

# MACEDONIAN CALL

"Come Over into Macedonia and Help Us."—(Acts 16:9.)

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## MACEDONIAN CALL

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**YOU ARE INVITED TO WORSHIP  
WITH THE CHURCH MEETING AT**

**A HEARTY WELCOME AWAITS YOU**

## We Are Going Somewhere—But Where?

It can not be that man is doomed to come forth like a flower, bloom for a season, then fade away forever. There is a longing within him to live, to live always, to live always in happiness. Has God implanted that desire in us but provided no way to satisfy it?

Here is the way He satisfies it: "Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." (Revelation 22:14.)

But with the commandments of God have been mixed many of the commandments and doctrines of men, and the religious world is in great confusion. "In vain they do worship me," says our Savior, "teaching for doctrines the commandments of me." (Matt. 15:9.)

Life is short, even at the longest, and soon "we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done in his body, whether it be good or bad." (2 Corinthians 5:10.) Are we ready for the judgment?

The teachings in this paper are written that the reader may see the joy in doing right, and be enabled to know just what God commands that we may enter into the eternal city. The reader is asked to look up the scriptures and mark them in his Bible, that they may help him with every reading.—Publisher.

## Where Will You Spend Eternity?

Where will you spend eternity?

This question comes home to all;  
The old, the young, the rich, the poor,  
Must answer the solemn call.

Where will you spend eternity?

Life's pleasures will soon be o'er;  
Their songs and mirth will pass away,  
And leave you for ever more.

Where will you spend eternity?

Shall all with your soul be well?  
Say, will you enter Gates of Pearl,  
Or ever in darkness dwell?

Where will you spend eternity?

The angels now bend to hear,  
O choose today a place of rest,  
With Jesus, your Friend so dear.

Where will you spend eternity?

The dear ones, who've gone before,  
With longing eyes your coming wait,  
O meet them on yonder shore.

Where will you spend eternity?

Do not the answer delay;  
Shall all be darkness or marvelous light?  
Settle this question today.

## Is There a God?

We have so many branches of infidelity in this age it makes it difficult, sometimes, to tell just who is and who is not an infidel, especially among the non-professors. Then some going under the name of religion are the worst infidels we have.

Is it possible that particles of matter blindly thrown together by chance could make a sun, a moon, a star, a man, a horse, a cow, a mule, a river? They can make an image of a horse out of plaster-paris, can make a hog, a cow, etc., but they cannot give the horse the nick, the cow the bawl, the hog the squeal, etc.

How long would the skeptic have to throw the letters of the alphabet by chance before they could compose a sensible verse for music to be set to? Could they compose a poem or an oration in that way?

Let them answer this: Do bees construct their cells, birds build their nests, beavers build their houses, in the same manner from year to year, from age to age? Who gave them their instincts? Did chance do that?

Then we ask them concerning "Cause and Effect". Every effect must not only have a cause, but it must have an adequate cause. On early rising, after camping in a desert, one reported that a camel had been walking

about the tent during the night. He was asked how he knew, and he pointed to the tracks in the sand, saying that nothing but a camel made such tracks. When we look about us we see the tracks of Jehovah. We see them in the hills, in the mountains, in the valleys, in the plains, in the rivers and oceans; in the flowers and trees; in the birds and fish; in the covenant of the day and night; in the coming and going of the seasons; and, most of all, in man himself. With all his splendid achievements man has not been able to make things like these. His mountains are mole-hills; his rivers are small creeks; his oceans are toy lakes; his flowers are without life and fragrance, and his lights are flickering tapers.

It is said that Napoleon pointed to the stars and asked, "but who made them?" Echo answers, WHO? They are the tracks of God.

**DESIGN.** An intelligent man for the first time examined a watch with its complicated machinery. He notes its levers and springs, its wheels and cogs, its strong case and clear face, its hour, minute and second hands, and he sees how accurately it makes the progress of time. What must be his conclusion? I do not ask what it *may* be, but what it *must* be. There can be but one: **This watch had a designer; it could not come by chance.** A globe was shown to a skeptic. The skeptic asked who made it. He was told that no one made it, it just happened to be that way. It had no designer. It is a freak of chance. The skeptic caught the point, for he knew it was a silent argument against him, yet it spoke in thundering tones of a higher power and of a personal God. It sealed his lips and stilled his tongue. David said, "The fool has said in his heart, there is no God". If the man who would say **IN HIS HEART**, there is no God, would be a fool, what about the man who **speaks it right out?**

Infidelity has to suppose an absurdity, namely, that there were an infant male and female born or produced co-ordinate with the existence of the earth, and that these had no parent; consequently, could not possibly arrive at maturity. If evolutionists, or any other branch of infidelity, were to reason from effect to cause (they go backwards at most things), they might be confounded with some difficulty upon such questions as: Whether the first man was an infant or an adult; or, whether there was an acorn or an oak first; whether the tomato was first or whether the seed was first; whether the first man invented language himself and taught it to his offspring, or whether there was a convention of men co-existent who agreed upon names for every thing, before any of them could speak.

Scientists differ from 24,000,000 years to 306,000,000 years in regard to the age of the earth. There is a difference of 282,000,000 years between them on their guesses as to when creation began. We cannot "fall in" with them so long as they differ like that in their guessing. We accept the Bible and the personal God who gave it, and we have no guessing to do.—W. G. ROBERTS, Mattoon, Illinois.

### Prepare To Meet Thy God.

In Amos 4:12 the Lord through His prophet warns His people against their rebellion and tells them to prepare to meet their God. All of us realize to some extent that we must meet God in judgment. (2 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 14:10-12; Eccl. 12:14.) We are not so foolish as to say

there is no God. (Psa. 14:1.) Yet many of us are foolish in another respect. (See Luke 12:15-21.) Some people say they want to get a start in life and then prepare to meet God. Jesus said, "Seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added." (Matt. 6:33. See also Psa. 37:25; Eccl. 12:1.)

A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things he possesseth. Remember, God said to the rich man, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee; then whose shall those things be which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

Why should one prepare? First, because of gratitude. We should be grateful to God for His blessings. The air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat, and all the comforts of life are blessings from God. (Psa. 24:1; Acts 17:28.) Then we should be so very grateful to God for the spiritual blessings that are in Christ Jesus. (John 3:16; Heb. 5:8, 9.)

Second, because of hope of reward. God has promised to reward those who love and serve Him. (Matt. 5:11, 12; Rev. 2:10; Rom. 6:23.)

Third, because of consequences of sin. (Matt. 16:26; Rom. 6:23; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; Jas. 1:13-15; Matt. 25:46, 41.)

You say you believe all this, but how may I prepare? I am glad you are interested enough to ask that question. You may prepare to meet God by a change of heart, a change of life, a change of relationship. Faith changes one's heart from an unbeliever to a believer. You can't please God without it and it comes by hearing the Gospel. (Rom. 10:17.) Repentance changes your life. You repent when you make up your mind that you are going to follow Christ instead of Satan. (For a good Bible definition see Psa. 34:14.) Unless you do this you have no hope of salvation. (Luke 13:3, 5.) Baptism changes your relationship. Before this act you are related to Satan because you are in his kingdom, but when you are baptized this adds you to His church, thus you are in His Kingdom. (Acts 2:47; Col. 1:13.) For proof that baptism—immersion in water—brings one into Christ, see the following references: Gal. 3:27; Col. 2:12; Rom. 6:1-5; 1 Cor. 12:12, 13. But before you are baptized you must confess the name of Christ before man. (Matt. 10:32, 33; Rom. 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37.)

My dear sinner friend, you should not delay your preparation (Heb. 3:15; Acts 24:24, 25; 26:28) but remember you must faithfully follow Christ until death. (Rev. 2:10; 14:13; Matt. 10:22.)—C. R. TURNER.

### What Must a Sinner Do To Be Saved?

As important a question as above is surely answered by the New Testament since we know it is the document that is now the divine law book. Of course it is taken for granted that something must be done by the sinner or else we would conclude that he is not responsible for his conduct. We are aware that men have taught at various times that the sinner is not able to do anything for his salvation and that he must wait until God takes the matter into his own hands and saves the sinner in a miraculous way. Now if we can find in the New Testament any instances where sinners were present and asked any question pertaining to their salvation and notice the answer, we will have a sure source of information. It could not be doubted that the preachers who are written

about in the very book that was given by our Lord would do and say the right thing on this very important subject. And even if some attempt to be satisfied with the modern doctrine that the sinner can do nothing, yet whatever we find that was done in the times of the early church must certainly be right. So we shall examine the Book at the various conversions recorded. As we do so be sure to observe if the inquiring sinner was told he could do nothing for his own salvation. And let us also note if he was told to do something and if so what it was?

In Acts the second chapter the first time the Gospel was preached as being in force there were many present who had been convicted of their sins. This made them realize that something must be done about it and they cried out with the question, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" This would have been a proper place for the apostle to tell them they could not do anything and that they would have to wait for God to do the work. But instead the apostle answered their question and this was his answer: "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." Of course, the last part of the answer is a promise and not a command, and thus has nothing directly to do with the present article. We are now trying to find out what sinners had to do to be saved from their sins.

Now let it be understood that I am not claiming to bring before the reader every case of conversion recorded in the New Testament for space would forbid. But I aim to present such cases only where it is evident the sinner was inquiring the way of salvation. Then in these cases we wish to note whether the sinner was told to do something, and if so we are to see what it was. The next case is in the ninth chapter of Acts. Here was Saul of Tarsus on his way to Damascus. He was persecuting Christians for he did not believe in the Christ. Then when Christ appeared to him he was convinced that Christ was the true Lord and that in opposing the work of Christ sin was committed. Now let us not become confused as to the purpose Christ had in appearing to Saul. It was not for the purpose of converting him by miracle. In chapter 26:16-18 we are told why this miraculous appearance took place. It was to qualify Saul for an apostle which required personal knowledge. So when Saul asked the Lord what he should do the Lord would not tell him but told him to go into the city and there he should be told what to do. He did this and after he got into the city we find what he did after the preacher came to him. He was told to "Arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." You will find all the accounts of Saul's conversion in the following places: Acts 9:17, 18; 22:16. Read these passages carefully and you will see that Saul had to do something to be saved, and it was the same that Peter commanded the sinners in the second chapter.

The next case is that of Cornelius. The tenth chapter of Acts gives the first account of his conversion, and I wish the reader would turn and read the whole chapter. This man was a good man in many respects, yet he was not a Christian, and there was something he was required to do for salvation. In verse 6 he was told that the Apostle Peter would tell him what he ought to do. This shows that men are to do something and not just expect God to do all in their salvation. Then in the eleventh chapter, where Peter is rehearsing the case to his brethren,

he gives some more details of this case. In the 14th verse he says Cornelius was told he was to be told "words whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved." This shows that although Cornelius was a good man, yet he was not a saved man, for he had to do something to be saved. And he was to learn what that something was by hearing words. We can find out what that was by observing what he actually did. In the closing two verses of chapter ten we learn he was baptized in water. This was the very thing Peter commanded those to do in the second chapter.

Next we will notice the case of the jailer. This is in the 16th chapter of Acts. In the 30th verse we read how the jailer asked the very question at the head of this article. The answer to this question was "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved and thy house." But this was not all he was told to do for in verse 33 we learn that he was baptized, which he would not have done had he not been told to, for he had asked what he must do. And thus this case is just like the one in the second chapter. So when we take into consideration all the cases of conversion in the book of Acts we obtain this conclusion. The sinner is required to believe on Jesus Christ, repent of his sins, confess his faith and then be baptized for the remission of his sins. As a help to the inquirer I shall give a list of passages to be examined on this subject as recorded in Acts. Read 2:37-41; 8:12; 8:35-38; 9:6, 18; 10:6, 47, 48; 11:14, 18; 16:30-33; 22:16. In these places it will be seen what sinners were required to do in the days of the apostles in order to obtain forgiveness from their sins. And what was right for sinners in those days will be right today, since we have no other plan of salvation given to us by the Lord. Then let the sinner read these passages and obey them and he will be saved from his past sins.—E. M. ZERR.

## Our Inheritance.

I invite you to read with me some of the passages in God's Holy Word, which bring peace to my soul and comfort to my heart. The first one I desire to mention is this, "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God; therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not." (1 John 3:1.) In connection therewith I refer next to Rom. 8:17, which declares: "Heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together."

The above scriptures lead me to know that when I must give up the battle of life, and cross death's chilly wave, there awaits for me a glorious heritage upon the other side. This life is full of disappointment, worry and care, but those things shall be left behind, and when I confront my Saviour face to face, if I have proven worthy of his confidence, I know there awaits for me "a far more exceeding weight of glory." Let us contrast that reward with the treasures of this life which engross the attention of so many of the teeming millions of the earth today. Then let us count the cost and determine which we would prefer, since it must be understood that we cannot have both. (1 John 2:15, 16; James 4:4; Galatians 1:10.)

In 1 Peter 1:4 we learn that this inheritance possesses four qualities which earthly riches do not and cannot have. He says it is:

**INCORRUPTIBLE.** How different than the wealth of this wicked world which not only becomes corrupt, but is a corrupter itself; of religion, morals, governments and lives. The poem is truly correct, "My heavenly home is bright and fair". The book teaches us that sin cannot enter that happy abode.

**UNDEFILED.** "And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defleth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life".

**FADETH NOT AWAY.** In the past few years men have seen their stores of gold fade away, homes have been lost, stocks and bonds have become worthless, and those who were in ease a few years previous now walk the streets begging for a crust of bread. Life on this earth is fading for all of us, even as the color leaves the beautiful blossom of yesterday when touched by the chilly blast of autumn. But when the former things have passed away (Revelation 21:4) there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain".

**RESERVED IN HEAVEN.** A short time ago I went to a certain western city to appear as speaker on the program sponsored by a large industrial concern. When I arrived I found that there were at least three conventions holding forth in the district at the same time. A number of individuals were lined up at the desk of the hotel clerk, endeavoring to secure accommodations which were not available. When I presented myself and gave my name the manager immediately said, "Yes, we received word to reserve a place for you, and your room is ready for occupation". I wonder how many of the readers will be turned away in the last day because they have not made reservations ahead of time. It will be too late to try and secure a "mansion" at death. Our obedience is the wire that goes to the Throne of Heaven and provides the inheritance reserved for all eternity.

I pray you then, dear friend, to wait not until it is too late and then shed bitter tears of regret. Will you not arise at once and do your Saviour's bidding? Will you not say now, "Lord I'm coming home!"

"I'd rather be a beggar

Than to own all earth's silver and gold.

I'd rather have Jesus

Than the diamonds of a palace to hold.

I'd rather be a beggar,

Live in a little shack by the road;

Than to own all earth's treasure,

With no title to a future abode."

—W. CARL KETCHERSIDE.

## The Church Which Christ Built

**ITS NAME**—Christ said, "Upon this rock I will build my Church." (Matt. 16:18) and Paul speaks of the "churches (congregations) of Christ." (Rom. 16:16). This institution is also called "Church of God" (1 Cor. 1:2); "Church of the Firstborn" (Heb. 12:23). The people who compose this church are called Christians and disciples (Acts 11:26), saints (1 Cor. 1:2), brethren (1 Cor. 1:2). All names not found in the Scriptures are human and cause division, hence they should not be worn by Christians.

**ITS CREED**—The teachings of Christ and His inspired apostles as found in the New Testament constitute its creed, or belief. To mix our own notions and the traditions of men with the teachings of Christ is to render our worship vain, for God says through Christ, "In vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." (Matt. 15:9.) The Old Testament is inspired and leads up to Christ.

**ENTRANCE INTO IT**—"Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." (John 3:5.) "Having been begotten again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, through the word of God which liveth and abideth." (1 Pet. 1:23, R. V.) To be begotten by the word of God, and to be born, or begotten, by the Spirit, are the same. All commentators of any note say that to be born of water refers to baptism. When we permit the word of God which comes by the Spirit of God to sink into our hearts producing faith and repentance, we have been begotten again, but our birth is not yet complete. When we have gone on in our obedience and repented and been baptized, then it is that our birth is completed and we have been born of water and the Spirit, and have come into the kingdom, or Church of God. Paul says, "Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death" (Rom. 6:3); and, again, "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." (Gal. 3:27.) These scriptures teach us that baptism, preceded by faith and repentance, is the act which brings us into Christ. But what is baptism? Bible baptism requires "much water" (John 3:23); going "down into the water," (Acts 8:38); burial, (Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12); coming "up out of the water" (Acts 8:39). Jesus says that we must be born of water. Can a babe be born of a mother smaller than itself? Neither can we be born of a body of water smaller than ourselves. We come out of the water into the spiritual world very much as we come into the natural world.

**ITS GOVERNMENT**—Jesus Christ is absolute King and the New Testament is His law book. The Old Testament is inspired of God, but is not a book of authority for Christians. Christ has ordained that elders, called also overseers, bishops, look after the local congregations (1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; Acts 20:28), and that deacons be servants of the churches (Acts 6; 1 Tim. 3:8-10). Evangelists are to go from place to place preaching the gospel. The churches of the New Testament were not under the councils, associations, synods, general assemblies and conferences of uninspired men, but under the teaching of the inspired apostles. The church government was congregational. The pastor system in which one man rules and teaches the congregation instead of the elders, was unknown to the New Testament.

**ITS WORK**—The work of Christ's Church consists of helping its own poor and sick, in doing good unto all men, and in advancing the gospel. The aid work of the New Testament Church was done as individual Christians (Acts 9:36-42; Gal. 6:10), and as congregations (Acts 11:27-30). The gospel was preached in two ways—all true Christians preached the gospel in private, trying to save others besides themselves (Acts 8:4), and evangelists publicly proclaimed the gospel, living on the voluntary contributions of the brethren and churches (1 Cor. 9:14; Phil. 4:14-16). The early Christians had no aid societies to do the work of helping the poor and sick, which every

Christian should be interested in; they did not have any Endeavor societies to train young people, for parents were to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and when they became Christians they came under the watchful care of the elders of the congregations as well as their parents; they had no missionary societies to preach the gospel, for every Christian was to do all he could for the spread of the gospel in public or private. These societies are organizations different from the Church, though they are attached to it, for they have different laws, treasuries, officers, etc. Those who work in these societies go contrary to that scripture which says, "Unto him [God] be glory in the church." (Eph. 3:21.)

**ITS WORSHIP.**—The early Christians continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching, and fellowship, in the "breaking of bread and the prayers," they were to teach and admonish "one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts unto God." (Acts 2:42; Col. 3:17.) They had no organs, pianos, fiddles, horns, etc., to make music in their worship, for all these make a kind of music which God has not commanded, and hence such music is an addition to God's Word. "If any man shall add unto these things [the Scriptures] God shall add unto him the plagues which are written in this book." (Rev. 22:18.)

**ITS FINANCES.**—Paul commanded Christians to give, upon the first day of the week, freely and liberally. (1 Cor. 16:1; 2 Cor. 8:9.) They did not raise money by shows, entertainments, festivals, box suppers, rafflings, etc., and a hundred other devices used by many so-called Christian people.

**CONCLUSION.**—Do you, dear reader, belong to the Church Christ built, which is opposed to all the doctrines and traditions of men, and is trying to do all that God commands—nothing more, nothing less—in the way which He commands? It is deviation from God's word which has produced the division in Christendom. To say the least of it, there is great danger in belonging to a church which is not mentioned in the Bible and which has corrupted the simplicity of the gospel of Christ. (Gal. 1:8; 2 Cor. 11:3; 2 John 10, 11.) Will you, dear friend, follow a way of DANGER rather than the way of SAFETY in a matter of eternity?

## CHURCH NEWS.

Colorado.—Please find enclosed four dollars for two Simplified New Testaments. I am getting them for two of my children. I like mine and the Church of Christ book so much, also the paper, and wish to send for more soon.—Mrs. A. A. B. (If you would like details of this testament, send to M. C. publisher.)

Brookport, Ill.—We are moving along nicely. The cause here is growing, for which I thank my heavenly father.—A. T. Kerr.

MANY DISCIPLES have expressed commendation for the December number of the M. C., but we do not take space to print any of them. Brethren like to read encouraging reports. If there is much good being done in your congregation, let the brotherhood know about it.

Los Angeles, Calif.—Brother Zerr held a good meeting at Compton. Fog kept us away some, but what we received when able to go was of great benefit to us. In another year we expect to start a mission meeting here.—Robert Sankey.

Chillicothe, Mo.—The church here is getting along all right. Our audiences Sunday mornings sometimes are almost too large

for the small house. We are having Sunday night meetings, but find it a little difficult to select good lesson subjects for the general discussion. We spend thirty minutes this way with a leader chosen the week before.—G. B.

(No one-man preacher-pastor in this church nor in any reporting in this paper, doing all the teaching and drinking in the resources of the brethren to entertain them, but brethren edify one another. They do not even have "monthly preaching" here, though to have a preacher come in monthly and put brethren to work and develop them, and preach Sunday night to non-members who might come, would be scriptural. The purpose of the true evangelist is to so develop a church that he will work his way out of its services rather than into them, and then the church can help him in new and weak places in real missionary work. The Church News this issue shows there is advancement in this forward work.—Publisher.)

Kansas City, Mo.—Have not been out of the city for some time; waiting for sunshine. Spruce Street Church is pressing on the upper way. A number of young men are in training. Brother Ellis and Brother McGhee are song leaders. Good, wholesome meetings each Lord's Day with full houses, also Sunday night and two mid-week meetings keep the workers busy and wide awake. The church at 55th and Cleveland is in good working order. Seven were baptized the same day recently, without any protracted meeting. Splendid song service and speaking by good home talent, both Lord's Day and mid-week. Visitors are frequently at either place. When in the city look for the church ad. If you are 100 miles away there is plenty of time after you get the morning paper. All are cordially invited.—A. R. Moore.

BROTHER W. G. Roberts sends a letter he received from Brother Roy Clark, who was hard hit by the depression—sickness, etc.—and moved from Springfield, Mo., to Riverside, Calif. Brother Roberts says:

"I am sending to you the above letter and asking you to make a short note of their condition in M. C. and ask for a contribution from brethren to assist them. They haven't even any furniture now. Sister Clark has worried herself sick because he could not get work out there as they expected. Send contributions to Roy E. Clark, Pacific Avenue, R. 2, Box 566, Riverside, Calif.

Missouri.—The August number for non-members was fine, and I am sending money for the January Evangelistic Quarterly, for I know it, too, will be good. My next door neighbor liked hers so well she read every word then handed it to her daughter-in-law to read.—Mrs. C. C. R. (That's the way to keep the truth going. We are printing several hundred extra copies that have not been ordered, with the anticipation that many others will circulate the printed truth. I wish we had more sisters as interested in spreading the gospel as this sister has been through years.—Publisher.)

Hamilton, Mo.—My wife and I had the pleasure of hearing Brother John Rhodes for the first time, at Cowgill, Missouri, on the evening of Sunday, December 12, 1937, after visiting with him that afternoon in the home of Brother Will Gray. Brother Rhodes closed his meeting at Cowgill that evening with one addition, making five for the entire meeting, I believe. Brother Rhodes presented a good lesson that evening, and he impresses me as one who is standing firm upon the walls of Zion.—O. C. Tee.

Des Moines, Ia.—I am instructed to put in an order for 500 copies of the January number for the congregation here. I understand the copies are two cents each. I wish to see the congregation turn their minds strongly to get the work started up somewhere else in the city, and we are in a better way financially to do that now as Cedar Rapids is now, I think, self-supporting. The quarterly numbers will be fine in advertising in a new field.

Our Wednesday evening meetings are very interesting at present. We have been studying the four gospel records together, by using Luke as the basis, and comparing with the other three and trying not to leave out any of the incidents mentioned or teachings, and also trying to keep them in their chronological setting. I believe that there has been more hard study in this than anything we have tried for some time. We are starting on a new program for our every other Lord's Day evening meeting that I believe is going to be profitable, and I believe create quite an interest. Brother Bunn and I are taking turns in leading and announcing a subject ahead that we wish

the brethren to prepare themselves on to give five-minute talks. In the first meeting we considered mission work. Next time the subject will be "How to Keep the Work Going."—Eugene Suddeth.

(This was in a private letter but it is profitable to all: church at Des Moines is one of the most aggressive I know of, and the reason is that it has an aggressive leadership. About 40 male members take public part. They have had preachers come in and hold protracted meetings, and several protracted Bible readings of a month each, day and night. They have established another church in the town and have largely been the means of establishing and planting firmly the church at Cedar Rapids. Two young men have been developed in their midst and have preached some, and after they attend the reading through the entire Bible at St. Louis they hope to spend all their time in evangelizing. All this has been done by this church AND THEY HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THIS BY THEMSELVES WITH THE AID OF PREACHERS WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED IN OCCASIONALLY. It is by such work as this that the world will be evangelized, and in a scriptural way. And now they send for 500 of this Evangelistic number of the M. C. to try to push forward still farther.—Publisher.)

WE WISH we could give away free all literature, but the publisher simply can not do it. These Evangelistic Quarterlies must be given to you for at least two cents each when ordered before printed, but if you order now in quantities, please add postage, for we shall have to send them parcel post. It takes about twenty to weigh a pound. Yet if you are willing to wait till our next mailing, you need not add the extra postage.

Topeka, Kans.—The last Lord's Day in October we began a meeting with the brethren at Lewis, Kans., which continued over three Lord's Days. We had splendid audiences and interest throughout the entire meeting. We sowed the good seed and hope for a harvest in the future. Outside audience was good. Brethren from Greensburg, Mullinville, Larned and Kinsley attended the meeting. The brethren were very kind to me, invited me into their homes and were deeply interested in the work of the church. They have splendid talent and a good future if they work as they should.—J. A. Freed.

Malta, Ohio—Since my last report to the M. C. I held a three weeks' meeting at Caesarea, Ky. There were no additions and brethren said they were not expecting any. Crowds were not large, but there was good interest on the part of those who attended. In November I had appointments at Wolf Creek, East Branch and Shawnee, in Ohio.—C. G. Parsons.

(In his evangelistic work, the publisher has found that when one gets into a community where the time is not ripe for advancement among non-members, the thing to do is to develop the members, either by spending half the evening in Bible reading or drill or both, and the other half in a discourse, or all the time in the Bible work. When we can get the members into real work, then we are laying the foundation for a harvest of souls in the future. The Guide Through Bible History will help in such development by private study, and when outsiders will not come, why not take the gospel to them in the printed form, such as the Evangelistic Quarterly of the M. C.?)

Des Moines, Ia.—Brother W. G. Roberts was with us in a series of meetings lasting two weeks and ending December 19th. Blustery and foggy weather and ice on the ground much of the time hindered the attendance, but we consider that we had a good meeting and that the seed sown will bear fruit. Three placed membership. Glad to know that Brother Roberts is much improved in health and that he can still tell the old, old story with power.—Eugene Suddeth.

Peoria, Ill.—I wish I were able financially to do more, but at present I can't. I wish I could put the Evangelistic Quarterly edition into every home in East Peoria, which would take 5,000 copies. I am willing to do all I can in my humble way. Brother R. O. Webb has certainly worked for the Peoria congregation, which we surely do appreciate. We are few in number but faithful, and we must work, for there is much of it to be done. Many lost souls in a wicked city like Peoria and East Peoria must be saved. People are so hard and unconcerned any more of the condition they are in. I wish you much greater work for the Lord in the coming year, 1938, than 1937.—Mrs. L. R.

A GREAT MEETING of scientists of America was held the last week in 1937, in which at least 5,000 participated. I

attended a few of the meetings, and as they discussed the points of advancement in science and anticipated imparting their knowledge to others (some of it being mere speculation), I thought that with all this wonderful progress in such matters, crime was on the increase, deaths from auto accidents were greater than ever, disregard for local, national and international laws was multiplying, "brain trusts" were failing to bring us out of depressions, family life was being broken by divorces, strikes with all their confusion were increasing, and the world as a whole more than ever was drifting into chaos. And the enlightenment of the scientists was accomplishing nothing to stop it—it seems. It is not science but religion which the world needs. Brethren, this should convince us that the religious work in which we are engaged is the greatest work in the world, for without it human relations grow worse.

A FEW YEARS AGO Thomas Edison picked what was considered the brightest young scientist in America and gave him a technical education at his expense. Says a late news report: "He did brilliantly and after graduation established himself as a consulting engineer. But now he declares the world can get along without his contribution to science." He is giving himself to religion, and explains: "Instead of building bigger and better bridges and machines the need is to build better individuals. Today there is a real hunger on the part of the people for spiritual values." A wise decision if only he will follow the religion of the New Testament. How many of our readers are willing to give up bright earthly prospects to work for Jesus Christ? Moses accounted the persecutions of the people of God, greater riches than the treasures of Egypt. I do not mean for you to become evangelists especially, traveling from place to place, but to be workers for Christ in whatever place you are in life. But remember that reformers in politics, religion or anything else must do so at a great sacrifice in a temporal way.

St. Louis, Mo.—The work is moving along very well at St. Louis. One confession and baptism and one by membership from Lillian Avenue last Lord's Day, and one confessed wrongs from Manchester. The interest at both places is fine. The Lillian congregation has picked up a lot since the meeting. The young men at both places are doing fine in public work. We are looking forward to the protracted Bible reading through the entire Bible, to begin January 3rd. Prospects are good for nice outside attendance. It's fine to know there is a goodly number of young men planning to attend.—Robert Morrow.

(Here is another church which is developing its talent; has established another church in the city; has also still another mission, and is now holding a Bible reading through the entire Bible (see report in next item) to develop talent—and all without "the pastor", a character unknown to the New Testament. Let us make such work universal.—Publisher.)

THE ST. LOUIS BIBLE READING—We wish to announce again that W. Carl Ketcherside will begin this reading, at 7121 Manchester Avenue, on January 3 at 9:00 a. m. Sessions will be held daily except Saturday and Sunday, from 9:00 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. The entire Bible will be considered, special drill work will be held in public speaking and Brother Leonard Bilyeu will conduct a class in the rudiments of vocal music. There is positively no tuition charge, and the whole expense will be for room and board. We urge you to write at once and tell us your requirements. Address all correspondence to Robert Morrow, 7117 Manchester Avenue, St. Louis, Mo. Plan now to attend the entire study. (We are sorry this came too late for the December issue.—Publisher.)

Mattoon, Ill.—Closed a meeting at Des Moines, Iowa, on the night of December 19th. Had good meeting, all things considered. It was about as bad a time for a meeting as I have had for many a day. It was cold, foggy, icy and also snow. They have a lovely congregation. Believe they said they have about 40 male, public workers. They work, too. That congregation is made up of "lively stones" and two of their number are now at St. Louis attending the Bible reading conducted by Brother Carl Ketcherside. Three placed membership while I was there.

I went from there to Cedar Rapids and preached four nights then went to Center Point and ate dinner with my brother, Curtis, and his family and preached there Sunday morning, then back to Cedar Rapids and preached that night. Brethren at C. R. seem to be doing nicely now and are pleased that they have a new meeting house in which to worship. Those two

congregations (Des Moines and Cedar Rapids) are two that are cooperating with each other as nicely as any I know of, or better. They have good leaders at both places who watch to keep false teachers out.—W. G. Roberts.

Perry, Ill.—Brother W. E. Ballenger's meeting at this place closed Lord's Day night, December 19th. There were four baptisms. Three of them were children of the writer. We feel that much good was done otherwise. Considering the weather, the attendance was very good. On first Lord's Day lunch was served at the school house. Those present from other congregations were brethren from Jacksonville and Martinsburg. Brother Stephenson's and Payne's families were present one night from Decatur. People were very much impressed with Brother Ballenger's earnest way in presenting the truth. He doesn't "soft pedal" and hits sin hard. We hope he may come again sometime. Sister Ed Robinson, of Cotter, Ark., also attended one Lord's Day of the meeting.—L. L. Curry.

"IF YOU are one of those fortunate persons who love gardens you are assured of much wholesome pleasure in your life—pleasure that will become stronger as you grow older and that will never leave you, as so many other pleasures do. As a man becomes older and wiser he finds that an interest in growing things brings one of the greatest and truest pleasures that can be had. All of the old thoughtful nations are nations with gardens."—Burton Holmes Travel Stories.

SOME OF OUR SUBSCRIBERS are behind with their subscriptions. We have already sent you a notice, but you seem to have overlooked it. It would help the Cause very much if you would renew now, and if possible send one or more new subscriptions at seventy-five cents a year. Why not sound out the Word by sending the Evangelistic Edition four times this year to non-members for twenty-five cents? The world needs the simple gospel we are trying to present.

Hartford, Ill.—Enclosed find \$5.00 from the church at this place, for which send us 250 copies of the M. C. for January. We got 250 copies of the September number and feel they were very valuable. We gave quite a few copies away soon after we received them and the remainder during our meeting held recently by Brother Carl. We had a very profitable meeting though the weather was against us and an epidemic of measles was sweeping the town at the time. Twenty-five new names were added to our record; eleven by baptism; some coming from denominations and one from the Catholic Church, who had taken two vows toward being a nun. She had been attending our services some before the meeting, and when the meeting was pretty well along she came forward and asked to be baptized, which only goes to show that the "gospel" is still the "Power of God unto Salvation." Our house was able to hold all who came to this meeting, but if everything had been favorable I believe we would have had more than a house full. Several of the new members are heads of families. We are putting them to work already. Had one young man who was baptized to read an opening lesson for us tonight, and another is on the program at our mid-week meeting and another next Lord's Day night. We plan to attend the reading through the entire Bible at St. Louis all we can.—Otto Schlieper, Hartford, Ill.

(Here is another aggressive church, because they have an aggressive leadership. Bro. Schlieper is an elder. They have recently rebuilt their meeting house to twice its former size. And they are spreading the gospel through the printed page as well as the spoken word, and they feel that it is doing good. And this has been done without "the pastor." It has been done through mutual edification such as taught by Paul, "The things thou hast learned of me, the same commit thou to faithful men who shall be able to teach others also"; and 1 Cor. 14, which shows different ones took part in the public assembly when the whole church was gathered together. If Hartford, St. Louis and Des Moines and other churches can make such a success of God's plan of developing talent and sending out preachers and establishing churches without missionary societies, Bible colleges or any other human organization to do work of the Church, what is to hinder your church from doing the same good work?—Publisher.)

I ENJOY the Guide Through Bible History. When certain preachers from the Middle West gave Bible drills in these parts, they almost always commended the young people for their Bible knowledge. The Guide Through Bible History should be given a great deal of credit for this condition, because it was

used in the drill work. I don't mean that the Guide was used like a lesson leaf or quarterly, but those who did the drilling studied the outline as given in the Guide. Many novices were able to conduct the drill work in a very acceptable manner. This is the second Guide that I have received, the first about 18 years ago. I used it so much that it was worn out, but lots of the brethren now have more Bible knowledge than they would have otherwise; also a better understanding of the entire Bible.—Robert Sankey, California.

(Thousands have been benefited by this Guide Through Bible History, price 35 cents, at the M. C. Office. Why not have a protracted Bible Reading in your home, if there is none in your congregation, this winter? This booklet of 130 pages will help you much. And leaders who would like to develop churches such as some mentioned in this issue, will find the booklet will help.)

A. R. MOORE writes: "Was called to preach the funeral of Bro. A. G. Huffman, who departed from this life December 19th and was buried on his birth anniversary. Born at Paxton, Ill., December 21st, deceased was 66 years of age. Later at Asherville, Kans., he was a leader in the Church for more than 30 years. He is survived by his two daughters and four grandchildren. From a human standpoint, Brother Huffman was all gold, 24-karat fine. The home has lost a good father, the Church a good member, the community a good neighbor, the state a good citizen and the world a good man. Man is a greater name than president; he is a son, a husband, a father, a friend; he belongs to a home, a country, a church and a race while here; then goes on to a place where he could never go simply because he was president."

Cedar Rapids, Iowa—Inventory: The year of 1937 is now past, and the new year of 1938 graces the face of the calendar. Inventory has been taken and all the accountings for the fiscal year of 1937 have been made and certified. Membership in 1930 was 42; in 1937 was 40. Assets over and above 1936—7 precious souls. Evangelists who have assisted this congregation during the year just closed have been Brothers John Rhodes, C. D. McCay, Lloyd Riggins, and W. G. Roberts. All of these brethren have assisted and rendered valuable services to this congregation, and all are held in the highest esteem by the brethren at Cedar Rapids. During the year of 1936 and the early part of 1937 we were meeting in a deserted store building which was of the single story type with metal roof which contracted heat in the summer months and a concrete floor which was very cold and disagreeable in the winter months. We are now enjoying the blessings of a new meeting house which is of a frame type. \* \* \* This was all made possible by the various congregations and individuals throughout the brotherhood who contributed liberally and untiringly. The labor was furnished by our local congregation who worked every day and some evenings as late as 10 o'clock, until the work was completed. I cannot leave this subject without making mention of old Brother Stone, who is known among the brethren as "Old Faithful." Bro. Stone is past 80 years of age, but he never allowed the 103 degrees of heat on July 4th to interfere with his work. Not a day did Bro. Stone lay off the job during the course of construction. To the brotherhood of the Church of Christ, and to our God, we are all very, very thankful. With hope and prayer that the new year of 1938 will bring forth more prosperity spiritually.—F. H. Pryor.

BUILDING ACCORDING TO THE MATERIAL FURNISHED

There was a certain woman, a member of a fashionable church, who was prominent in all social and charitable reforms and movements, who dreamed she died and went to heaven. An angel escorted her to the place prepared for her. As they passed along the streets, lined on either side with such mansions as called forth her strongest exclamations of admiration, she began to wonder which of these was hers. They came to one more beautiful than the rest and she could not repress the question, "Whose house is this?" "Robert McCheaney's," answered the angel. "Robert McCheaney, our gardener?" "Yes." "Why," said the woman, "he will not know how to act in such a place as this; he was only a poor man on earth, and while he was honest and a good worker, he never saved anything, and his wife even took in washing. My husband said, though, that he might have been rich, but he gave away nearly all he earned."

"Yes," said the guide, "while he was poor in earthly goods, there never was a day but what he sent up some good deed or kind act to add to his mansion here, and we always build according to the material sent up, and this home is the result of Robert McChesney's treasures laid up in heaven."

"They passed on to where the streets were narrower and the houses plainer. They paused before a small and very plain cottage. "Whose house is this?" the woman asked.

"Yours," replied the guide.

"Mine! Why, I cannot live in such a place. I had an elegant home on earth, kept three servants and entertained elaborately. What would my friends think to find me in such a house? I would be ashamed to be found here."

"Woman," said the angel, "we always build according to the material sent up, and we have watched carefully all these years, and this is the very best we can do with the material you sent us."

Reader, this is not all a dream. You are forging and furnishing material for your eternal home SOMEWHERE. You can have a building the world cannot see. The material is being transmuted through SORROW or through JOY and will compose your home in ETERNITY. Will you let Christ be the builder? Are you furnishing Him the right kind of material, and enough of it?

#### Some Pointed Questions, for Christians With Means, to Consider

**WHY** should persons of wealth and influence in this world, not be well provided for in the next, when, with the means they have at their command, they could easily become a great blessing here, by assisting in spreading the Gospel, and thereby rescue many perishing souls? Prov. 11:30, "He that winneth souls is wise." Gal. 6:7, " whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

**WHY** is it that so many Christians over the land are leaving thousands of dollars to ungodly relatives to spend in sinful pursuits, which, instead of being a blessing to them, proves to be an actual curse by simply hastening them on to destruction?

**WHY** is it that Christians with means at their disposal, do not invest more liberally in ETERNAL REALITIES NOW, and thus be sure that their investment will be placed where it will yield the greatest possible returns?

**WHY** is it that they are so shortsighted that they fail to place their wealth where they can use it in the next world, and have their investment within easy reach when they get on the other shore and then be able to enjoy its spiritual proceeds forever? Then their riches would prove a source of great pleasure and enjoyment in this present world as well as in the one to come.

Jesus tells us in Luke 16:9: "And I say unto you, make to yourselves friends of the Mammon of unrighteousness." That is, invest your money wisely, so that it will prove a blessing instead of a curse.

The time will come when each of us will be called to give an account of our stewardship here below. What shall our answer be?—Selected.

#### FATHERS, IS THIS YOUR PICTURE?

A father who was a farmer-preacher once stood before an audience of Christians on Lord's day morning, and said: "When my children were little, they would o'ten come to me at the close of my day's work on the farm and say, 'Papa, won't you tell us a story; papa, won't you read to us?' I would turn them away with the excuse, 'Oh, I'm too tired tonight, I'm too busy; wait till some other time.' When their repeated requests were turned continually aside, they ceased to come, their hungry minds were not filled with the good lessons of life I might have taught them, and they turned to other avenues to satisfy their desire to know. Today I would love to read to them out of the Great Book of Life and tell them some of the wonderful stories there of right and wrong, but they are not interested. I lost a golden opportunity of doing good, for they turned to other fields of information and their minds have become filled with worldly things, and they are a grief of mind to their mother and me." And his eyes moistened as he confessed his parental neglect.

If you should ask me what is the matter with the world? what is the matter with the Church?—I would answer that this farmer-preacher has explained these questions to us. Parental neglect in training the child in Divine truth—neglect especially in early years—this is the cause of most of the evil of the world.—D. A. S.

#### WHAT DO THESE SCRIPTURES MEAN?

"Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: BUT know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment." (Ecc. 11:9.)

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." (Ecc. 12: 13, 14.)

(John the Baptist, speaking of Christ), "Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." (Matt. 3:12.)

"Wide is the gate and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way that leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." (Matt. 7:13, 14.)

"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 wind blew, and beat upon that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it." (Matt. 7:26, 27.)

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven: but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." (Matt. 7:21.)

"The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, and shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matt. 24:50, 51.)

"And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal." (Matt. 25:46.)

"Canst ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matt. 25:30.)

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:15, 16.)

"Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:2, 3.)

(The whole chapter of Luke 16 shows that the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus refers to the terrible end of the selfish ones.) "There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day; and there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, and desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man died also and was buried; and in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy life time receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence." (If this gulf is "fixed," then the doctrine of saying mass for the dead to get them over that gulf, is a fake; and the doctrines of universal salvation or of a second chance are heresies.)

"God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16.) "Faith without works is dead." (James 2:26.)