

Spiritual Call

*To be carnally minded is death, but to be
SPIRITUALLY minded is life and peace.
—Romans 8:6*

*Walk worthy of the vocation (calling)
wherewith ye are CALLED.
—Ephesians 4:1*

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J. Edgar Hoover is Alarmed at America's Crime

"The earth was filled with violence," Genesis 6:11.

"The sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose," Gen. 6:2.

"As the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be," Matt. 24:38.

Mr. Hoover, you know, is head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and he studies nothing but crime, and means of stopping it; and he is greatly concerned regarding the drift of conditions in our land. In New York city, he says, young men in parks, etc., rob citizens, and sometimes for no special reason beat up on those they meet. Girls and women are raped, and sometimes murdered by these young hoodlums. And the same is true in many other cities in the USA, and also now in smaller towns and country where they can get away with it even better.

In their investigations, they find that many of these young men come from broken homes and have no training, and we know that in many homes which are not broken there is so little moral and religious training that it does not count much. That is one reason this journal says so much about the real Christian Home, and that we can never expect much for the church and country till parents awaken to their responsibilities.

But WHY are there so many broken homes? Men get tired of their wives and wish a thrill with some one else; and wives grow tired of their husbands, and run after some one else; and they break their families and leave the children to raise themselves on the streets.

And WHY do men and women lust after their neighbors' wives and husbands? Because such things are on their minds abnormally.

And WHY are their minds so occupied? Largely because of the sex, sex, sex, they see in the motion pictures, hear over the radio, see in their TV sets, see on calendars, magazines, newspapers and almost everywhere. A near-nude woman is continually thrown before the people. Women wear "shorts" on the streets and other places of mixed people when it is not necessary.

If a woman in shorts were attacked by a man when she was passing along at night, and the case were brought before me, as a judge, I would lecture the man and turn him loose on the ground of unnecessary provocation; and then I would lecture the woman as the "provoker". I might not get any feminine votes from such women in the next election, but I would have the satisfaction that I had tried to stop a great evil at its source, in part.

In the days of Noah when God destroyed the earth because of the evil in it, sex undoubtedly played a big part. The "sons of God", the good people, married the bad people,

probably descendants of Cain, and the whole world became corrupt. They chose wives as they wished. It was beauty they were after, just as today with Miss America, etc., in their bathing suits; no attention to morality, religion, home qualities, love of children, etc.—it was "FAIR" they were after, then and now. They probably did not have to divorce them in Noah's day, for they practiced polygamy. And as other things had deteriorated in about the same proportion, "the earth was filled with violence." And so God changed his sentence regarding man, and destroyed all that wicked generation except Noah and his family.

So, said our Savior, that it would be when the Son of man should come. And when we read the papers and see the crime which comes also from other causes, and see the utter helplessness of the forces of Good to stay it, we must conclude that at least we are becoming ripe for Jesus to come and destroy all this wickedness. God said of these ante-diluvians, "My spirit will not always strive with man."

But what are we professed Christians doing to help save a few from the disaster which is surely coming? Are we warning them in personal word or by sending them warning literature which may cause them to think in their quiet hours? God sent Noah to preach to the ancient world and admonish it, and GOD IS NOW SENDING US TO OUR MODERN WORLD. Are we as faithful to OUR commission as Noah was to his? "Preach the gospel to every creature."

God's Power to Save Us

As we open the Bible and turn to the portion called the New Testament, we find four books or divisions, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, giving us a history of the life of Jesus here on earth.

Next comes Acts of Apostles, telling us how the Apostles carried out the instructions which they had received from Jesus as to how they should proceed in making converts to Him, or disciples. These disciples were called Christians. Before this time the term "Christians" was unknown, for we read that the "Disciples were first called Christians at Antioch", Acts 11:26.

Then we have twenty-one epistles or letters from some of the apostles to various churches and individuals, giving inspired instructions as how these disciples or Christians should conduct themselves so as to meet with God's approval.

The apostle Paul was the author of fourteen of these twenty-one, the first of which was the one to the Romans.

Paul introduces himself to the Romans by stating his authority, that he was called to be an apostle. He then expresses his deep solicitude and interest in them by saying

that he always makes mention of them in his prayers, and of his request of God that he might have a prosperous journey to them, that he might impart some spiritual gift to them and have some fruit among them also.

In the sixteenth verse of this first chapter, Paul makes this statement, For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation, to everyone that believeth: to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

It is the *gospel* that is the *power* of God unto salvation. That makes us ask, what is this gospel that is so powerful as to give us salvation?

Let us turn to 1st Cor. 15:1-4 which reads, "Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; by which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures; and that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: after that by about five hundred brethren at once".

This is the Bible definition of what the gospel is, that Christ died for our sins, that he was buried, and rose again, all in fulfillment of that which was prophesied hundreds of years previous; and that he was raised from the dead was confirmed by over five hundred witnesses; proving that this was not a cunningly devised fable of man, but was done by the power of God. This is that gospel which Paul by inspiration says, is the *power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth*.

How often we hear it said, "Come to our meeting, we have such a fine preacher." Are we then extolling the wisdom of men, or the gospel which is the power of God unto salvation? Paul said, Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel; not with *wisdom of words*, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect, 1 Cor. 1:17. Again, And I, brethren, when I came unto you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you, save *Jesus Christ and him crucified*. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power; that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God, 1 Cor. 2:1-5. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation.

Then again, the excellency of our music and our singing is often used to attract people, but we are taught that it is the cross of Christ, the gospel, that the apostles used to attract sinners to Christ. As for oratory and eloquence, it was said of Paul, that while his letters were mighty and powerful, his bodily presence was weak and his speech contemptible, 2 Cor. 10:10.

And when he besought the Lord that the thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet him, might be removed, the answer of the Lord was, "My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness." 2 Cor. 12:9. So we find that the gospel as stated above is the only drawing power that God authorizes to be used to draw men to Him for salvation.

When we are convinced of the enormacy of Adam's sin in disobeying God and that the effect of that sin is passed on down to us, we see that no matter how upright a life we may live, we are all doomed to perish unless we turn to God in complete submission, and obey Him from the heart by accepting the terms which He has offered through the gospel,

believing on his Son Jesus Christ, repenting of our past life, being buried with Christ in baptism, and arising to walk a *new life* in Christ Jesus our Lord.—Fred D. Weed.

My Daily Creed

Let me be a little kinder,
Let me be a little blinder
To the faults of those about me:
Let me praise a little more,
Let me be when I am weary,
Just a little bit more cheery;
Let me serve a little better
Those that I am striving for.

Let me be a little braver
When temptation bids me waver:
Let me strive a little harder
To be all that I should be:
Let me be a little meeker
With the brother that is weaker:
Let me think more of my neighbor
And a little less of me.

Author Unknown.

Holding Forth the Word of Life (Phil. 2:16)

The church is the pillar and ground of the truth, and we as individual members have the responsibility of upholding the word of truth.

Elders are commanded to feed the flock, also to watch. The feeding of the flock consists chiefly in holding the word of life before them that they may know how to conduct themselves in this evil world.

Many in these perilous times are not satisfied with setting forth the word only, but present their own opinions; and in order to uphold their opinions, fail to set forth all the truth. The tendency of these same people is to exalt themselves instead of Christ.

Jesus said, "The words that I have spoken shall judge him in the last day" (Jno. 12:48). We shall all be judged by that word. Why then will men put their opinions above the word, and why will some men add to the word in order to uphold some theory that they originated in their own minds. "If any man shall add to these things God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book." (Rev. 22:18).

We have today, critics of God's word, professed members of the Church of Christ, men who will not accept the word of God as written, but act as "higher critics" of the Bible. They are not holding forth the word of life, but are tearing it down to their own destruction.

It is time we lay aside all our opinions and turn to the word of God as our only rule of faith and practice. Pride and ambition seem to be the controlling motive in many lives.

An humble and a contrite spirit is sorely to be found, instead of which, we have self exaltation, the spirit of the Pharisees, whom Jesus condemned.

We need men who will preach Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

The wisdom of men will all come to naught. We need men that will go out among the highways and by-ways and bring men into God's kingdom, men that are not afraid of persecutions and afflictions.

Far too many evangelists want to settle down and work with established congregations where there is plenty of money and not much to do. They are not willing to be followers of

Paul who worked with his hands to support himself and those that were with him. Paul's life was much too strenuous. But still the fact remains, that, "All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

"If we suffer with Him we shall also reign with him."
"Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son he receiveth."

Do we believe it?

Let us fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life. Let us hold forth the word of life and that word only. Our opinions will not help anyone and may cause us to lose our own souls in the last day. Let us walk humbly in the sight of God.—C. D. McKay.

How Do We Lay Up Treasures in Heaven?

You remember that Jesus commands us to lay up treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not corrupt and where thieves do not break through and steal. But how is this done? In the first place, one must obey the gospel and become a Christian. We lay up treasure in heaven partly by living right morally; and by doing good unto all men, especially those of the household of faith; and by trying to carry out the Great Commission to go into all the earth and preach the gospel to every creature. In the apostolic day every Christian was supposed to be an aid society in and of himself, and a missionary society telling the gospel, and an educational society teaching the truth whenever and wherever opportunity offered, in harmony with the will of God. We can do this by writing letters to people on the gospel, or by sending printed tracts or papers.

Many people consider they are not good in talking to others, and they, yes all of us, can send papers to friends near and far, such as the Spiritual Call. People are seeing the light through the writers of this paper. Some readers have been converted by the truth of God presented in it. Almost every day we receive letters of appreciation of how the paper has helped them along the rugged way. Read such commendations under the heading, "Sentiments of Some Who Fear the Lord." All this work is laying up treasure in heaven, just as certain as it is the truth presented. Hundreds of our readers are receiving the paper regularly because our subscribers consider they are laying up treasure in heaven by scattering the truth in this way. Many do not send the names but send contributions regularly, and others not able to donate much, send names. Thus we all are workers together with God. Are you laying up anything in heaven? Let us do all we can while it is called day, for "soon the night cometh when no man can work." Have you spent more in pleasure the past two months than you have laid up in heaven IN A YEAR? Just something to think about—all of us!

What you invest in stocks and bonds, and houses and lands, will not count at the Judgment; but what you invest in helping the poor and needy, and in spreading the gospel to try to save souls, is the "treasure in heaven" Jesus said we should lay up.

Miss Black, WCTU treasurer, placed the number of women alcoholics and chronic drinkers at 800,000 in the United States.

Her address brought a shift from emphasis at the convention on attacks on drinking in the armed forces.—Associated Press.

"And God Shall Wipe Away All Tears ... Death ... Sorrow ... Crying ... Pain"

Let me tell you something else from the twenty-first chapter of Revelation, the fourth verse, "And God shall wipe away all tears." Oh, the tears that are running over mothers' wrinkled faces today because of wayward sons or daughters who have gone astray. Oh, the tears, hot tears, heart solution! A man said to me the other day: "If all the tears that have been shed in the world because of sin would go into one stream, it would make a river that would run continuously day and night—one larger than the Mississippi." Tears, tears, tears! And they shall be wiped from the eyes, and there shall be no death there.

Death, you old last enemy, you reach into the little home and snatch a companion, a mother or a father, a daughter or a son. Death, I don't like you. Death, death, old death! Death, the last enemy! There will be no death there. There will be no long funeral processions in that city. There will be no crepe on the doors. There will be no sorrow! Sorrow—I don't think the world ever held so much sorrow as today. Oh, the sorrows that invade the home; the sorrows that invade the church; the sorrows that invade our social life; the sorrows that sweep over the land; the deep waters and rivers of sorrow that almost drown us. Thank God, the Bible tells me there will be no sorrow there.

Neither shall there be any more pain. Oh, you precious folk in the hospital, turn over on your pillow so you can read this. You who have been tossing through the night with a fevered brow and with pain wracking your body, there will be no pain there. No more pain there. When I go through the hospitals and see precious folk wracked and rolling in pain, I go out and can't help but cry. Oh, if you have any feelings toward your fellowmen, you will feel that way, too.

I used to see my mother suffer. I went home one time when she was convalescing from an attack of illness from which she suffered twenty years. I saw her pallid face, her shoulders stooped and bony. We walked around the little farm home. I put my arm around her and said, "Mother, I cannot understand it. It is making me doubt! I am not becoming rebellious, but I cannot understand. I know a woman who is the perfect picture of health and never had any pain, and she has damned more boys' and girls' souls than anyone in our city. She lives in a stone-front mansion, has her health, has plenty of money, and looks so happy. I come down here and know what you have done and how you have lived. I know you did without sugar and coffee to pay the little circuit rider preacher and to keep the little church going, so feudists would not kill Dad and so Dad would not kill somebody else. I know what you have done! You have been a consecrated Christian since you were twelve years old, and now you have to suffer this way. I cannot understand it! Tell me, will you?"

She looked up into my face and said, "Son, you see that old barn? You see that old orchard? I don't think there is a space around this old home ten feet long where my knees haven't touched the ground in prayer for you when you were a drunkard, a gambler, and a thief. It just seems as though, son, when I pray after suffering the worst pain for forty-eight hours, my Lord is the nearest to me. If I had not suffered these years, then I might not have been close enough to Him for Him to have heard my prayers for you and for your salvation." I understood then.

No more pain there! No more pain, for the former things have passed away. Where will this be? In that City, the Home of the soul!—Cadle Call.

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Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Many legends have grown up around the origin of "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," although nothing for certain is known about the writing of this hymn except that it was written by one of the famous Wesley brothers, John or Charles. There is the story about the small bird pursued by a hawk, flying through the open window into Charles' study and hiding in his coat lapel, thus inspiring the poem. There is another legend about this famous hymn, which seems more probable and certainly more interesting for the picture it gives of the trials and persecutions of the Wesleys in their crusade against the organized Church of England: John Wesley the leader, and Charles Wesley the poet, entered a small English village in the year 1710, and arranged to hold a meeting in the public square. That evening while the meeting was in progress, a group of villagers who objected to the Wesley doctrine attempted to stop the sermon and break up the meeting. The meeting soon became a riot, and the Wesleys managed to escape the mob and find safety in a spring house. Here they hid for several hours, and it is said that Charles Wesley wrote the hymn during this time.

The most reliable historians tell us there is no basis for these stories, and no absolute assurance that Charles is the author. "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" could have been written by John, and editors in the last century simply affixed "W" to it. But because the style of the poem is more like the other thousands of hymn-poems which Charles wrote, it is generally accredited to this brother, who was influenced by the rich fleshly imagery of the Moravian hymns he first heard and admired while aboard a ship bearing him and John home to England, after an unsuccessful missionary adventure in colonial Georgia. On the other hand, John was opposed to using terms of endearment in his poetical intercourse with God, and it is concluded that John could not have composed the first two lines of this poem.

Is this beautiful and widely sung hymn guilty of familiarity and fondling expression? Church leaders have often questioned whether such a tender and deeply-felt lyric should be sung by a large mixed audience in public worship, or whether it should be reserved for private devotions. It is known that the author entitled it simply "In Temptation," and the verses printed below show it to be a real cry for help out of such an experience. The "Lover" is used in the spiritual sense and is taken from a verse in the Apocryphal book, *The Wisdom of Solomon*:

"But thou sparest all, because they are thine, O Lord, Thou Lover of souls."

The imagery of the second line is that of St. John lying on the bosom of his Lord at the Last Supper. Such images and expressions are familiar to all Christians and should not occasion embarrassment in any gathering large or small.

Despite criticism and the mystery surrounding the origin of this song, it is acclaimed the greatest of the many high-quality hymns which Charles Wesley wrote (about 7,000 in all). Charles wrote songs easily upon any occasion, and has given us such other favorites as: "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," "Love Divine, All Love Excelling," and "Soldiers of Christ, Arise." Like the new spiritual hymns of Isaac Watts, these hymns appealed first to the unlearned masses of farmers, laborers, and miners, who had been untouched by the cold, stately services of the Established Church. Gradually the upper classes came to find the same religious satisfaction in the new Church songs, which today are sung by Christians the world over.—D.M.K.

Jesus, Lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high;
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
Till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last.
—Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

The Silly Arguments of Infidels

There are many shades and grades of "Infidelity", as respects Christianity. The literal meaning of the Latin word is "one who does not believe, or who is unfaithful". The Atheist is one who says that there is no God. The Skeptic doubts concerning God and Christianity. The Agnostic is one who says, "I don't know, it may be so or not so." Robert Ingersoll was an agnostic. The Deist believes in God, but not in the Bible nor Christianity. Thomas Paine was a Deist. The Modernist is one who pretends to believe in the Bible and Christianity, yet throws slurs at certain parts of it; and many of them throw skepticism at most or all of it as being inspired of God. They vary a considerable regarding their beliefs. Many even doubt the virgin birth of Christ and his bodily resurrection from the dead. These Modernists are doing the most harm of any to Christianity. Then there are those who "profess that they know God, but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate," Titus 1:16.

Bruce Barton seems to belong to the class of those who are Deists, for he believes in God but ridicules the Bible. I wish to notice some of his "arguments" which recently appeared in a daily paper. He is a great advertiser, but now seems to be somewhat of a columnist writing his opinions to the world; and in this article he gives his opinion of religion, and can not complain if we take issue with some things he says. We hope to answer him in several articles. Following is from the beginning of his article:

"In the Old Testament He (God) is a bully, visiting abominable afflictions on well-meaning citizens, Job for example, just to see how much they can take; slaughtering innocent Philistines to let the 'chosen people' march in and steal their land, And sending forth a whole procession of ill-tempered 'prophets' to tell poor struggling human beings that they are no good, and that any day He may decide to kill them all."

Now notice that he refers to the God of the Old Testament as a "bully" because he punished those people for their sins, etc. Now the Modernists, at least one of them, does the same thing. In a series of lectures at Yale University several years ago, this one endorsed the statement of a boy that God was a "dirty bully". This preacher was head of

the Council of Churches of Christ of America, a super organization of most of the Protestant denominations of America, numbering between twenty-five and thirty million souls. He was none other than Bishop Oxnam of the Methodist Church, and the quotation mentioned is found on page 79, of his book entitled, "Preaching in a Revolutionary Age, Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, Nashville, Tenn."

Let us pay our respects to Oxnam, first of all. He professes strongly to be a follower of Christ, yet Jesus Christ had the same Old Testament that we have, and He made no such criticism of the God of the Old Testament, but always referred to those Scriptures with respect. When Oxnam rejects the Old Testament he rejects the New also, and thus he cannot thus reject the Old Testament and hold to the divinity of Christ and the inspiration of the New Testament. And if one should pin him down to unequivocal terms, he might probably reject the New as he has the Old. No wonder there is such indifference among professed Protestants when its leaders put out such stuff as that!

Returning to Barton, we consider his remarks about Job and God. Now Job evidently lived in the Patriarchal Age of religion, before Moses, and before the Jewish Law was given. This is probably the only book of the Bible which was not written by a Jew. It discusses the age-old question, Why do the righteous often suffer, and the wicked prosper and live in health. True, God often rewarded the faithful in a temporal way and punished the wicked, and some concluded that it was *always* that way. God's affliction of Job proved otherwise—at least, at times. Eliphaz asked, "Remember, I pray thee, who ever perished being innocent? or where were the righteous cut off? Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same." (Job 4:7, 8.) This probably is the Key to the discussion in the book.

Under the New Covenant God does not promise to make me rich, nor healthy, nor popular with the crowd, but He permits evils to come on me and other Christians to bring out the good in us. Yes, He may even send evils at times, as it pleases Him, to call us to our senses. It may be that He has sent, or permitted Communism to come to the world to plague it because we, like Barton, have departed so far from His teaching. "Now, no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby." (Heb. 12:11.) The book of Job has strengthened millions of readers through the centuries, and if Mr. Barton had not been so interested in "a good time", as he relates later, he might have learned the lesson from it that would have done him good. Maybe his flesh warped his judgment, and he has built up his religion according to the "good time" he wanted to have!

Now to those "well-meaning" "innocent Philistines", etc. These people occupied the south-western part of Canaan; and as the nations outside came in contact with them probably more than the other nations there, the land came to be known as Palestine, which is a variation of the word "Philistine".

God said to Abraham that his descendants could not dwell in that land at that time, as theirs, "for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full." (Gen. 15:16); that is, the inhabitants had not gone the limit where they merited extinction. But in the days of Joshua their cup of iniquity was full, and God commanded his people to go over there and utterly destroy, which by the way they did not do through their indifference.

Here is a description of the wicked things these Canaanites

did: "There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, or a charmer, or a consulter with a familiar spirit or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination to the Lord; and because of these abominations the Lord thy God doth drive them out from before thee." (Deut. 18:10-12.)

If a man has a cancer, it may be necessary to cut it out, or kill it, to save the rest of the body. If one has blood poison in an arm, it may be necessary to cut it off to save the rest of the body. If we save the world from the curse of aggressive Communism, it may be necessary to destroy the nation or nations that force it, or at least reduce them to impotency. And if God would save the world in those days from people who were sacrificing their own children to their gods, and engaging in other such abominations, destructive to the world, it was necessary to destroy all those people. If they had saved any of them, they might have risen to avenge the death of their wicked parents. Israel neglected to obey God, with the result that they themselves were again and again led off into these evils, and punished by God for so doing.

I suppose Bruce Barton would have gone pellmell into these abominations, and would have refused to listen to those "ill-tempered prophets" who tried to keep the people out of them! Barton says further on that God "*seemed to be against almost every kind of a good time,*" and so we may infer that Barton was in for doing those things God condemned in the Old Testament! Paul says, concerning these events in the Old Testament, "These things happened unto them for our ensamples, and they are written for our admonition", warning. (1 Cor. 10:11.) But Barton will take no warning from them, but ridicules them.

You wouldn't think that a man who is as smart as he is supposed to be, would put out such silly stuff as he does, as a sample of his religious belief. God help our nation to be delivered from such religion. I wish to review the rest of his article in future issues. May you not help the cause of truth by showing your paper to those who need this?

—D. A. Sommer.

The Right Passport—Have You Got "It"?

A man traveling by train from Boston through the State of Maine, into Canada a few years ago, learned something of the importance of having the "right passport" to enter another country. As he neared the border, the government officers boarded the train and began to inspect each passenger minutely. Sitting in front of him was a lady dressed in a religious garb, all alone. She handed some papers to the first official that came to her.

After looking them over, he handed them back to her saying, "Madam, these papers are no good. You will have to get off at the border." She tried to argue the point but all to no avail. The outcome of this was, she had to get off the train at the border. Her paper didn't have the correct stamp, or approval.

In thinking this matter over, his mind turned to the Word of God, (the Bible) where we read in Matthew, Chapter 7, Verses 22-23, "Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy Name have cast out devils? and in Thy Name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

What solemn words these are! Spoken, too, by the Son of God, the one "who spake as never man spake." These

people are right at Heaven's door, yet they are shut out, why is this? "They do not have the RIGHT PASSPORT."

How many there are today who refuse to bow to God's word; when it plainly states that SIN has made all of us unclean and unfit for God's Holy Presence; Isaiah 64:6. Others again are satisfied to go on careless and indifferent, thinking that all is well, only to discover when it is too late that they have been deceived.

Reader! Is this your state?

So—now is the time to have this matter settled and make SURE for Eternity, lest you, too, discover when it is too late, that not only is Heaven's door SHUT against you, but that the door of HELL will open to receive you and then for all Eternity you will bewail your folly in rejecting God's Provision.

Rest assured this is not God's will for you. For 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.—Geo. A. Booze.

Where Is Christ?

Jesus said, "Truth will make you free." If this be true, then all sects would be in the same category. Strange as it may seem, they shout, "We are the way" and everyone of them have to appeal to history, dictionary, or some encyclopedia; something outside of the Bible to even find a trace of themselves, no not even one of their names. But I confess they are mentioned in this respect, to wit. Jesus said, "And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many," Matt. 24:11. Jesus also said, "Take heed that no man deceive you," Matt. 24:4. If any man say behold here is Christ, or there, believe it not. Jesus Christ is not amongst the throngs on the banks of the Jordan. Neither is He talking to the doctors and wise men in the House of God in Jerusalem. Neither is he ascending the Mount of Olives, nor visiting his friends in Bethany, nor walking on the shores of Galilee and saying to its turbulent waves, "Be still."

No, we need not look for Him where He roamed two thousand years ago. Why not? Well, the facts are He is now stationed at the right hand of His Father far above all principality and power, sitting on his Heavenly throne to reign until all enemies are subdued unto Him.

But again where can we and where will we find Christ? We must not say, "Who will go up into Heaven for us or beyond the sea or in the deep to bring Christ or His message to us." Paul says, "The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart; that is, the word of faith, which we preach," Romans 10:8. And again Paul says, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom," Col. 3:16. Christ dwells in our hearts by faith. We learn that faith comes by hearing the word of God, Romans 10-17. So we find Christ in prophecy in the Old Testament, and we find Him in fact and reality in the New Testament. The more of the word of God we have in our hearts the more and stronger our faith. Then the more or richer the word of Christ dwells in our souls the more of the loving Christ we have in our hearts.

I have yet my first man to meet that claims to see Christ, or to talk to Christ, or that God sent His spirit down, to save them or that got saved as they call it at the mourners' bench, that believes and teaches the full pure gospel of Christ. Let us grow in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

—J. D. Powers.

Sentiments of Some "That Fear the Lord"

Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts in that day when I make up my jewels.—Malachi 3:16, 17.

EAST ALTON, ILL.—I was down to Vienna, Ill., at the formal opening of their new church building. It was formerly a school house, and it is a nice location. There were 40 out Sunday, and we had a basket dinner and afternoon service. There were some there from Carbondale. I am going to Worthington, Mo., Aug. 19, for two weeks; and to Neosho, Mo., Oct. 14, for two weeks.—Harold Ottwell.

DEAR BROTHER SOMMER—Here we come again with our big bundle of good wishes and our little donation for the Good Cause. The July 8. C. arrived yesterday and I just had to take a peek at it before handing it over to Father. He can't read but a short while at one time so I soon got it back. It is full of good things, spiritual things, so is well named. I never see any other religious paper that can compare with it. Here are some names of people whom I would like to have it sent to, hoping they will read it diligently. For they can't help but be benefited if they do.—K.S.

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, 1720 Orville Ave.—Dear Bro. Sommer: (Private Letter) Yes, we have had a real disaster here. More than 3,500 homes washed away and destroyed . . . I have had it very hard since this tragedy [Bro. Fenton is a city engineer—Editor]. I have worked as long as a day, a night and another day without a pause for more than about an hour. This is very hard on me, but I seem to go on some how [Bro. Fenton has heart trouble—Ed.] I have just completed the design for housing the homeless, one contract has been awarded and another is coming up next Tuesday. This involves the grading and surfacing of streets and walks, building sewers, including a pumping station, water distribution, electric distribution and all other utilities on about 90 acres of vacant ground just outside the city. People are panic stricken, and the whole picture is tragic. I trust the worst is over for me. I must have some rest.—Fred W. Fenton.

OUR WRITER ON THE WRITERS OF THE HYMNS

DEAR BROTHER SOMMER—Reading and inspiration come slowly these hot days after a big flood. I found myself during the high waters, marooned for 10 days from my kiddies across the river, north of North —, and from my home in —. However, all persons concerned were safe and no property damaged, and we were thankful for that. I was even thankful that our house in — served as shelter for some 16 persons, 13 of whom were flooded out of their homes in the lower Manhattan area. I returned to Manhattan last week, to find a sorry smelly mess in the main part of Manhattan, but the town is recovering as fast as possible. Stories of the damages are not exaggerated; in fact, people here wonder why the several deaths were not made public.—D.M.K.

"THAT LONG LOST EPISTLE"—Under this title we printed in July 8. C. an article from another paper, which was making fun of the unscriptural and ridiculous ways of some churches which were drifting away from the New Testament. It states just the opposite of facts, to get the reader to see what a mix-up professed Christians are getting into. Elijah did the same when describing the antics of the false prophets of Baal, as they jumped up and down, calling for their god to send down fire and burn the sacrifice. "And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud, for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is on a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awakened." (I Kings. 18:27.) Alexander Campbell once published what he called "The Third Epistle of Peter." Of course, you know that there is no such epistle—it simply described the doings of the clergy today in contrast to the preachers of Apostolic Days, but let the reader do the contrasting.

SAFE AND SOUND AT HOME AGAIN—Our daughter, Mary, is home again after two years in Bangkok, Siam, with the Civil Aeronautics Administration. She was there at the time of the revolution, and said they made their knees sore dropping to the floor when fusillades of bullets or cannon sounded near at hand. She came home by the way of New Delhi, Beirut, Damascus (where she visited some purported places in connection with Paul), Cairo, Athens, Corinth, Rome, Switzerland, Paris, London, making the trip around the world. Her next assignment will probably be at San Francisco. She had no serious sickness nor accidents

in this trip, and has not even lost any baggage, so far; for all of which we are thankful to the Heavenly Father. Simply thought some of our old readers might be interested in this item.—DAS.

SOME !!! ABOUT "SHORTS" ON THE STREETS

1. Short in appropriateness?
2. Short in modesty?
3. Short in decency?
4. Short-sightedness re/ sex and sin?
5. Short in estimation of Christian friends?
6. Short of brains?
7. Short in Bible knowledge?
"Women adorn themselves in modest apparel"—1 Tim. 2:9.
8. Short of heaven?

—Christian.

(D.A.S. in Indianapolis News)

DEAR BRO. SOMMER: I want to tell you that I am thankful to our God of Love, (who never forgets a promise, nor fails to fulfill His promises), that once more, after years went by, I heard again 3 of your plain but forceful sermons. It seems I never saw you look so well and happy. I do not mean to praise you, but I say, from my heart I thank Him for the great Spiritual blessings. "AFTER you have suffered a while," (He knows when that WHILE is enough). Then read the 4 things He will do, in 1st Pet. 5:10, 11. To Him be Glory. To Him be thanks for men who will be faithful watchmen—and stand with the Apostles. Read 1st John 4:8. This is what makes us free. But the laborers are few—as in the beginning. Let us pray that the Lord of the harvest send more reapers. But when we pray (ASK) we must also knock, and seek. If we "ASK we receive; if we KNOCK, He will open; if we SEEK, we will find." So let's obey—and God will NOT fail us.—A Sister.

"WORK TILL THE LAST BEAM FADETH"

An old brother, 85 years "young", believes in working till the end. Last year he sent this paper to 20 or more people, and now he sends to about the same number. He lives in a town of two or three thousand people, and I judge he took the telephone hook and sent to many whom he probably knew. Next year he may do the same with others in the telephone book, giving all a chance to read the pure gospel of Christ. He writes: "For some time I have been wondering what I could do to help the cause of Christ. I am no talker publicly . . . I am now sending a little aid for your GREAT work, (wish I could make it more), (it's \$20). I would like a few extra copies of the S. C. . . . I wish to find out how they like the best religious paper published. I humbly ask an interest in your daily prayers, and in like manner, I will remember you also." What an example for ALL of us!

"Work for the night is coming,
Under the sunset skies;
While their bright tints are glowing,
Work, for daylight flees;
Work till the last beam fadeth,
Fadeth to shine no more;
Work while the night is dark'ning,
When man's work is o'er."

WHAT SOME ARE THINKING

DEAR SIRs—Some one has sent me your magazine. Do not know who it was or for how long, and do not know whom to thank, but will send a dollar to pay for it. I do not want to miss any of the numbers of this splendid magazine.—M. I. (Our many other readers who are receiving this paper and yet have not subscribed, are invited to do likewise, and thus pass the good work along. Pub.) . . . "I AM SENDING you ten donated names. The Spiritual Call suits me just as it is."—Mo. . . . "WHEN I READ THE PAPER of your work with the small groups of disciples I am reminded of the latter part of Phil. 1:27. 'Striving together for the faith of the gospel.'" M. A. C. . . . "I SURE ENJOY reading them over and over again; they are encouraging and helpful. So keep up the good work, and may the Lord bless you in the work."—G. A. B. . . . "FIND ENCLOSED CHECK for Spiritual Call paper. I love the paper and your teachings of the Bible. We pray you live long and have best of health. Amen! needs more such like you. I have been an ex-ball player and wrestler, but am 60 now, and thinking more of the beyond." M. S. M. (We are glad this brother has been converted and is now "playing" against the devil who is trying to gain the victory; and "wrestling" against the flesh which is trying to conquer him. His words show that this owner is helping such and it encourages us. Reader, if it helps YOU, maybe it will help OTHERS, too to save their souls and other souls. Ed.) . . . "MAY GOD BLESS your efforts to teach others the Word."—Mrs. S. C. (And she shows she means it by sending 8 renewals, and has been doing the same

for many years.) . . . "HAVE BEEN ENJOYING THE S. C. If more people would have the opportunity of reading it, they would at least learn what it takes to be a follower of Christ. Hope you continue in good health, and the S. C. may be kept in circulation for a long time. But am looking forward when we with all God's faithful followers may meet together to praise and serve Him in that heavenly home."—Iowa. (This brother sends \$16, and does it every month or two, and helps make it possible to the hundreds who have not seen the paper. Read closely again the account of spiritually-minded children of God under the Old Covenant in Malachi, as given at the beginning of these Reports. Our purpose is to gather together in sentiment as many spiritually-minded Christians as possible, and AS MANY WHO WISH TO BE SPIRITUALLY-MINDED, and to carry out that sentiment in the so-called Lord's Prayer, "Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven."—Editor.) . . . "DEAR BRO. SOMMER—Your visit with us was such a help and encouragement. Bro. Choate and wife came back. We are all so glad for he is needed. Bro. Kulp does all he can, Bro. Robertson, too. Bro. Owens is developing his talent, as well as Bro. Gates. Enclosed is check for 10 new names, and send me 6 copies of the number on 'I Never Knew a Sport who was a Pillar in the Church', as I gave my copy away. One thing I know, it is true; and the one that 'grandmother' wrote on the TV."—Neosho, Mo. . . . "WE RECEIVED the S. C., and enjoyed it very much, as we always do. We were glad to learn you are able to get out and preach without having a break down. We had a letter from a sister in Mo., and she said she thought you could preach better now than you used to."—Calif. (May be that is not saying very much!—the preacher) . . . "DEAR BROTHER AND SISTER SOMMER: Enclosed find \$10. I received my S. C. Monday. Dear brother, it is such good reading. Isn't it a sad thing our Age has lost the interest; have everything you can think of on Lord's Day; never give any praise or glory for anything I think durable."—Mrs. D. W.

Possibly every one who has written this time sends names or money or both, to help keep this paper going, and a number of them do it every month or two. It is so such true and tried ones that this paper owes its existence, and will owe it in the future. My prayer goes up for such helpers in Christ.—Publisher.

The Divine Plan

FAITH:

"But without faith it is impossible to please him." Heb. 11:6. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Rom. 5:1. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." Rom. 1:16.

REPENTANCE:

"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent." Acts 17:30.

CONFESSION:

"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 10:32. "Also I say unto you, whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God;" Luke 12:8. "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Rom. 10:10. "If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest (be baptized). And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Acts 8:37.

BAPTISM:

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:16. "And he commanded the chariot to stand still; and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him." Acts 8:38. "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." Gal. 3:27.

A NEW RELATIONSHIP:

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature:

old things are passed away; behold all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;" 2 Cor. 5:17-18. Please hold the phrase "AND ALL THINGS ARE OF GOD" in your mind. We shall make further reference to this thought, later. "Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God;" 1 John 3:1.

GOD ADDS TO THE CHURCH:

"And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." Acts 2:47. The child of God has thus been confessed before God and the angels; God has added him to his church; the angels minister for him, Heb. 1:14; he is in association with the angels; he is a part of the "church of the first born;" his name is written in heaven; he is in fellowship with the apostles, and a part of that great family, a part of which is on earth and a part in heaven. Combine the following passages for proof of these statements: Heb. 12:22-23, Rev. 20:15, 1 John 1:3, Eph. 3:14-15.

NO MAN CAN BREAK THIS FELLOWSHIP:

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish; neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." John 10:27-28.

What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. See all of Rom. 8:28-39.

The whole arrangement is of God, and we are now ready for the phrase, "AND ALL THINGS ARE OF GOD." No man, men, nor group of men, be they elders, preachers or churches can set this plan aside. The one who whole-heartedly obeys the Gospel, and remains true to the One who died to redeem him is a part of a plan and system in which "ALL THINGS ARE OF GOD." Yes, discipline must be exercised in the church too; but this is also of God, and if those who take upon themselves the power to exclude shall dare to exercise this authority without the support of God's Word, then the discipline is not of God. **THE FAITHFUL CAN NOT BE EXCLUDED FROM THE FELLOWSHIP OF GOD'S PEOPLE.** A church may exclude, but if the excluded person is faithful to God he remains in the fellowship of the apostles, of Christ, of God, of the angels, and of "the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven."

Ambiguous statements about disciples being disfellowshipped is a most disgraceful offense against God's elect. There can be no harm in severing connections with evil, in any form, and indeed this is a divine command. See 2 Thess. 3:6. But, it is a gross offense to exclude when an evil cannot be pointed out. Disorderly walk, and a walk "not after the tradition which he received of us," (apostles) are the only scriptural reasons for exclusion, and without such a reason the act is not of God, and the person alleged to have been excluded will most certainly remain in the fellowship of all the true people of God. It is a most wonderful plan; one which leads us to concern ourselves with only the one important consideration, to wit: **AM I RIGHT WITH GOD?**

—Fred W. Fenton.

Beauties Not Taxed

"Everything is going up?"

But, the rain is coming down;
There's no war tax on sunshine
Or the red and gold and brown
Of autumn leaves, or on the snow
That makes the hilltop's crown.

"Everything is going up?"

But bird songs cost no more;
No ten per cent on luxury
On the roses 'round my door;
And moonlight in my garden
Just as cheap as ever before.

"Everything is going up?"

But the price of joy's the same;
It costs no more to work or sing
Or fan the glowing flame
Of love; and to a comrade's smile
We still may have our claim.

"Everything is going up?"

Come friend, what's that you say?
The things that really matter
Cost just the same today;
The broad blue sky, the fields of grain,
The trees, the rain, the sea—
They're tax exempt for ever
And free for you and me.

—Mrs. H. D. Fielden

God's Only Son Was an Evangelist

The word "evangelist" means, "one who announces good tidings."

The gospel is the good tidings, good news. Christ announced to the world that good news that he, a Savior, had come to save the world. Christ sent out twelve "evangelists" to take the good news to the ends of the earth. Every Christian should be an evangelist, repeating that good news.

The Spiritual Call is an evangelistic tract. Fold it once, and you have 16 pages, the size of an ordinary book. Multiply that by the 12 months in the year, and you have 192 pages of evangelistic, "good news," reading matter. It is free from local church difficulties, and encourages the faint, comforts the aged, warns the unruly, lifts the depressed, helps stimulate the sluggish, shows the way of salvation to the honest hearted, and points the weary to the Rest Beyond. Silently, meekly, persistently, forcefully, inoffensively, it slips the story of Jesus and his love into the homes and hearts of honest people, where often the living person can not go.

What better gift can you send to ten of your friends for a present, than a year's subscription—10 NEW or DONATED names for only FIVE dollars? This generous offer may not last always, for it does not pay for the papers, and we can do this only by the offerings of devoted Christians. If you don't send the names, you may send the offering, and we shall find the names.

What Think Ye of Christ?

Youth: Too happy to think—time enough!

Manhood: Too busy to think—more money first!

Maturity: Too anxious to think—worry over work.

Declining years: Too aged to think—fixed habits.

As death approaches: Too ill to think—weak and suffering.

Death: Too late to think—the spirit has flown.

Eternity: Forever to think—God's judgment day.

—The Missionary Worker