

# Fulton County Gospel News

"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

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## We Must Not Elect A Roman Catholic As President

Boyd E. Morgan

The general idea is to keep the church out of Politics, but that idea will not work when it comes to turning the reins of our great government over to one who is subject to a foreign power. Our battle is spiritual and our foe is a religious body whose aim is to unite the church and state. We war not against flesh and blood but against spiritual wickedness in high places. In this case the Catholic church truly is a foe in high places.

Newspapers reported Kennedy's victory in Wisconsin due to the fact that "Roman Catholic voters expressed themselves in a solid block". Do you think Catholics will be at the polls to vote in the forth coming election? Remember that Senator Kennedy has behind him the untold wealth of the Roman Catholic church and Roman Catholic voters of both parties will swarm to the polls to back their Catholic choice. Very few Catholics, if any, in the Republican Party will vote for a Protestant when they have a Catholic choice.

If any feel that the Roman Catholic Church has no designs upon America and the government of America, let them read well this quotation carried by the American Christian Review recently of the Writings of S. D. Phelan, Editor, The Western Watchman Roman Catholic 1912. "We of the Roman Catholic Church are ready to go to death for the church. Tell us we think more of the church than we do the United States. Of course we do! Tell us in the conflict between the church and the Civil government we take the side of the church. Of course we do! Why, if the government of the United States were at war with the church, we would say, "To hell with the Government of

## NEWS

There has been a change in the time of the services at Union Hill. They will meet at ten o'clock each Lords Day.

Brother Boyd Morgan visited the church at Pilot on Thursday evening, October 13. He discussed the possibilities of the Junior College at Paragould.

One was restored at Jeff on the second Sunday in October. Brother Clovis Ragsdale preaches there on the second Sunday in each month.

the United States!" and if the church and all Governments of the world were at war we would say, "To hell with all governments of the world!" Why? The Pope is ruler of the world."

There you have it! Why should we not oppose the election of a man whose allegiance to foreign head conflict with Americanism. A man has a right to allow his religion to influence his vote if he so desires. Religion is of vital importance to the welfare of every one of us. The use of the vote to help preserve our American principles is a legitimate act for every Christian. If bigotry is being displayed in the 1960 campaign, the responsibility for it is not solely upon the non-Catholic.

We do not fight Mr. Kennedy as a man. We do not fight the Democratic Party. We are fighting the Catholic Church and her infiltration of our government. As chief executive of the U. S. our President exercises tremendous power and influence in all of our government. Considering, (1) his allegiance to a foreign political state (vatican City) (2) the question of diplomatic representation of the U. S. at the Vatican; (3) federal aid to parochial schools; (4) governmental policies which affect Catholic theology and (5) the Catholic way of uniting the church and the state. We must not elect a Roman Catholic as President. Call it bigotry or what you wish, it will be a sad day when our President is any man who is subject to the Pope of Rome.

## Doyle Kinder Works With Church at Salem

The church at Salem, Ark. has employed Brother Doyle Kinder to work full time with them. He becomes the second preacher in the county to work full time. Boyd Morgan of Mammoth Spring is the other one.

Brother Kinder is a Fulton County man, having been raised at Sturkie. He attended Harding and Freed-Hardeman college. He is married and the father of two children.

We are personally acquainted with Brother Kinder and believe the Salem congregation has made a wise choice in selecting this fine young man to labor with them and we expect much good to come from this arrangement. Brother Kinder has promised to write articles for this paper which will be appearing in the future.

## Contributions Acknowledged

Welcome Hill Church of Christ	— \$5.00
Morrison Church of Christ	..... 5.00
Salem Church of Christ	..... 5.00
Lon McCarthy, Viola	..... 1.00
Edd Harris, Viola	..... 1.00
Johnny Needles, Winona, Mo.	..... 1.00
W. R. Maynard, Mt. Home, Ark	.... 1.00
Kenneth Maynard, Mt. Home	..... 1.00
Thurlow Arnett, Gamaliel, Ark.	— 1.00
Orbie Robbins, Elizabeth, Ark.	.... 1.00

Ignorance needs no words of wisdom; it usually makes itself known.

The devil's traps are never set in the middle of God's road.

Brother Doyle Kinder preaches at Morrison each fourth Friday night.

Fulton County Gospel News

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Clovis Ragsdale  
Boyd Morgan

## Faith In Eclipse

Wesley Hylton

Mt. 16:15,16, "He sayeth unto them, but whom say ye that I am? and Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Here Peter acknowledges a fundamental truth, that Jesus is God's Son. Yet in days to come, he violently denies his Lord. Even though the Lord had proven His Sonship beyond doubt, Peter still denies Him. Why? Evidently his faith had gone into a temporary eclipse.

Once before Peter had been the victim of a faltering faith. The Lord had invited him to walk on water. Peter started, but his faith grew weak, and he began to sink. Read Mt. 14:22,33, Jesus told him, "O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt." Had Peter not doubted, he would have succeeded. Such is the case today. By putting aside our fears and doubts, we could accomplish much more for the Lord. Peter looked about and seeing "the wind boisterous, he was afraid." Instead of realizing that Christ is with us, and that nothing can stand against us, we often look at the opposition or problem to be overcome, then decide that we can't do much after all. Our faith has faded.

The forerunner of Christ, John the Baptist, also became the victim of a weakening faith. He didn't doubt that the Messiah would come. However, he wasn't sure that Jesus was the one he was looking for. Only a short time before his doubt, he had greeted the Lord with these words, "Behold, the lamb of God." No he itating or doubt here. He readily recognized Jesus as God's Son. At that time he was, of course, guided by the Holy Spirit. The opposite

seems to be the case in Mt. 11: 2-3. "Now when John had heard in prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, and said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?" Not being inspired, at the time of the above question, his faith in Christ as the Messiah has weakened. He still has faith in the Messiah coming, but wonders if Jesus is the one, or should he look for another.

Friend, how many times has your faith grown weak? How many times have you doubted? How many times have you wondered if your labor is in vain? Remember these words of Paul, 1 Cor. 15:58, "for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." Take heart, profit by the example of others.

We are constantly reminded throughout the Bible to remain faithful to the Lord, to the very end. Rev. 2:10, "be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." Gal. 6:9, "And let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Mt. 10:22, "but he that endureth to the end shall be saved." Those who allow their faith to grow weak, or go into an eclipse, are in danger. They need to rally their remaining forces, and fight off the lethargy that is causing defeat. They must return to their first love, if they expect to enjoy salvation.

David, who sinned grievously, knew the joy of having the Lord forgive him. He knew the joy of escaping eternal condemnation. In Psalm 51:8 he says, "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation." David had reached a point in life where there was no joy in serving the Lord. As a result, he was easily led astray. The prophet Nathan told him a story that touched his heart. Read 1 Sam. 12:1-7. David became so angry at the wicked man in this story that he was going to kill him. The prophet then showed David where he had sinned. To his everlasting credit he repented. He did not allow his faith to stay in eclipse.

When temptations and trials beset us, will we cling to the Rock of Ages, or will our faith weaken and grow dim? Will the things of the world cause our faith to go into an eclipse? We will be tried in many ways. Some of these trials may come when least expected. One difficulty may be surmounted only

to be faced with another. Defeat may stare us in the face. It may seem useless to continue the fight against temptation. At such times it will be well to recall these words of our Saviour, "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Then too, also remember that He will not forsake us, He will not suffer us to be tempted above that which we are able to bear, but will provide a way of escape. Daily communing with the Lord will strengthen our faith. Regularity in worship and service to the Lord allows us to grow in grace and knowledge. As time passes our faith grows stronger. Temptations and trials are easier to bear. Our faith is not likely to become eclipsed under such circumstances.

The parable of the Sower, Lk. 8, reveals the results of a faith that has stumbled. They received the word with great joy, and served for awhile, but when adversity came they wilted. Their faith was not rooted and grounded in the principles taught by our Saviour. They allowed their faith to go into an eclipse.

There may come a time when the whole world seems to be full of wickedness. It may look so gloomy and dark that it would seem impossible for anyone to be faithful to God. Elijah at one time thought he was the only one left faithful. However, God told him that He had reserved seven thousand who had not "bowed unto Baal." For a short time Elijah's faith weakened. He seemed to think that God could not protect him from his enemies. He soon learned differently. The Lord will always be with us. He will never fail. The same cannot be said for us. Lack of faith sometimes betrays us. It causes us to do things we shouldn't.

We are too much like Peter was at one time. He took his eyes off the Lord, and looked at things around him. We frequently do the same thing. By keeping our eyes centered on Christ we can avoid these momentary lapses of faith. Remember when Peter denied the Lord. He didn't think of himself as being a traitor, or coward. Like so many of us, in a time of danger, we think only of our own welfare. Had the Lord acted from that point of view, we would all be without hope today. Peter allowed the human element to overcome the principles he had recently learned from

the Lord. However, such ideals cannot long be overshadowed. He soon came to himself. A little incident reminded him of something that had been said previously. Jesus had told Peter that he would deny him. When the cock crowed Peter remembered these words. He went outside and wept bitterly.

It is interesting to note that the Lord didn't say a word to Peter, at that time. He just looked at him. Sometimes the eyes can express more than words. Very few people can keep their eye from revealing their feelings. The eyes are a mirror of the soul. The Lord didn't have to speak. Peter knew what He was thinking.

There are many today who at one time were faithful children of God. For some reason they have allowed their faith to wane. It is pitiful to think that some will serve the Lord fervently for a few years, and then allow some trivial thing to discourage them. So near, and yet, so far. The day of salvation is nearer than when we believed. We should pass the time of our earthly stay in meekness and godly fear.

From ages past, parents have been grieved by the inconsiderate conduct of their children. In spite of how wayward the children may be, the parents still love them. They long to be loved in return. The Lord longs for His prodigal children to return. They have turned aside "everyone to his own way."

There is a lot of pathos in these words of Jesus, "Ye will not come unto me, that ye may have life." If those who have left the Lord, and His service, had someone treat them as they have treated the Saviour, it wouldn't take them long to make up their minds to do something about it. Their continued disregard grieves the Lord. He wants them back in the fold. He wants them to be saved. Wayward son or daughter won't you return? Your faith has been in eclipse long enough! It is time to "awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead."

### A LITTLE MINUTE

I have just a little minute,  
Only sixty seconds in it,  
Forced upon me, can't refuse it,  
Didn't seek it, didn't choose it.  
But it's up to me to use it;  
I must suffer if I abuse it.  
Just a tiny little minute,

## The Four Biggest Fools

Orbie Robbins, Elizabeth, Ark.

The Bible presents unto us the four biggest fools. Usually when the word fool is used we think of one who is void of intelligence but this is a mistaken idea. One can be a fool and yet be very intelligent.

The first biggest fool we want to consider is the ATHEISTIC FOOL. The Atheist denies the existence of God and his power and argues that man is a power within himself, and that when he dies he is just like the little dog Rover it is all over or no hereafter.

Now the Bible says he is a fool. The Psalmist David said the heavens declare his glory and the firmaments his handiwork. So the things of nature declare that there is a God, because man could not have created the heavens, neither could he have placed the moon, stars, sun and other planets in the universe. God only could do this, so the evidence declares that God is supreme in power. Yet the Atheist declares there is no God.

David said the fool has said in his heart there is no God. Ps. 14:1. This truth considered designates the Atheist as a fool. Again man's intelligence can create nothing. If it can let it create a world entirely unlike the one we live in. Man cannot do this and this proves that God created the present world.

The way that the universe is controlled argues the existence of God. The germ of life in the grain of wheat or corn or any other seed proves the existence of God. With these evidences and even the Bible as evidence that God is the Atheist still says there is no God. So he is one of the biggest fools in the world, David being witness to that fact. (Psalm 14:1)

The second biggest fool is the one who hears the word of God and does not obey it. Mt. 7:21-27

(1) He is a fool because his Salvation is conditional. Heb. 5:8-9, Acts 10:34-35, 2 Thess. 1:7-9.

(2) He is a fool for not obeying the word because the soul is worth more than all the world. Mt. 16:26. Jesus said "What would a man be profited if he should gain the whole world and lose

his soul or what would a man give in exchange for his soul.

(3) He is a fool because obedience to the word make us better while we live. I Pet. 2:1-2, Acts 20:32.

It comforts us in life and death. Rom. 15:4, 1 Thess. 4:13-18. We will be judged by it. Jno. 12:48.

The third biggest fool is the one who obeys the Gospel and does not live it. Gal. 3-1. The alien sinner is lost. 2 Thess. 1:7-9. The lost Christian is in a worse condition. 2 Pet. 2:20-22. The Christian life is one of service. Rom. 12:1-2, Heb. 2:1-3. Eternal salvation is promised to the faithful. Mt. 24:13, Rev. 2:10, I Tim. 6:12.

The fourth biggest fool is the RICH FOOL pictured in Lk. 12:16-20. I am glad Jesus labeled this picture and called him a fool because you and I might have called it a success.

How did Jesus know he was a fool? Not from the man himself, nor from his neighbor. One cannot know a fool by what he says to his wife or preacher, nor by the way he looks, talks, or acts, but by his thinking.

In what did this man's foolishness consist? Notice what it was not.

(1) Not because he made money, nor did he make it dishonestly.

(2) It was not because he saved it.

What then did his foolishness consist of?

(1) In the first place he left God out of his life.

(2) He left his wife and children and fellowman out of the picture.

(3) He thought he had a lease on life.

(4) He made no preparation for the next life.

(5) He thought the material things of life would bring happiness.

This rich fool was rich in this life but a pauper spiritually when he came to the end of the way.

The richest individual on earth is the one who puts God first in their life and lives a consecrated and faithful Christian life unto death. Failure to do this classes one as a fool in the sight of God.

Are you acting foolishly or wisely? Are you building upon the rock or upon the sand?

Think about this. Mt. 7:24-27.

## EXTREMISTS?

Delton Haun

Extremists? Let us see. I recall the Church of Christ missionaries in Italy and the difficulties they encountered just to preach the gospel there. Time after time we had to write Washington to help those men we supported overseas. It was even a battle just to keep a church sign on the side of the building indicating where our brethren were meeting.

And I recall when a young man desires to marry a Roman Catholic girl she either leaves the church or the young man must promise to rear the children in the Catholic faith. Thus, to marry the girl he must "marry the church."

And I recall the young Spanish Americans in Denver City, Texas who once attended Bible classes where I preached who were later forbidden to do so by the local priest when he learned of it. They dropped out. We heard they were told to "have headaches" unless they saw the priest at least once a week. Their mother had to "do penance" for attending services with us.

And more recently, I recall the four families in Flagler, Colorado who refused to accept a small tract I wrote on the ground they were Catholics, yet there are those who think I and my brethren are extremists if we refuse to vote for a man, who if held true to form, would refuse to read anything I or my brethren write about the Bible.

One thing about it, we make up our own minds about such things. Preachers point out the advantages or disadvantages of a given matter and we make up our own minds what we ought to do. If we don't go along with their thinking they don't make us "do penance" for having disobeyed the church. We fear that system where such authority is claimed that a hierarchy can stop the ears and close the eyes of those members of it while urging others to "investigate the Roman Catholic Church." I would fear any man in the highest office of the land who is a loyal subject of such a system.

## Winona As A Result Of Our Last Plea

Besides interested individuals who contributed \$47 to the Winona church, the following churches contributed as follows: Jeff \$100; Agnos \$50; Pilot \$40; Viola \$100; Welcome Hill \$25; Mammoth Spring \$50; Moten \$36.30. Others may have sent by the time you receive this paper. Some have agreed to help whose money is not yet collected. With help received and promised, the brethren have begun their building. The house will be 24 ft. by 32 ft. The Thayer church will contribute seats, pulpit, and communion table. Thayer has ordered new furniture for their meeting house and will contribute the ones they now have.

Since the fourth Sunday was not filled with a preaching appointment. Bro. Lonnie Smith has volunteered to speak on that afternoon. Bro. Bobby Hilburn will speak on fifth Sundays. Last third Sunday saw a record attendance of 20 meeting in the home of Bro. Doris Weaver when Bro. Morgan preached.

### LOVE FOR OUR FELLOWMAN

If we cannot love our fellowman, who is created in the image of God, then we cannot possibly love God. And to fail on either count is fatal. We cannot maintain our hope in Christ without both. Loving our fellowman is next to loving God. The first great commandment is to love God. The second, to love our neighbor as ourself. This is one of the weakest points among Christians today. Selfishness has robbed many of the true blessings of Christianity. They just can't love anyone but self. Read I Cor. 13: 1, 7 for the characteristics of love. Paul said in the last verse of that same chapter, "And now abide faith, hope, and charity, these three; and the greatest of these is charity." Charity is love.

Those who maintain this hope must pray for their enemies. It may be hard to do, but it must be done. The Lord has set the example. He has given the command. Regarding His enemies He said, "Forgive them Father, they know not what they do." It is not impossible for us to forgive our enemies, or the Lord would not have asked it. It will surely separate those who truly want to do the Lord's will from those who only

Caruthersville, Mo., July 23, 1960

## To Whom It May Concern

Be it known this day that the undersigned members of the East Side Church of Christ, Caruthersville, Mo. desire to place their building funds in the care of the elders of the Church of Christ, Eleventh and Carleton, Caruthersville, Mo. on the amount of \$1055.64. It is understood that this may be added to from time to time. We make this request since the church at Eleventh and Carleton has made a substantial contribution to our support. Brother Carl, our minister, plans to leave at an early date and we will need even more assistance and counseling until such time as we are able to secure another minister.

James D. White, Mary E. White, Charley Ross, Gladys Mack, Carl Bryant, Sherry Mack, Milenda Thomas, Willie Mae Lockridge, Buena Bryant, Mais Lee Lockridge, Milissa I. Bates, Hilda White, Barbara White, Nellie Veasley, Henry Cole, Willie Lockridge and Claudene Lockridge.

The above concerns a building fund which is to be used to build a building for the colored church in Caruthersville, Mo. Brother Bryant, who has been working for this congregation, is moving to another town to work with another congregation.

pretend.

Willingness to forgive: this is another weak point of many. Yet Christ has plainly pointed out that if we forgive not our fellowman. He will not forgive us. An unforgiving spirit is a curse. It can be overcome, for the Lord does not ask the impossible of anyone.

Let's keep the faith. Let's maintain our hope in Christ. And may the Lord grant us an abundant entrance into that everlasting home of the soul.

### DO YOUR BEST

Daily living seemeth weary  
To the one who never works;  
Duty always seemeth dreary  
To the one who duty shirks  
Only after hardest striving  
Cometh sweet and perfect rest;  
Life is found to be worth living  
To the one who does his best.