

The Bulletin

Meeks Street Church of Christ

1201 Meeks St. Corinth, Ms. 38834

Phone – (662) 808-7777

Visit Our Website at:
MeeksstreetchurchofChrist.com

October 9, 2022

“A Successful Gospel Meeting”

By Frank Richey

The year was 1900. The place was a little southern town. The event was a gospel meeting. In July 1900, a gospel meeting was held at a little church that built their building that year. J.J. Castleberry, of Savannah Tennessee, who had just graduated from the College of the Bible in Lexington, Kentucky, under the tutelage of the great J. W. McGarvey, held the gospel meeting. The Meeting lasted one month.

The church soon realized that their new building would not accommodate the crowds and secured a shelter at an old lumber mill located near by. The church secured permission for a large shed, obtained seats somewhere, hauled sawdust in and whitewashed the various posts in preparation for the meeting. Brother William Freeman led the singing, and Castleberry proved to be a very fervent young preacher and much interest was stirred in the community.

GOSPEL MEETING

During this meeting two hundred and nine persons were baptized (*Gospel Advocate* September 6, 1900). “Almost every night from six hundred to one thousand persons attended.” (*Gospel Advocate*, August 30, 1900, p. 556).

The denominations fought Castleberry, and his meeting, being displeased with his success. Castleberry was challenged for a debate and even threats were issued to run him out of the city. His opponents filled the question box with not only questions, but insults and insinuations and engaged in every ugly thing they could do to destroy his influence, and stop the gospel from being preached.

“Up to the very last discourse the attendance was very large, and, from the very polite attention and the two hundred and nine additions during the meeting, I would say that the people were very much interested, so much so that the general talk on the street and street corners was about the meeting and the different subjects under consideration. Searching the Scriptures daily to see if these things be so, quite a number of questions were handed in and politely answered during the meeting, the preacher always giving a “thus saith the Lord.” Brother Castleberry is a young man, but did his work well, contending earnestly for the old apostolic doctrine, without addition or subtraction. He is indeed an earnest, forcible, and logical speaker, and gives promise of much usefulness in the Master’s cause, in which he delights to labor.” (*Gospel Advocate*, September 6, 1900, p. 8).

One man baptized during this meeting was fifteen year old Grover Cleveland Brewer (1884-1956), who would have become one of the most famous 20th century leaders in the churches of Christ.

Over the years, all those who could remember the gospel meeting passed away, and little knowledge of the meeting was passed down to the younger generations. Where did all this month long successful gospel meeting take place? It took place in Florence, Alabama, at the East Florence church of Christ.

(Now known as the Singing River Church of Christ, where Frank Richey and Colby Junkin are ministering the gospel presently— Brian Meade).

“AM I NARROW-MINDED?”

By Colby Junkin

It does not take much for one to be labeled as being traditional or narrow-minded among a variety of subjects. We live in the days of acceptance, and to stand against this progress is to be working in the opposite direction. It should never be our prerogative to simply be abrasive and offensive, but rather we are commanded to speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). Our world is currently traveling a road that leads to paths that no Christian can walk. The acceptance of a variety of sins has caused Christians to become an easy target with their biblical morals and righteous standard of living. When the world promotes the acceptance of homosexuality, abortion, transgender, etc., it seems that anyone who stands against these "human rights" is characterized as being narrow-minded.

Our world desires to portray all things as being equal and profitable for the promotion of mankind, but the TRUTH of God's Word says something quite the opposite. The world is traveling through this life on a broad street, but it should be our greatest goal to be found walking the straight and narrow (Matthew 7:13-14). We may be ridiculed and mocked for our beliefs, but it is much better to stand with God, than to bow to peer pressure. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego displayed a great example of faith despite tremendous political pressure in Babylon (Daniel 3). They were unwilling to bow to the golden image, because they trusted in their God's strength to deliver them from the fiery furnace. Will we share a similar faith in our stand against the wickedness that is permeating our culture today?

The objective of TRUTH is not to be harmful but rather loving to all who are lost. The objective of TRUTH is not to be divisive but rather united under the same King and His decrees. The problem with the culture which surrounds us and our allegiance to Christ is that the two could not be further apart. The TRUTH of Jesus' message has done exactly as He said -

34 *"Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35 "For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; 36 and a man's enemies will be the members of his household."* (Matthew 10:34-36).

The TRUTH of Jesus' message is love, forgiveness, and salvation, but man must be willing to humbly submit to its charges. Jesus came to seek and save the lost, but the lost must be willing to be found (Luke 15:17-24).

Our goal as God's chosen people should be to live differently from this world and to never allow those differences to keep us from standing for the TRUTH. When the world questions our "narrow-mind," then we need to answer them with book, chapter, and verse. We must be able to give an answer for the hope that resides in us (1 Peter 3:15). Therefore, it is imperative that we understand the purpose of standing for the TRUTH, despite the losses we may experience with our friends, neighbors, and family members. There are certain boundary markers established by God and revealed in His Word which cannot be moved by the political correctness of our times.

We must correct the misunderstanding of the world in regard to sin. We do not stand against the sins of a man, because we hate the man, but rather we hate his sin. Sin is open rebellion against God. It is not wise to stand in defiance before the God who created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1). The writer of Hebrews wrote - *"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God"* (10:31). This matter is not open for reinterpretation, but rather it is an eternal warning to all who live not to rebel against the authority of God. The result of a man's choices will either be faithfulness toward God and heaven, or unrighteousness and eternal damnation. There will be no gray area of God changing the rules in the last days, but rather it will remain as divinely inspired thousands of years ago.

Our world may continue to travel this pathway of disobedience, but this cannot sway us from standing for the TRUTH. The manner of TRUTH revealed in God's Word is non-negotiable and must be faithfully applied in our lives. We may lose friends who choose to support various sins, but their decision must not deter our faithfulness toward God. Our Lord stood in the face of certain death, because He knew what was right and was unwilling to bend to the world's desire (1 Peter 3:18). May His faithfulness to the Father be manifested in our hearts today. May God bless us with endurance to stand for the TRUTH in a world of wickedness!



Memory Verse Of The Week:

Romans 1:16 (NKJB)

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek."

News and Notes: Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Daniel Holloway, Debbie Keplinger, Sam Johnson, J F Dancer, Robbie, Sheila, and Sherry Doles, Sandi Poole, Nathan Cox, Sandra Oliver, Aaron Posey (Phil Campbell), Wade Butler, and Wesley Trimble.

Jerry Trimble was in a bad accident and is still in the hospital. Tupelo- Room 199.
Kathryn Callahan's mother has leukemia and begins treatments this week.
Danny Cottrell's surgery to remove the stones was successful, and he is home.

Our Gospel Meeting starts today!
Other Meetings posted in the foyer.

Those Who Serve:

Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:

Opening Prayer: Russell Briggs
Preaching: Colby Junkin
Sermon #1: "Five Keys To Guarding The Treasure"

Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:

Lesson: Colby Junkin
"Water And Our Bible"

Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:

Announcements: Russell Briggs
Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading: Doug George
Hebrews 11:30-31
Song Leader: Jerry Kennemur
Lord's Supper: Paul Johnson
Assisting: — —
Preaching: Colby Junkin
Sermon #2: "Rahab: Past Versus Future"
Closing Prayer: Brian Meade

Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.

October 12th:

Announcements: Brian Meade
Preaching: Bill Woodall
Song Leader: Tim Harris Sr.
Closing Prayer: Blake Briggs



Visit our YouTube Channel:

Meeks Street Church of Christ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgiXJxZC1oraOugO9qIfBtw?view_as=subscriber

And Our Facebook Page.

For sermon videos, articles, and announcements.