

# FULTON COUNTY GOSPEL NEWS

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"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

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## SATAN'S LETTER

Satanic Realm

May 15, 1955

Dear Lukewarm Christian,

Wherever U R

Dear Luke:

Glad you took my suggestion last winter to not go to church too much. You know those boys only worry you. Now that summer is here watch out for hot weather. Go to the river on week ends if possible, and beat the heat as you'll get plenty of that when you come to live with me.

If you've been doing any little bit of church work, quit it now, and let someone else carry on, you've done your part. Don't take religion too seriously. It might run you crazy. All these meetings might disturb your emotions and get you concerned. It might even destroy some of your friendships. Never take friends to church.

Now you suggest the Bible classes discontinue until cold weather, at least. If you do happen to go to church, furs because the service is too long.

Must stop and write old Buddy Backslider. He's been intending to start back to church and I'm afraid he will. He might even publicly confess his wrongs and that would be silly. Besides it would embarrass him. Better if he just started back and didn't mention anything to any one, if he does go. Glad you're not like him.

By the way, there's a good show on next Wednesday night, Sunday night too, and you know the boss expects you to be on the job Monday morning and you have to use these times to relax. Anyway, they had good crowds last time and you won't be needed this week. Watch out for big meetings, too. They take your time.

Your friend and father of lies,  
B. L. Z. Bub.

## "NOT CAMPBELL—BUT CHRIST"

Marion Farlev — Dallas 17, Texas

I don't recall having seen this subject treated on in this publication, and am sure there are those who wonder why we object to being called by this name. In years gone by, it was not uncommon to hear members of the church of Christ addressed as 'Campbellites'. However today, we seldom hear it used.

The first reason I give for not being a 'Campbellite' is, I do not find where any of the early disciples were taught to follow anyone but Christ, nor to honor any man or organization by wearing any but a God given name.

In Isa. 62:2, God's people were to be called by a "new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name."

A few names that were not 'new'. The name Disciples was used in Isa. 8:16. Also 'saints', brethren and children of God in numerous passages in the Old Testament.

But I find by reading Acts 11:26, where "The disciples were called Christians, first in Antioch," Then I read again in I Pet. 4:16 where Peter said, "if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf."

In fulfillment of the words of Jesus to His apostles that they were to take no thought as to the answer they were to give when brought before authorities; Peter, in Acts 4:10-12, gave this reply to the rulers who had put them into prison for teaching and preaching through Jesus the resurrection from the dead, "By the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. . . Neither is there salvation in other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Should I not love Him who saved me? Would it not be wrong to give the glory to another that rightfully belongs to Him?

Calling ourselves by human names causes division. This was condemned in the church at Corinth by Paul, because they were calling themselves, some after Paul, some after Peter, Apollos, and Christ. I Cor. 1:12. He gives the answer in V. 13, where he asked the question, "Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?"

By whose name are we to be called? By His into whom we were baptized, and whom we have put on. Gal. 3:27. "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ."

Some may ask, why not be called after the name of all three persons

into whom we were baptized? The answer is found in Col. 2:9, "For in Him (Christ) dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily."

Paul claims we are carnal when we are called by human names, thereby causing division.

He states in Rom. 8:6, "To be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

We find in I Cor. 6:11 that we are "Washed", "Sanctified", "Justified". Heb. 10:22 says, "Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water," we are sanctified or set apart through this cleansing, and accepted of God as righteous through the same process.

All this is done through Christ and not Campbell.

Just before the Saviour was crucified. He prayed in Jno. the 17th chapter for the unity of His disciples, for the express purpose of causing the world to believe, that He was sent from the Father, and be saved from their sins.

Wearing human names only serves to defeat this prayer. In the name of it, how could anyone be an "ist", or anything that would promote division?

Since we are informed in II Cor. 11:2 that the church is the bride of Christ, and in Eph. 5:23 "For the husband is head of the wife, even as Christ is head of the church, and He is the Saviour of the body", would it not be sinful to dishonor Him by wearing a human name? or even a name found in the Bible, that was not used in that sense?

For this reason, we who are members of the church of Christ, are content to 'do things in Bible Ways, and call things by Bible names.'

It can all be summed up in the words of Peter, I Pet. 4:11, "If any man speak let him speak as the oracles of God." This is what Alexander Campbell taught, his plea was to return to the Bible and be governed wholly by it's teachings. This is the teaching of the church of Christ. It is not the best way, it is the ONLY WAY to be on the Lord's side.

Alexander Campbell did not start the Church of Christ. Jesus did. Mt.

Continued on back page

EDITORIAL

We are nearing the time of year when most congregations will hold a protracted meeting. This method of preaching the gospel to the world has been most successful down through the years. There can be a number of reasons given for the success of a meeting, but one cause stands out above all others as the key to a successful meeting. This is the way the membership of the church has been living in the past. Preachers may present the truth in the very ablest manner and yet it will be in vain if brethren do not live a clean and active Christian life. The examples set before the world will generally have established in our minds either a good or a bad impression. If this impression is bad it will be hard to remedy during the short time of a meeting.

Good Christian living on a year around basis is the only way to please God and to be a successful laborer in the vineyard. Paul admonished Timothy in II Tim. 4:2, "To be instant in season and out of season." We can understand this to mean that Christianity knows no seasons. At all times we are to be attempting to save souls. We have all seen examples of brethren who would be present and active during a protracted meeting, but once the meeting is over their interest and attendance began to weaken. Fortunately, much teaching on this problem is helping brethren overcome this fault.

There are other things which help us to have a good meeting. The effort needs to be well published. Personal invitations to friends will help increase attendance. Beginning promptly at the given time will give the meeting an air of sincerity and reverence. Good singing is not to be overlooked. Much of this responsibility rests on the ability of the song

leader and his selections of appropriate songs. Brethren from surrounding places can help by attending. Larger audiences helps to create interest. Last but not least in importance, is for the preacher to preach the plain, simple gospel in a manner which the audience can understand. Much truth has been wasted because it was presented in a way that was over the heads of the listeners.

A meeting is held for the primary purpose of saving sinners. The essentials of salvation are very simple and need to be presented in simplicity.

Let us all pray for the efforts which will be in progress in the next months and that many souls will be turned from Satan to God.

—Clovis Ragsdale

"MODERN PREACHERS"

Joe Pruett — Thayer, Mo.

The following article appeared in the January, 1952 issue of Reader's Digest, which points out, very distinctly, the general character of modern day preaching. "The committee for the rally which climaxed a charity drive in Newport, one summer counted on a hefty contribution from the resort's richest resident, August Belmont. But to their consternation the prominent Boston minister serving as chief speaker launched into a scathing denunciation of horse racing. 'If people would contribute to charity,' he concluded, 'one tenth of what they squander on horse races, drives like this would be unnecessary.'"

"You've probably offended August Belmont," the distracted chairman told the minister. "He not only loves horses racing but has a track named after him! He won't give us a cent now."

The contrite minister, attempting to make amends, hastened to Belmont's side and assured him, "If I touched on one of your weaknesses, sir, I'm sure you realize it was unintentional."

Unperturbed, Mr. Belmont answered, "Don't let it worry you. Any minister who could talk for five minutes without hitting one of my weaknesses wouldn't be worth a plugged nickel!"

The minister and the chairman are good examples of preachers who apologize for their preaching because they fear people won't contribute freely to their cause. This attitude is not designed to win souls

to Christ but to win money. How often have we heard "Religious radio programs" on which the speaker spent fourteen minutes asking for "love offerings" and one minute preaching and this in the name of Christ!?

This attitude is far from Paul's instruction to Timothy to "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine" (II Tim. 4:2) Timothy was to preach the gospel and nothing more, lest he should be accused. (Gal 1:8-10). Neither was he to make any apology for his preaching. This is shown by the fact that he was to be instant in season (preach when it was convenient) out of season, (preach when it was not convenient), reprove (convince), rebuke (reprimand), exhort (teach), with all longsuffering (patience) and doctrine. This is the rule for sound gospel preaching.

This same rule characterized the preaching of all the preachers in New Testament times. Stephen was stoned to death because he told some of the Jews that they had crucified Christ. (Acts 7). James was killed by Herod for preaching the gospel. (Acts 12). Peter was cast into prison for preaching the gospel (Acts 12). Paul suffered many discomforts because he would not compromise the truth. (II Cor. 11:23-28). Does this same uncompromising spirit characterize the preaching of today when preachers refuse to condemn error for fear of hurting some one's feelings? If it had in the past, there would be much smaller numbers in the divided denominational world today—"Any minister who could talk for five minutes without hitting one of my weaknesses wouldn't be worth a plugged nickel."

The plea of the New Testament church today is that preachers "preach the WORD, be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and doctrine."

There is hope for the man who can look in the glass and laugh.

There is no right way to do a wrong thing.

## NEWS

Work at Camp has begun in faith. The brethren have \$100.00 in the building fund, and are hauling gravel and plan to buy cement with the money on hand to pour the forms and run the floor. About \$800 is needed to construct a building for them to meet in. This is indeed a worthy cause. Eighteen were present Sunday May 1 when Bro Marvin Ed Berry preached for them. About 25 May 8 when Boyd Morgan was there. Claude Miller will be with them May 15 and Joe Pruitt May 23. Services are held each Lord's day at 2 p. m. in the old school house at present. Those who have intended to help are encouraged to do so that these brethren may have a meeting house of their own. The lot is bought and paid for.

## MOODY

Sunday, April 17 at 2:30, interested folks met at the church building at Moody to discuss constructing a new meeting house. The present building is old, deteriorating, and inadequate. The church itself at Moody is an old established church, strong in faith, though few in number. About \$4000.00 is needed to erect the building needed. There is much material in the old building that can be used and the brethren have set a day on which they will meet and tear down the old building and clean up all the usable material. All this and a lot of the construction will be done by donated labor.

At the meeting \$1025.00 was raised in cash toward financing the new building, and one brother volunteered to furnish all the finished hardwood flooring for the building. Another volunteered to donate all the labor for electrical wiring and a part of the material. The new meeting house will soon be a reality.

It is hoped that those interested in this work and able will send them a contribution.

During April and the first Sunday in May there were three baptisms and seven confessions of wrong at Mammoth Spring. May God continue to bless us with growth, and may sincerity ever be a virtue with us.

Mammoth Spring plans to air condition their building by refrigeration this month. Also the roof on the building will be painted. The church will conduct a singing school in the next few weeks. Look for announcement. This will not be a subscription school, but will be open without charge to all.

Mammoth Spring supported Bro. Boyd Morgan by continuing his salary while away from home in a meeting at Grenada, Miss. The church there took care of him and his expenses. This was at the request of Bro. Lowell Blasingame, their local minister. Grenada has the only church of Christ in the county except for a small negro church and is in the center of a large mission field. The church suffers persecution from the sects, but this is to its glory. Bro. Morgan was with them nine nights. Two were baptized and four restored. Bro. Blasingame continued the meeting five more nights and baptized two more. At least two nights were spent only in answering questions and several nights questions were received and answered.

May God's blessings rest upon the brethren in Grenada and upon their work.

## MEETING SCHEDULES

Elizabeth, May 16 - 21, Harlan Hurd  
Ring, May 16 - 25, Boyd E. Morgan  
Thayer, May 22 - June 1, Ray Chester  
Salem, May 23 - June 1, W. E. Birmingham.

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.

Worth, June 6 - , Lowell Blasingame  
Camp, Aug. 30 - Sept. 8, Huey Hartsell.

Viola, June 19 - 26, Mark McElhaney  
Viola, Worth and Camp are mission meetings.

There are several meetings to be held of which we do not have the date and speaker. If this information is sent to us we will be glad to print it and advertise it for you.

Folks, big meeting time is here. Let's go. Attend every one you can and as often as you can. Especially the mission meetings. Your interest and encouragement is worth much.

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

To teach that a child of God cannot fall from grace denies that the last state of the apostate is worse than the first. 1 Pet. 2:20-22. It may even be argued that a sheep never turns into a hog, but he does not need to. Wolves eat sheep as readily as they do swine. "For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock." Acts 20:29.

From Dallas, Texas

Taken from a letter from Bro. Marion Farley. —"Why not suggest in the little paper that at least 12 congregations contribute one month's expense of putting out the paper? I feel reasonably sure it will meet with whole hearted approval if only called to their attention, even some individuals might want to have a part in the same capacity.

I am enclosing check for the Midway church of Christ (Mesquite, Tex.) to start it off, and if there is any objection making this plea, you may still go ahead and use this for one month's expense. I for one, would like to see the paper keep going into these 1200 homes, as I feel like good will be done".

Yours in Him,  
Marion Farley

The enclosed check was for \$15.00. Since the paper lost the support of one of the supporting congregations who helped carry the load financially, we have been dependent upon contributions to take up this slack. The amount is \$15.00 per month. The plea is well stated and put forth by Bro. Farley and we ask you to consider it. Besides this contribution, we have received \$2.00 from B. G. Hogan of Conway, \$1 from Martha Briggs, and \$1 from another interested reader.

Last minute news comes from the Gospel Hill church near Pottersville, Mo. They have secured an acre of ground, which was deeded to them free of charge, out on the highway, and will build a new building immediately. Those who are familiar with the church will know they both need and are worthy of it. They plan a brick tile building with baptistry, and class rooms. Total cost will be around \$10,000. They solicit the aid of all who are interested in this much needed project.

Bro. James Zink baptized two at Welcome Hill Sunday, May 8.

An AP article in May 1 paper said the Methodist and Episcopal churches are planning a merger since they are so much alike. Why not? They tell us one church is as good as another. We pray that the day will come when the entire religious world will see the sin of division and unite upon God's plan as given in Eph. 4:16.

—Tuckerman Sower

Bro. Ira G. Woodward baptized three Sunday night, May 1 at Alton, Mo. The work there progresses.

## Not Campbell—from page 1

16:18. Campbell is not the father of it. He did not write its creed. He was simply a preacher who stood head and shoulders above the preachers of his day. His influence and ability were such that the country felt it forcibly. In derision, the world dubbed those who believed as he did 'Campbellites'. Some still do it. But we are not of Campbell — but of Christ.

### WE KNOW

Boyd E. Morgan — Mammoth Spring

Because we do not accept feelings as assurance of pardon, we are often asked, "If you don't know you are saved by how you feel, how do you know you are saved?"

The church of Christ is the church of the Bible. It's doctrine comes from it's head. The head of the church is Jesus Christ. The reason we do not accept feelings as evidence of salvation is that the Bible does not teach it. In fact, there are many who have felt like they were saved and have testified of what was considered a bright experience only later by examining the scriptures to come to a realization that they were not saved at all. I have both baptized and witnessed the baptism of many such.

Not only does the Bible NOT teach that feelings are evidence of pardon, but it teaches contrary to the idea. Prov. 28:26 reads, "He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool; but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered." Accepting feelings as evidence is nothing more or less than trusting in our own hearts. I call it to your attention that I am not the author of Prov. 28:26. Furthermore, Prov. 14:12 reads, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof the ways of death."

We do not, therefore, trust in feelings.

But we know! And we feel good in knowing.

How do we know? The Bible tells us how we know. "And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth His Word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in Him. I John 2:3-5.

Let those who adhere to the principle of assurance on the basis of feelings produce scripture to support it. Where did any new Testa-

ment convert of Bible days relate how he felt or admonish others that they would know they were saved by how they felt. God's instructions to us are in His book, and the book relates no such occurrences.

God's instructions to the alien sinner are simple. They are to hear His words, believe, repent, confess, and be baptized. These are Bible doctrines. By obeying these (His commandments) we know that we know Him and are in Him. By keeping His commandments to Christians we remain in a saved state.

Should you be one who depends upon feelings as evidence, you may feel safe and yet be in the gravest of danger. Feelings are not evidence. Neither are they true witnesses. Where does the Bible say that the spirit bears witness with our spirit by feelings. Nowhere. The spirit bears witness by truth. He came to guide into all truth. John 16:13. God's word is truth, John 17:17. Jesus said "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing; the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." John 6:63. And now for assurance John tells us "But whoso keepeth His Word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know me that we are in Him." I John 2:5.

We know! Do you know?

If the other fellow doesn't agree with you, he is obstinate, but if you do not agree with him, you are his mental superior.

Some ways to Really hurt the church:

1. Start a rumor.
2. Refuse to speak to visitors and to other members.
3. Drag the singing down by singing too slowly.
4. Criticize the preacher, he isn't perfect and you should find some thing to criticize him for without too much trouble.
5. Talk about how the elders aren't qualified because they do not meet to a perfect degree all the requirements stated in the Bible. There is nothing that hurts like criticism, whether it is just or unjust. Of course, make no effort to qualify yourself for the office.
6. Refuse to go to church when you have opportunity to go somewhere else. Take it easy.

IT'S: NOT MY CHURCH,

NOT YOUR CHURCH,

BUT CHRIST'S CHURCH.

## SHORTS

The best cure for worry; Do something for someone worse off than yourself.

Some church members are like the farmers pond—dried up in the summer, and frozen up in the winter.

Eternal life is given the believer—not the apostate who has turned "from the faith." —John 5:24; 1 Tim. 4:1.

Listen to these fellows preach that there is nothing you can do to be saved and once saved nothing you can do to be lost and then turn over and read John 5:28-29.

You may join the denominations of men but the only way to get into the Lord's church is to be "added" by the Lord. Acts 2:47.

The Bible says "Baptism doth also now saves us". 1 Pet. 3:21. Man says, "Baptism doth also NOT save us".

Some people stand off and look at the hypocrites in the church then say, not for me, I as good as they are. Wonder in what way they figure they are better off.

There's an old saying that might apply to the hypocrite too, "always room for one more."

### SALVATION

for the remission of sins"  
for the remission of sins"  
shall be saved"  
for remission of sins"  
and wash away thy sins"  
now save us"

God's order is: Baptism then Salvation  
Man's order is: Salvation then Baptism

### REFERENCE

Mark 1:4 "John did preach the  
Luke 3:3 "John came preaching  
Mk. 16:16 "He that believeth and  
Acts 2:38 "Repent ye, and  
Acts 22:16 "Arise and  
1 Pet. 3:21 "The like figure  
whereunto

### BAPTISM

baptism of repentance  
baptism of repentance  
is baptized  
be baptized  
be baptized  
baptism doth also