

^{City} Fulton County Gospel News

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An Old Group Of Anti's

WESLEY HYLTON

There are a lot of people in this old world that are "anti this and anti that", but about the most pathetic group is the "One Service Brethren." They would, no doubt, rise up in selfrighteous indignation if accused of being "anti". However, their actions speak much louder than words. They are "anti" (against) attending every service of the church. To them once a week is sufficient. When questioned as to why they don't attend more often, the Sunday night and Wednesday night services, they frequently reply, "Where in the Bible does it say you have to attend on Wednesday night?"

It goes without saying that anyone with that attitude has very little love for the Lord, or His cause. They can see the advantages of Christianity; and, they certainly want to go to heaven, provided it doesn't take too much effort. Little do they think of the influence they are exerting on others. The Lord said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them." Mt. 18:20. Evidently the "One Service Brethren" don't like to be with the Lord. If they did, they would go where He promised to be; in the assembly of His people.

No doubt, these brethren would also amen the idea that heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. If we can't stand to be with the Lord more than one hour a week, how can we possibly stand the idea of spending an endless eternity with him?

The Savior said, "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments." One of His commandments is to, "Let your light so shine before men, that they seeing your good works may glorify your father who is in heaven." The "One Service Breth-

SPECIAL ISSUE

The next few months will see a lot of meeting occurring over this area. For that reason we are dedicating the next issue to basic principles concerning the church. BE LOOKING FOR IT

NEWS ITEMS

Address all correspondence to Wesley Hylton, Box 237, Mammoth Spring, Ark. We invite your questions, comments, or criticisms.

Bro. Clovis Ragsdale preached for the church in Mt. View, Mo. on the fifth Sun. in March. He reports good attendance and interest. The church there is to be commended for it's efforts in furthering the Lord's work. —Clovis also preached for the church at Jeff, Mo. on the first Sunday in April. A good crowd was present. The church at Jeff is very active in the Lord's work.

Bro. Hylton preached at Agnos, Camp, Liberty, Union Hill, and Bethny, besides the regular work at Mammoth Spring. These congregations are all making an effort to bring the gospel to the lost. May the Lord bless their work.

Bro. Alvin Etchison's home burned during the past month. Bro. Etchison is an elder of the church in Ravenden. No other details are available, but we are sure that we express the sentiment of everyone when we extend our regrets at this unfortunate occurrence.

The new addition to the building in Mammoth Spring is completed, with the exception of two minor details. The brethren are proud of it, and are looking forward to other endeavors. The church in Mammoth Spring is a wide awake group that is taking advantage of many opportunities to further the Lord's Cause. May the Lord be with them in their continued efforts.

Gospel Meetings

WELCOME HILL May 25-31 John Simpson of Searcy the preacher.

ELIZABETH, ARK. June 1-7 Max Patterson, Senatobia, Miss. will be the speaker.

HATFIELD, MO. July 6-15; Wesley Hylton, Mammoth Spring, Ark. will do the preaching. The meeting will be under a tent, and will be held at Lanton, Mo.

HEART, ARK. Charles Coil will be the evangelist. The date: July 13-?

CAMP, ARK. July 20-30; Lowell Blasingame, Grenada, Miss. is the speaker.

AGNOS, ARK. July 18-26; Vance Greenway, Paragould, Ark. the evangelist.

MAMMOTH SPRING, ARK. Aug. 20-30; Riley Henry, West Plains, Mo. will do the preaching.

GATEWOOD, MO. Aug 20:30; Wesley Hylton, Mammoth Spring will be the speaker.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CONGREGATION, AND ALSO ENCOURAGE THE BRETHREN IN OTHER PLACES. MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE MEETINGS.

CONTRIBUTIONS ACKNOWLEDGED

Elmer Poulson, Camp, Ark.	\$1.00
Mrs. R. A. Robins, Ash Flat	1.00
A Silent Helper	1.00
J. T. Tucker, Agnos, Ark	1.00
W. C. Woody, West Plains, Mo.	1.00
D. W. Nicholson, M. Spring	1.00
G. W. Tucker, Agnos, Ark.	1.00

We appreciate very much these good friends who are helping us in this work. May God richly bless them.

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AN OLD GROUP OF ANTI'S

Continued from front page

ren" aren't letting their light shine, in this respect, but once a week. Maybe they are afraid they'll burn out their bulb.

Should we question one of these brethren as to whether the Sunday night and Wednesday night services are a good work, he undoubtedly would have to answer in the affirmative. And when he does, he puts himself at cross purposes with the Word of God. We are told in James 4:17, "To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin." Hence, if these services do good, (And who can question that fact?) Many have obeyed the gospel on Sunday or Wednesday night. That certainly is good. Furthermore, erring children have been restored to their first love. That also is good. We must all be ready for them. The "One Service Brethren" are still apt to maintain, The Lord didn't say I have to be there on Wednesday night."

We are further instructed to, "Be ready unto every good work." The Sunday and Wednesday night services are a good work. It's good to preach the gospel; to edify the saints in love; to bring up our children in the right way, by teaching them to honor the Lord at the appointed time; and many other things could be mentioned, but surely every discerning person can see that these services are a good work. II Thess. 2:17, "Comfort your hearts and stablish you in every good word and work." When the "One Service Brethren" fail to attend, it indicates they are not ready, or willing, to do "Every" good work.

There are multitudes of reasons why we should attend all of the services.

However, we should not attend just to be popular, respectable, or just because others are going. We shouldn't go just to become prominent in the eyes of our fellowman.

We should go because we owe it to God, Christ, and ourselves. We also owe it to our family and friends. We should go regularly; because in so doing, we may convert a neighbor, or someone else who is watching us for an example. We should go because Jesus will be there. Mt. 18:20. We should go because we have been exhorted to do so. Heb. 10:25. We should go because it indicates our steadfastness. 1 Cor. 15:58. We should go because we are told not to be negligent in this respect. Heb. 10:25. We should go because it is the Lord's church. He gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify and cleanse it. He loved it enough to die for it. The "One Service Brethren" don't even love it enough to attend all of it's services. There are many other reasons, but surely this is enough to convince even the most skeptical.

Those who attend only one service are wilfully absent. **They stay away**, not because they are ill, or providentially hindered, **because they want to.** They prefer to be away from the Lord rather than with Him. They don't care about the church. "Oh, but I do," they say. "It's not fair for you to say, we don't care about the church." Friends, here is what the Lord said, "Ye say, and do not." The "One Service Brethren" let their absence speak for them. Their profession of love for the Lord and His church sounds hollow and empty beside their example. "What you do sounds so loud I can't hear what you say" is a good principal, and certainly applies to those who profess love, and then fail to express it.

In Rev. 2:10 we are told, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." Does this mean in everything but the assembly?

It looks like rain—I have a pain;
So stay at home with me.
The crowd is slight on Sunday night—
Poor singing it might be.

The Sermon it might be too hard
And drive my friends away;
I want to live at peace with them—
Why take them anyway?

A light can shine from a rocking chair
Much better than from a pew;
I'll think of songs and of the prayer
Between each tasty chew,
As from the ice box I shall munch
Of luscious food I have for lunch.

If we just had a meeting house
As fine as some I know:
I'd gather up a lot of folks
and urge them all to go.

And if we had some rich men
And women in the pews;
'Twould draw a lot of others too—
The church could really use.

But as it is I'll stay at home
Till some day I can go
To some big church in some big town
Where I can make a show.

I'll doll up in my finest togs
And sit among the great
Who always miss night services—
As others come in late.
—Selected

THE SUN IS ALMOST DOWN

"Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: neither give place to the devil." (Eph. 4. 26, 27.)

Two good men on an occasion had a heated discussion, and remembering the exhortation of Paul, "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath," just before sunset one of them went to the house of the other, and knocking on the door, his offended friend came and opened it, and seeing who who it was, withdrew in astonishment and surprise; the other, at the same moment, cried out, "The sun is almost down." This unexpected statement softened the heart of his friend into affection, and he returned for answer, "Come in brother, come in." What a happy method of conciliating a matter, of redressing a grievance, of reconciling brethren!

When there is a screw loose in the head it is usually the one that controls the tongue.

A man's body is sometimes so sensitive that when you pat him on the back his head swells.

The Danger Of Strong Drink

Clovis Ragsdale

One of the greatest evils facing our nation today is the ever increasing number of people who partake of strong drink. The highways are littered with empty beer and whiskey cans. A steady stream of advertising is constantly before us in magazines and over the airways, extolling the virtues of this and that brand of whiskey or beer. The state of Oklahoma, one of the few remaining states which did not permit the sale of whiskey, recently voted, by an overwhelming majority, to permit the sale of intoxicants.

We cannot help but wonder why the citizens of our nation can place their stamp of approval on a thing which is condemned by the word of God, in plain and unmistakable terms. Paul said in 1 Cor. 6:10 that no drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of God. Yet we claim to be a Christian nation. Are we in reality becoming a nation of gluttons and winebibbers?

This writer can remember when the law forbid the sale of whiskey. True, there were some who patronized the moonshiner, but one seldom saw much drinking among teenagers and women. Today this is a common place in the activities of the very young. Many have become a slave to this soul destroying habit, before they become old enough to understand the terrible consequences of those who become alcoholics.

In the 23 chapter of Proverbs we have a good description of one who drinks. Who hath woe, who hath sorrow, who hath contentions, who hath babblings, who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry at the wine" Hosea4:11. "Wine and new wine take away understanding." We feel very sorry for anyone who becomes mentally ill, which causes one to lose their power of understanding. Yet when he becomes drunken he is in fact, out of his head and in an insane condition. ,

A statistical survey of 200 new admissions to the penitentiary of the state of Washington shows that 94.5 were drinkers, and 47.5 were under the

influence of liquor when arrested. These same men were asked where they learned to drink. The replies showed that 20 per cent learned at home, 44 per cent at parties and dances, and 11 per cent in the armed forces. The remainder learned in various ways. These statistics point an accusing finger at dancing and parties as a place where many start on the road to ruin.

The argument that if one drinks in moderation it is not sinful will not stand in the light of New Testament teachings. I Thessalonians 5:22 commands that we abstain from all appearance of evil. Certainly drink comes under the heading of evil. Christians can not partake of strong drink in any way and be consistent with the teaching of Christ, in Matt. 4:16; "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." No one can be a shining light and at the same time partake of strong drink in any form, without destroying his influence for good. Also, one may take a drink occasionally thinking that they can resist the temptation to become a steady drinker, and before they realize become a habitual drunkard. The best course to follow is to never take the first drink. It takes a much stronger will power to quit drinking than to say no to the first opportunity to take a drink. Remember the words of Solomon, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." Proverbs 20:1.

BAPTISM IS IMMERSION

Delton Haun

The New Testament teaches that sinners must learn of God and obey him. In obeying, each one must believe in Christ, repent of his sins and confess faith. Having done these things he is ready to be baptized to "wash away" his sins (Acts 22:19).

What is baptism? It is immersion. Any thing other than immersion lacks Bible authority. Anything other than immersion is a substitute. Substitutes for immersion are questioned by many on the ground the Lord does not permit men to substitute for His express commands.

Baptism meant immersion in Christ's day. This was its definition then. Furth-

ermore, all who obeyed the gospel in New Testament times were immersed. Many years passed before we read of anyone attempting to substitute for this command of God.

If someone offered you one of three thousand dollar bills but told you the last two might be counterfeit and were questioned by many but that the first bill was genuine and unquestioned anywhere, which one would you insist on getting. How much more valuable is one's soul.

We invite you to worship with us Sunday. God's word is our only Creed.

A Second Look At The Book Of Job

Bob Hilburn

Paul warned Timothy to avoid profane babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called. (1 Tim. 6:20). This warning from the pen of the inspired apostle can still be applied in these modern days due to the claims of many that their theories are based upon science. Just because a person claims that something is of a scientific basis doesn't necessarily mean that the claim is true, since science is based upon facts which must be proven. Man has no right to claim that an unproven theory such as Darwin's Theory of Evolution constitutes science since such ideas are far from being proven facts. Claims such as are made by the advocates of Darwin's theory have lead many to believe that if one accepts the Bible, he must deny science and that if he accepts science, he must in turn deny the Bible. This idea is simply not true as the Bible is in perfect harmony with the basic facts of science. In fact, science proves the inspiration of the Word of God, since God referred to many scientific principles thousands of years before science was known to man. A second look at the book of Job will be sufficient to prove these statements.

Don't mind criticism. If it is untrue, disregard it; if it is unfair, keep from irritation; if it is ignorance, smile; if it is justified, learn from it.

Who Then Can Be Saved?

Orbie Robbins

Elizabeth, Ark.

Leading up to and preceding this statement, who then can be saved?

We have the story of the rich young ruler coming to Christ and asking what shall I do that I may have eternal life. Mt. 19:16.

Jesus then told him to keep the Law or Commandments, and in addition go sell what thou hast and give to the poor and thou shalt have treasure in heaven; and come follow me.

The demand was too great for him and he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. Mt. 19:17-22.

Then Jesus said, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to be saved. Mt. 19:25.

The lesson was, "Those who put their trust in riches, cannot be saved."

The disciples were amazed and said, "Who then can be saved?" That same question confronts us today. Now we want to consider the different modern answers given to that question.

The **Inidel** answers, "None, all people are just the same. No heaven or hell."

David no doubt knew this when he stated in Ps. 14:1, The heavens declare his glory, and the firmaments his handiwork, the fool hath said in his heart, there is no God.

So we can see that no one except a fool would give an answer of that kind.

Another modern answer to the question by the **Universalist** would be; All will be saved since they teach universal salvation.

To show that this answer is untrue Jesus said, "Enter ye in at the strait gate, for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat; because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Mt. 7:13-14.

So we can see this answer is untrue because Mt. 7:13-14 shows many will be lost and that just a few saved.

The **Moralist** would answer, "All good people will be saved." Now let us see if this answer is in harmony with God's

word. Jesus stated, "Not every one 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 have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works?' And then will I profess unto them, depart from me ye workers of iniquity, I never knew you." Mt. 7:21-23.

From these truths it is evident that morality isn't enough to save and that we must do His will.

Cornelius and his house is an approved example showing the absurdity of the **Moralist's** answer.

The **Denominationalist's** answer to this question would be faith only or that we are saved the very moment that we believe without any additional acts of obedience.

But James said thou believest there is one God, the devils also believe and tremble. James. 2:19. So if faith only is the right answer then devils have the assurance of being saved.

Furthermore they just had enough faith to make them tremble or be miserable.

To accept the doctrine of Faith only would just be enough to make a man miserable.

Hear James again in James 2:26, "For as the body without the spirit is dead, even so faith if it hath not works is dead being alone.

Again James stated, "Ye see how that by works a man is justified and not by faith only." James 2:24.

Now let us see what is God's will with reference to this question.

(1) Jesus provided for all. Heb. 2:9.
(2) God wants all saved. Tit. 2:11, 2 Pet. 3:9, Rev. 22:17, 1 Tim. 2:4, Mk. 16:15-16.

Who can be saved? Notice the following examples.

(1) Unbelievers — Jailer — Acts 16:30-34.

(2) Believers — Pentecostians — Acts 2:37-38

(3) Penitent Believers — Saul of Tarsus Acts 9 — Act. 22:16.

When we examine these three conversions, we find they all did the same thing. Believed, repented, confessed and were baptized. The answer in each case

was given according to their need at that point in their obedience.

(4) Erring child of God can be saved. 1 Jno. 1:8, Acts 8:21, James 5:16 their condition of obedience in light of the scriptures are — Repentance, confession and prayer.

The Gospel of Christ is God's power to save for all. Mk. 16:15-16, Mt. 28:19-20 Lk. 24:46-47.

All will not be saved because some will not come to Christ. Jno. 5:40. But all that will come can be saved. Mt. 11:28-30.

The Gospel draws men to Christ, Jno.

All that are saved will be saved by the Gospel. Rom. 1:16.

In conclusion in every example of New Testament Conversion as recorded in Acts of Apostles. They all heard, believed and obeyed the gospel without a single exception.

Pentecostians — Acts 2
Samaritians — Acts 8:4-12
Eunuch — Acts 8:26-29
Saul — Acts 9, Acts 22
Cornelius — Acts 10:1-48
Jailer — Acts. 16:30-34
Corinthians — Acts 18:8

Thus we have this question answered who then can be saved? by example as well as by precept. The answer by precept to this question, faith repentance, confession, baptism for remission of sins.

All then who meet those conditions can be saved from past sins, and saved eternally if they continue faithful unto death. Rev. 2:10, 1 Tim. 6:12

LECTURESHIP

A lectureship was held at Brandsville, April 13 through 17, with men of the West Plains congregation doing the preaching. Bro. Orvis Grishem preached on Monday night, Burl Beck, Tuesday night, H. I. Stone, Wednesday night, Burdette Cape, Thursday night, and Fred Casey on Friday night. The theme of the lectureship was: What God has joined together, let no man put asunder.

NEWS ITEMS

Bro. Don Smith goes to Gatewood, Mo. the first and third Saturday nights to help them in their Bible classes, and to preach for them. Gatewood is located about 30 miles East of Thayer, Mo.