her wickedness. Ezek. 33:8-9 Paul said to the Thessolonians. Warn them that are unruly, comfort the feeble minded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. 1 Thess. 5:14.

Preaching that warns against disobedience. Paul said the Lord Jesus shall be revealed in flaming fire with his angels taking vengeance on those who know not God and obey not the gospel. 2 Thess.

Amount

Amount needed per week might

all be one. That the world might believe that his father sent him. Jno. 17:20-23.

Worldliness. Paul warns against worldliness by saying they who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. Gal. 5:19-21, 1 Cor. 6:9-10.

Fale teachers. The apostle Paul writing to the Roman brethren said mark them which cause division among you and teach things contrary to the doctrine. Rom. 16:17-18.

Now in conclusion what is the reward for preaching that pleases God?

First It is not popular here. Lk. 6:26, 2 Tim. 3:12. But at the judgement this kind of preaching will meet with God's approval.

Because Paul wrote to Timothy saying. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine, continue in them, for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee. 1 Tim. 4:16. Again Paul said, "I am now ready to be offered and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith, henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord the righteous judge shall give me at that day. And not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." 2 Tim. 4:8.

We can see that the preacher has a great responsibility unto God and to those who hear him. No doubt that is why Paul said, "Woe unto me If I preach not the gospel of Christ." 1 Cor. 9:16.

A preacher can preach to please God and save himself and them that hear him: or he can preach to please man and be lost himself and those who hear him will be lost. Because the Lord said, "If the blind lead the blind both shall fall into the ditch."

A Good Remover

Alcohol will remove grass stains from summer clothes. It will, in fact, remove summer clothes. It will also remove spring and winter clothes, not only from the man who drinks it, but also from his wife and children. It will remove household furniture from the house and also eatables from the table. It removes smiles from the face of the man's wife and happiness from his home. Truly, as a remover, there is rarely anything that can compare with alcohol. --Sel.

Prejudice—An Enemy Of Truth

By Doyle Kinder

Of all the foes of truth, prejudice is foremost among the aggressive. It hardens the heart, dulls the hearing, closes the eyes and hampers the understanding (Acts 28:27). It is closely allied with ignorance, for actually it is willful ignorance. The cause of it is pre-judging, the effect is blind acceptance and the ultimate termination is the abode of the wicked.

The Jews pre-judged Christ. They discredited His miracles, rejected His teachings and refused to recognize Him as the Son of God. A candid investigation was out of the question, for they had made up their minds that He was an imposter. Our government has realized the potential danger of prejudice. They refuse to allow a juror to serve in court if they think he is partial. It is plain to all that such bias would cause a premature conclusion.

It is difficult not to be prejudice. Too many of us are like the man who said, "May my country ever be right; but right or wrong, I'm for my country". Prejudice is by no means limited to the aliens. Some of the most prejudiced people are Christians — so called. These have their minds made up how they are going to serve God. One service and one dollar a week. Aeons, myriads or pry-poles could never budge them an inch. Their minds are closed and the final decision has been reached!

Many false doctrines have been born and promoted by prejudice. It is easy to have a mental ideal of how we think certain things should be done.

ly. Then go to the Bible and find a passage to justify this.

cedure is putting it in Arkansas. "A". One should go to the game, Grenada, Miss. to obtain the game.

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Problems Facing The Church Today: Leadership

The principle of leadership has ever been prominent in God's dealing with man. Under the Patriarchal age, the head of the family or father of the tribe dealt in close contact with God. In the Covenant God made with Moses at Sinai, leadership of Israel was first provided for in individuals, such as Joshua, the Judges, and the Kings. Later the Sanhedrin council assumed the authority of the Hebrew nation. Leadership has asserted itself wherever man is to be found, whether he be a worshipper of the true Good or of a false God. History is filled with the procession of leaders who have crossed the stage of time contributing their part, for better or worse, to the survival of mankind upon the earth.

The church of our Lord is no less different in this respect. The plan as it was given by divine inspiration called for men to oversee the work of the church. They were called Elders, Bishops, or Pastors. Their qualifications are listed in 1 Tim. 3, and in Titus, the first chapter. Their duties are to care for the spiritual welfare of the congregation and to make the many decisions necessary in carrying on the work. They may delegate to others some of the jobs under their jurisdiction such as teaching, singing, preaching, and looking after the needy. The office of deacon provides these men with some one to help them carry out the work of a temporal nature. Yet the plan of the New Testament church calls for the Elder to guide the work. The meaning of leadership

In this respect we refer to der.

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first magnitude. Its importance lies in the fact that it deals with the saving of souls, which are indestructable and eternal.

Many places are aware of this problem and are doing something about it. Special training programs are being carried on by several different congregations and the results have been excellent. A number of men are preaching who had their start in classes of this nature and several men are now teaching Bible classes, leading prayer, and singing, because in classes of this kind, they are instructed in the art of leadership. Many of our young men have more education than the older generation and this is an asset in leading. For the church to grow we must put the talents of this group to work. The Lord, while in this world, taught against wastefulness of all kinds. In the parable of the talents we learn that we can lose our souls by wasting our abilities to work in his kingdom. With the needs so large, the opportunities so great, every congregation should give special attention to the training and preparing of leaders in the greatest work in this world, that of saving souls of all mankind. The battle against sin is worldwide. More people live in this world than ever before in all history. Then we could paraphrase the words of a famous British statesman in saying, never in the history of the world has so many, needed so much, that which so few are able to furnish, specifically, New Testament christianity, uncorrupted by ideas and opinions of men.

Think It Over

It is said that a soldier who enlisted in the Civil War took along his kit of watchmaker's tools, and while in camp did a considerable business. One day the order came for battle. He looked around in dismay, and exclaimed, "Why, I can't possibly go for I have twelve watches to repair and I have promised them by Saturday.

This man had forgotten why he had enlisted. But, many a present day Christian soldier is like that. He has obligated himself to so many organizations and causes that he has precious little time to do work for the Lord.

—Copied from the West Plains Bulletin

Commandments For A Lively Congregation

God desires that we be an earnest, intense and zealous group. If we meet the great challenges that are now before us we MUST be a lively church. So much to be done; examples to set, duties to discharge and souls to win. The only way we can have a wide-awake, Christ-intoxicated church is for every member to do his part.

Recently the Bulletin from the Bay, Arkansas Church of Christ listed these commandments for a lively congregation.

1. Thou shalt have not pleasure before thy duty to God.

2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any personal engagement or trifling excuse for being away from the worship services. Thou shalt not bow thyself down to questionable amusement.

3. Thou shalt not take the responsibility of a Christian life in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who taketh lightly his God-given task.

4. Remember the church services to keep them alive and growing.

5. Honor God's Word that thy days may be long in the success which the Lord thy God hath given thee in his work.

6. Thou shalt not kill or harm the good name or influence of thy brother.

7. Thou shalt not steal away the Lord's day for thy own selfish purpose.

8. Thou shalt not bear false witness against the Lord by wearing His name while not following his teachings.

9. Thou shalt not commit any act in life which might reflect upon the church of thy Lord.

10. Thou shalt not covet authority in the church which belongs only to thy God.

11. Be thou prepared and ready to give thy fellowman the bread of life, the Word of God.

12. Thou shalt keep thyself ready at all times for the coming of the Lord. Are you contributing your part toward

Are you contributing your part toward a lively congregation?