

# Fulton County Gospel News

"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID

VOL. 6 - : - NO. 11

MAMMOTH SPRING, ARK.

NOVEMBER - 1964

## Trust - -

Robert Henley

Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your hearts before him: God is a refuge for us. Psalms 62:8

What is "trust"? One might say faith. It goes so far beyond that. Faith will lead one to God but trust comes with a fuller knowledge and takes time to build. To trust is to rely on. It is to commit to the care of another with complete assurance, to confide. It is a component of the complete relationship between parent and child. Trust will bring a child to the parent in full confession of wrongs done with the hope and expectation of forgiveness. Trust will bring the parent to forgive and lift up the child, even tho administering punishment for the wrongs done. Trust will cause the child to confide fully in the parent, and trust will lead the parent to be prayerfully thankful for that trust and endeavor to fulfill the responsibilities placed upon them by that trust. So also, may we view the trust we should have toward God. We must trust that he will reward as well as punish. By His word we know that we shall reap just what we sow. If we sow sorrow and heartaches, so shall we reap. If we sow good counsel, joy, help and encouragement, so also shall we reap. As a child of God knows that trials and temptations will come, that because of his love for us we will be chastened, yet that trust must not falter for the one who cannot bear the chastening of the Lord is not a true child. (Heb. 12:6-7) We must, in our hearts, say as Job, "Tho he slay me, yet will I trust in him". Job 13:15. What wonderful trust was in the heart of David as he wrote: "Yea tho I walk through the valley of the shadow

## Contributions Acknowledged

Hayden Estes, Ash Flat, Ark.	\$2.00
Lynn Hixon, Eldorado Springs, Mo.	2.00
Hutch McFann, English Bluff Ark.	2.00
Mrs. Dona Baker, Mtn. Home, Ark.	1.00
Mrs. Mont Tracy, Mtn. Home, Ark.	1.00
Wesley Hylton, Keiser, Ark.	1.00
Mrs. L. D. McAbee, Thayer, Mo.	1.00
Mrs. Mary Myers, Thayer, Mo.	1.00
Mrs. Flossie Tucker, Mammoth Spring	1.00
Agnos church of Christ	5.00
Morrison church of Christ	5.00
Wheeling church of Christ	5.00
Hatfield church of Christ	5.00
Big Pond church of Christ	10.00
English Bluff church of Christ (two months)	10.00

of death, I will fear no evil" (Ps. 23:4) and again in Ps. 84:12 when he said: "O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee".

Do we, as his children, trust God? Do we confide in Him? Do we really lay out our joys, our desires, our problems and our wrongs before him? Do we in our own knowledge of ourselves come to the point where we feel that we MUST tell him? Do we in the privacy of our prayers tell him that IF we have done aught that was wrong in his sight to please forgive us; or do we as David ask: "For thy name sake O Lord, pardon my iniquity, for it is great." As we love and trust in the contrite heart of a child, so shall he consider us.

Paul evidenced a great trust in the Lord when he said; "I am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto

## News Notes . .

Brother Marvin Edd Berry and Luther Nicholson attended a meeting at Crowley Ridge Christian College on Oct. 23. This school is the youngest of our christian schools and is located at Paragould, Ark. We hope to have more about the school in the future in order to acquaint the people of this area with the school.

The young people of this area attended a meeting at the Mammoth Spring church on the second Thursday evening in October. Gene Bench spoke on responsibilities of children to parents. Parents also attended and were addressed by brother Bill Graddy on the responsibilities of parents to children.

Two were baptized by Wesley Hylton in the meeting that he conducted at Camp.

Brother Clovis Ragsdale will preach at Camp on the second Wednesday night in each month, and at Viola on the fourth Wednesday evening of each month.

The annual Bible Lectureship at Harding College will be held at Searcy on Nov. 23 - 26. The theme will be, "My God and I".

Brother Clovis Ragsdale preaches at Ravenden on the fourth Sunday morning of each month,

him against that day". Without an absolute trust we will not wholly commit ourselves to anything or anyone. Our trust in the Lord must be such as will cause us to commit without question our very souls into his keeping. "Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God, commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful creator". 1 Peter 4:19.

The manner of giving is worth more than the gift.

—Pierre Corneille

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY  
FREE SUBSCRIPTION

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID  
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Supported by  
CHURCHES OF CHRIST  
IN THIS AREA

EDITORS:  
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RICHARD ENGLAND

## "CAHOOTS" WITH GOD

Doyle Kinder

The biography of William Jennings Bryan relates a story told by him concerning the tariff and its relation to the manufacturer and the laborer. In one of his famous lectures he used the following illustration.

"A white boy said to a colored boy, 'Let's go in cahoots and go a coon hunting; you furnish the dog and climb the tree and I'll do the hollering.' They went. The white boy hollered; the colored boy furnished the dog and climbed the trees. They caught three coons. When they came to divide the white boy took them all. The colored boy asked, 'What am I going to have?' 'Why' said the white boy, 'you get the cahoots.' (Biography of W.J.B., p.79).

Have you ever heard of such bargaining? Yes, we all have. Many have gone in "cahoots" with God. They take the best of everything for themselves and then ask God to take what is left, that is if anything is left. That is going in "cahoots" with God.

With TIME some have gone in "cahoots" with God. Time to eat, sleep, be entertained, read and watch TV, but not time to study the Bible, attend church or try to bring others to Christ! It is some bargain they ask God to condone.

With GIVING some have gone in "cahoots" with God. Enough money for cars, houses, boats, plush rugs, televisions, radios, newspapers and magazines but just not enough money to give.

With TALENTS some have gone in "cahoots" with God. Many could preach, teach, lead singing, lead prayer, etc., but they are satisfied with burying their talents and giving God the "cahoots".

Jesus said, "Seek ye FIRST the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Mt. 6:33). Paul gave his entire life to Christ (Gal. 2:20). Let's never be so selfish for God will never be pleased with our going in "CAHOOTS" WITH HIM!

## The Church of the New Testament

Lynn Hixon

We hear a great deal in the religious world about "the new testament church", with several groups claiming to be just that to the exclusion of all other groups. This of course is very confusing to the individual of the world who with the Philipian jailor of old is asking, "what must I do to be saved?"

The new testament describes the "new testament" church as being one. (Eph. 4:4; 1:22-23, Matt. 16:16, John 17:20) This of course removes the so called broad minded theory that we are all right even though we all disagree. For if there is but one then there cannot be some three hundred. Neither can there be even two. This is a lesson that all of us must learn and remember, acting in harmony with this truth.

The true church is composed of Christians, (Acts 11:26) who as a group are the church of Christ. (Rom. 16:16, Acts. 4:12; 20:28). Having been built up as lively stones into a spiritual house (I Peter 2:5) we become the dwelling place of God. (Acts 2:38; 5:32, I Cor. 6:19)

This church is to worship God in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24) Remembering that we are told in Romans 6:17, that we were made

free when we obeyed from the heart it would seem safe to conclude that Jesus was making reference to the same attitude of service from the child of God as he worships the Father. If we are truly worshipping God in the spirit of love we are willing to abide by His teachings in the service we offer him. We have many examples from the old testament showing that when men added to the word of God they were severely punished for it. If it was wrong for Nadab and Abihu to offer strange fire unto the Lord (Numbers 26:61) then surely it is wrong for us to offer additions and substitutions. God has instructed us by truth (John 17:17) to Teach, Fellowship, Break Bread, Pray, (Acts 2:42) and sing making melody in our HEART (Eph. 5:19). If we will lay aside all preconceived ideas and take the word of God just for what it says we can understand these commands with no difficulty. So it is not impossible for us to worship God in spirit and in truth and it is not necessary for us to be divided into segments if we love him enough to take what he says as being our rule of faith and practice.

The question arises how does one get into the "new testament" church? God will add one to it (Acts 2:47) or translate him into it (Col. 1:13)

The conditions under which this takes place are clearly taught in the new testament. It is necessary for us to hear the Christ. (Rom. 10:14, Acts 3:23, Matt. 17:5) Hearing we must believe. (Heb. 11:6) Believing we must repent. (Acts 17:30) Repenting we must confess Christ (Rom. 10:9-10) and be baptized to be saved and added to the body. (I Peter 3:21, I Cor. 12:13).

## INTERESTING NEWS

If we really want to do a thing, we will find a way; if we don't want to do it much anyway, we will find an excuse.

It doesn't make any difference what you believe as long as it doesn't make any difference where you spend eternity.

**BIBLICAL SPICE**

Then Job answered and said,

"No doubt but ye are the people,  
And wisdom shall die with you.  
But I have understanding as well  
as you;

I am not inferior to you;  
Yea, who knoweth not such things  
as these?" (Job 12:1-3).

Then Job answered and said, "I  
have heard many such things:  
Miserable comforters are ye all.  
Shall words of wind have an end?"  
(Job 16: 1, 2).

Then Job answered and said,  
"How long will ye vex my soul,  
and  
Break me in pieces with words?"  
(Job 19: 1, 2).

My bone cleaveth to my skin and  
to my flesh,  
And I am escaped with the skin  
of my teeth. (Job 19: 20).

It is better to dwell in the corner  
of the housetop,  
Than with a contentious woman  
in a wide house. (Prov. 25:24)

The sluggard says, "There is a  
lion in the way;  
A lion is in the street." Prov. 26:  
13).

As the door turneth upon its hinges,  
So doth the sluggard upon his bed.  
(Prov. 26: 14.)

The lazy man drops his head deep  
in the dish;  
It tires him even to lift it to his  
mouth. (Prov. 26: 15)

He catches a passing dog by the  
ears  
Who meddles with a quarrel not  
his own. (Prov. 26: 17)

A continual dripping on a rainy  
day and a contentious woman  
are alike;  
To restrain her is to restrain the  
wind  
Or to grasp oil in his right hand.  
(Prov. 27: 15, 16)

Withhold not correction from the  
child  
For if thou beat him with the rod,  
he will not die. (Prov. 23: 13)

**FROM THE PREACHER'S  
DESK:** — Jesus Christ lived some  
33 years upon this earth, yet dur-  
ing this short life, had more in-  
fluence upon the minds and the  
lives of the world's inhabitants  
than any other man who ever liv-  
ed. During the three years of his  
personal ministry He laid the foun-  
dation both in teaching and prac-  
tice to govern all the generations  
to follow. You and I realize the  
power of His influence upon our  
own lives, but do we realize the  
fact that since we're called "Chris-  
tians", our influence is to be such  
that we cause others to Glorify  
Him? What kind of influence do  
we have upon the world? What if  
every member of the Lord's  
church was like me? Each of us  
should ask this question of our-  
selves, and then check over the  
various practices of our lives in  
order to determine the amount of  
light we have. Would we have  
Bible classes? Would service be-  
gin on time? Would we have Sun-  
day and Wednesday evening ser-  
vices? Could we say that Christ  
was truly remembered when par-  
taking of the Lord's Supper? How  
much praying would be done?  
Would there be a song service?  
Could the work of the church be  
continued or would it be stopped  
for lack of finances? If any of us  
have a RIGHT to miss services,  
be late habitually, fail to pray,  
refuse to sing, etc., then all other  
members have the same right.  
Does our influence tend to build  
up the church and save souls?  
**EACH ONE WIN ONE IN 1964!**

Bob Hilburn

**SUCCESS**

Success is a wonderful thing!  
Who doesn't like to succeed? We  
like to succeed in our business, in  
our profession, in school, in home  
life and also in the church. In or-  
der to succeed there are some pre-  
requisites that must be met. Let  
us consider a few of them.

1. Faith is necessary to success.  
Just a little faith will suffice. Our  
faith must be great and active in  
order to reach the mountain of  
success. How great is our faith  
when it comes to the work of the  
Lord?

2. The second prerequisite to  
success is determination. A busi-  
ness man will not succeed unless  
he is determined. A marriage will  
not succeed unless both parties  
are determined. Just that sure the  
church will not progress unless  
members of the church are deter-  
mined. Enthusiasm is a good thing  
to mix with determination.

3. Unity is likewise necessary to  
success. "United we stand, divid-  
ed we fall." Brethren must be  
united and, as one, march onward  
to victory under the bloodstained  
banner of Prince Emmanuel. When  
brethren are of one mind,  
heart and soul, the church will  
progress.

The field is white unto harvest.  
Opportunities are great! Let us  
open our eyes and lift up our spir-  
its and accept the challenge that  
is before us as people of God to  
go forward to greater things.

Charles Elledge Hill

**IT CANNOT BE DENIED**

1. IT CANNOT BE DENIED  
that most of those who do not at-  
tend Bible study do not attend the  
other services faithfully either.

2. IT CANNOT BE DENIED  
that most of those who do not at-  
tend Bible study cannot be de-  
pendent on to help in the work of  
the church.

3. IT CANNOT BE DENIED  
that many who do not attend Bible  
study make many excuses for  
their idleness.

4. IT CANNOT BE DENIED  
that the greatest percent of those  
who quit coming to worship, first  
dropped out of Bible study.

5. IT CANNOT BE DENIED  
that those who do not attend Bible  
study usually do not study their  
Bibles at home.

6. IT CANNOT BE DENIED  
that those who attend Bible study  
regularly have a greater know-  
ledge of the Bible than those who  
do not attend.

Brethren, think on these things,  
and if you are not now enrolled in  
a Bible class be sure you enroll  
this Sunday! Sel.

If you trust, you will not worry;  
if you worry, you do not trust.

## Is Church Attendance Necessary

Clovis Ragsdale

In almost every congregation of the church there will be some who will be absent from worship service every time the saints come together. A few will be providentially hindered. By this we mean sickness, absence of transportation, and things over which they have no control. Most of those absent will be because they did not make preparation to attend or just plain did not want to go. Their actions show that they do not believe church attendance is necessary.

The Bible teaches that church attendance is necessary. In Heb. 10:25 the command is plain. "For-sake not the assembling of ourselves together" and is applicable to christians of all generations just as it was to those to whom Hebrews was written. "As the manner of some is" suggests that some people were careless about church attendance in those times just as some are today. Paul told the Corinthian brethren to lay by in store when they would come together upon the first day of the week. 1 Cor. 16:2 It is said that Paul preached to the disciples when they came together upon the first day of the week. Acts 20:7, Church historians tell how christians would come together on what they called the Lord's day and how worship was carried on. The early day christians understood the necessity of assembling.

Let us discuss some of the reasons why we should attend the worship service each time the church comes together.

(1) To show our love for the Lord. John quotes the Savior as saying in John 14:15, "if ye love me keep my commandments."

(2) To be edified. This means to be strengthened. Paul commanded the Thessalonian brethren to comfort yourselves together, and edify one another. When we meet together and discuss what the scriptures teach the result will be

to learn how to be a better servant. Christians are compared to as sheep and the church as a sheepfold. Sheep have to be fed and cared for. In John 21:16, Christ said to Peter, "feed my sheep". When we come together and study the Bible, we receive spiritual food, for a christian to grow and remain strong he must receive food.

(3) To set a good example. When one becomes a christian he goes on trial before the world. Has he not become a representative of Jesus Christ? If he fails to go to worship it suggests to the world that this one does not believe Christ is this important after all.

(4) We must assemble to commemorate the Lord's death. The death of Christ on the cross means more to the christian than any other single event. Without it there would be no remission of sin and no hope of being saved. In observing the Lord's supper christians are constantly reminded of this and of the fact that he will come again. By keeping this before us constantly, we can live a better life. The Lord, in his great wisdom, knew that we would need to be constantly reminded of it, hence the giving of the Supper and the instruction to keep it upon the first day of the week. How often? The Bible says to do it on the first day of the week and not a week. There are fifty two first days of the week in a year.

Other reasons could be given but surely these are sufficient to answer the question asked in the title of this article. May those who read this article give diligent study and consideration to the things taught and then practice them in your life, so that heaven may be your home in the great eternity.

## Pure in Heart . . .

By Felix Davis

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." (Matt. 5:8).

Purity of life is essential to living the true Christian Like life. When sin and evil thoughts enter

the human mind, clean christian living becomes difficult because sin drives out the purity in the mind and creates evil desires instead of obedience to God's word.

When parents fail to teach boys and girls the lessons of virtue that they need to know, they grow up without spiritual food to develop Christ like character.

The styles and customs of modern days cause young girls to believe they have to wear shorts and other unsightly attire. The TV programs we allow in our homes are unclean when they show mixed bathing, dancing, strip tease shows, social drinking, gambling, shooting and murder. Who can be with the youth at all times to teach what is wrong to see, except their minds be prepared by Bible teaching so they can discern good and evil? Also the trashy literature sold on some newsstands is a disgrace to civilization.

The young people and children should be taught to sing, then when they obey the Gospel of Christ boys are apt to respond when called on to help in song services in church and to direct song services if they are trained to sing before the assembled church. To drift along with no vision into the future, when adult christians become aged and their voices weak, is neglect which weakens the church.

Many adults cannot sing the scale of eight shaped notes as used in our church song books but sing by memory. This is good but how can young people sing when they are too afraid of making mistakes? One good Singing School should be taught in every congregation one each year so that all may learn to praise God in song. (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; 1 Cor. 14:15).

"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shame facedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;

But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works." (1 Tim. 2: 9, 10).

All service ranks the same with God.

—Robert Browning