

The Bulletin

Meeks St. Church of Christ

1201 Meeks St. Corinth, Ms. 38834

Phone – (662) 808-7777

Visit Our Website at:
MeeksstreetchurchofChrist.com

March 13, 2022

“Fishing And Converting The Lost”

Author Unknown

Now it came to pass that a group existed that called themselves fishermen and there were many fish in the waters about them. In fact, the whole area was surrounded by streams and lakes and the fish were hungry. Week after week and month after month and year after year the group that called themselves “fishermen” met in meetings and talked about those called to fish, the abundance of fish, and how they might go about fishing.

Year after year, they carefully defined what fishing meant, defending fishing as an occupation, and declared that fishing be the primary talk of fishermen. These fishermen built large beautiful buildings for local fishing headquarters and their plea was that everyone should be a fisherman, and that everyone should fish. However, the one thing they did not do— they did not fish!

In addition to meeting regularly, these men determined to send out fishermen to places where there were many fish. This sending committee was headed by those who had great vision and had courage to speak about fishing and to promote the idea of fishing in far away streams and lakes where many other fish of different colors lived. They hired staff and held many meetings to define fishing, to defend fishing, and to decide what new streams should be thought about.

But one thing the staff and the committee members did not do— they did not fish!

Large, elaborate training centers were built, whose original and primary purpose was to teach fishermen how to fish. Over the years, courses were offered on the needs of fish, the nature of fish, how to find fish, and the psychological effects of fishing. Those who taught had doctorates in “Fisheology.” But the teachers did not fish. They only taught about fishing.

Further, the fishermen built large printing houses to publish fishing guides. Presses were kept busy day and night to produce material solely devoted to fishing methods. A speakers bureau was organized to schedule special speakers on fishing.

After one stirring meeting entitled, “The Necessity of Fishing,” two young men left the meeting and actually did some fishing and one of them actually caught two fish! He was honored for his great catch and was scheduled to appear at all the big meetings to tell how he did it. So he quit fishing in order to have the time to tell his experiences to the other fishermen.

Now it is true that many of the fishermen sacrificed and put up with all kinds of difficulties. Some lived near the water and had to put up with the smell of dead fish. Some had to endure the ridicule of some who made fun of these fishermen’s clubs because they claimed to be fishermen, but they did not fish.

And they wondered about those who thought it was of little use to attend meetings and talk about fishing. I mean, after all, were they not following the Master, who said, “Come and I will make you fishers of men.”? Yet it did not make sense. Can we rightfully call a person a fisherman, if year after year he never catches a fish?

Can a person really be following Jesus if he is not fishing?

(Guardian of Truth Magazine August 15, 1996)

“Knowledge”

By Irven Lee

There has been very much useful knowledge concerning useful things about us gained in this century. Some of this knowledge has been put to use to bring comforts and conveniences to us. We have no desire to minimize the value of this scientific knowledge to doctors, inventors, engineers, etc.

The Inadequacy Of Human Knowledge.

It is certainly true that any one man has learned only a very, very small fraction of that available information. Should we, as individuals, be filled with personal pride that the combined knowledge of the human race is so great? This is an age of specialization. Surgeons, and other men of the medical profession, often specialize in the problems of one small portion of the human body. The great wizard in electronics may not know much about farming or medicine. We depend upon each other. Let no man boast.

It is very evident that this vast knowledge gained in research has not taught us the better life. Hate, immorality, corruption, selfishness, and other such like things are conspicuous plagues over the earth. This so-called age of enlightenment is rather in the darkness of midnight. A recent study group learned that a large percent of the police officers in a certain large city were greatly increasing their incomes by taking bribes from gamblers, narcotic peddlers, etc. An alarming number of marriages are failures through immorality, alcohol, selfishness, etc. Race groups and differing philosophic groups are in bitter struggles. What room is there for hope for the future? We find that the amassing of information of material things does not bring happiness, nor does it bring out the best in people.

The Need For Wisdom From Above.

God knows what we need, and He has told us through His inspired apostles and prophets. Our world needs faith along with its medicines, cars, planes, and computers. Our world needs reverence and love for God and a realization that the warnings and promises of the Bible are to be fulfilled.

The ways and thoughts of the Lord are as far above ours as the heavens are above the earth. No man has discovered any fact that God did not already know. The wisdom of the world is foolishness with God. Man seems to think the wisdom of God is foolishness. Think of the pride and arrogant infidelity that has covered our land. Should any of us be ashamed of the gospel? Contrast in your own mind the pattern of life exemplified by the Christ, and the pattern that is portrayed by Hollywood.

We should buy the truth and sell it not (Proverbs 23:23). Let not the new knowledge confuse us to such an extent that we lose sight of the unsearchable riches of Christ. Let us give diligence to know the truth that can sanctify us and make us free. Sin enslaves, while it boasts of and promises liberty.

“Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth. And if any man think that knoweth anything, he knoweth nothing as he ought to know. But if any man love God, the same is known of him.” (1 Corinthians 8:1-3 KJB).

Sick America is only a part of this sick and confused world. The situation is such that there is no reason for our being puffed up with pride. The broken and contrite heart is far more appropriate.

Ignorance Of God’s Righteousness.

Religious leaders may call you a fool and a legalist if you emphasize baptism, the Lord’s Supper, and the high moral standards of the Bible. They are ignorant of God’s righteousness and have gone about to establish a righteousness of their own. They perish for lack of knowledge. The Lord purchased and built His own church which is described in detail in the New Testament. With no regard for the pattern for His church, men have set up churches that are like country clubs. There is no salvation in these worldly bodies.

“And I gave my heart to know wisdom, and to know madness and folly: I perceived that this also is vexation of spirit.” (Ecclesiastes 1:17).

With industrial development has come pollution that threatens to destroy us. With scientific knowledge has come ungodliness and worldly lusts that also threatens to destroy us. The wrecking crew in America seems determined to destroy our nation and build nothing in its place. Men are willing to die in an effort to kill and burn as a part of this wrecking crew.

May we pray constantly for the wisdom of God to lead us away from such a disastrous and ruinous course!



Speaker: **Larsen Plyler**

Location: **Meeks Street Church of Christ**

Date: **April 3rd--6th**

Starting Time: **7:00 PM Nightly (Except Sunday)**

News and Notes: Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Debbie Keplinger, Janis Johnson, Daniel Holloway, Peggy Harville (cancer), Linda Hunt, David Taylor, Randy Beaty, Sam Johnson, Randy Ferrell, J F Dancer, Earl Mitchell, Robbie, Sheila, Sherry Doles, Sandra Oliver, and Nannette Chancellor.

Those Who Serve:

Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:

Opening Prayer: Paul Johnson
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #1: "The Church And Its Treasury"

Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:

Fred Johnson
Galatians (Randy Blackaby)
Page #13 Question #1

Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:

Announcements: Doug George
Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading: Danny Sheffield
Colossians 1:13
Song Leader: Jerry Kennemur
Lord's Supper: Fred Johnson
Assisting: — —
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #2: "The Two Kingdoms"
Closing Prayer: Tim Harris Jr.

Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.

March 16th:

Auditorium Bible Class: Paul Busby
Workbook: Jeremiah & Lamentations
(John Humphries)
Starting Page & Question: Page #11 Question #18
Invitation: Brian Meade
Song Leader: Dan Cottrell
Closing Prayer: Paul Johnson

“The Church And Its Treasury”

Lesson Text: **1 Corinthians 16:1-2.**

I. What Some May Say About The Common Treasury.

– Some Want To Deny A Pooling Of Funds- AKA “Church Treasury.”

– Quote: “It is true that the disciples were instructed to treasure up some things, *“And concerning the collection that (is) for the saints, as I directed to the assemblies of Galatia, so also ye— do ye; on every first (day) of the week, let each one of you lay by him, treasuring up whatever he may have prospered, that when I may come then collections may not be made.”*

(1 Corinthians 16:1-2 YLT). *But you cannot term this, “Church treasury” and form a doctrine with rules and guidelines attached with it. They had no “Church treasury”, as you say. The expression, “Church treasury, or, “Common collection” did not come out of the mouth of God.”*

– Possible Reasons Why:

1. They Don’t Like The Practice.
2. They Like To Argue Against “Church of Christ Traditions.”
3. They Have Intentions To Pull People Away From God’s Arrangement.

II. The Treasury In The Old Testament.

- **1 Chronicles 29:8; Ezra 2:69; Nehemiah 7:70-71.** God would Not ask them to do His work without the resources and Money to do so!
- **Nehemiah 13:5,** Even the first-fruits, tithes, and freewill offerings constituted treasury, and such were given a storage room or treasury in the Temple- **Malachi 3:10.**
- **Mark 12:41-44; Matthew 27:6-** The Jews Continued To Have a Treasury.
- **John 13:27-29-** Jesus and the disciples had a treasury.

III. The Treasury In The New Testament.

- **Acts 2:42-** “Fellowship” (**Romans 15:26; 2 Corinthians 9:13**).
- **Acts 4:34-37-** *“and laid it at the apostles’ feet,” (Vs. 35).*
- **Acts 6:1-6-** Men appointed to serve.
- **Acts 11:29-30-** The Judean Churches had treasuries.
- **1 Corinthians 16:1-2-** *“in store” literally, “Put into the treasury.”*

IV. Answering Critics Of A Collection—Treasury Today.

- Some say this collection was ONLY FOR EMERGENCY BENEVOLENCE PURPOSES— Not for Evangelism or for the Support of Preachers....
- But It was FOR more than just Benevolence- **1 Corinthians 9:1-14; 2 Corinthians 11:8; Philippians 4:15-16; 1 Timothy 5:9; 5:16.**
- God has given the church a great Work to perform— That also necessitates the resources and money needed to carry out our mission!

“The Two Kingdoms”

Lesson Text: Colossians 1:13.

- Every Kingdom has Rulership, Government, Citizens, Territory, Means of Entrance, Rules, And Laws. A Contrast of Satan’s Kingdom And Christ’s....

I. The Kingdom Of Darkness Vs. The Kingdom Of Light.

- **Colossians 1:13-** Relates To The Nature of the Two Kingdoms:
 - Satan’s “Power of darkness.” “Domain.” “Authority.”
Ephesians 6:12; John 3:19; Luke 22:53.
 - **Christ’s Kingdom-** “The kingdom of His beloved Son.” (NASB, ESV, RSV).
1 John 1:5; Acts 26:17-18; 1 Peter 2:9.
- Satan’s Worldly, Carnal Kingdom- **1 John 2:15-16;** Satan’s Territory
- Christ’s Spiritual Kingdom- **John 18:36; 2 Corinthians 10:4 (RSV); Rom. 14:17.**

II. The Rulership Of Satan Vs. The Rulership Of Christ.

- Satan’s Rule Of His Kingdom- **Ephesians 2:1-3.** Does Satan Care About you?
- Christ Has “All Authority” (**Matthew 28:18**) and Is Jesus’ Territory;
Christ Cares About His People- **Ephesians 2:4-7.**
- Satan’s Wickedness- **1 John 5:19** And Jesus’ Righteousness- **Hebrews 1:8.**

III. Satan’s Citizens Vs. Christ’s Citizens.

- Means of entering in- Satan’s- Not By Birth, But Disobedience- **Romans 5:12.**
- Christ’s Kingdom By A New Birth- **John 3:3-5; 1 Peter 1:22-23.**
- The Character of Satan’s Citizens- **1 Corinthians 6:9-10; 1 Thess. 5:6-7.**
- The Character Of Christ’s Citizens- **Matt. 5:3-10; Luke 18:16-17; Gal. 5:22-23.**
- Satan’s Kingdom Is Promoted By Temptation, Lust, & Sin- **Ephesians 4:17-19.**
- Christ’s Kingdom Is Promoted By Preaching Righteousness- **Rom. 1:16-17.**
- Satan’s Citizens Belong To The World- **John 15:19;** Not Christ’s- **Philippians 3:20.**

IV. Rules & Laws Of Satan’s Kingdom Vs. Christ’s Kingdom.

- Satan’s Rules & Laws- **1 John 3:4** “Lawlessness” reigns!
anomia (ἀνομία, 458), lit., “lawlessness” (a, negative, nomos, “law”), is used in a way which indicates the meaning as being lawlessness or wickedness. Its usual rendering in the NT is “iniquity,” which lit. means unrighteousness.
(Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words (Vol. 2, p. 326)..

- Christ’s Rules And Laws- **John 14:15; 1 John 3:22; 5:2-3.**

V. The Temporary Kingdom Vs. The Everlasting Kingdom.

- Satan’s Kingdom Will Not Last- **Hebrews 2:14; Revelation 12:12; 1 John 2:17a.**
- Christ’s Kingdom Will Be Everlasting- **2 Peter 1:11; Daniel 2:44; 1 John 2:17b.**