

Gospel Herald

For the promotion of NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIANITY

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Let us not neglect. . .



“THE BEST READING”



“ . . . words, whereby thou shalt be saved, . . . ”

Acts 11:14

“ . . . the words of eternal life ”

John 6:68

“ . . . the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God ”

Ephesians 6:17

“ . . . holding forth the word of life; ”

Philippians 2:16

“ . . . the implanted word, which is able to save your souls ”

James 1:21

It furnishes “completely unto every good work.”

II Timothy 3:17

“ . . . the word of God is living and active. . . ”

Hebrews 4:12

“The opening of thy word giveth light; . . . ”

Psalms 119:130

Righteous Judgment

by Roy Davison

"Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment" (John 7:24).

From a reliable witness I heard that a brother in Canada was advocating unscriptural practices in local church government.

In a letter asking him for details about his teaching, I wrote, "In such matters I prefer to reserve judgment until I have first-hand information". He sent no information about his teaching, but returned my letter with a note in the margin: "Get out of the judging business".

"Judge not, that you be not judged" (Matthew 7:1) is indeed one of the least heeded -- and most misused -- passages in the New Testament.

We so easily condemn others for what we do ourselves. The brother who told me to "get out of the judging business" also wrote on my letter, "Whoever has been gossiping about this is sinning".

"Judge not, that you be not judged." Does this mean we are never to judge? Evidently not for Jesus also said, "Judge with righteous judgment" (John 7:24).

The context makes the meaning clear. "Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the same measure you use, it will be measured back to you. And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck out of your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck out of your brother's eye" (Matthew 7:1-5).

We must avoid unrighteous judgment. We may not judge someone for something we do ourselves (Romans 2:1-3; Luke 6:36-38). We may not judge according to appearance (John 7:24). We may not judge in matters of opinion (Romans 14:1-4, 10-13). We may not judge with insufficient knowl-

edge (1 Cor. 4:1-5). We may not take God's place in judgment (James 4:11, 12). We may not condemn the guiltless by neglecting mercy (Matthew 12:7).

This can keep us busy improving ourselves the rest of our lives!

At the same time, "Judge not, that you be not judged" is often the wailing cry of false teachers and hardened sinners who misapply the verse to ward off censure for their evil deeds. Do not be intimidated by such people, for Jesus has commanded us to judge with righteous judgment (John 7:24).

"He who justifies the wicked, and he who commends the just, both of them alike are an abomination to the Lord" (Proverbs 17:15). "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them" (Ephesians 5:11).

Many commands of God require the exercise of righteous judgment.

"Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment" (John 7:24). This is reminiscent of Leviticus 19:15. "You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honour the person of the mighty. But in righteousness you shall judge your neighbor."

There is a place for righteous judgment. When Christians persist in sin, they are told to be judged by their fellow Christians: "I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people. Yet I certainly did not mean the sexually immoral people of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner -- not even to eat with such a person. For what have I to do with judging those who are outside? Do you not judge those

who are inside? But those who are outside God judges. Therefore put away from yourselves that wicked person" (Cor. 5:9-13).

When Christians come in conflict, some wise man should be found to judge between his brethren, "Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life? If then you have judgments concerning things pertaining to this life, do you appoint those who are least esteemed by the church to judge? I say this to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you, not even one, who will be able to judge between his brethren?" (1 Cor. 6:1-5).

We may not reserve judgment when faced with clear manifestations of evil. "Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and beguile My servants to commit sexual immorality and to eat things sacrificed to idols" (Rev. 2:20). What if false teaching on divorce and remarriage leads God's servants to commit sexual immorality?

Many commands of God require the exercise of righteous judgment.

"But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us" (2 Thess. 3:6).

"If anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet do not count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother" (2 Thess. 3:14, 15).

"Teach and exhort these things. If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the

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The Imperfect Church (IV)

by Wayne Turner

What problems do you have in your congregation? Do you have any hypocrites? Gossips? People who are less than they should be? If so, you have a congregation just about like everyone else. But that can be very disappointing and discouraging. It's hard to deal with those who are so obviously spiritually immature, isn't it? Especially when they seem so content. In fact, it is easy to become bitter when struggling with the difficulties that we all too often must face.

If the church is supposed to be that which was designed by God and purchased by the blood of Christ, and if the local church is an assembly of those in Christ's church, and if we have such a high standard of teaching and conduct as the New Testament, then why do we seem to spend so much of our time and energy dealing with problems? Why can't the church just rise above difficulties to attain the spiritual heights that we seek?

How we understand and view the church, indicated by how we respond to the previous questions, will determine whether we are able to function effectively within the community of believers that we are part of, or whether we will be the victims of shattered ideals, frustration and bitterness.

The New Testament does challenge us with very high ideals for the local church. Unity is an imperative (I Corinthians 1:10; Ephesians 4:1-6, 11-16). Other challenges include holiness, perfection and purity. We recognize the attainment of these ideals as vital to the fulfillment of our mission on earth. Often we are hindered by the failure to attain the ideals. We look back to the New Testament church as the glowing example of what we need to be. Let's look more carefully at our example.

The New Testament provides a rather lengthy catalogue of the difficulties and problems which the early church faced. Problem people come at the very start of the list. Imagine trying to deal with glory-seekers like Ananias and Sapphires (Acts 5:1-11)! Or what about a new

member who starts creating problems like a Simon (Acts 8:19-24)? Or suppose you have a preacher who leaves the church, like Demas? Or an elder who wields absolute control over everything, like Diotrephes (3 John 9:8-10)? Maybe the problem concerns a leader who loses his perspective and starts snubbing some of the members because of their racial or ethnic backgrounds, or who caves in to pressure to be accepted by the wrong people, like Peter and even Barnabas in Galatians 2:11-13. Possibly there are those who have difficulty getting along, like Euodia and Syntyche in Philippians 4:2-3.

Or suppose the problem is larger and more serious than just one or two people. The church at Corinth had problems with division, immorality and carnality. Churches at Jerusalem, Antioch, Philippi, Colossae and other places contained factions who wanted to Judaize the Gentile Christians. Ephesus had problems with false doctrine, elders, false apostles and spiritual priorities (Acts 20:27-28; Revelation 2:2, 4). Many places had problems with false teachers and pagan philosophies. The letters to the seven churches in Revelation 2 and 3 provide a list of problems.

It is God's design to have real people in the church. Real people are imperfect. They have problems.

Throughout the New Testament we learn that virtually every church had problems. As well, numerous warnings indicate that other problems would soon arise. In short, it does not appear that things are any different today from what they were then! Where there are living people, there are going to be, by nature, problems. And while they are not really desirable, these problems exist as a result of God's design for the church.

In 2 Corinthians 4:7-10, Paul wrote, "We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the surpassing greatness of the power may be of God and not from ourselves; we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body."

It is God's design to have real people in the church. Real people are imperfect. They have problems. They do not always make the right choices. They do not always do the right thing. But through Christ, they can be forgiven, and they can be challenged to rise to a higher level of life. It is in the fact that the church can continue to function and to grow, numerically and spiritually, that the world is able to see that only the power of God can survive and overcome human imperfection.

Let's look at the situation another way. Are you perfect? Are you everything you could be as a Christian? Is it possible for someone to look at you and feel that you could be more, and be doing more as a Christian? Yet, despite whatever weaknesses and failures you are facing, you still function as a Christian, knowing that as you grow and mature spiritually, these will diminish. Now look around at the other Christians with whom you worship and work. Their weaknesses and failures are evident. Yet, for the most part, they, like you, are trying to mature in Christ. God, through His word, is at work in and through all of us to accomplish His purposes.

Certainly the New Testament identifies things which cannot be accepted on an ongoing basis in the church. Things like division, immorality and other overt sins must be confronted and either repented of or disciplined (Romans 16:17; I Corinthians 5:1-5, 9-13). However, most of our frustration with the Church stems more from the lack of spiritual maturity in those around us. How should we deal with this?

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A Spiritual Awakening

by Roy D. Merritt



We have been excited, exhilarated and even a little scared by the rapid pace of change in the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries. What marvelous surprises have been provided for onlookers in the West. Television has made us sharers in the breaching of the Berlin Wall, the removal of repressive governments and the amazing surge toward democratic freedom. It is a great time to be alive and to share major historic events at the dissolution of an evil empire. Of prime satisfaction for many of us is the resurgence of religious hunger among the millions who are struggling to throw off repressive spiritual shackles.

Push a hollow rubber ball under water and it seeks to rise when the pressure is relaxed. Suppress by force the freedom of man to worship and the attraction of the Great Spirit to his spirit is exerted when the force is removed. Despite what Communist leaders proclaimed, religion is not "the opiate of the people". Archaeology and history unite to demonstrate how there has been an innate urge to worship among men in all ages, lands and cultures. Often misguided, sometimes abusive and at times misdirected to evil purposes, it nevertheless has been an ennobling characteristic of the human race.

Many former Marxists . . . have recognized belatedly the need for spiritual values.

Many former Marxists in Poland, Yugoslavia, East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union have recognized belatedly the need for spiritual values. Despite their education in an atheistic environment, they are willing to extend "glasnost" and "perestroika" to religion as well as to politics and economics. Many young people are intrigued and attracted to religious concepts that formerly were the object of derision and official censorship. These feel that they have been short-changed by their educational leaders.

Events in the past few weeks have shown a thirst among many in the heady climate of new intellectual freedom to obtain Bibles and religious literature. Millions of sincere people are searching for new knowledge of a God who they had been told was merely a relic of priestcraft and superstition. Now they yearn to find out for themselves what the Bible says about God and man.

While we rejoice in the new openness sweeping Eastern Europe, we ought not to be so naive as to think that the rekindling of religious faith will be easy. Nor should anyone be unconcerned as to what kind of faith will prevail in these countries. Their former religious loyalties ranged across a diverse spectrum of Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant bodies. To further complicate the scene, in the USSR is to be found a large and rapidly-growing Muslim population. A recent article in *National Geographic Magazine* compared birthrates among adherents of various religions and conjectured that the USSR could become an Islamic nation by the end of the next century. Recent events in Azerbaijan demonstrate how troublesome an upsurge of Islamic nationalism can be for the Soviet leaders. These factors should also concern those of us who would like to see this huge population open to the teaching of God's Word.

As we watch with amazement the rapid changes occurring in the Soviet bloc of nations, we should be praying that their transition from a godless conglomerate to a fruitful mission field for New Testament Christianity will take place quickly and peacefully. May the grace of God cause the Gospel of His dear Son to permeate the receptive hearts of millions. May there be a resulting multitude of new citizens in the Kingdom which cannot be shaken.

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What About Self-Esteem?

by Ron Pauls

She was an older lady. Much older than I. She was a single lady and had been all her life. What a special lady she was! Our class included the subject of self-esteem. As the discussion progressed her disapproval became more and more apparent. Finally, able to contain herself no longer, she said quietly but firmly, "We were always taught not to think about ourselves. And we learned never to say 'I' too often!" She had learned well! She did not think much of herself.

Another place. Another time. Another lady. She was a young wife and mother. We were seated in the office. She had asked for counsel in her life. She was asked to complete the sentence, "I am . . ." ten times. It took a while. She didn't reach the end. What she had written defined roles which she described with negative adjectives. She felt she was undone! Though others envied her place and abilities, she had never noticed that she was a person of worth.

Self-Esteem

"For by the grace given to me I bid every one among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith which God has assigned him" (Romans 12:3).

We are in danger of obeying the first part of this verse so well that instead of thinking of ourselves "more highly" than we "ought", we are thinking of ourselves "more lowly" than we ought. In the process we have become guilty of disregarding the more familiar verses that begin the chapter. We feel unworthy of presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice (vs. 1). Instead of being transformed we are conformed to this world as we strive to feel significant and worthwhile

by pleasing everyone we know (vs. 2).

We need to learn what self-esteem is. We need to learn how to appropriate it to our own lives and encourage it in the lives of others. We need to learn how we can make a difference in the lives of our mates and children.

Read Romans 12:3 again. It urges us to think of self "with sober judgment" and "according to the measure of faith which God has assigned him". God has granted us the right and means to think about ourselves properly. We need to explore this more fully.

Self-Esteem: What Is It?

First, we must consider what self-esteem is not. It is not **pride**! "God opposes the proud" (James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5). The haughty and the boastful are listed among those outside the will of God (Romans 1:30; 2 Timothy 3:2).

So pride should not be confused with healthy self-esteem. In fact, such conceit may be a noisy whitewash to cover over a low sense of self-esteem. When you have proper self-esteem, you don't have to impress others with how worthwhile you are. You already know you have value. You don't have to wear the badge! In the final analysis, pride is an unrealistic appraisal of self. The arrogant person pictures himself as superior to others.

Low self-esteem is another form of inadequate appraisal of oneself. It should not be mistaken for humility. Humility speaks of the meekness, modesty and moderateness that allows one to count others ahead of oneself and to attain to the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:3-5). Low self-esteem is the evaluation of oneself that has little regard, respect or recognition of one's true worth. It is a viewpoint that sees oneself as inferior to others. We just reject it as unrealistic and

harmful.

Healthy esteem, however, is the realistic appraisal that comes with the reflections of sober judgment. It allows one to see clearly his qualities and his deficiencies without being inflated by the one or deflated by the other. This adequate self-appraisal allows one to view himself as equal to others. This equips one for meaningful communication and service. It was this kind of realistic appraisal that enabled Jesus to take up a towel and wash the feet that his disciples disdained to touch (John 13:3-5).

Self-Esteem: How Important It Is

Esteem is "setting the value on, appreciating the worth of someone or something". So healthy self-esteem is not a noisy conceit. "It is a quiet sense of self-respect, a feeling of self-worth. When you have it deep inside, you're glad you're you". It is "how you feel about yourself privately, not whether you can put up a good front or accumulate wealth or status" (Dorothy Briggs).

A number of years ago several of us participated in a seminar at GLCC led by Bob Rigdon in which he was helping us get a better perspective on mental health. He quoted J. F. Kauffman as saying that self-respect is "a basic sense of one's own value, not vanity or false pride, but a proper sense of self-regard. . . A conviction one is a self that is worth being." Then he quoted William Glasser to emphasize that "equal in importance to the need for love is the need to know that we are worthwhile both to ourselves and to others."

Dorothy Briggs explains that a person's image of himself may or may not be accurate but it is "the mainspring that slates every child for success or failure".

We are convinced that self-esteem is something that is of significant importance in the life of every individual. We believe that it is something important enough to be worthy of our increasing knowledge. For that reason we want to devote a number of articles to this topic.

Resources

Perhaps you would like to study it more deeply so that you can improve your own self-esteem and contribute to a growing sense of self-worth in those you know and love. Listed below are a few

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Articles for this publication and/or reactions to this page should be sent to
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Have You Considered Preaching??

by Max Craddock

One of the most important decisions one has to make in life is how he will earn a living. The choice of a profession is often not an easy one to make. There are so many possibilities to choose from and so many good ones to consider.

A Christian may do anything that is "upright" to earn his daily bread. In any profession one must seek not only to make the money needed to sustain life and make it possible to have those things which are needed for living but, as a Christian, one must share his/her faith with those with whom he/she comes in contact. As Christians we are to be in the "full time ministry" as we share Jesus with those who do not know him.

*If there was ever a time
when the world needed
to hear the Word of
God preached by men
who really care for
them, it is now.*

However, today I would like to suggest to you that for young Christian men, the rewards of a "career" in preaching are worth considering. The church continues to have a need for young men who are devoted to the work of preaching the good news. While every Christian has the "duty" to share his faith, it is a very special joy to work full-time in the ministry of the Word. Ever since the Lord said, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation" (Mark 16:15), there has been a need for those who would give their lives to this great work. I would like for you, young man,

to consider making the work of preaching your life work. There are many professions to choose from that will give you more to enjoy in a material way. However, there is no work on earth that can be more of a challenge or more of a joy than to share your knowledge and faith through the work of preaching!

I like the definition of preaching that was given by Jesse P. Sewell. He said, "Gospel preaching is a man, redeemed by grace through faith, standing in Christ's stead by his authority and in obedience to His command proclaiming, illustrating, making plain and strong and urgent God's Word in such a manner that responsible people may understand and accept it unto life, or reject it unto death; all of this because he loves God, Christ, the church, the gospel of Christ and the souls of men."

In the space remaining in this article let us consider some of the qualities that are important in the life of one who would choose to preach. Of first importance is that one needs a closeness to God. In Proverbs 3:5, 6 Solomon wrote, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." Trusting and leaning on God are at the very foundation of the life of all Christians and surely most important for the preacher. Charles Spurgeon is quoted as saying, "Give me twelve men, importunate (making persistent requests) men, lovers of souls, who fear nothing but sin and love nothing but God, and I will shake London from end to end". Men who are close to God and are persistent in bringing others to a closeness with God are what is needed in the church today.

Secondly, a man must be a "man of the Book". The Bible must be home base of the preacher who wishes to bring men

and women to relationship with the Father. In the pulpit there is no substitute for the clear and faithful preaching of the Bible as the guide to relationship with God. The command given to Timothy by Paul, "Preach the Word" (2 Timothy 4:2) is still the watchword for preachers of the gospel today and for the same reasons Paul gave Timothy (Read 2 Timothy 4:1-5).

In Matthew 22:39 Jesus gives a third quality of the preacher. "...Love your neighbor as yourself". Besides the love for God a man needs, he also needs a love for his fellowman. He needs a closeness with people that expresses real concern and love. Someone has well said, "People don't care what you know until they know how much you care". People must be able to feel your care for them is real and true before they will respond to the message you carry.

If there was ever a time when the world needed to hear the Word of God preached by men who really care for them it is now. We have a shortage of preachers. We need to have young men who are interested enough in the eternity of their fellowman that they are willing to preach even though it may mean some sacrifices in the material things of life. There is no greater fulfilling life than that which preaching provides. To be able to share the most important message ever given to people on a full-time basis brings much joy and satisfaction. To be able to help fellow Christians in their preparation for the work of ministry is rewarding for God, the church, the world and the preacher alike.

Have you considered preaching? I pray that you will!

Kingston Church of Christ

Requires an evangelist by June or July. Experience in personal work preferred. A 4-bedroom house and partial support are available.

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Computers in the Ministry

by Brian Garnett

Computers are here to stay! We find them in everything today, from sewing machines to your car's instrument panel. We have, for the most part, gotten past the fear that some great super computer with everyone's number is going to take over the world, and have come to realize that this new technology is extremely valuable.

Now, how do we go about making the most of the powerful capacity of small computers so that we can be more effective in our work in the Lord's Kingdom? We need to recognize it as another piece of office equipment like the typewriter or photocopier, but one which has the ability to do several tasks quickly and easily without great expense.

As an example, consider the local church bulletin. Remember the fun of cutting a stencil on the old manual typewriter? For those of us prone to typing errors, there were bottles of correction fluid covering our desk and typing table. Did you ever get your Gestetner to run the stencils without wrinkles? And the ink, yes, the ink from your nose to your telephone. Just when you thought you had printed the bulletin without any problems, while removing the stencil, you drop it. It lands, ink-side down, on your shoe. Now, the address-a-graph machine. Here the Lord builds patience in the office staff (or more likely the preacher because no one else would bother with the equipment). You know how the story goes perhaps better than I. I only used the old discarded spirit duplicator and the thermofax as a copier.



Enter the age of computers. With a desk top computer and printer one can produce a good looking bulletin enhanced with graphics and scanned material. It is also possible to type the bulletin articles and file them on a disk for future use. Transferring files from one computer to another by disks is easy. By using **Modems** a title can be sent by the telephone from one computer to another. Your computer can even work as a FAX machine!

Do you want to include the congregational budget in this bulletin? The accounting program could produce a

text file of the statement and add it to the bulletin. No need to retype information. Now pick up the hand scanner and scan in a graphic picture that adds to your presentation. Reformat the file with a larger print style and produce a transparency for the budget committee. Still no need to retype the info.


Just before you print the bulletin you had better run the spell corrector. This will locate the spelling errors, offer the correct spelling and even make the change for you. Now how's your grammar? Yes, you can even run the grammar corrector and check to see if the tenses "IS" correct. Make sure the punctuation is proper "?" Did you close the "quotation marks?" Are your sentences run-on sentences or are they too long to be easily understood by the general reader? You want to be understood without someone having to explain what you write and. . .

The grammar corrector will grade the reading level and strength of your document. It also identifies jargon, cliches, slang and negative terms.

While the bulletin is being printed, you can work on your mailing list. Once you have typed it into the computer you can easily update addresses, create different mailing lists and print the labels. If you are sending letters or reports, the **Merge** function can automatically address each report to each of the names on your mailing

list. It is also a great way to produce a phone list and lists with birthdays and anniversaries for the week or month.

The bulletin is just one way that the computer can aid the work of the church. However, there is no way that we can replace the one-on-one contact that we need with each other. We ought not allow the computer to depersonalize our outreach, but we can use it to make the flow of information by the printed page easier to produce and polish. It is not all roses! Computers **do** take time to learn and use. Yet, once the initial investment is made, future work is quick and easy.

In future articles I will describe some specific programs and applications. 

--Kentville, Nova Scotia

Evangelist Required

The church in **Cranbrook, B.C.** is looking for an evangelist to work with them. Cranbrook has a congregation of about 20, located in the beautiful East Kootenay Valley. Presently, there is no support available.

For inquiries call:

(604) 426-2914 or 426-6895

Send application & resume to:

Cranbrook Church of Christ
450 Van Horne Street S.
Cranbrook, BC V1C 4H8

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EVANGELIST REQUIRED

The Sudbury Church of Christ is looking for an evangelist to work with them. The congregation has 40 active members. The population of Sudbury is 95,000 with surrounding areas totalling 160,000 people. Partial support of \$1,600 per month is available.

Send application & resume to:

Church of Christ
c/o Roy Chapados
500 camelot Drive
Sudbury, ON P3B 3M7



Q & A About Baptism

by Cecil T. Bailey

Q. In order to understand what the word 'baptism' means should I rely on a good modern dictionary?

A. Yes and no. What baptism means in its current usage can be ascertained from any good up-to-date dictionary; but to learn what baptism meant as it was used in New Testament times, one must consult a Greek-English lexicon, or simply observe its meaning by the context of how it is used in any particular passage.

Q. From what Greek words are our English words 'baptize' and 'baptism' derived?

A. The English words are not *translated* from the Greek at all. Rather, they are transliterated. That is, they are brought into English directly from the Greek. Baptize is *baptizo* and *baptism* is *baptisma*.

Q. Sprinkling and pouring are widely accepted as acceptable forms or modes of baptism by many people today. From what Greek words are they derived?

A. *Rantizo* is the Greek word translated 'to sprinkle' in the New Testament. It is used altogether six times, Hebrews 9:13, 19, 21 and 10:22. *Rantismos* is translated 'sprinkling' twice, Hebrews 12:24 and 1 Peter 1:2. These texts do not relate to the rite of baptism. *Cheo*, the Greek word for the English 'pour' does not occur in this form in the New Testament, but rather as *ekcheo*, that is, 'pour out'. It occurs in Matthew 9:17; Mark 2:22; John 2:15, Acts 2:17, 18, 33 and 22:20; in Romans 3:15, Titus 3:6 and Revelation 16:1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 17. Again you may note that not one of these texts has any connection with our word 'baptism'.

Q. How do your Greek-English lexicons define *baptizo*?

A. My five lexicons prepared by men from many different denominations define *baptizo* as follows:

Abbot-Smith -- (literally) to dip, immerse, sink.

Analytical Greek Lexicon -- to dip, immerse

Gingrich -- to dip, immerse

Liddel & Scott -- to dip repeatedly, dip under

Thayer -- to dip repeatedly, to emerge,

submerge

Abbot-Smith and *Thayer* define 'baptizo' (metaphorically) as 'to overwhelm', and when used in the middle voice in Greek, 'to wash oneself'. Not much room for doubt, is there?

Q. What is meant by metaphorical baptism?

A. It is any non-literal form of baptism, such as baptism of the Holy Spirit, of suffering and of fire. The latter two are often identified with each other which is quite incorrect. The baptism of fire of Matthew 4:11, 12 obviously refers to 'judgment'.

Q. In those lexicon definitions, what is meant by the 'middle voice'?

A. There is no parallel 'voice' in English that compares to this in Greek. It is like our reflexive. It simply means that a 'subject' acts upon itself. "Judas hanged himself." Baptism in the middle voice has no religious connotation in the New Testament (Mark 7:4).

Q. Can one tell by context or usage that baptism means 'to dip' rather than 'to sprinkle' or 'to pour'?

A. I think that Jesus' own baptism as recorded in Mark 1:9 is a reasonable illustration. If words are parallel in meaning, they may then be substituted for one another. That is, if the word 'sprinkle' and 'pour' means baptism, they can be substituted for the word in any text. Let's try it: "And it came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was 'sprinkled' by John in (into) the Jordan". Again, "And it came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was 'poured' by John in (into) the Jordan." Both are silly. Let us try 'dipped'. "And it came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was 'dipped' in (into) the Jordan". Sounds OK, doesn't it?

Q. In Ephesians 4:5, Paul says that there is 'one baptism'. Is this 'water' or 'Holy Spirit'?

A. It includes both. Jesus told Nicodemus (John 3:5), "Unless anyone be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." Again in 1 John 5:8 we read, "and there are three

that bear witness on earth -- the Spirit and the water and the blood and these three agree in one."

Q. Is any other word translated 'to dip' other than *baptizo*?

A. Yes, the root Greek word for 'baptize' is *bapto* and it, too, is translated 'to dip' some three times: Luke 16:25; John 13:26 and Revelation 19:13, but as you may note these have no reference to baptism as a religious rite.

Q. Granted that the New Testament pattern requires one to be 'dipped' in order to be baptized, may I ask who are proper candidates for baptism?

A. In every concrete example of baptism in the New Testament, only adult men and women were baptized. For example, "But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, they were baptized both men and women" (Acts 8:12). Note: Not male and female, but adults of both sexes. That only mature persons ought to be baptized ought to be self-evident, since there are outlined in the New Testament certain fundamental pre-requisites to baptism, namely, accepting and believing the gospel message, and repenting of one's sins. These can only be carried out by "mature" individuals.

Q. But in the Book of Acts we read of at least three instances of 'household' baptisms which would most likely have included infants or small children. Is this not correct?

A. Not necessarily. Salvation is a very personal matter and cannot be achieved by proxy. Each individual is required to accept, believe and repent before being accepted for baptism. Then, as now, many households, which included servants as well as family, were made up entirely of accountable persons. Certainly Lydia's household in Acts 16, which was made up of a company of women many miles from home, had no small children in their company.

Q. Why do so many churches baptize, or should I say christen, babies then?

A. It all began long ago when St. Augustine of Hippo and others formulated the doctrine of 'original sin', that is, that all babies are born sinners because of Adam's sin. Since babies can neither believe nor repent, then baptism alone

(continued on page 9)

FOR WOMEN BY WOMEN

Articles for publication and/or reactions to this page should be sent to
Linda Hammett, Box 94 Beamsville, Ontario L0R 1B0



A Prayer Letter

by Connie Lowery

(Ed. Note: The following was written and submitted by Connie Lowery with a special invitation to all ladies to join in a Ladies' Luncheon on May 12, 1990 from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Church of Christ in Newmarket, Ontario with the theme of Prayer, the backbone of Christianity. LCH)

I need Thee every hour, Lord, to guide me through the day, I need to know that you are near, when things don't go my way. Some days, I think I'm able to do things on my own, for I never want the help I need, when I think I can go it alone.

I need Thee every hour, Lord, for help to slow me down, to stop, and take the time I have and see the needs around. A brother, or a sister, may need my time today, if only for a visit, and a little time to pray.

To help them through their problems, Lord, the best that I know how, is to let them know You're with them, as You are with me now.

--Newmarket, Ontario

Q & A About Baptism

(continued from page 8)

must save them from this 'imaginary' sin.

Q. Where in the Bible did Augustine get the concept that babies are born sinners?

A. Largely from a misinterpretation of two scriptures, namely Exodus 20:5, 6 and Psalm 51:5. Read and note that these verses say no such thing.

Q. There seems to be no small amount of disagreement among Christians as to the purpose of baptism. Why? Are the scriptures somewhat ambiguous on this point?

A. I certainly do not believe so. The Bible is clear and unequivocal on this issue. Baptism serves many purposes in our salvation. Surely there is nothing ambiguous about these scriptures:

"baptizing them into the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit..." Matthew 28:19

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Mark 16:16

"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 22:16.

"Know you not that so many of you as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death?" Romans 6:3

"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles" 1 Corinthians 12:13. Note: The 'body' is the church -- see Ephesians 1:22, 23 and Colossians 1:18.

"For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ" Galatians 3:26, 27.

"...in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were brought safely through water. And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you, not the removal of dirt from the flesh..." 1 Peter 3:20, 21.

Surely no one who earnestly desires to know and follow the word of God should be misled or confused as to the 'purposes' of baptism.

Q. What significant differences are there, if any, between John's baptism and that given by Christ to the apostles in the Great Commissions of Matthew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:15, 16?

A. In form there is no difference -- both were 'immersion'. Secondly, both

Righteous Judgment

(continued from page 2)

doctrine which is according to godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, useless wrangling of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself" (1 Timothy 6:2b-5).

"Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple" (Romans 16:17, 18).

Do not be deceived by smooth words and flattering speech. Beware of wolves who come to you with a sheep's skin. "Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment" (John 7:24).

(Scripture quotations in this article are from the New King James Version, (c) 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.)

--Alken, Belgium

were for the remission of sins'. But here the similarities end. The Holy Spirit had no integral part in John's baptism, nor could John's baptism put men into Christ for He was not then as yet the Saviour of the world. John's baptism was no longer valid in the Christian Dispensation. There are instances of those who had been baptized by John's baptism being re-immersed into Christ, Acts 19:1-5.

My friend, this short study on 'baptism' is far from exhaustive. I would be delighted to discuss the subject at much greater length. If I have sounded 'legalistic' in my presentation, be assured that I am not. Baptism is not important as a mere religious rite or church tradition. It is important because it is a command of our Lord, it initiates us into Christ, and in baptism we openly confess to the world our belief in the resurrection of Christ by being buried and raised with Him from the dead.

(This article is available as a tract from the author.)

--404 2520 Palliser Dr. S.W.
Calgary, AB T2V 4S9

Reminiscences, No. 18

A History of the Rise and Progress of Our Cause in Canada

by Joseph Ash

(Ed. Note: This series of 21 Reminiscences, written from memory by the elderly Joseph Ash in 1882-3 was first published in the *Christian Worker* from November 1882 to October 1884 and was reprinted in the *Gospel Messenger* from January 1895 to August 1896. This one was copied from the June 1884 *Gospel Messenger*. E.C.P.)

(In the April number, in speaking of Bro. W. A. Stephens, the printer puts in "a strong political vein running through his addresses". It should be "poetical vein.")

My mind is now off to Manitoulin Island in the Georgian Bay, and it is in company with my old and much respected brother and fellow laborer, Wm. M. Crewson. Bro. Crewson lived in and about Oshawa for two or three years, where I had an intimate and very pleasant and profitable acquaintance with him and his amiable wife and children. In regard to his labours on the Island and the churches there, I let him speak. He says: -- "In 1878 I made a trip to the Island and found a few brethren at 'Gore Bay' and 'Ice Lake', viz. G. H. Walter and wife, and Thomas Robertson; then a young man, and I heard of a few others near 'Lake Kagawong' and 'Green Bay', but did not see them at that time. The Robertsons and Walters had met now and then for mutual improvement and edification, but living some eight or nine miles apart, they could not meet regularly. On my arrival at 'Gore Bay' we soon got round, and for a time held meetings in Bro. Walters' house. With a little help we shingled a newly erected house in the village and put in temporary seats and had our meetings there. My ticket was good for only one month, so at the end of that time I had to leave, but promised to return the next spring. In May 1879, I again landed at 'Gore Bay' and was soon busy in holding meetings and on the first Lord's day after my arrival three persons were immersed -- most likely the first baptisms on the Island. As

a Brother McColman and family had settled there, and a Brother Losby was with me, we went the same day to break bread in the name of Jesus. We were about 12 in number. In June I visited 'Green Bay', nearly 40 miles distant. There were only about half a dozen in that neighborhood. Old Bro. John Skip-pin was the leading man among them and in fact the whole settlement. Some time during the following year we organized a church there of about eight or ten members with Bro. Skip-pin as elder. They had a good Sunday School, which was a good help to them and the cause. In 1882 they built a comfortable meeting house, which was opened on September 17 of that year, Bro. Lediard, of Hillsburg, myself and a minister of the Baptist Church at Manitowaning taking part in the opening services. Bro. Lediard remained to labor with them for a time. Bro. L. had made them a visit a year previous, sown the good seed, and on this last occasion he had the pleasure of reaping some of the fruits of his labor in seeing quite a number obey the gospel. There are now about 20 members, but they are a good deal scattered, and Bro. Skip-pins' health is not good, so they need more help than I have been able to give them, although I have assisted them now and then. At 'Gore Bay' and 'Ice Lake' we had additions now and then. During the winter of 1881 and '2 quite a stir was made between us and the sects. Several came out and were baptised, and some who had been baptised cast in their lot with us, so that during the year we had about 20 additions, but owing to some removals our numbers were kept down. Last summer Bro. James Kilgour spent some three weeks with us at 'Gore Bay' and 'Ice Lake' with very beneficial results, eight persons being immersed while he was there and four shortly after his departure, and his presence, personal appearance and his judicious discourse all assisted in giving prestige to the work already done, so that now we are looked

upon as respectable, if not altogether orthodox.

I have at times made tours in different directions over the Island and have been almost universally treated with the utmost kindness, and have met with Baptists, disciples and some of the Christian Connection. My regular preaching stations have been 'Gore Bay', Mudge Bay, Long Bay, Ice Lake, Lake Wolsley and sometimes when at leisure, in the Townships of Gordon, Alian, Mills, Campbell, Billings, and Bidwell, or Grun Bay. There is a wider field and plenty of work, but so much of my time is taken up with my own work that I cannot spend as much time as I would desire. I think there are about eighty members on the Island, but much scattered."

So writes Bro. Crewson, and I have copied his letter verbatim about the cause on the beautiful Island. Those brethren, true to their profession, and although scattered, are doing what they can, and soon each family will be a nucleus for a church. There is a small congregation in the Township of Goderich. They have met in a private house for years and are a faithful little band. Bro. Gerrard, wife and sons, a Bro. Beavers and wife are the principal members. I understand the prospects are good, and if they are faithful in pity, zeal and godliness, he may see the good fruits of their labors.

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by Eugene C. Perry

4904 King St., Beamsville, ON
L0R 1B6

Lachine, PQ: During January, Craig McPherson, a journalist, Cathy Nichol, an insurance agent, and Frank Di Sciullo, a sales representative were baptized into Christ. Also Kathy Gieg was restored and placed membership.

Those in the church who have no family in Montreal were invited to enjoy the traditional Quebec menu with the Maz-zalongos on New Year's Day and 59 people attended.

With increases in membership and attendance, plans are going forward for building renovations involving additional classroom and bathroom facilities. A fellowship hall, which can be divided into classrooms, a small T.V. studio, kitchen, office and a new entrance are being considered.

Heather Nichol, who was already putting in many extra hours in the office, is now, as a result of a single contributor, the office secretary and also serves in personal evangelism and visitation.

An area-wide preachers' meeting with Brian Garnett of Kentville, Nova Scotia as guest speaker was hosted by this church.

Toronto (Strathmore), ON: William Wright was baptized on Sunday evening, December 17 and Steve Chubry's son in late January.

Hamilton (West), ON: Avril Keoughan of this congregation was scheduled to go to Ghana, West Africa as a medical missionary early this year.

Grimsby, ON: The new building is approaching completion and will be in use by the first of March, if not before.

Beamsville, ON: In addition to the four men currently acting as deacons, ten additional men are being considered for appointment on the evening of February 18. Each will be appointed to a specific ministry.

A V.B.S. is being planned for July 30-August 2 when 18 teenagers from Oklahoma City will be on hand to do the teaching using the teaching stations method.

St. Catharines, ON: A search committee has been appointed to actively endeavour to obtain a suitable preacher to take up the work upon the departure of Murray Smith.

Work was to begin on a new sound system.

Niagara Falls, ON: Kevin Spiece was baptized on December 24 and Jay Cupolo on the 27th.

Henry and Dorothy Boland are on a trip to South Africa and Vienna, Austria to visit with brethren being supported there. A special collection was taken to help send them.

Port Colborne, ON: "Dave and Sue Johnson and two children, Jarrod and Jackie, placed membership with the congregation. I was invited by one of the public schools to do a self awareness, self imaging seminar with K - 5th grades. Each class had two twenty-minute sessions.

"Sunday mornings we have started a new series, 'Acts of the Christian'. We continue through a number of community efforts to make contacts. We are thankful for all God is doing through us."

--David Lock

Brantford, ON: There were eight baptisms during 1989. Of these, Diane Randall worships in Hamilton and Mike and Nancy Sherran are in Saskatchewan. Debbie Pauls became a part of this church during the year. The Dennis Schultz family left to worship in Waterloo and two others left the fellowship.

Friday night fellowship sessions in homes to focus on providing an "informal, relevant interesting Bible study for friends and relatives who wouldn't yet feel comfortable in a church building.

Kevin Malloy, who was baptized during the year, recently preached his first sermon in January and is now enrolled in Great Lakes Bible College.

Waterloo, ON: "We rejoice with Sherri and Rob Gardiner as Sherrie's mother, Carol McGonegal, put her Lord on in baptism."

Windsor, ON: Sharon Hammond was baptized on New Year's Day. Tom Hamilton, one of the elders, suffered a stroke in January. It affected his speech and right hand. Prayers are requested.

North Bay, ON: "We have recently ordained deacons for the service here. Please join us in welcoming brother Willy Klemm, Kevin Bradley and Jerry

Brock."

Thessalon, ON: The David Lock family from Port Colborne was able to visit family and friends in Thessalon during the holidays. David spoke New Year's Day at both services and again on Wednesday night. He noted large crowds and a high level of enthusiasm. Murray Smith is expected to move here on April 28 to serve this church.

The bulletin, now done by photo copier, states that 1989 seems to have opened the door for the young men and women to be more active. There has been good Bible teaching in classes and from the pulpit.

The congregation is now 83 years old. The average contribution for the last year was \$762.

Kenora, ON: "Greetings to all from Kenora. We are excited about a "food and clothing giveaway" we are staging on the 27th of January and are hoping and praying for a good community response. In the following month, we hope to run the Brecheen - Faulkner Marriage Enrichment series as a form of public outreach. We continue to pray for the brethren and God's work everywhere'".

--Earle Rattai

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by Brian Cox

P. O. Box 454, Wawota, SK S0G 5A0

Editor's Note: Hello again from the Prairies. I have already received some monthly reports, but there are still many congregations who have not yet sent me their bulletins. The bulletins you send me are a help but what we are really looking for is a written report of your congregation's activities. I am asking that each congregation appoint someone to write a report and send it to me the first of every month. Please bear in mind that I must have my column in the mail by the end of the first week of the month in order for it to make deadline. Thank you all for your support and kind words of encouragement. B.C.

Estevan, SK: Since Dale Elford left us to become public relations man for W.C.C., office duties have been carried on for the congregation by Carl E. Johnson, and the preaching has been done by the local brethren and bringing in a visiting preacher from nearby congregations once a month.

Three home Bible studies are presently in progress each week. In the last quarter of 1989, over 5,000 tracts entitled, **Why Not Be Just a Christian** were placed in the mail boxes in the city and mailed to nine surrounding villages. To date, only two responses have been received, with one of them resulting in a home Bible study.

On December 30 sister Isabelle Kendall was united in marriage to brother Richard Asbenlieder. Their marriage was officiated by Dale Elford. On December 31 Stephen Ennis of Lapeer Michigan performed the marriage of Brent Erickson and Angel Yergens. Brent is the son of brother and sister Vern Erickson.

The church here answered the appeal for help from the church in San Francisco for their earthquake victims.

We are enjoying our winter schedule of worship, which is from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, lunch together at the building, then worship again at 1:15 p.m., with the brother in charge of the communion to sick and shut-ins being at the building at 7 p.m. for any traveller or member who

had to work through the earlier hours.

The elders of the Estevan church wish to express their gratitude to the men who have been appointed deacons; they are taking their duties as deacons seriously by doing very good work.

Carl Johnson assisted brother Jim Pennington in the memorial serve for sister Anne Davis in Brandon. Sister Davis passed away December 18.

Manson, MB: On December 31 this congregation hosted an area-wide New Year's Eve party at the rink in Manson. There were 80 plus present with visitors coming from the community and the congregations in Wawota and Regina. Activities that evening included skating, shinny, broomball, board games, a devotional and singing. Joe DeYoung, after 7 1/2 years of service in Manson, has accepted an invitation to work with the church in Williston, North Dakota. He begins his work there February 1, 1990.

Weyburn, SK: On January 6 Astrid Olson passed from this life; her funeral was held on January 10 at the Weyburn Funeral Home Chapel. On March 24 Dan Weib will present his seminar on aging. On April 29 this congregation will host an area-wide singing. On May 26 Ted Archbold will conduct a seminar on "Grief and Bereavement".

Moose Jaw, SK: Eugene Kemp of this congregation passed away January 22. His funeral service was January 26. He will be greatly missed by his family and also by his spiritual family. Sonshine from Western Christian College will be singing in Moose Jaw on February 25 at 6:00 p.m.

Swift Current, SK: On March 23-25 Brian Cox of Wawota, Saskatchewan will be here for a series of lessons titled, "Learning from Jesus".

Wawota, SK: Tentatively April 19-22 has been set for the Hart's visit here. The Harts are missionaries whom we help support in Camrose, Alberta. During their visit, Will Hart will teach a seminar on Colossians.

Whitewood, SK: On January 28 a large group was in attendance for the Sunday afternoon service, with some visitors coming from the community. Afterwards the group visited the George Chopping Museum and then went to Merle and Colleen Nelson's for pot-luck and games.

Horse Creek, SK: Clifford Elford

Note

An unusual amount of advertising this month has crowded out the regular directory of churches. We do not anticipate this happening very often. --E.C.P.

Mission News

Ukraine - S. Bilak

"Now we know that we are witnessing to thousands, if not millions, because this year ('89) we have received almost 4,000 letters, and we were able to send over 3,000 New Testaments (or Bibles), including in each one a tract, "What is the Church of Christ?"

Russia - Kolesnikow

Yvan Kolesnikow, 82-year-old evangelist of Montreal, overseen by the Hunter Station church of Montgomery, Alabama, plans to return to Russia in February and again next summer to preach and to strengthen new Christians. Mike Ellis, who trained in the Slavic Evangelism program in Grimsby, Ontario, now of Eastern European Missions, Vienna, Austria, has applied for a visa. He speaks Russian and, it is hoped, will be able to accompany Kolesnikow.

Ellis hopes to spend several months each year in the Ukraine and from there follow up contracts with hundreds of Russians who have requested Bibles and literature.

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from Wawota, Saskatchewan is in Horse Creek for three months (January - March) teaching Bible classes and preaching. We pray that God will bless his work.



by Ed Bryant

6690 130 St., Surrey, BC V3W 4J2

Edmonton, AB: We are pleased to hear from Albert Kleppe, who is now doing the reporting for the church in Edmonton. We look forward to working with him. He submits the following:

"1989 was a good year for the church in Edmonton despite the fact that we had only 17 baptisms. We had three inspiring and informative special meetings during the year. In January, Les Gleaves of Richardson, Texas held a seminar on Bible School Teaching; in June, Jack Paul of Tyler, Texas preached a gospel meeting for the congregation; in October, Dub Harrison of Richardson, Texas conducted a workshop on 'Working with Inactive Members'.

"In June, three of our interns, along with their wives and the Edmonton elders, travelled to Lubbock, Texas where Gerry Bibaud, Randy Riske, and Jerry Luskey were graduated from the Sunset School of Preaching after successfully completing the 34 Sunset Extension courses over a three-year period.

"In September, Fred Reimer spoke to the congregation on the work of the International Bible Correspondence School, directed by Richard Kruse of Toronto. This program was well-received by the congregation and about 25 members are involved in mailing out over 500 of the first lesson and 30 second lessons.

"At the congregational New Year's Eve party and devotional, a **Ten-Year Plan for Growth** was unveiled to those present. This included a book published by the congregation outlining the plan year by year.

"The Ten Year Plan includes: (1) having a membership of over 1,000 baptized believers by December 31, 1990; (2) planting and establishing five new congregations in cities in Western Canada by the end of the century; (3) establishing a campus work on every college and university campus throughout Edmonton; (4) employing a full-time youth minister by 1993.

"We are excited about the Ten Year Plan for Growth and would appreciate your prayers on our behalf."

Kamloops, BC: Steve Crews, who

was our correspondent in Revelstoke, is now coming to me from a new direction. Steve and his family have moved here to take up the work. The nice house they have settled in is likely to be sold at any time; so, they will go house hunting again. They hosted 29 people in their home to help them watch the old year out and the new one in. Twenty-four were present at worship in the new year, and seven of these were visitors. One lady and her three children indicated that they would be returning to the church. The Mormon lady friend with her liked the service but stated she was satisfied with her religion and would continue in it.

Another of the visitors to that service had just moved into the house next to the church building. The church had helped them in a period of hard times, and they have been attending since. A study was to begin the next week with this lady and her teenage daughter.

Steve's wife, Joyce, has found the ladies here to be a very loving and caring group who put together several food hampers for the underprivileged. Joyce teaches the ladies' Bible class. She goes with those who visit the nursing home where two Christian sisters are living. She is working with another lady who is trying to reach a friend who is not a Christian.

At a church-wide planning meeting, ideas for the coming year were discussed.

Mike and Linda Dennis were visited by his parents from Independence, Missouri, who took part in everything while here in Kamloops, including even the 'flu', writes Steve.

Abbotsford, BC: Ray Fillion sends a resume of activities in this group during the year just past. Two were baptized into Christ; Charlene Weir fully recovered from Hodgkins disease; evangelistic trip to Geneva, Switzerland; five days' teaching at Keefer Bible camp; likewise at Swan Valley Bible Camp, and Handicapped camp; a Spanish family from El Salvador became part of the congregation; the Holland family has bought a house in Sardis, and plans to be part of this group when they return from holidays in New Zealand; expect the Hannan family from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan to move here in March; reporting to the church in Winnipeg and Carman, Manitoba while visiting with family there.

Nanaimo, BC: Les Beamish reports

that, in the past year, there were two camps (at Spruston Road, Ed.) and attendance was fair. The Family Camp, the Couples in the Country, and the Song Fest were very successful. Many in the congregation suffered from colds and 'flu, but most are recovered now.

The congregation looks forward to the arrival of Edgar and Barbara Burns, he in March and she in May, to take up the work here. Les gave their familiar names as "Buddy" and "Bobbie". Buddy has been doing mission work since his retirement in 1986. He brings a wealth of experience to Nanaimo.

Victoria, BC: The theme for this congregation for the year just begun is "Seek and Save What Was Lost". Elder Jerry Brewer has been talking about this being the "year of evangelism" at Shelbourne Street.

Surrey, BC: We have been greatly encouraged by the addition of the Craig family, who have placed their membership here.

Burnaby, BC: This church, with which Kirk Ruch has been asked to serve as evangelist, is planning a Spring Break "Outreach Activity".

(Ed's note: My special thanks to all those churches who have faithfully reported their activities. These things are of interest to the brotherhood at large because we are all in this Kingdom together, and because we need all the encouragement we can get. So, I ask for your continued cooperation.

If your church does not now have someone to pass along your local news, won't you consider appointing a person to do so? If that is not now being done, perhaps, as an alternative, you could send material directly to the Herald. Either way, your news will be before the brotherhood, who can enter into prayer for your group, and for all efforts being made in Canada. The year we are now into holds much promise and hope for the success of the gospel. Paul advises us to "weep with them that weep, and rejoice with them that rejoice," perhaps not in that order, for we would rather rejoice in whatever we may; and weep only when must.

In the year of our Lord, 1990, we echo the words of Tiny Tim in A Christmas Carol, "God Bless us every one!")

BOOK REVIEWS

Books to be reviewed in this column should be sent to
Keith Thompson, Editor, 348 Dixon Blvd., Newmarket, Ont. L3Y 5C4

(Books may be ordered from the Gospel Herald.)



God, Are You Really There? by Don England, 20th Century Christian, Nashville, TN. 151 pages, \$6.50 (US).

Don England is Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at Harding University. He has spent a lifetime studying the relationship between the Bible and science.

This book is part of a package designed especially for young people. Also available are two video cassette tapes with six 20-minute classroom segments, a student book and a teacher's guide. The student book, which we are reviewing, is suitable for older readers and can be used without the videos.

In the Foreword, Virgil Trout, who also has done much work in this area, writes, "Dr. Don England has performed a generous service to Christians of all ages in this work. He writes as both an honest scientist and as a dedicated believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. He is careful to note the nature of evidence that is used in the scientific disciplines and the nature of evidence that is necessary to examine the claims of Christianity. Dr. England provides a calm, steady defense of the Christian faith that is appealing to the believer and thought provoking to the one who is searching for answers to some very nagging and inevitable problems."

David: His Life and Psalms by Jim Jordan, Gospel Advocate Co., Nashville, TN, 202 pages, \$6.95 (US).

"Only one man in all the Bible wore the name David. He was a paradox in that he was both a national hero and an outlaw, a murderer and an angel of the Lord, a slayer of giants and a sensitive poet, a victorious king and a pleading penitent, an adulterer and a man who deeply loved and served God. He foreshadowed Christ, and Christ was called his son." These are the opening words to this beautiful study of a great Bible character. The book is the result of many years of study by one who has preached the gospel for 50 years.

I have always found the life of David difficult to organize for teaching and preaching. This book solves that problem. There is a very helpful "Chronology of David" plus many maps of his travels.

"Putting the Truth into Action" consists of several questions at the end of each chapter. Another helpful chart organizes David's wives and children.

One criticism would be that the author leans heavily on older commentaries and does not make use of more recent works in this area.

Ready Or Not, "Coping with life between Twelve and Twenty"-- A Thirteen Lesson Study Guide, Prepared by Brian V. Sullivan, 88 pg. \$6.50 (U.S.)

It is difficult to find class material for young people that really speaks to their needs. Brian Sullivan, an Ontario preacher, has prepared a very helpful study for this purpose. He deals with the major problems of youth, friends, role models, morals, drugs, drink, sex, etc.

He has many excellent charts that could be reproduced for us on the overhead projector.

Aborted Women: Silent No More by David C. Reardon (Westchester, Illinois: Crossway Books, 1987), 373 pp. Reviewed by Jim Hawkins. \$9.95 (U.S.)

This book is not for the faint-hearted. It is real and "gut-level" honest. It tells it like it is. The foreword is written by Nancyjo Mann who tells the story of her abortions, and the beginning of WEBA (Women Exploited by Abortion). Much of the material in the book comes from women who have gone to WEBA in order to bring some kind of sanity to their lives following their abortion(s). Reardon has done some excellent research for the book, and has interviewed dozens and dozens of people. He gives first-hand accounts of many women who tell their stories in hopes that it will help someone else.

The book is compelling, but it makes you sad, angry, hurt, tearful, guilty and terribly uncomfortable. But you need to read it anyway. If there has ever been any question in your mind about whether abortion is all right or not, read it. If you work with, are close to, or have any influence over young people and adults, read it.

TEACHERS WANTED

Two dedicated, creative, Christian teachers are needed starting in September 1990 at **Shuswap Christian School** in beautiful Salmon Arm, British Columbia.

You will enjoy working with a cooperative staff and supportive congregation in helping students through Grade 7 grow spiritually, academically and socially.

You will enjoy a variety of extra curricular activities.

You must be a member of the church of Christ and certifiable with the British Columbia Ministry of Education.

For further information contact:

Doug Kendig, Administrator

Shuswap Christian School

Box 789, Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4N9

Phone (604) 832-7994 (school) or 835-8529 (home)

VIOLET STEVENSON

Sister Violet Elizabeth Stevenson passed away at the Meaford Nursing Home in Meaford, Ontario on Sunday, January 14, 1990, where she had been a resident for the past several years. Violet was in her 87th year.

Sister Stevenson was the daughter of the late Matthew J. Stevenson and the late Sarah Bramley. She was predeceased by a sister, Lucille. She is mourned by the church in Meaford, several cousins and many friends.

During her life, Violet was a grocer. She worked some time for the Dominion Stores but later opened her own grocery store on the main street in Meaford. Later she built a store behind her house on Collingwood Street and ran her business from there. For the last several years, until she was 83, she carried on business from that location. She was known as "the candy lady" by many children who used to stop at her store on the way to and from school. She is remembered fondly by many of the people who grew up in Meaford.

The writer remembers her as a good friend and encourager. Her quick smile and wit will be missed. A funeral service in her memory was conducted at Meaford on January 17. We thank God for the promise of the resurrection and thus commit her soul to God. We pray God will give comfort to all who mourn her passing.

--Max E. Craddock

JOSEPHINE (DODIE) DURHAM

Sister Dodie Durham passed away at the age of 73 on December 29, 1989. Dodie became a Christian in June 1978 and was faithful to the church until her death. Dodie did have health problems for a good number of years, but was always concerned for others. The congregation at Nanaimo will miss her, but we are happy for her that she will be with her Lord and will not have any more suffering. Walter Moes conducted the memorial service in her honour.

--Les Beamish

LONEY WALLACE

As we write this the earthly remains of brother Loney Wallace have just been laid to rest. Well-known to Christians in southern Ontario, brother Wallace was a good friend and helper at both Great Lakes Christian College and Omagh Bible School. He also, as a builder, had a major part in construction work on several church buildings.

--E.C.P.

JANE MUIR CHEATHAM SAUNDERS

On January 14, 1990, the members of the Halifax Church of Christ gathered at the church building and dedicated our evening worship to the memory of our departed sister, Jane Saunders.

Jane Muir Cheatham Saunders was born in Louisville, Kentucky. She was a daughter of the late Dr. Luther Thomas and Elsie Frances (Muir) Cheatham. She taught school for several years in Louisville, Kentucky.

She was united in marriage with Carleton Saunders in Louisville.

Jane became a Christian in her early years, and remained a faithful member of the church of Christ. She moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1973 along with her husband. She recently became a resident of Fairview Villa Nursing Home in Halifax.

Sister Saunders passed to her reward on Friday, January 12, 1990 in the Victoria General Hospital, Halifax, Nova Scotia. She will be missed by all of us.

Many scripture selections were read and also numerous hymns were sung. By request of the family, the theme recognized that death is not feared by the Christian, and that the Christian family left on earth can take courage, knowing that their departed loved one has found rest in her eternal home. Wayne Taylor lead the congregational singing.

The Imperial Church

(continued from page 3)

There is a Biblical solution. After discussing the problem of Diotrephes in III John 9-10, John tells Gaius in verse 11, "Do not imitate what is evil, but what is good". To do this, it is necessary to pay more attention to what is right in those around than what is wrong. This is in harmony with the principle stated by Paul in Philippians 4:8 which exhorts us to let our minds dwell on those things that are true, honorable, right, pure, lovely, of good repute, excellent and worthy of praise. Jude tells us that we should first look after ourselves, "building yourselves up in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God. . ." (vs. 20-21), and then helping others as we are able to (v. 22-23).

Because people make up the church, until Jesus returns and we are with Him

forever, the church will always have to face its humanity and its imperfection. God challenges us to make the best of whatever situation and circumstance we may find ourselves in and, with His help, to rise above our own imperfections, that the world may see the power of God at work in imperfect people, transforming them into the image of Christ. Praise God for His boundless love and patience. May we, like Him, see beyond our weaknesses and the weaknesses of those around us, and see Christ at work in His church.

Self-Esteem

(continued from page 5)

excellent books on this subject. We hope this will be useful to you.

Your Child's Self-Esteem (The Key to his life) by Dorothy Corkille Briggs was published by Doubleday & Company on New York in 1970.

Hide or Seek by James Dobson was published by Fleming H. Revell Company of Old Tappan, New Jersey in 1974.

Two Hugs for Survival by Dr. Harold A. Minden was published by McClelland and Stewart Limited of Toronto in 1982.

Building Your Mate's Self-esteem by Dennis and Barbara Rainey was published by Here's Life Publishers of San Bernardino, California in 1986.

Not all of these books are written from a Christian perspective but all of them contain information that will help you.

Conclusion

We leave you with this thought. God is a great God. His power and might, wisdom and glory are beyond anything we will ever be able to comprehend. He made man in his own image and after his likeness (Gen. 1:26). That should be our first clue that a person is always inherently worthwhile. It is not proper for a person made by, and in the image of, the immortal God to under-value himself.

Yet sometimes our relationships with others have taught us to doubt our value. God wants to transform us by the renewing of our minds (Romans 12:2). It is our prayer that this series of articles can help us get the information we need to correct any false thinking and set us on the road to developing a proper sense of self-esteem. We believe it will result in greater glory to the God of creation. May He bless our effort!



Great Lakes Christian College presents . . .

YOUTH RALLY '90 -- April 20, 21, 22

"LIVING TO PLEASE GOD"

Key Speaker . . . Danny Sims, Tomball, Texas

Danny is an exciting and energetic speaker with a keen interest in teens. He is a graduate of Abilene Christian University in communications and ministry and brings a fresh viewpoint to life and our relationship with God. He's not to be missed! He will speak three times over the weekend.

Saturday morning -- you will be able to choose 2 of 4 seminars on topics of importance to teens.

Come to enjoy --

- ☆ sports and activities ☆ renewing friendships ☆
- ☆ GLCC chorus ☆ good food ☆ good lessons ☆
- ☆ an evening of entertainment ☆ fun ☆
- ☆ worshipping together ☆ singing ☆

Youth Workers and Teen Teachers -- Special session Saturday afternoon by Danny Sims on issues relating to working with and teaching teens.

Cost -- \$12 per person for the weekend (\$10 U.S.)

Registration -- ✓ preregistration is mandatory
✓ registration information will be sent to churches
✓ attendance is restricted to **Grade 7** and up

Billeting -- in Christian homes, but **bring a sleeping bag**

For more information contact: Rick McBay, Youth Rally Director
Great Lakes Christian College
4875 King Street, Beamsville, ON L0R 1B6
(416) 563-5374

GLCC YOUTH RALLY '90 - - - IT'S NOT TO BE MISSED!

Alberta Spring Fellowship

April 13 - 15, 1990

Good Friday - Easter Sunday

Theme: "We Proclaim Him"

LESSONS

FRANK WORGAN

THE GREAT COMMISSION
FROM UR TO CANAAN: NOW WHAT?
WHEN I AM LIFTED UP
WHAT DO YOU MEAN: FRIENDSHIP EVANGELISM?
MARRIAGE MISSION TEAM
BEING GOD'S MAN
WE PROCLAIM HIM

ISABEL WORGAN

WORTHY WOMEN

LEONARD GRAY

WORKING TOGETHER FOR TRUTH
WHO WILL STAND IN THE GAP?
SETTING GOALS FOR DYNAMIC GROWTH
MARRIAGE MISSION TEAM
BURIED WITH HIM
HOW TO STAY FIRED UP WITHOUT
BURNING OUT

MARGARITE GRAY

FROM UR TO CANAAN: NOW WHAT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN: FRIENDSHIP EVANGELISM?

Edmonton Church of Christ
13015 116 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5M 3C9
(403) 455-1049

Time to Plan V.B.S. 1990

We plan to offer the following Vacation Bible School series.
Sample kit prices are given.

1. **ISLAND IN THE SON** - Living in the warmth of God's love, I Cor. 13 and related stories from the Gospels.
Bible Class Publishers \$24.05 (US)
2. **LOVE IS THE WAY**
Gospel Teacher Publications \$26.95 (US)
3. **"FRIENDIMENSION"** - Jesus' Design for Friendship in a Hi-Tech World. Includes craft packs.
Standard Publishing \$39.50 (Cdn)
4. **GREAT BIBLE EXAMPLES** - Abraham, Joseph, Moses, David and Jesus.
Lambert Book House \$19.95 (US)

Early Order Discount : Complete V.B.S. orders postmarked prior to March 31 receive a 10% discount; prior to April 30, 5% discount.

Descriptive brochures (free) and/or **sample kits** may be ordered from:

Gospel Herald Bookstore
4904 King Street
Beamsville, ON L0R 1B6

Opportunity for Evangelism

The St. Catharines congregation is seeking an evangelist to share in our ministry.

For further information, please contact, or send resume, to:

Marvin Dickie
P. O. Box 1657
St. Catharines, ON L2R 7K1
Phone (416) 935-9581

Accept the Canadian Challenge

Are you aware that Canada is the 2nd largest Country in the World? There are cities of over 700,000 with only one small congregation. In the Western Provinces, there are 33 towns and cities with no congregation of the Lord's Church, some being 45,000 in population. **We're doing something about it!** And we need more full time workers, both men and women. Do you have what it takes to work on the Canadian Mission Field?

We Provide:

- Sound and indepth Biblical training courses with a Certificate upon completion.
- All course materials.
- Full-time leadership training opportunities.
- Practical evangelism and follow-up training.
- Opportunity to be on or lead a mission team.
- Mission strategies and Church growth training.

You Provide:

- Your full-time support (Some limited financial assistance may be available)
- A strong desire and commitment to serve God in a very serious way.



For more information write or call: **Edmonton School of Evangelism**
13015 - 116 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5M 3C9
(403) 455-1049 or 458-9428

"The fields are white, but the workers are few. . ."

The Board of Directors of
Great Lakes Christian College
is seeking applicants for the position of

PRESIDENT

Duties to begin July 1, 1990
Successful applicant should:

- ★ Believe firmly in the importance of Christian education.
- ★ Possess management experience, knowledge of business practice and a university background.
- ★ Expect to be accountable to the Board of Directors for the overall operation of the High School and Bible College, including Fundraising.
- ★ Be willing to travel extensively.

You may receive further information from or send resume to:

D. O. Tallman, for the Board of Directors
c/o Great Lakes Christian College
Beamsville, ON L0R 1B0

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

- 3... Bible Teachers' Workshop - GLCC
- 29-31... Int'l. Soul-Winning Workshop,
Tulsa, OK

April

- 2-4... Ohio Valley College Lectures,
Parkersburg, WV
- 8-12... York College Lectures, York, NB
- 13... "Training for Service", Toronto

May

- 12... Ladies Day Luncheon, Newmarket
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 P.M.
- 20... 50th Anniversary Homecoming, Pinehill,
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
- 25-27... Eastern Canada Lectures, Ottawa, ON
- 25-27... Willard Tate, "How to Get What You
Want and Want What You Get", Tintern

*(If you have events that you would like to have listed in this
Calendar of Events, please contact Eugene Perry)*

ADDRESS CHANGES

When changing addresses please notify us well in advance.
Otherwise we must pay 48¢ for each paper returned by the
Post Office.

TACKLING TRIALS

BEFORE THEY TACKLE YOU!

You are invited to a
Ladies' Renewal Day

Saturday, April 28, 1990

Registration & Coffee 9:30 - 10 A.M.

Guest Speakers:

- ▶ Learning to ask for help — Phyllis Stanley
- ▶ Learning to accept help — Linda Parker
- ▶ Learning to give help — Phyllis May

Lunch served at noon - \$5.00

Church of Christ, 346 Strathmore Blvd., Toronto M4C 1N3

☆ Position Available ☆

Cook

- to work a shift system under supervision of cafeteria manager
- cooking meals for approximately 100 students. Extra time required at special occasions and banquets.
- in the absence of cafeteria manager the cook on duty is in charge of student behaviour
- full time position with benefits
- discount for children attending W.C.C.

SALARY: As per salary schedule.

DATE REQUIRED: August 15, 1990

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: June 1, 1990

CONTACT: Vince Anderson, President
Western Christian College
P. O. Box 5000
Dauphin, MB R7N 2V5

Friends & Former Members are Invited to . . .

50th Anniversary Homecoming Celebrations

at the Pinehill Church of Christ

- Time:** Sunday, May 20, 1990
- Place:** 132 Cunningham Road,
Sault Ste. Marie, ON
- Theme:** "We Are Pressing on to Higher Ground"
- Program:**
- | | |
|-------|--------------------------|
| 10:00 | Bible Study - David Lock |
| 11:00 | Worship - Jim Casey |
| 2:00 | Kelly Seabrook |
| 3:00 | Lloyd Hotchkiss |
| 4:00 | Closing |

There will be no evening service.

Phone: (705) 949-4988

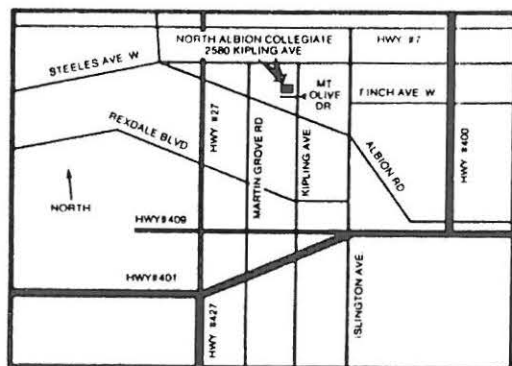
28th ANNUAL
TRAINING FOR SERVICE



ENCOUNTERS

IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

APRIL 13, 1990



NORTH ALBION COLLEGIATE - 2580 KIPLING AVENUE

GUEST SPEAKERS

Bill Bunting -

"The Rewards of Perseverance"

Don Smith -

"What Does the Future Hold for
You, Me & the Kids?"

ADULT & TEEN DISCUSSION CLASSES

CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Nursery through age 12

TIME

9:15 a.m. - 3:40 p.m.
Registration - 9:15 a.m.

PLACE

North Albion Collegiate
2580 Kipling Avenue
Toronto

TAPES

Available at minimal cost
by Bruce Robinson

Bring your own lunch.
Beverage supplied.