

Fulton County Gospel News

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News

The church at Mammoth Spring has purchased a 35 MM Film Projector and set of the Jule Miller Series Film Strips for use this winter in cottage meetings. This is a wonderful way to reach those who just will not come to the meeting house.

At the last business meeting the Mammoth brethren resolved to make an effort to pay off their existing indebtedness on the preachers home during the next year and laid plans to build a sorely needed nw auditorium. Present Auditorium to be cut up into Classrooms.

The Hardy, Arkansas church is looking for lots to purchase, suitably located with the view of building a new church house.

Crowley's Ridge Academy, near Paragould will be raised to a Junior College in 1864.

Work has begun on the second unit of Paragould Children's home. This will double the capacity of the home when completed.

Brother Orville Buchanan preaches

each Sunday at Pilot.

In the meeting at Union Hill, conducted by Bro. Clovis Rogsdale, three were baptized. Good interest was evident at all services.

Brother Lyndel Anthony is now attending Freed-Hareman College at Henderson, Tenn.

Why Did My Savior Come To Earth?

Orbie Robbins, Elizabeth, Ark.

We often sing that good old song; "Why Did My Savior Come to Earth."

That brings before our minds the question and subject "Why Did My Saviour Come To Earth". So we want to consider the following reasons why the Savior came to earth.

First He came to do his Father's will. John 6:38. In the shadow of the Cross he prayed: "Father if it be possible let this cup pass from me. Not my will but Thine be done." Lk 22:42. Speaking in John 17:4 he said I have glorified thee upon the earth, I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. Again the Lord said, "I must work the works of him that sent me while it is day, the night cometh when no man can work. John 9:4.

From these truths we can see that he did his fathers will without shirking and finished the work which he gave him to do.

Second, He came unto his own. Jno. 1:11. But his own of the Jewish Nation rejected Him. "When he came unto his own he was made like unto his brethren, that he might become a just and merciful High Priest to make reconciliation for the sins of the people." Heb. 2:17.

In Mk. 12:1-8 the Jewish Nation is pictured as a vineyard and God sent servants and they slew them and last of all he sent his son thinking that they would reverence him. But instead they slew him. This is a true picture of the Jews rejecting Christ and His Crucifix-

ion. His great concern over Israel, his own people, is demonstrated in these words, "Oh Jerusalem! Jerusalem! Thou that killest and stonest the prophets, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings and ye would not! Mt. 23:37.

The expression "Ye would not" shows their rejection of him and verse 38 the result. "Behold your house is left unto you desolate.

Third, He came to fulfill the law. Jesus said, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law but to fulfill it." Mt. 5:17. He became the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth." Rom. 10:4. He blotted out the law and took it out of the way nailing it to the cross. Col. 2:14.

He made peace between Jew and Gentile with God having abolished in his flesh the enmity even the law of Commandments contained in ordinances, that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross having slain the enmity thereby. Eph. 2:14-16.

Fourth, He came to offer himself as a sacrifice for sin." Heb. 9:28. He came to put away sin. Heb. 9:26. He shed his blood in the sacrifice which he made for the remission of sins. Zech. 13:1 Mt. 26:28, Heb. 9:22, Heb. 10:4, Eph. 1:7.

Fifth, He came to save sinners.

Paul said, "This is a faithful saying and worthy of acceptation, Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners of whom I am chief. I Tim. 1:15.

He came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance. Lk. 5:32. He came to seek and to save that which is lost. Lk. 19:10. After coming to earth and doing everything that was necessary to the redemption of the human family, before he returned to heaven he gave the Great Commission. Stating in that Commission the terms or conditions of Salvation. Mk. 16:15-16.

If we are lost and turned away in the after while it will be because we have rejected him by our failure to meet these conditions of gospel obedience.

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Editor— Clovis Ragsdale

Editorial

WINONA WORK WILL WIN

Someone said that Winona was a hard place for the cause to do good in. They all are. But Winona is a splendid place for the Cause of Christ. We do a little bit and expect miracles overnight and when they do not come so fast we throw up our hands and generally throw in the sponge.

I have just held a meeting (in September) for ten nights at Winona. How many churches can boast that they had a dozen or so outsiders attending their meetings? Why has Winona been branded a hard place? Did you know that during the past two years since this work was begun that four meetings have been held and that in each meeting some were baptized? We only baptized one in my meeting. She was the wife of a man baptized by Bro. Jerry Jones in August. How many churches have baptized folks during all of their last four meetings?

Efforts for Christ's cause are new in Winona. Folks haven't been taught as they have in this section. We obtained the promise of a man and wife to be baptized soon. Others assured us that they would come back to other services. To our definite knowledge the little group meeting there is the only faithful group in all of Shannon County, Mo. Prospects are so good that it seems they can not fail. On the Sunday during the meeting thirteen were present. The Contribution on was sixteen dollars. The church days at 2 P.M. Someone should go on the fourth Sunday.

Bro. Les Spachet of Mountain View, Mo. has agreed to conduct first Sunday Services. Bro. Glen McNeese of

West Plains will preach on Second Sundays and I have agreed to speak on Third Sundays. Services are Lord's days at 2 P. M. some should go on the fourth Sunday.

This little band on their own purchased a suitable building lot for \$500 This they paid for. They can build a meeting house for only \$2000. Realizing their need the following congregations have contributed \$585 toward the building. Mammoth Spring, Ark. \$100; Sturkie, Ark., \$25; Hickory Grove (Alton, Mo.) \$100; Alton, Mo. \$75; Thayer, Mo. \$100; Thomasville, Mo. \$30; Jeff, Mo. \$100; and Mountain View Mo. \$55.

In addition to buying the lot the members at Winona have contributed \$663.36 into the building fund making the total in the fund \$1148.36 One of the brethren there says that if this fund is raised up to \$1800 that he will be responsible for the other \$200. Think of it, all this in two years, and some are prompted to believe that its hard.

Now \$651.64 is needed badly and the job is done, of this amount Alton has agreed to give \$25 and Mammoth Spring, \$50. The brethren will go in debt for their seats and need us to help now with the building. The foundation may possibly be laid by the time you receive this paper. Take it up at once with the congregation where you worship and send a contribution. Send it either to Bro. Clovis Ragsdale, to me, or direct to Bro. Doris Weaver, Winona, Mo.

Lets win, now, with Winona.

—Boyd E. Morgan

From Egypt to Canaan

Henry Casey, Henderson, Tenn.

Very few of us study the Bible as we should, and this is especially true of the O. T. God wants us to study the O. T. (Rom. 15:4; 1 Cor. 10:6-11; 2 Tim. 2:15). Once I heard a man make this statement, "The O. T. should not be read because it is the cause of much religious confusion." I soon concluded that this man knew very little about the purpose and design of the O. T.

Briefly, we want to relate why and how the children of Israel went from Egypt to Canaan. Joseph, the son of Jacob, was sold to the Ishmaelites by his nine brothers. The Ishmaelites took Joseph to the land of Egypt, where they

rose from a slave to a wise ruler. During his reign, Jacob and all his family moved into Egypt. After a few years this generation of people died and another generation followed, but the latter generation did not enjoy freedom as their forefathers, rather they were slaves to the Egyptians. Into such a world, Moses was born; (Ex. 2:1, 2), but he found favor in the sight of God and man, and finally became the great leader of God's people. Moses led the people out of Egypt through the Red Sea and for forty years he led them in the wilderness; afterward, he died on the top of Mt. Nebo and God buried him in a valley in the land of Moab. Joshua, the son of Nun, succeeded Moses and immediately led the people across the Jordan, which placed them in the land flowing with milk and honey. In this brief summary we have observed five major things which are a type of our salvation. The word type simply means a symbol of something that is to follow. Now these five major things are as follows:

1. Egypt is a type of the sinful world in which we live. Pharaoh well represents the Devil or at least one of the powers of the Devil. The people in Egypt were in bondage; likewise we are in bondage to sin while in the world. (Mt. 6:24; Rom. 6:16,17.)

2. The Red Sea crossing is a type of our baptism. The Bible says that they were all baptized. (1 Cor. 10:1, 2). We are told that God saved Israel that day—the day that they were baptized. (Ex. 14:30).

In the baptism of the Israelites we are told that the waters stood on each side while the cloud overshadowed them. Hence, they were covered up. The Bible says that the people rejoiced after they had crossed the Red Sea. Why? First, they had been delivered from the Egyptian bondage. Second, they were in the wilderness—therefore under the leadership of Moses not Pharaoh. Remember, they rejoiced after baptism not before baptism. (Ex. 15:1.) If we are going to be followers of Christ we must be baptized. (Mt. 28:19; Jn. 3:5.) Baptism is a burial, a covering up. (Rom. 6:3, 4; Col. 2:12). False teachers may say that baptism is not a burial, but the Bible says it is. Men and women rejoice after baptism not before baptism. (Acts 8:39; Acts 16:33,34). We can re-

The Errors of Catholicism

Clovis Ragsdale

joy because the Bible tells us that we are baptized for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38). Again it says that we are baptized into one body. (1 Cor. 12:13.) Remember, we rejoice after baptism not before baptism.

3. The Wilderness wandering is a type of the church. In the wilderness the people were tried for about forty years; many of them were overthrown in the wilderness. One translation (R.S.V.) uses the word most instead of many. (1 Cor. 10:5). In the church we are tried. (Jas. 1:2,3; Jas. 1:12). How many of us do you suppose will be saved that are members of the church? Consider these following scriptures: (Mt. 9:37; Mt. 25:1-13; Lk. 8:11-15). The wilderness wandering lasted about forty years before they entered the promised land. The average christian is usually tried for about forty years before he passes to his reward.

4. The Jordan River is a type of death. Muddy Jordan stood between Gods people and the land of Canaan. Hence it had to be crossed by all. I can picture this in my mind, how that the people came to the river with their hearts beating fast because the river was out of its banks. How well does this picture death with all of its sorrows. Yet the river of death must be crossed by everyone of us. (Heb. 9:27).

5. Canaan is a type of heaven. Canaan was a land flowing with milk and honey. This means that it was a good and plentiful country for the people of God. Likewise heaven is a sweet land that awaits all of the redeemed. Jesus said, "In my fathers house are many mansions." It was said of Abraham that he looked for a city whose builder and maker is God.

As we close this brief lesson I hope we have come to more appreciate the O. T. with its many great and good lessons. I also hope that this will make us realize that we may be closer to Jordan stormy banks than we think. Therefore let us with Joshua of old keep our eyes on yon beautiful shores and finally rest our feet in that fair and happy land where our possessions lie.

If you are going to do a thing, do it now. If you are going to do a mean thing, wait until tomorrow.

We hear much these days being said about Catholicism. It has become a big campaign issue in the present Presidential election. Few go to the trouble to point out why there is so much opposition to electing a Roman Catholic to the White House. Surely so many would not be opposing Mr. Kennedy on the grounds of his religion, unless there was something wrong with his religion. What does the Bible say about many of the practices of the Roman Catholic Church? Let the Apostle Paul answer this question.

1 Tim. 4:1-3, Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils: speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; forbidding to marry; and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. This plain teaching could refer to no one today but the doctrines taught by Catholicism. They forbid their priests and nuns, as well as the order of monks, and the Pope to marry. Heb. 13:4 tells that marriage is honourable in ALL. Catholics claim that Peter was the first Pope, but Peter was a married man, Matt. 8:14, Luke 4:38. Futhermore he did not forsake his wife when he was called to be an Apostle as is claimed by Catholics. When his wife's mother was sick was at a latter time than when he was chosen to be an Apostle.

Catholicism is wrong because its priests are called father. Read Matt. 23:9. This refers to the spiritual side of life and in no way refers to fleshly ties.

Catholicism is wrong because it teaches that Mary had no other children but Christ. Matt. 13:54-56 teaches that she had four sons and two or more daughters Also, we are not taught anywhere in the Bible that we are to pray through Mary. Christ is the only one through which we can approach God's throne of mercy.

Catholicism is wrong because it does not permit its own people to study the

Bible. They insist that only the priests can interpret the teachings of the Bible. The New Testament speaks of the fact that we individual Christians are our own priests. Rev. 1:6. Peter said for Christians to desire the sincere milk of the word. 1 Peter 2:2.

Catholicism is wrong because its members are in the most part made up of people who were baptized when they were infants, hence were not believers. In all cases of scriptural conversion, the persons were old enough to believe. Infant baptism is a fraud that the Catholics have passed on to gullible mankind. It is an insult to almighty God and is in direct contradiction to the teachings of the Bible.

Catholicism is wrong because it introduced rites and rituals not found in the Bible, but which was borrowed from Paganism. Christmas and Easter were catholic innovations. Paul said in Col. 2:16, "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an HOLY DAY, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days. The only day that we have specific instructions to keep is the command to assemble on the first day of the week to worship. Acts 20:7, 1 Cor. 16:2.

Catholicism is wrong because it denies the freedom to worship in nations where it has gained control of the governments. This violates the spirit of Christ. Rom. 8:9. History is filled with facts which prove this over and over again. It is true in Italy, Spain, and in South America TODAY. It has happened whenever and whenever this power has been able to get control of the political powers of a country. America as the richest nation in the world today is the prime goal of catholicism. They have made headway and if they can lull this country into thinking that there is no danger in electing a catholic president, they will be in a position to take a big step forward toward their goal. The danger is great. It is later than you think.

HOW TO GIVE—

Give as you would if an angel
Awaited your gift at the door.
Give as you would if tomorrow
Found your giving here all o'er.
Give as you would to the Master
If you met his loving look.
Give as you would of your substance
If His hand the offering took.

Hope in Christ Maintaining Our

Wesley Hylton

Christ the hope of the world. What a beautiful thought! What a blessing to humanity! How glad we should be that man can have hope! There is too much sadness and sorrow in the world, to not have hope. The hope offered by Christ gives man a ray of light, that leads to better things.

Many wonderful men have come and gone from the earthly scene. The Bible tells of such men, others are recorded in history. Some are famous for their efforts to better man's lot, including living conditions, human relations, and a better understanding of one another. Much of this effort was, or is, put forth outside the field of religion. However, the satisfaction obtained from such endeavors cannot compare with Christianity.

Though men have given excellent council and advice in days gone by, none can match the Saviour. His system is unique. It has been imitated, but never duplicated. The ideas and inventions of man cannot lift us to the high plane of Christianity. Jesus offers blessings that are unsurpassed. They cannot be matched in the realm of human endeavor.

Christ made this hope possible through His death and suffering. The plan He instituted is simple and plain, and completely adaptable to the needs of sinful man. It cannot be improved. It provides for man's salvation, by removing the thing that separates him from God, sin. We MUST accept this plan. It includes believing in Christ as God's Son; repenting of past sins, turning away from them; confessing Christ before men; and, being baptized for the remission of sins. Read Jn. 3:16; Heb. 11:6; Lk. 13:3; Acts 2:38; Mt. 10:32. This plan is heaven's last offer to save the sinner. No other will be provided. Should we spurn this extension of hope, our dream of the future blessings fades beyond recall.

Jesus said in Mt. 28:20, "... teach them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." The Lord also told the apostles, "whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them, and whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained unto them." This plainly shows the authority upon which the apostles

acted. They were given the power to bind and loose upon earth. Mt. 16:18-20.

TO MAINTAIN OUR HOPE WE MUST GROW

In 1 Pet. 2:2, we are told, "as newborn babes desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby. This suggests diligent study. The new convert will so acquaint himself with the Word that he will be able to give a reason for the hope that is in him, with meekness and fear. Without a fundamental knowledge of God's Word, we cannot combat error. Neither will we know how to deal with our worst enemy, the devil.

To grow spiritually we must add to our faith. Peter tells us how. Read 1 Pet 1:5,10. By faithfully observing the principles set forth in this reference we can attain the stature of full-grown men and women in Christ. In so doing we better prepare ourselves to maintain the hope we have in Christ.

TO HAVE HOPE WE MUST WORSHIP

This worship must be regular. It must be in spirit and in truth. Haphazard, indifferent worship is in vain. A proper understanding is also essential to true worship. 1 Cor. 14:15, what is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also, I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. Private worship, singing, praying, or studying God's Word, can be enjoyed anytime. However, God's people are to assemble at certain appointed times. The first day of the week is one, and, others may be designated by the elders. We should be there at the appointed hour. Never forsake the assembly! Heb. 10:25. To just worship occasionally is to nurture a vain hope.

For worship to be acceptable it must be sincere. It must come from a heart filled with love, and overflowing with appreciation for what God has done for us. While assembled we must show respect. Laughing, talking, playing with the baby, chewing gum noisily, sleeping, and other things of like nature all indicate irreverence, or disrespect for the occasion.

ITEMS OF WORSHIP

These are five in number. 1. The Lord's Supper. 2. Praying. 3. Singing. 4. Giving. 5. Teaching or studying the Word. They aren't listed in the order of

their importance. They are all important. Which one could be left out? Some have conceived the mistaken idea that as long as they partake of the Lord's Supper each Sunday they are doing all that God requires. Such is vain, and furthermore, those who practice such miss out on the wonderful blessings that come to those who wholeheartedly enter into every aspect of the worship. Singing should be with feeling. It should come from the heart. It should mean something besides just going through a ritual. The same applies to prayer, and the other acts of worship.

STEADFASTNESS A MUST

1 Cor. 15:58, "Be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. In as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." We have little respect for a wishy-washy person, one who is always changing his position on some issue. Such a person is sometimes easily influenced to do the wrong thing.

God is justly displeased with us when we try to hold worldly things with one hand, and with the other reach for the stars. We cannot flirt with the world, and at the same time maintain our hope in Christ. We must be consecrated and dedicated to one course. The course that was pioneered by our Saviour, and made known to us by the Holy Spirit, and the apostles.

MEEKNESS AND HUMILITY

We certainly must cultivate these characteristics if we are to maintain our hope in Christ. Humility denotes lack of pride or vanity. Meekness is associated with long-suffering. Our Saviour possessed both, and taught us by word, and example, to do likewise. Jesus manifested humbleness in many ways. By being subject to His heavenly Father, and by being subject to His parents while on earth.

The vain, puffed up man is not pleasing to God. Contrast the difference between the Pharisee and the Publican. The Pharisee was vain and proud. He thanked God that he was not like other men. The poor Publican would not even lift up his eyes. He smote his chest, and said, "God, forgive me, a sinner." What a difference in attitude! Why did the Lord teach us this lesson? Was it not to show us how unbecoming false pride and vanity can be?