

# FULTON COUNTY GOSPEL NEWS

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"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

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## THE RIGHT CHURCH

By Boyd E. Morgan

There is only one God. He is and He is able. Men have raised other gods and the Bible speaks of them as false gods, telling us very plainly that there is one God. Eph. 4:6.

There is only one church. It was built by Jesus. He only promised to build one (Matt. 16:19) and the one which He built was the one He promised to build. The Bible teaches us that the church is the body (Eph. 1:22-23) and that there is only one body (Eph. 4:4). But just as men have raised false gods, even so have they raised false churches. True Christians will only accept the one true God. Likewise true Christians will only accept the one church that Jesus built. How can they be TRUE as Christians and accept the churches that men have built any more than they can be true and accept other gods that men have raised?

Unpopular! But Truth!

When I preach this men jump up and say yes, but you are not the judge. Certainly not. Jesus is the judge. Only I am a messenger boy for the judge and I KNOW WHAT THE JUDGE SAID. But men fail to see that when they accuse me of being a judge that they have set themselves up as a judge and their judgment is this: "It doesn't make any difference which church you belong to." But their judgment is not the message of the real judge, it is their own and they have become far more of a judge than I. Their judgment is not just. The real judge said, "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men." Matt. 15:9. It is man's doctrine that teaches, "It doesn't make any difference which church you belong to." God's doctrine teaches no such thing. True Christians will hold to God's doctrine whatever the cost. The Right Church is the one that Jesus built and it is the only one that is right.

Let us not stop now!

A carpenter wanted a window for a frame he had built. The frame called for a 28" window. The salesman set out a 26" window. "That won't do," said the carpenter. The salesman set out a 30" window. "That

won't fit, either," said the carpenter. "Well," said the salesman, "what difference does it make. They're both windows and made for the same purpose. How do you know they won't work?" Whereupon the carpenter whipped out a rule, measured both windows and said, I know by the rule. The frame measured for a 28" window. I'll have to have a window that fits the rule.

Now, you may ask of me, "How do you folks know the church of Christ is the right church—how can you tell?" The answer is simple. The church of Christ fits the rule. It is the Right Church. It is the one that Jesus built. It is the only church built for the frame. The only one that fits the Bible at all. No other does. The Bible is the doctrine of God and of Christ. The Right Church fits the doctrine. The Right Church is built on the right foundation. "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 3:11. The Right Church FITS THE FRAME. The church of Christ alone is scriptural in name, doctrine, and practice. What it is and what it does can be read about in the Bible. Since the Bible teaches there is only one we must accept the right one. It alone is Christ's choice.

## BAPTIST ERRORS

Because we write on this theme does not mean that we think all our Baptist friends are dishonest. We know that isn't so. We do not wish to drive anyone away from the truth, but we wish to help them understand what the will of the Lord is.

Now, there are many things that Baptists teach that we believe also. They teach "baptism by a burial and a resurrection." They do not baptize infants. They teach "local independence of the church," and the necessity of faith in the "inspiration of the Bible."

It is because of the things in which we see alike that makes our differing from them hurt as it does. We want to appeal to all men to study with us the word of God and from an honest heart correct any and all errors in our lives, doctrines and practices.

1. According to Baptist, can a man be saved **without and before** prayer?
2. Can a man be saved **without**

love for God?

3. Can a man **repent before** godly sorrow **worketh repentance**?

4. What produces "godly sorrow?" Is it a product of love or of hate?

5. What is "godly sorrow?"

Before anyone says these questions are "silly" or foolish, read on.

If a man is "saved by faith without further acts of obedience," as Baptist doctrine holds, if anything, if any act of man **follows** his faith **before** he is saved, the entire position of Baptist on their plan of salvation is defeated. If their plan of salvation is wrong, no matter what other good there is in them, all is lost. Since they claim man is saved "by faith without further acts of obedience," let them answer this question:

WHAT MAKES A MAN PRAY FOR SALVATION? Does he pray before he believes? Or is it faith in Christ that makes him pray for salvation? If one is saved the moment he believes, how could he pray for salvation for he would have been saved the moment he believed. We all know that man would not pray to God for salvation unless he believed in God as his Saviour. Prayer has to come after his faith. Since Baptist teach that the sinner is saved by prayer, they contradict their doctrine of salvation "by believing without further acts of obedience." Let someone try to prove to thinking people that prayer comes before faith.

MUST A PERSON LOVE GOD TO BE SAVED? Everyone, Baptist included, overwhelming answer "YES." No man can preach Baptist doctrine on Salvation by Faith and answer the following: "Does a man love God because of his faith in God or does he love God before he believes in Him?" If a man loves before he believes, he loves one in whom he has no faith. If one loves God because of his faith, as wisdom tells us he must, then we have **faith plus** further acts of obedience, and that defeats Baptist doctrine.

Do we hear you say that we ought not "jump on these folk"? Why not? If our Baptist neighbor were asleep in the night and his house were burning down around him, shouldn't we "jump on him" and save his life? How much more, then, help him see his error and save his soul?

# FULTON COUNTY GOSPEL NEWS

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Boyd E. Morgan

## EDITORIAL

It is very encouraging to see folks assume the role of helper. The Lord's statement "It is more blessed to give than to receive" Acts 20:35 is fulfilled by folks who are willing to spend their money in mission work. Some prefer home missions and are willing to do much for it. Some prefer foreign missions and work toward them. There is plenty of room in both fields. Whichever may be preferred, to work in either or both is commendable, but to neglect mission work is to neglect the Great Commission. He "that knoweth to do good and doeth it not to him it is sin." James 4:17.

Bro. Hillard Story and his good wife sailed from New York City, Saturday, May 28, bound for Palemo, Sicily where he will engage in mission work there. Hillard is the son of Hurley Story who was reared at Sturkey. Bro. Story asked churches of this vicinity to assist him in his work. The West Plains church has pledged him \$100 per month. This will be quite a load but a worthy

load. The other churches of this vicinity who have agreed to help are Fulton County churches. These congregations are small. Very small as compared to our city churches. They will range in number from 16 to 80 members. They are: Moten, \$15; Salem, \$10; Welcome Hill, \$10; and Wheeling, \$10. This shows that small local churches can DO things. These are having a part in both local and foreign missions, and are converted to the principal set forth in the commission. Mt. 28:19-20. May God bless their fruitfulness and may they not be weary in well doing. It is a fearful thing to anticipate standing before the Lord barren.

The Mammoth Spring church has supported the Italy work for three years in the amount of \$10 monthly. The little bits done in foreign work by the churches in Fulton County amount to quite a bit in the long run. Regular, persistent small amounts are much more stabilizing to missionaries than single large amounts. The men and women leave their homes and loved ones to work for our Lord among strange people, whose customs are far different to ours but whose needs spiritually are exactly the same. Faith in God and their brethren at home is the sustaining force that gives courage, while the desire to serve and please God and help their fellowman is the driving force that leads Christians to choose a ministry in foreign fields.

Too, it is encouraging to each of us to see our local congregation leave the role of a group that needs help and graduate to the role of a helper. May God bless our labors.

—Boyd E. Morgan

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO PAPER

Mrs. Maggie Fuhman, Mammoth Spring, \$1.00; Junior and Renee Smith, Higginville, Mo., \$5.00; Ethel Brockwell, Brockwell, Ark., \$1.00; George E. Huett, Elizabeth, Ark., \$2.00.

Higginville, Mo.  
May 22, 1955

Dear Bro. Morgan,

Greetings to you and your family and to all the brethren at Mammoth Spring. Please take the enclosed amount of \$5.00 and use it for the publication of Fulton County Gospel News. We believe this paper to be one of the best and pray that this work will continue.

We hope to visit with the M. S. church again in the near future.

In Christian Love,

Junior and Renee Smith  
1115 N. Sunset Ave.  
Rockford, Ill.

Dear Bro. Morgan,

Would you please announce a meeting at Hatfield, beginning Sunday morning, July 3rd with Bro. Arthur C. Blackwell of the North Park church of Christ, Rockford, Ill. doing the preaching and Marvin Powell of the same congregation as song leader as I am not a stranger in that section of the country. I would like to encourage all the churches near by to help support this meeting in attendance and encourage the brethren at Hatfield as you know the church there is very small in number and leadership. Please announce it at services on radio and also in your paper.

I have been thinking of ordering your paper. Just what would you charge for 25 copies per month?

As you probably know the North Park congregation is young. Only two years ago we left the Hilburn Ave congregation which was teaching and practicing Modernism. So, a faithful few pulled away and established the North Park church. We now have a membership of 175.

Bro. Harlan Hurd of Jonesboro begins our meeting here June 18th.

Bro. Blackwell has been with us one year now, and has done a wonderful job for the cause.

Pray for us for we have much opposition here in the north, not only by Sectarians but by Modernism among the churches of Christ.

Your Bro. in Christ,  
Marvin Powell

Modernism was and is the downfall of the Christian Church. It will bring to ruin any church that embraces it. Remember Bro. Powell's announcement and attend the meeting at Hatfield.

## MEETING SCHEDULE

Moko, June 20 — ?, Walter C. Billingsley.

Pilot, June 13—23, Obert Henderson.

Liberty Hill, July 4—13, S. R. Tipton.

Welcome Hill, July 1—10, Huey Hartsell.

Burk's Chapel, July 9—17, F. A. Bailey.

Camp, Aug. 30, Sept. 8, Huey Hartsell.

Viola, June 19—26, Mark McElhany.

Listen to K A L M each Sunday morning at 9:00 o'clock, 1290 on your radio dial.

## NEWS

Six were baptized in the meeting at Thayer which closed June 1. Bro. Ray Chester of Vernon, Texas did some excellent preaching. The Thayer church has been engaged in a vacation Bible School which began June 6.

Bro. Joe Pruitt has announced his resignation as preacher for the Thayer church to be effective Sept. 1. He will enter Harding College where he will continue his work on a degree. We will all miss him and Sister Pruitt. Our prayers and best wishes go with them.

Bro. Lowell Blasingame is engaged in a mission meeting at Wirth. The tent is spread on the school yard. This meeting closes June 17 and he will immediately engage in another mission meeting at Myrtle. Go out and help these mission efforts. Bro. Blasingame is a very capable preacher and it will be worth your time as well as an encouragement to the brethren engaged in these efforts.

Bro. Leo Richardson preached four sermons at Welcome Hill June 3-5. One was baptized.

A Singing School was conducted at Mammoth Spring May 20 — June 10. Bro. Hayden Mahan of Cardwell, Mo. taught the school. He is one of the best. Our young people profited greatly from this school. Most of our local congregations need these schools and it is regrettable that they are not as common as they once were. Since we do not and cannot use instrumental music to cover up our mistakes, our singing ought always to be of the very highest quality.

Morrison 'Homecoming' is the fourth Sunday in June. Bro. Joe Pruitt of Thayer will preach at the morning services of the church. There will be a big dinner. Song services are planned for the afternoon. All are invited to attend. There will be a sad note for the day as this will be the first homecoming without either Bro. Joe H. or Sister Mary Blue. Someday there will be the 'Great Homecoming' without separations forever.

Bro. T. E. Burch of Newoka, Okla. preached at Viola June 5. There were sixty-odd present for services. Bro. Burch is a former resident of Fulton County and was back visiting at the Salem homecoming. Both he and Sister Burch visited the Mammoth Spring church and were present for services there Sunday night following his morning services at Viola. We were all happy to have

them back with us.

Two were baptized at Ring during the meeting which closed May 25. Bro. Boyd Morgan did the preaching.

A tent meeting will begin at Moko, Ark. June 20th. Bro. Walter Billingsley will do the preaching. This is a mission effort and merits the support of every Christian in the vicinity. Bro. and Sis. Aulcie Barnett are helping to make this meeting possible.

### "SINNERS STEAL CHURCH'S BEER"

That's the exact headline that appeared in a newspaper, and the article just as it appeared needs no comment: "Selma, Texas, Sept. 1 (UP) The Rev. B. N. Galle, pastor of our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic

church, complained to officers today, that burglars broke into the church last night and took 30 cases of beer stored there for picnics."

—From The Gospel Guardian  
Via The Sower.

Did anybody ever hear of an idle rumor remaining idle?

This generation is trying to drink its way to health, spend its way to wealth, fight its way to peace, and enjoy its way to heaven. It can't be done.

The proper way to train a child in the way it should go, is to go that way yourself.

Stand with anybody that stands right, stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong.

All who are on the right side are on the same side.

### SPIRITUAL SINGERS TO PRESENT PROGRAM

The nationally known "Spiritual Singers", from Southwestern Christian College of Terrell, Texas, make an appearance at the church of Christ, located at Mammoth Spring, Ark. at 8 P. M. on July 21.

These Negro singers are widely known for the excellence of their

performance in presenting both hymns and spirituals. During the past two years they have made appearances before more than one million people in practically every state and in Canada. They are experienced radio and television artists. The public is cordially invited to hear them. A pleasant hour is assured.



## "YOUTH AND CHRISTIANITY"

By Clovis Ragsdale

Under the above title we shall, during the next several issues of this paper, study the duties and problems of the young people of today. We have many examples in the Bible of young people who served God. We also have examples of many who served Satan.

Solomon, who was given wisdom beyond measure, uttered the greatest advice that was ever given to the youth of any and all ages. "Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them." Eccl. 12:1.

Many young people think that religion is for older folks alone. They think that there will be plenty of time in later years for them to 'get right with God.' This is dangerous thinking in more ways than one. We know that life here in this world is very uncertain. Wars, automobile and plane accidents, various diseases, even accidents in play, all take their toll of young folks. The old proverb, "Do not put off till tomorrow what could be done today," holds true in spiritual matters. Good intentions are worthless unless they are carried out. To delay obedience causes a hardening of the heart which may be difficult to ever overcome. Youth, with its enthusiasm and abundant energy, makes for a longer period of time for working in the army of the Lord.

Paul once informed a young preacher to let no one despise his youth. 1 Tim. 4:12. Jewish tradition was that a man should be at least 30 years of age before he was entitled to be heard and respected. This is not true in our day. Young preachers are sought and listened to with respect. Many of our missionaries in foreign fields are young people just out of college, who during their youth have trained themselves for this great work. The business world is eagerly seeking young men and women of Christian character who can be trusted. They know that one who has dedicated his life to Christ will not lie, cheat, or steal.

The clean life of a Christian boy or girl makes for better health and a longer life span. "Children obey your parents in the Lord, for this is the first commandment

with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live longer on the earth." These reasons are sufficient to prove beyond any doubt that young people should obey the gospel at an early age and spend a long life of service for the cause of Christ.

## CISTERN, BROKEN CISTERN THAT HOLD NO WATER

By Hayden Mahan — Cardwell, Mo.  
—Jer. 2:13

In the long ago God said through the weeping prophet of Israel, "My people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed to themselves cisterns, broken cisterns, that will hold no water."

The prophet Isaiah said, "Behold God is my salvation; I will not be afraid; for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; He also has become my salvation. Therefore, with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation." Isa. 12:2-3. The wells of salvation are the commandments of God. Rev. 22:14. Men who forsake the commandments of God, or, teach things contrary to His will, are wells without water. 2 Pet. 2:17. Why should preachers promise water (salvation) where there is no water, but a dry well?

A waterless well today in denominationalism is: the alien sinner's prayer for pardon. Sinners, that have not obeyed the gospel, are admonished to come to the altar, or, put your hand on the radio and pray through. My friends, this is a waterless well—salvation promised where there is none. Where in the Bible did any inspired preacher tell a sinner to pray through to salvation? It is not in the great commission. Matt. 28:19-20, Mark 16:15-16. We can't find it in the book of Acts, where the great commission was executed. In Acts 2, Peter preached, and some believed and asked, "Men and brethren what shall we do?" They were told, "Repent and be baptized, everyone of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins." Acts 2:38. You may be ready to ask: What about Saul of Tarsus? Remember when Saul asked, "What wilt thou have me to do Lord. . . ?" He was told to go into the city and there it would be told him what he must do. Acts 9:6. The Lord sent Ananias, the preacher, to him, and he was praying. Did the preacher say, Bro. Saul, just pray on you will get it after awhile? No! He was told to arise! Get up and be

baptized and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord. Saul called on the name of the Lord by obedience. Acts 22:16. My friends, there is no command, approved example, or necessary inference where a sinner was told to pray through to salvation, in all the Bible.

For what should a sinner pray? Not for light. Psalms 119:130; Not for God's love, John 3:16; Not for the Spirit, Acts 5:32 and Acts 2:38; Not for saving power, Rom. 1:16-17; Not for God's willingness to save him, 1 Tim. 2:4 and 2 Pet. 3:9. Everything necessary to salvation, the sinner obtains through obedience to the gospel. God will not set aside His positive law to answer a sinner's prayer. "For the law of the Spirit of life hath made me free from the law of sin and death." Rom. 8:2. God's law is: Faith, Heb. 11:6; Repentance, Acts 17:30; Confession, Rom. 10:9-10; Baptism, Acts 2:38 and Acts 22:16, and 1 Pet. 3:21.

'Pray' is not in God's plan for the sinner. Simon was told to pray when he sinned after he was baptized. Acts 8:22. Prayer is for the Christian, not the alien sinner.

## CATHOLICS AND MARRIAGE

The Catholic church gains much publicity by claiming that it absolutely, positively, and emphatically does not permit divorce and remarriage. Then they turn right around and list 19 ways to get a declaration of nullity. They claim that if any of these 19 reasons exist, what looked like a marriage on the surface wasn't a marriage after all; the couple was just living together in sin.

Actually, there are very few marriages and no divorces at all that could not qualify for annulment under some of these 19 reasons. The truth of the matter then is that the Catholic church is more loose on divorce and remarriage than any other religious group. . . and this in spite of all their pious claims to the contrary.

—Numa V. Crowder from The Gospel Courier

Someone has said: "The preacher's business is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable."

If absence really makes the heart grow fonder, some people must really love the church.