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Fulton County Gospel News

"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

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PLEASE TAKE NOTE - -

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The rich and poor meet together: the Lord is the maker of them all.

Lecture Program - -

A Lecture Program will be held at the Church of Christ, Mammoth Spring, Ark. March 21 through 26 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY:

Parents' obligation to children.
Jimmy Allen.

TUESDAY:

The Christian and the Elders,
Leo Powers.

WEDNESDAY:

The Christian and civic matters, L. F. Mills.

THURSDAY:

The Christian and his brethren
Bill Richardson

FRIDAY:

The Christian and the work of the Church, L. N. Moody.

SATURDAY:

Panel to answer question.
Graddy - Williams - England.

The Perfect Church

I think that I shall never see

A church that's all it ought to be
A church whose members never stray

Beyond the strait and narrow way.

A church that has no empty pews,
Whose preacher never has the blues;

Where elders "eld" and deacons
"deak"

And none is proud, but all are meek.

Where gossips never peddle lies,
Or make complaints, or criticize;

Whose members all are sweet and kind,

And to each others' faults are blind.

Such congregations there may be,
But none of them are known to me;

So let us work and pray and plan
To make this church the best we can.

What Must I Do to Become a Christian

HEAR - "If any man have an ear, let him hear." Rev. 13:9 "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:17.

BELIEVE - Except ye believe that I am he, ye shall die in your sins." John 8:24 "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Heb. 11:6

REPENT - "I tell you, nay; but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Lk. 13:3 "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent." Acts 17:30

CONFESS - "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I also confess before my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 10:32 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Rom. 10:9

BE BAPTIZED - "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Mk. 16:16 "Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38

"THEN THEY THAT GLADLY RECEIVED HIS WORD WERE BAPTIZED: AND THE SAME DAY THERE WERE ADDED UNTO THEM ABOUT THREE THOUSAND SOULS." Acts 2:41.

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY
FREE SUBSCRIPTION

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID
MAMMOTH SPRING, ARK.

SUPPORTED BY:
CHURCHES OF CHRIST
IN THIS AREA

EDITORS:
CLOVIS RAGSDALE
RICHARD ENGLAND

Little Things Are Important

Said the tiny grain of sand: "I'm just one little grain of sand. I don't amount to anything at all. Just look at this great big beach. No one will miss me. I'm not going to be a part of the beach any more."

Said the little drop of water: "What am I in this great ocean? I'm not important, so 'I'll just cease being a part of the ocean."

Said the member of the Lord's church: "I'm just one member of the church, and no one notices me. I won't be missed if I don't attend. I think I'll quit, or just attend part of the time."

But the grain of sand was wrong, because the vast stretch of beach beside the mighty ocean is made up of millions of tiny grains of sand -- each one just as important as the other. Taken alone, what is a grain of sand? But put it with all the others and together they make up something big and important.

And the drop of water was mistaken, for the mighty ocean is nothing in the world but all the little drops of water functioning together for a purpose.

And the church member must

have forgotten that the glorious body of Christ is made up of many members, all having their places and each as necessary and important as the other.

So let us all remember that each has a place, but each is needed, and that each one will be missed if he does not attend or take part in the work of the church. If each little drop of water working together can make a powerful ocean, so we can work together and accomplish great things for our Lord, though when taken separately each of us is truly weak and insignificant.

Bill Richardson
Mt. Home, Ark.

Crowley's Ridge College Starts Expansion Program

Crowley's Ridge christian college will launch a million dollar expansion program beginning in February. One half of this amount has already been promised by one family. The rest will come from private donations from over the area of North Arkansas, Southern Missouri, and Western Tennessee. The money will be used to build dormitories, class rooms, and other buildings necessary to build a school of high academic standing.

Some may ask the question, are christian colleges necessary? We think this can be answered best by asking another question. Where would the church be today if we did not have christian colleges? Ninety-five percent of our preachers are trained in college. Ninety-nine per cent of people engaged in mission work come from our colleges. The responsibility to peach the gospel to the world requires qualified personnel to do this work. Our school are the best and almost the only source of supply. Many other advantages could be pointed out why christian boys and girls should attend a christian college.

How are christian colleges sup-

ported? Because the christian college also trains the student in arts and sciences the church is not responsible. Most students of christian colleges become employed in the business and professional world. Training for secular work is not a part of the church treasury. This is why our colleges are supported by individuals. Many people who are not members of the New Testament church contribute to christian colleges. Though they are not obligated to help they do so because of the high type of citizen that christian colleges are moulding.

Christians should support our schools because of this reason and more important, they train the ones who will be in the front lines of preaching the gospel to all the world.

The brethren in Fulton county will be given an opportunity to have a part in building a christian college which will serve the people in this immediate area. Crowley's Ridge college is located less than a hundred miles from the county. Brother Boyd Morgan, who is known to most, is very active in the building of this school. The men he is working with are sound in the faith and dedicated to the building of a school that will be of great help to this and to the succeeding generations of our area.

Brother Richard England and brother Clovis Ragsdale will oversee the raising of funds in this county to help build the school. The brethren over the county will be contacted in the near future.

IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG:

For gossip to assassinate reputation.

For conceit to spoil a future.

For envy to make unhappiness.

For chickens to come home to roost.

For boys to learn their father's vices.

For grudges to become hatreds.

For an audience to detect insincerity.

Dignity is the capacity to hold back on the tongue what should never have been in the mind in the first place.

What the Bible Says

Hear, Heareth and Hearing

1. God said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, hear ye him. Matt. 17:5

2. Christ said, Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man which built his house upon a rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not; for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell; and great was the fall of it. (Matt. 7:24-27).

3. Moses said, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that Prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people. Acts 3:22-23.

4. Peter said, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe. Acts 15:7.

5. Paul said, So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God, Rom. 10:17.

Believeth, Believe and Faith

1. Christ said, He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved but he that believeth not shall be damned. Mark 16:16. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. John 1:12.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. John 14:1.

2. Peter said, To him gave all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. Acts 10:43.

And put no difference between

us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. Acts 15:9.

3. Paul said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. Acts 16:31.

Again, for I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. Rom. 1:16.

Again, Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. Rom. 3:28.

Again, For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. Eph. 2:8-9.

Again, For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith that worketh by love. Gal. 5:6.

4. James said, Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead being alone. James 2:17

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

Repent, Repentance

1. Christ said, I tell you, nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Luke 13:3.

Again, And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. Luke 24:47.

2. Peter said, Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, Acts 2:38.

Again, repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord. Acts 3:19.

3. Paul said, And the times of this ignorance God winked at: But now commandeth all men everywhere to repent. Acts 17:30.

Confess, Confession

1. Christ said, Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I also confess before my Father which is in heaven. Matt. 10:32.

2. Paul said, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord

Jesus, and believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Rom. 10:9-10.

3. The eunuch said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Acts 8:37.

Baptize, Baptism

1. Christ said, Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Matt. 28:19.

Again, He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Mark 16:16

2. Peter said, Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. Acts 2:38.

Again, And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Acts 10:48.

Again, The like figure whereunto even baptism doth now save us. 1 Peter 3:21.

NOTE: I offer the above scriptures with out any comments. I suggest that you open your Bibles and read these passages together with their context.

Freeny Saunders

The Call to Separation

The grace of God coupled with man's acceptance of it makes for a marvelous transformation in one's life. It is a matter of life and death but more than this, it is an experience of first death and then real life. The church today needs to be constantly reminded of Paul's challenge of yesterday. To motivate Christians to better living he asked them to consider the baptismal experience. "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that life as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4)

The Soul of Man

Richard England
Mammoth Spring, Arkansas

"Soul" in the King James Version of the Bible is from three Hebrew words and one Greek word. Two of the Hebrew words are translated "soul" only one time each. The other (NEPHESH) is translated "soul" 428 times. 119 times the same word is translated "life". It is also translated into other words, but only a few times each. The Greek word (PSUCHE) is translated "soul" 58 times and "life" 40 times.

It will be observed through study of the scriptures that the word "soul" is not used in reference to any singular part of man's existence. Genesis 2:7: "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Notice carefully: the body of dust is not that which he refers as "soul", for it was made before man "became a living soul". The "breath" is not the "soul" as we see that the body was made, the breath put into it, and the "man became a living soul". "Soul" refers to the complex being of man. In Genesis 12:5 "soul" refers simply to persons whom they had engaged in their services while living in Haran. This is the use of the word in Leviticus 5:2 where it speaks of a "soul" touching an unclean thing.

Genesis 35:18: "And it came to pass, as her soul was departing (for she died), that she called his name Benoni; but his father called him Benjamin." Here, something departed. It was certainly not the body of clay. It was not the "animal life" that departed, for that expression refers to that which is characteristic of fleshly bodies which makes them conscious, moving and growing beings. The "animal life" simply ceased to be. It cannot exist outside an "animal" else it would not be "animal life". Yet, that to which he refers as "soul" did not cease to be, it "departed". Further, it can return if God sees fit. 1 Kings

17:21,22: "And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto Jehovah, and said, O Jehovah my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again. And Jehovah hearkened unto the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived."

God does not have a body of clay, nor does he have "animal life". But, in Leviticus 26:30 God says: "my soul shall abhor you". Here it must be used to mean "My entire being".

Psalms 16:10 and Acts 2:27 is the statement concerning Christ: "Thou wilt not leave my soul in Hades". This part of the text does not refer to the fleshly body because this is speaking of something that is "unseen". The body was yet seen and even handled after his death.

Man, while living on the earth, has a fleshly body which we see with our eyes. He has "animal life", the proofs of which we see. But is this all there is to man? No. There is a part of the existence of man which continues after physical death. This is that to which the Lord refers in Matthew 10:28: "And be not afraid of them that kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

The conclusion of the matter is this: the word "soul" refers to the being, whether that being is one with or without a physical body and "animal life". With this understanding we see how the word may refer to people in this life, to the inner being departing the flesh to that same being which has completely separated from the flesh, and even in a sense be used to refer to the being of God, as in Leviticus 26:30.

Why the Wildcats?

Once two little boys were visiting a zoo and came upon a cage containing some wildcats.

Said one of the little boys, "I wonder what it is that makes these cats wild?"

Replied the other: "Why, they

The Bible - -

The Bible is actually a library of books. Thirty nine books make up the canon of the Old Testament. These books were written in the language of the Hebrew and Aramic. The New Testament contains twenty-seven books, or letters, and were written in the Greek language.

The Old Testament is divided into five major classifications, they are law, history, poetry, major and minor prophets. The first five are also called the books of Moses, named after their writer. The next twelve are the books of history, from the book of Joshua through Esther. There are five books of poetry, five books of the major prophets, so called because of the extent of their work. They begin with Isaiah and end with Daniel. The last twelve are the minor prophets, from Hosea to Malachi.

The New Testament also contains five divisions or classifications; they are, biography, history, Pauline epistles, general epistles, and prophecy. The first four tell the life of Christ, biography. Acts is the book of history of the early church. The next fourteen books are generally ascribed to Paul, thus the Pauline epistles. The following seven general epistles were written by various men. Revelation, the book of prophecy, completes the New Testament.

The Bible is not simply a collection of religious books, but God's revelation of Himself to men in successive ages and dispensations. (Eph. 1:8-10, 3:5-9) The unity of "the book", made up of so many parts, is the evidence of the reality of the revelation it contains.

are wildcats because their fathers and mothers were wildcats!"

So it is with many human "wildcats" today — among our young people! Can we expect anything else when their "fathers and mothers were wildcats before them"?