

# Fulton County Gospel News

"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID

VOL. 6 - : - NO. 6

MAMMOTH SPRING, ARK.

JUNE - 1964

## Meeting Schedule

ALTON, MO.: June 24 - July 2  
Doyle Kinder

MORRISTON, ARK.: July 24-31  
Doyle Kinder

CLARKRIDGE, ARK.: Aug. 24 -  
Sept. 2 - O. L. Grisham

BYRON, ARK.: July 6 - 12  
Doyle Kinder

BAKERSFIELD, MO.: Aug. 1 - 8  
Doyle Kinder

ELIZABETH, ARK. July 8 - 14

ENGLISH BLUFF: June 29 - July  
8 - Arthur C. Blackwell

GATEWOOD, MO.: June 15 - 24  
Gene Bench

THAYER, MO.: June 29 - July 5 -  
Joe Hazelbacker

MOODY, MO.: July 20 - 29  
Gene Bench

AGNOS, ARK.: July 13 - 22  
Richard England

MAMMOTH SPRING: July 27 -  
August 5 - C. W. Whitten

BROSELEY, MO.: Aug. 17 - 26  
Richard England

## News Notes . .

The church at Mammoth is conducting a mens training class on Friday night of each week. At present they are studying the qualifications of elders and deacons. They especially invite men of the neighboring congregations to attend this class.

The church at Union Hill enjoyed a good meeting with three being baptized. Brother Clovis Ragsdale did the preaching.

Any congregations needing a preacher for a meeting or who would like to have appointment preaching on Sunday night or Wednesday nights, please contact the editors of this paper.

Brother Boyd Morgan will preach at Morrilton on the fourth Sunday in June. This will be the annual homecoming with dinner on the

ground and singing in the afternoon.

The church at Salem is constructing a dwelling on the property owned by the congregation for a preachers home.

Bro. Wesley Hylton of Carthage, Mo. will be moving, July 1. to work with the church at Keiser, Ark.

## Acknowledge Contributions

SALEM CHURCH OF CHRIST ..... \$ 5.00

MORRISTON CHURCH OF CHRIST ..... 5.00

ENGLISH BLUFF CHURCH OF CHRIST ..... 5.00

WHEELING CHURCH OF CHRIST ..... 5.00

AGNOS CHURCH OF CHRIST ..... 5.00

Noel McFann, Myrtle, Mo. .... 2.00

R. R. Hicks, Mammoth Spring ..... 2.00

Mrs. Herbert Jeffery, Jr., Flint, Mich. .... 2.00

Hutch McFann, Myrtle, Mo. 2.00

Carmel Davis, Hardy, Ark..... 5.00

R. E. Kissenger, Ash Flat, Ark. .... 1.00

T. J. Evans, Ash Flat, Ark.. 1.00

Noble McFann, Myrtle, Mo. 2.00

## The Mind's Eye

After hearing the sermon, the skeptic requested permission to speak. He said: Friends, I don't believe what this man has just told us concerning punishments and rewards after this life. When we die, we die. That's all! I have never seen the things this man speaks of as coming after this life, therefore, they do not exist." He then sat down,

## The "we" Feeling

Before one is of great value to the church, he must possess the "we" feeling. As long as he has the "they" feeling, he will do little.

What do we mean by this? Here it is: When you talk of the Lord's work, do you do so in terms of "We are going to do so and so", or do you say, "They did this and so." If you use "they" it indicates that you have no feeling of responsibility to do your part; no feeling of belonging. You feel that you should be ministered unto rather than to minister. You feel you should be visited instead of visiting. You feel that you should be sought instead of seeking. You feel you should be the recipient of friendliness instead of being friendly.

Don't be an outsider looking in; be an insider pitching in.  
- Just a Moment.

Another man arose, and said: "Friends, you say there is a river not far from here. That is not true. You say that around the building there are trees and grass and a garden of roses near the building also. I say I don't believe it. You tell me that there are people in this building. I don't believe that either. I have never seen any of these things, for you see, I am blind. I was born blind. I have never seen a human face. I have never seen the grass or the trees or the beautiful roses about which you speak. But even though I cannot see these things which I have mentioned with my physical eye, I know they exist, for I, with my mind's eye, see them ever so clearly. The man who has just spoken to you is blind, also. He is **spiritually blind!**"

# Fulton County Gospel News

**PUBLISHED MONTHLY  
FREE SUBSCRIPTION**

**SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID  
MAMMOTH SPRING, ARK.**

Supported by  
**CHURCHES OF CHRIST  
IN THIS AREA**

**EDITORS:  
CLOVIS RAGSDALE  
RICHARD ENGLAND**

## Repent or Perish

By Clovis Ragsdale

Christ said in Luke 13:3, "I tell you nay, but except you repent ye shall all likewise perish." Peter said to the Jews assembled on the day of Pentecost, in answer to their question of what shall we do, "repent and be baptized." In the eleventh chapter of Luke, in the account of the conversion of Cornelius, the statement was made that God hath also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life. Some years later Paul said to the people of Athens, "and the times of ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent."

The above statements show the importance of repentance. When Paul said that God now commands all men everywhere he covered a lot of time and territory. This teaches that in the Christian age, or the time from the day of Pentecost until the end of time, repentance would be absolutely necessary for one to be a Christian and be saved.

What is repentance? Some say that is Godly sorrow or a feeling of remorse for having failed to do what was right. It is true that

Godly sorrow is a part of repentance, but repentance means more than this. When one repents he changes his way of life. Godly sorrow leads to repentance. When a sinner repents he changes his way of life, to the extent that he no longer partakes of sinful practices. He no longer serves Satan. He changes his citizenship from the Kingdom of Satan to that of the Kingdom of Christ. The decision to change has to be made in the heart of the individual. No one can repent for another. He may encourage another to repent. Paul said in Philippians 2:12, to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. The individual has to arrive at the stage of repentance through an attitude of mind which leads him to desire to change his ways to conform with the commands of God. When he reaches this attitude it is easy to confess Christ as the Son of God and to submit to the rite of baptism. He becomes a part of the saved that are added to the church or family of God that is spoken of in Acts 2:47. If one is never able to reach a state of repentance he will perish or be lost. The Lord himself is the author of this conclusion as our opening statement records.

So far we have wrote of repentance as it applies to the alien sinner. Repentance is also necessary in the life of the Christian. No man can live above sin in the respect that after we are pardoned from alien or past sins, we never commit another sin. John, in writing to Christians, stated in 1 John 1:10 that we lie to say that we have not sinned. He tells what we can do about our mistakes in the first two verses of the second chapter. We are to ask forgiveness through Christ. A good illustration of this is found in the eight chapter of Acts. Simon, a sorcerer, who had become a Christian, and seeing the apostles laying hands on people to impart to them the Holy Ghost, offered money for this gift. Peter told him that he had sinned and for him to repent and pray God to forgive him of his wickedness. Whenever a child of God sins today he must first re-

pent and then ask for forgiveness. Thus we see that repentance is a part of our lives as long as we live. To be successful in going to Heaven we must develop and maintain a repentant heart as long as we live upon this earth.

## What You Can Do for the Services

1. Attend.
2. Be enthusiastic. Let your neighbors know that you have services regularly and that you want them to attend.
3. Do not attend a service to "get something out of it," but to "put something into it" - your thought, your love, your sympathy, your money. To be sure you will "Get something out of the service" if you put something into it.
4. When you miss a fellow-member, phone him or visit him. Do not assign this duty to another - do it yourself.
5. When a visitor is seen, make it a point to greet him before he gets away. He is your guest. You are the host. Invite him to return.
6. Become a hearty participant in every act of worship— the singing, the prayers, the sermon, the Lord's supper and the giving.
7. If you are in the act of offering worship unto the Lord and there remember that your brother holds something against you, turn back and become reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your worship.
8. Go to worship God, not to be worshipped or petted by the brethren. Worship God in spirit and in truth; for God is a Spirit. -The Reminder.

By the time a man gets old enough to watch his step, he isn't going anywhere.

You can't take your money with you but you can send it on up ahead.

## Nikita, Not the Only One

O. L. Grisham

"There is much in Christ common to us Communists. Only I cannot agree with Him when He says that when you are hit on the right cheek, you should turn the left. I believe in another principle. If someone hits me on the right cheek, I hit on the left cheek so hard his head may fall off."

Yes, Nikita argues the word of Jesus! He is not the only one, for many today will argue with Christ has said through His divine word, the Bible.

**ABOUT THE CHURCH:** Some argue: "I cannot agree with Jesus, when He says that the church belongs to him and that He has all authority in Heaven and in earth." (Mt. 28: 18; Col. 1: 18) Further they say: "I do not believe there is only one church that belongs to Christ, I believe there are many churches that belongs to Him. And, even though the Bible speaks of the church as being "The Bride of Christ", (Rev. 21:9; Rom. 7: 1-4), I still cannot agree with the fact. I believe in another principle: I believe that Christ has many churches in spite of what is taught in the word of God, I believe that He has more than one bride, in spite of the fact that the word says that if a person has more than one wife (bride) he would be a bigamist." (Mt. 16:18; Eph. 1:22, 23; Col. 1:24).

They further say: "Even though Christ's word says that we must either serve Him or Mammon, and that we cannot serve two masters; I still believe we may join the church of our choice, serve any religion we so desire, and practice just about anything we want to in religion, just so we are sincere." (Matt. 15:8-14; Ac. 2:47; Ac. 26:9; 23:1). They say: "Even so, the Bible teaches that we are bought with Christ's blood, that He gave His blood to purchase the Church, that we are washed from sin in His blood, that we are baptized into Christ's death - where

He shed His blood, that we are washed from our sins by obeying His command to be baptized, and-and-and: I cannot agree with the Bible. I believe in another principle. I do not believe the church has anything to do with our salvation, and that we can be saved through many different ways, and that surely baptism has nothing to do with the salvation of our souls." (See Ac. 20: 28; Eph. 5: 23-31; Ac. 22: 16; 2: 38; 10:46-48; Rev. 22:14; 1 Pet. 3: 20-23).

Where do you stand in regards to the teaching of the Bible? Do you argue with the teaching of the Bible, or do you submit to its infallible instructions?

The Bible teaches that if a person will hear and believe the gospel, repent of sins, confess the Lord before men, and be baptized for the remission of sins; that the Lord will save your soul. And, by continuing faithful until death, you will receive a crown of life that fadeth not away. Will you argue with this? See Acts 2: 36-47; Rev. 2:10 etc).

P.S. This is No. two of a series of articles.

## Just the Facts - -

In a recent year over three billion gallons of liquor were consumed in the nation. Per person this was 18.95 gallons!

About 4½ million people in the United States are alcoholics. Of this total about three-fourths of a million are women.

Three out of four college students are drinkers. In the 1959 fall term, 3,404,297 students were enrolled in college. Think of 75 percent of the very flower of youth being imbibers! How long can America be strong? In Christian colleges this problem is rare. The Christian college is one of the great forts in America for morality, decency, and sobriety.

According to Dr. Andrew Ivy, professor of the department of Physiology, University of Illinois, one out of every sixgeen "social drinkers" becomes an alcoholic, and one in nine becomes a "pro-

blem drinker." On what grounds can a thinking person justify or condone even cocktail drinking! It is too risky to begin such a practice.

Via — Crestview Bulletin  
Waco, Texas

## WHERE DOES THE LORD COME IN YOUR BUDGET?

Where does the Lord come in your budget? First, second, third or last? Many people are honestly seeking a plan by which they may give to the Lord with confidence that the amount they are giving is acceptable. May we suggest some practical ideas which we believe will help?

1. First, this principal must be understood and believed: "But seek ye first his Kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:33)
2. Secondly, the Lord does require a plan. "Let each man do according as he has purposed in his heart." (2 Cor. 9:7)
3. Decide on a definite percentage. Do this before figuring everything else.
4. Set aside that amount every time you get paid. The Lord comes first.
5. Give it every Lord's day. If prospered anything, the Lord must receive something. (1 Cor. 16:2)
6. If sick or out of town and you have been prospered, give the same percentage at your home congregation when you return or mail it in. You have still been prospered and the work of the church must still be carried on. "For each man shall bear his own burden." (Gal. 6:5)
7. Stick to it no matter what emergency arises. The Lord will not let you be without the necessities of life. (Psa. 37: 25, 28).

You will never know the blessings derived from giving until you give! Where does the Lord come in your budget?

Springdale, Ark. Church Bulletin.

## Life After Death

Richard England  
Mammoth Spring, Arkansas

One of the reasons many fear death is that they do not have an understanding of life after death. We have heard the word "ghost" so much and connected it with those who have departed this life that we have an idea that life after death is a mysterious, vapor-like type of existence, in which we float around in nothingness. This is not what God tells us of the time to come. If we could comprehend the reality of life and existence after death, we might feel as Paul did that it would be better to depart and be with Christ.

Consider the reality of this life we now have. We are beings with a body, consciousness, feelings, able to enjoy good things, able to experience happiness having knowledge of the things and circumstances about us, loving and being loved. Many other things could be said to signify the reality of our being, but these will suffice to be used to show the reality of life after death.

If you think this life is worth while, notice what the Bible says about these same things in the life to come. The very things which one would list as making this life unpleasant at times will all be erased and the qualities that make us want to hold on to this life will be ours in a greater measure. Concerning the body, Paul says: "But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come! Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: and that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: but God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body. All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one and the

glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: it is sown in dishonour; it is raised a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body." (1 Cor. 15: 35-44) On through the remainder of the chapter he goes showing that we will have a new body that will far excel this present body. He does not give us the idea that we will not have the reality of a body, but rather that we will have reaction than that which we now have. Whereas this body is weak and decays, the new body will be strong and eternal. In fact, we shall have an existence like unto that of Jesus Christ Himself. "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." (1 John 3:2) The absence of the unpleasant things of this life is promised in Revelation 21: 4. "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Paul says in Galatians 6:8 that "he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." In the book of Hebrews the writer gives a long list of faithful men who did many things "that they might obtain a better resurrection". He further says that God has provided "better things for us". Paul felt that he was ready to die and receive the "crown of righteousness" which God would give him and all other faithful men. This type of life is given to us through the love of God and Christ. This love goes beyond that which we have even for those who treat us well. God loved us when we were rebellious toward Him.

The things of this life that are pleasant make us want to hold on to it with all our power. If we fully

realized the greatness of the life to come we would be more interested in securing it than any thing pertaining to earthly existence. Jesus said: "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matt. 6:19, 20) Paul said: "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affections on things above not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." (Col. 3: 1-4) In order to lay up treasures in heaven, and to set our affection on things above, we must deny self, give this life as a living sacrifice, take up our cross, follow (obey) Christ. Study your Bible carefully, it is God's message to you as to how to obtain this greater life after death.

### WHAT IS CHARITY?

It's silence when your words would hurt,  
It's patience when your neighbor's curt,  
It's deafness when the scandal flows,  
It's thoughtfulness for another's woes,  
It's promptness when stern duty calls,  
It's courage when misfortune falls.  
- Via - Herald of Truth,  
Wichita, Kansas

"I'd rather walk in the dark with God  
Than go alone in the light.  
I'd rather walk by faith with Him  
Than go alone by sight."

If you have not time to do it right, when will you have time to do it over?

Prayer changes things.