

The GOSPEL TRUMPET™



VOL 18 ISSUE 5

“Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet.” Isa. 58:1

SEPT – OCT 2006

Will the TEMPLE Be Rebuilt in JERUSALEM?

Bro. Jason Hargrave



Paul Declares the New Testament Temple to Be the Church.

“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost...” I Corinthians 6:19.

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?...for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.” I Cor. 3:16-17.

There would be no need or sense in the reconstruction of the old temple, seeing that a far better and living temple stands today.

God Dwells No More in Temples Made with Hands.

“Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands...” Acts 7:48.

“God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands...” Acts 17:24.

God has forever forsaken all literal temples, having fulfilled His true desire to dwell within the hearts of His people in this New Testament dispensation.

Seeing that God has a temple which shall stand forever, why would He resort back to the cold, lifeless house that He forsook and left to be destroyed nearly two thousand years ago?

The Scriptures Refer to the Church as the “True Tabernacle” or Temple.

Speaking of Christ, Paul says that He is, “A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.” Hebrews 8:2.

Continued on Page 6

GOSPEL TRUMPET PUBLISHING CO.

Anti-Denominational Holiness Paper

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This definite, radical, anti-sectarian holiness paper is published in the name of the Lord for the edification of the church of God. Its mission is to point souls to full salvation through Christ and to expose the errors of spiritual Babylon (false religion). We desire this paper to be used as a sharp instrument in the hands of the Lord, breaking the spiritual silence in this time of restoration.

The Bible teaches:

Godly Sorrow and Repentance Acts 3:19; 17:30, 2 Cor. 7:10
The New Birth—a Radical Conversion John 3:3-7
Freedom from Sin/A Holy Life 1 Jn. 5:18, Lk. 1:73-75, Tit. 2:11-12
Entire Sanctification—a Second Cleansing 1 Thess. 5:23, Acts 15:8-9
Unity of God's People/One Church John 17:21; Matt. 16:18
Divine Healing James 5:14-15, Isa. 53:5
The Ordinances Matt. 28:19-20, John 13:14-15, 1 Cor. 11:23-26
Plain, Modest Dress Dt. 22:5, 1 Tim. 2:9-10, 1 Cor. 11:14-15
Marriage for Life Mt. 19:5-6, Mk. 10:11-12, Lk. 16:18, Rom. 7:2-3
Non-Violence Luke 3:14; 6:27-29; 18:20
Restoration (Sounding 7th Trumpet) Rev. 10:7; 11:15
Eternal Punishment or Reward Matt. 25:46

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Editorial

We are a people most zealous to meet every sincere seeker of truth. And surely God has a zeal to bring us all into one.

Years of apostasy have scattered the sheep among a myriad of man-made denominations. This is an unnatural and unbiblical condition for the children of God—the result of apostasy. Please, never call the confusing mess of sectism the church. It does not meet the criterion as taught and exemplified in the Word. Quite frankly, it is contrary to holy writ, thereby an antichrist system.

I realize these are strong words, but they are well deserved, so said without apology. These divisions (which were prophesied of in the inspired Word) receive scathing denunciations from the eternal God. The product of sectism is a reproach to His holy name and a sham to those in the world who look on. May God help every honest soul to escape these cages of deception.

“And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also *I must* bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be *one* fold, and one shepherd.” John 10:16.

While few would deny there is but “one Shepherd,” many these days (true-hearted sectarians, no doubt) are aghast that we take His declaration of the “one fold,” seriously, as though this were a present-day impossibility. Really, if any take the Bible seriously (and oh, that all would!), they would forsake all denominations and be praying fervently for God to direct them to His true fold.

There is joy among the angels in heaven when one is saved on earth (Lk. 15:10). I do not doubt that heaven also delights to see them brought safely home to the one fold of God. Blessed truth! Blessed place!

* * * * *

Pray for the furtherance of the pure gospel in the world. Remember the brethren as some will be going, Lord willing, to Kuwait and others to Nepal in the very near future.

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Testimonies & Letters

They Touched My Heart

Just a note to tell you what a beautiful experience I had this evening, August 12, walking down Hollywood Blvd. here in California.

Amidst the rappers and drummers and sidewalk dancers and magicians, a group of simply dressed, beautifully clean, shining angels stood singing on the corner. Their faces were ecstatic, they smiled, and sang; they passed out brochures and reached their hands up toward God. They touched my heart most profoundly. When I asked one lovely woman, "Who are you?" She smiled and said, "We're the church of God from Upland."

The women stood out as the most beautiful women on that street—without makeup, without jewelry. The mini-skirted, tight-jeaned, heavily made-up, elaborately adorned women (and men) strolled by them, but nothing dimmed their clean, natural beauty—obviously projecting their inner spirit.

I was unable to move for a long time. I stood there listening to them sing, and letting their warmth—and God's—wash over me. It made Hollywood Blvd. a very wonderful cathedral. Thank you.

Martina
California, USA

Now I am Happy

I'm glad to be saved, sanctified and in the true church of God. I was brought up in the church of God, wanted to be saved, but did not pay the full price. As a result, I had an up and down experience. I was tired of this experience and left home at approximately 15.

I went to a boys' home. There I had more liberty to live my own way and started to get into trouble. As I grew up, I tried to find a good time in the world and soon found myself doing things I never thought I would do. I was so restless that I would try just about anything if I thought it could bring me a thrill. I got to the point where I realized my life was ruined. The habits and addictions I had made me miserable. My future looked hopeless.

I knew the saints were praying for me, and the Lord started dealing with me. I suddenly knew there was a little bit of

hope. I thought if anybody can help me it will have to be God. The devil tried to discourage me and said, "You tried that and it wasn't for you." But the more I considered it, I knew it was my only hope. I also decided if the Lord gave me another chance I would do all the things I needed to do to keep it and if it failed, it would be by no fault of mine. I would have tried my best and given it a whole-hearted try.

In a meeting in Aylmer, Ontario, I went to the altar after the service. I didn't feel bad for my sins. I just knew I wanted something better. When the preachers prayed for me, the Lord showed me how selfish I had been to live my life the way I did and how I was nothing and had rejected God. I asked for forgiveness and the Lord totally changed me.

Now I am happy. I can't explain how happy I am. It's like I just walked away from a horrible life that I never could be free from. I don't know how a simple prayer can change someone so fast, so drastically. It is just the amazing grace of God. This happened almost two years ago and it still thrills me to think about it, and the Lord has kept me during this time. It still makes me laugh and cry when I think of what the Lord did for me. It still excites me to share my testimony with others. I owe the Lord everything. I want to keep the kingdom of God first in my life and by God's grace I will love the Lord. I love His people. I thank you for your prayers and the pressure you set to be a better child of God. I feel privileged to be one with you and on my way to heaven.

Bro. Alfred Oppel
Ontario, Canada

Dressed Like Christians

...I like the photos on this website. The ladies and men and boys and girls are dressed like Christians should be.

Website

I Was Amazed

Dear brothers and sisters,

I have been with the church of God, Anderson since 1979. Are you the same group of congregations affiliated with this same movement? In Winchester, KY., I met a group of followers from Winches-

ter, IN. Are you one and the same from this group?...If so, why do we not have this same group of believers here in Indianapolis or southern Indiana?

I know I have a lot of questions, but this seems like how the church of God movement began, and should be today.

I received a copy of your Gospel Trumpet and was amazed. It seemed as though I was stepping back in time. It looked at first like a Mennonite movement, but as I read, it became clear, this was the church of God. It would be so appreciated if I could hear from you. I will be sending along an offering for this fine newspaper. May God richly bless you.

Website

A Real Blessing

Dear Susan

The package came today. Thank you so much for the booklets and tracts. The CD's are lovely as well. I can't wait to read the new Gospel Trumpet.

The website is a real blessing. I wish there was a church of God here in England. It is also a real blessing to see photos of ladies and girls dressing in a simple and modest way. Anyway, thank you so much. God bless you.

Ruth
England

Get Me that Trumpet

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour. I thank God for this privilege to touch with you in this way. By reading your Gospel Trumpet through my friend, I was so interested on that and it strengthened me a lot in times of despair in my life. So if you could kindly get me that trumpet, I shall be so thankful to you. Thank you so much.

Yours sincerely in serving the Lord,
Solomon
Myanmar

These are My Children

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I'm a 22 year old Christian girl from Egypt (Cairo). Currently, however, I'm in Ontario, Canada, for the summer. I came here with no hope of having a blessed time since I'm so far away from my church in Egypt and the people who always encourage me to grow in faith and

Testimonies & Letters

the love of God. I came here with fear that I might lose all that because of too much freedom and too little peace in a big city like Toronto...

The Lord also gave me a chance to go to Aylmer, Ontario and see His people there from the church of God... You can never imagine the joy I felt when I saw them and heard them sing in the street. I never saw fishers of men before that day in my entire life, but when I did that day, I was overcome by joy and happiness. I felt that God was smiling up in heaven and saying, "Yes! These are my children, who I love so much." I felt so much peace in that town (St. Jacob's), and I felt God's presence in it.

...I was so encouraged by the church of God's ministries and congregations and I really wish that God would make me really strong so I could abandon all the pleasures of the world and all its lusts that distract me from focusing on Him alone. May God bless you, shelter you, and keep you from harm.

Love in Christ,
Your sister, Mariam
Egypt

Come to Uganda

I am pastor Emmanuel in Uganda. I have loved your ministry for spiritual nourishment. Please know that it would be a pleasure to organize a powerful conference and crusade for your ministry... come to Uganda.

Bro. Emmanuel
Uganda

Waiting in Cameroon

We are still waiting for you here in Cameroon. All the brethren asked me to greet you. We are going on praying, asking God to give you opportunity to visit us. Please share this topic of prayer with all the brethren.

Bro. Peter
Cameroon

Greetings from Hawaii

Dear brethren in Christ,

Greetings to you from the state of Hawaii, in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I trust this letter finds you well both soul and body, prospering in the Lord.

...It is certainly a very sad thing for me and my wife to find that there is no church of God congregation over here. So that we decided to have our worship and Bible studies in our room every Sunday where some few souls are also encouraged to join us.

As we are here we feel we are isolated. We are earnestly praying that the Lord shall provide church of God materials for us to use for His own glory. We would appreciate if you can send us a copy of your publication or magazine The Gospel Trumpet to provide us some information about the saints.

May the good Lord continue to bless all your efforts for Him. Thank you so much.

A brother in Christ,
Hawaii, USA

Spiritual Blessings

To all Trumpet readers everywhere we say, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."

How thankful we are that God is blessing His children by meeting all their needs according to His great riches in glory (Phil. 4:19).

I proclaim to you that His riches from glory, as your supply, are a far cry from the crumbs the Syrophenician woman obtained for the healing of her daughter (Mark 7:28). The time was not yet come for her to have full access to the table (spiritual blessings in heavenly places), because she was a Gentile and the gospel was to go to lost sheep of the house of Israel first (Matt 10:6). However, this woman manifested her faith by pursuing the crumbs. The crumbs are the little morsels that accidentally fall off of your plate and onto the floor. She had unwavering faith, that if she could only obtain a little speck or two of what Jesus had given to those He called the children, that she would obtain the prize she so desired. And obtain, she did! "Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour" Matt. 15:28.

I now speak specifically to those of you who have taken hold of the Lord;

those of you who have been washed in the precious blood of the Lamb and set free from sin. Dear child of God, we are living in the dispensation of the fulness of times (Eph. 1:10) and the Lord is once again gathering all things in Christ onto one glorious table for the feast of His little ones.

Through the spirit we have access to the Master's table (Eph 2:18). May God help us to not be scratching around under the table, but with boldness, let us therefore come unto His grace with knife and fork in hand (Heb. 4:16).

So many in this untoward generation testify for their father the devil with their sinful ovations of wickedness. I am privileged and blessed to give a few words of testimony to my heavenly Father's wondrous works.

Our daughter, Rebekah, was born into this world on Sept. 20, 2005. While the midwife was cleaning her, Rebekah did something that seemed abnormal. It appeared as if she had quit breathing for a few seconds. This was dismissed as normal, but in the days to come, we knew something was very wrong. Our daughter was having some kind of seizures and these spells grew worse as time went on. My wife expressed the problem to the pediatrician, who advised her to keep a very close check on it.

During the next month of October, we had a minister from another state holding a meeting in Prague, OK. We followed the instructions given in James 5:14 and called for the elders of the church to pray over her, anointing her with oil in the name of the Lord.

I'm thankful to report that what had been a two or three times a week ordeal was completely taken care of by His mighty power. Within a few days we knew, not only by faith, but also by sight, that our daughter was healed. She immediately began gaining weight, became much more satisfied to eat and sleep, and the constant crying and fussing were gone through Jesus' name. There has not been one single incident since October.

May the Lord help us to take a more firm grip of the Word of God, realizing that He is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34) and that He is just "the same

Testimonies & Letters

yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Heb. 13:8). Our burden is that we, as soldiers of Christ, will raise up the shield of faith and press into the battle with a holy violence that will bring the fire of God down upon the sacrifice; a violence that will shut the lion's mouth or open prison doors. Violence that will wrestle with the angels and win the blessing.

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits" (Psalm 103:2).

May the Lord help us to take full advantage of our privileges of being His called and chosen. The Lord desires to help you take hold of the blessing. Will you fight for what God has for you even though the fight may be painful? The Master saith, "Come and dine" (John 21:12).

Your faithful servant,
Bro. Robert Bourn
Montana, USA

Not a Lukewarm Christian

I thank the Lord that I can testify to all the saints and the world that I am not a lukewarm Christian. I can testify (using the gage of the low standard of so-called Christianity), that my prayers are fanatical, my sincerity and seriousness about my life are also fanatical.

I love the Lord and am not playing games about being saved. If you are lukewarm then you are not like me. My heart's desire is Jesus Christ. Please pray for me. I want to be much more effectual.

Bro. Jason Hargrave
Indiana, USA

All I had Learned was False

Let me start by saying "Praise be to God and His Son Jesus Christ." I am 30 years old and have been incarcerated since I was 17. I was raised Pentecostal and in my early teens attended a Southern Open-door Baptist middle and high school.

For nearly my whole life, I was taught that if you were "once saved, you were always saved," that after accepting Jesus and repenting, you were "guaranteed" a place in heaven. This conflicted with a feeling I had deep inside.

I was also put off of organized religion as a whole by witnessing the hypocrisy in the leaders of the "church," and by

the "do what I say, not as I do" philosophy rampant in today's religions.

I have presently received three issues of The Gospel Trumpet (March - August), but just set them aside without opening them, until today. As I looked at the pictures from the camp meeting (Ohio 2006), my only thought was, "These are truly people of God!" After reading "One Eternal Moment" by Sis. Sue O'Shea, the burden on my heart that I had been carrying for so long became too heavy to bear. As tears rolled down my face, I went on to read "A letter considered," and the answer from Sis. Mutch broke my heart. I never truly understood what conviction meant. My heart was so heavy, I couldn't breathe. I knew then that all I had supposedly learned about salvation and restoration was false.

Thank you Sis. Sue O'Shea and Sis. Mutch. May the blessings of the Lord be upon you! I come now seeking knowledge and enlightenment. If there is anyone who would be willing to lend spiritual guidance through correspondence, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you all again for showing me the true path to God's light.

New and truly in Christ,
D. Shepherd
Texas, USA

I am For You People

To all the saints of the Great I Am: Greetings from us in Nigeria to all in the glorious kingdom of God's dear Son, in the precious and wonderful name of our Lord Jesus, the Prince of Peace. We cannot adequately express the profound gratitude for the gospel literature and the doctrinal tracts you have been sending for the furtherance of the gospel. The body of Christ here has been so delighted and enthusiastic over the literature and the magazines, even the cassettes with the messages and songs composed during the campmeetings held at West Milton, Ohio, June 4th, 2006. We have been enjoying the services.

The material from The Gospel Trumpet has been yielding good fruit and very bountifully. The souls have been enjoying the gospel materials and I am glad to report that we have been enjoying you

people and you should note that you people have a congregation here. I am for you people. We have been observing you to be spiritually inclined, as you allow yourselves to be used by the Holy Spirit of the living God.

I have to thank the Lord for the wonderful privilege and access of being a part of the restoration work by sounding the Gospel Trumpet of relating to people the way to Zion where they will be taught by the Holy Spirit. Holy is our most high God who has called us in this high calling to serve and work for Him in His glorious kingdom with all our availabilities and willingness.

My sincere regards to all the saints scattered abroad.

Yours for the truth,
Bro. Chuks Uzor
Nigeria

Love it and Reading it All

Hi there. Thanks for sending me the booklets and literature. I love it and I'm reading all...Thanks again and God bless all.

Nivaldo Peixoto
Brazil

Would Like to Visit You

Dear editor,

I have appreciated reading the Gospel Trumpet online. The many good articles and especially the young people's testimonies are a blessing to my soul. Someday I would like to visit you people more and learn more about why you do what you do.

I am hungry for the truth and hope that God will lead me to the one and only body of Christ someday. Thank-you again and may God bless your efforts. Website

Interested in Learning More

What a beautiful website! I'm interested in learning more about your church. Do you have or are you planning a congregation in Sydney, Australia?

I'm in the process of learning and improving myself and my relationship with God, therefore I would certainly love to learn more about the Bible, Ten Commandments, Sabbath and Holy Days! I would love to hear from you.

Website
Sydney, Australia



Will the Temple Be Rebuilt in Jerusalem?

Continued from Page 1

What tabernacle did the Lord pitch and not man? "...upon this rock I will build my church..." Matt. 16:18. Since God has already built for Himself a temple, it is ludicrous to think that He desires, or that the scriptures predict that the old one will be rebuilt, seeing that it is abolished.

Jesus Christ is the New Testament High Priest.

"...consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus." Heb. 3:1.

"...Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec." Heb. 7:17.

The fact that Jesus is the New Testament High Priest completely voids all hope of the reinstatement of a literal temple's activities. For the temple to be rebuilt and brought back into a functioning manner, Christ must lose His high priesthood, for Christ could not possibly be a high priest under the law since He was not of the lineage of Levi.

"For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law: who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things..." Heb. 8:4.

Since Christ cannot possibly lose His high priesthood, because He dieth no more, then the literal temple could never be reactivated if anyone could ever build a similar one.

There Can Never Be a Reinstitution of Animal Sacrifices, for Christ is Our Sacrifice.

"But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God." Heb. 10:12.

"Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice...for this he did once, when he offered up himself." Heb. 7:27.

All of the old sacrifices that were

offered in the court before the old temple were but representations of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

"All the lambs which had been hitherto offered had been furnished by men: this (Christ) was provided by God, as the only sufficient and available sacrifice for the sin of the world." — Adam Clarke.

It is wholly impossible that God would inspire the writers of the holy scriptures to speak of the rebuilding of the temple, seeing that this would void the offering of the body of Christ.

The Scriptures Declare that New Jerusalem is the Church.

"But ye are come unto mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem..." Heb. 12:22.

"But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all." Galatians 4:26.

Here again we see that the focus, by God, is taken off of the literal and is placed upon the spiritual. If God thus

continually brings these things before us, how is it that false prophets do the opposite? This is a witness that they are indeed false prophets and children of Satan.

Seeing that the scriptures are plain concerning the Old and New Testament temples, let us not be deceived by modern teachers whose practice it is to literalize what God intended to be representations of better things to come. We encourage our readers not to be deceived by any who teach contrary to the plainness of the gospel of God.

We cannot interpret the scriptures

contrary to what is revealed. If God has revealed that all liars shall be lost, then nothing out of the scriptures may be used to say that a liar will escape punishment if he continues to be deceitful. But false prophets are doing just this, they are endeavoring to use the Bible to teach things unbiblical.

But what good would it do to rebuild the temple in this time? Employing the good reason of our minds, let us all answer this question. We could find no salvation in the temple, no ark of the covenant, no healing, no glory,

no God. It would be useless, save for a history lesson and a tourist attraction. Thank God for His truth and thank God to be in and a part of this better temple, that "shall never be destroyed." Dan. 2:44. ☞

The Seed of Abraham

In the seed of Abraham
are all earth's nations promised life,
Not through those in Israel's land,
but through our seed, the blessed Christ.

Not to "seeds" as unto many
was the promise shining bright.
No one nation need we envy,
for the seed was Jesus Christ.

Nay, the Jew can never glory
in the law that he hath shunned.
For this law was added only,
Till the lowly seed should come.

Now the dark denominations,
Israel to be saved expect.
Nay, ye blinded generation,
No man's person God respects.

We're translated into Jesus;
By His blood our souls are freed.
Now to us belongs the promise,
And in Him we are the seed.

—Bro. Jason Hargrave

SLANGUAGE

C. H. Mooshian

Christians are to be guided by Bible admonitions, yet many are guilty of the habitual use of expressions the dictionary terms as *minced oaths*. These are taken from the New Century dictionary. “Gosh, golly” are softened and euphemistic forms for God. “Gee” is a minced form for Jesus. “Heck” stands for hell. “Duce, dickens” are short forms for the devil. “Dawgone, dawgonit” are not Christian terms. “Darn, darned, darnation” are colloquial euphemisms for damn, damned, damnation. Those who frequently use “gosh darned” would be shocked if they fully realized its true meaning.

Someone has said that a Christian’s “gosh” is as strong as the miner’s oath. A preacher’s “pshaw” or “phooey” are as strong as the drunkard’s “damn.”

May the Almighty help us to realize these truths and endeavour henceforth to be careful in our speech. Amen.

Some wonder why they cannot use goodness and gracious. These are attributes of God and would therefore be a violation of the third commandment. Millions of Christians are guilty, never having given this a thought, but will be willing to walk in the light.

The term *reverend* belongs to God and man has no right to use it in either the short or long form. “Reverend and holy is his name.” Psa. 111:9. There are those who would shun the original form of profanity as they do dirt, debt, disease and the devil, yet with no compunction of conscience use the milder forms.


The use of “slanguage” in any form certainly does not become a Christian, nor is it conducive to a high plane of living. What a sad indictment this is against those who have forgotten the

language of God and are resorting to the language of the street. Present day speech has fallen far below the standard which Christ set for His disciples as the New Testament pattern for all His followers. Careless and useless speech in this common use of “slanguage” will certainly weaken one’s testimony and dull his spiritual effectiveness. It is impossible to convince our fellow men that we are citizens of heaven, when we indulge in the language of the sinner.

Jesus said in Matt. 5:34-37, “Swear not at all...let your communication be Yea, yea; or nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.” This last clause suggests the use of an exclamation which is defined as something added merely as a filling. How awesome are the words of Christ in Matt. 12:36, 37, “Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give an account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.”

James says that man’s religion is vain, if he cannot bridle his own tongue (Jms. 1:26). “Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.” Jms. 3:10. “...Let your yea be yea...lest ye fall into condemnation.” James. 5:12.

“For the Word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” Heb. 4:12.

An excellent motto for the Christian should be “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.” Psalm 19:14. 

Slang words come into common usage, but such should not infiltrate the vocabulary of the child of God, who is not of this world. Let not these terms or any such be found upon our lips— “cool,” “awesome,” “hey, man,” or “cool, man.” Nor let us follow the pattern of the world by referring to our children as baby goats—“kids.”

Is Christ DIVIDED ?

Bro. Daniel Eichelberger

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all *speak the same thing*, and that there be *no divisions* among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together *in the same mind* and *in the same judgment*. For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that *there are contentions among you*. Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. *Is Christ divided?* was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?” 1 Cor. 1:10-13.

Certain people in recent days have questioned the integrity of the dear saints of God. They have accused us of worshipping the message of the one body of Christ (Eph. 4:4). They feel we focus too much on this particular doctrine, when we should just be preaching “about Jesus,” as they say. They do not care to talk about the sin of division, but would rather focus on Christ alone.

Good. Let’s talk about Christ. I will put to you a question from the scriptures: *Is Christ divided?* What, dear soul, is your answer to this question?

There is a great tendency today in the ecumenical atmosphere of sectism to overlook their apparent divisions and “work together.” This is an enormous contradiction. The very fact that there is division to overlook forces this question upon them: *Is Christ divided?* We have to come to terms with this. It does you, oh sectarian, no good to avoid it. And you can have no valid argument against those

of us who have come to terms with it and reached a conclusion.

We thank God for those precious saints who were of the house of Chloe. They were alarmed by the sectarian spirit that was being exhibited around them. Not only did they not try to gloss the matter over and meet each other on the common ground of what they could agree upon, but they told Paul. They stand as our examples today, and your judges, oh sectarian.

Does it glorify God for Christians to be divided, having one saying that he is of this or that group, while another says he belongs to another denomination of any of the current "666" names of Protestantism? Was Luther crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Wesley? How, oh sectarian, can you consistently call yourself by the name of men?

You say, "I am a Christian. It is silly to quibble about the name over the door." No, it is not silly. Paul didn't think it was, and we, who believe the words he wrote in the inspired Volume, do not either.

The message of the oneness of God's people has never hurt the cause of Christ. It was taught by the Lord and His apostles, and thank God, we can teach it

dear little ones of God who dare to honestly answer the question put forth by Paul, and call themselves by God's name alone, discerning the body of Christ, these you call "dangerous," "fanatical," "cultish," yea, what not!

There is no need to multiply scriptures on unity in this article. The Bible is full of them. If you are ignorant, you are willfully so. But do not cast stones at the work of God and those engaged in knowing and preaching the full standard of the New Testament.

Was there ever a message so needful as the message of unity upon the Bible plain of holiness and the sin-free life? This we preach and will continue to do. But you, oh sectarian, what will you do with the message? You cannot ignore it, nor can you gainsay it. You haven't one scriptural text upon which to prop your shaky denomination.

There could be but two reasons why people are uncomfortable with the message set forth by this restoration:

1. They are ignorant of the scriptures they profess to love.
2. They love their sect too much to see it exposed by the Word of God.

on the Word of God alone? Oh sectarian, why will you try to pull out the mote, when you cannot see for the beam?

Jude exhorted us to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints." Are you doing this? Not if you are in a sect. You cannot trace your roots back that far. "We live in a day of denominations," you argue further. "You cannot exist without being a denomination." This is faulty reasoning and contrary to the Word of God.

The very fact that Jude exhorts us to fight for that primitive faith is evidence enough that it is there to fight for. And just because some do not care to contend for it, does not make it any less available to those who do.

Was the primitive faith, of which Jude speaks, a denominational faith? You know it was not. And since you are not earnestly contending for it, what right do you have to say ought against those who are?

Paul demanded unity in the church. He was not a sectarian. He would have been had he allowed things to go on like they were. We stand alongside Paul in this regard. Christ is not divided. If I am in Christ, I am one with all of His people. But they are not His people who are

There is a great tendency today in the ecumenical atmosphere of sectism to overlook their apparent divisions and "work together." This is an enormous contradiction. The very fact that there is division to overlook forces this question upon them: IS CHRIST DIVIDED? . . .

Let every heart answer by the Word of God, not human opinions. And let those who find the answer tremble to walk against the light.

today by the authority of His Word. *Is Christ divided?* If we neglect to ask ourselves this question, we are neglecting the Word of God.

Oh sectarian, you censure the saints because we fearlessly proclaim that denominations are wrong, and there is just one church. But why? You do not criticize Wesley for extolling perfection. You do not utter a word against Whitefield's incessant sermons on the new birth. In fact, you idolize these men for preaching the portion of truth so needful in their day, erect edifices to their memory, and call yourselves by their names! Yet, the

Is Christ divided? We can safely answer by the scriptures, NO. If I am divided, I am not in Christ.

"But," you argue, "you are divided! You saints divide yourself from the rest of the body of Christ. In renouncing denominations you have become one yourself." Such reasoning is pure blindness and a very thin cloak indeed behind which you seek to hide. Was Paul a sectarian? Did he, when reproaching the party-spirits in Corinth, set up his own denomination? Do we make ourselves a sect by coming out of sects and standing

heedless of the words in His Bible, and indifferent to the sin of division.

Is Christ divided? Let every heart answer by the Word of God, not human opinions. And let those who find the answer tremble to walk against the light. 📖

Editor's Note: The church of God believes there are many saved people scattered among the various denominations, and that at this time God is calling them together in one, that we may meet the apostolic standard of one body, one Lord, one faith (Eph. 4:4-5).

The Church is an Organic Structure

H.M.Riggle

When men charge us with discarding all organizations, they either ignorantly or willfully misrepresent us. As the Word teaches, so we teach. The church that Jesus purchased with His own blood, He also “built” (Matt. 16:18); that is, organized. “In whom [Christ] all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord.” Eph. 2:21.

These scriptures and many others clearly set forth the church of God as a symmetrical and perfectly organized structure. Of this fact there is no question, but with regard to who holds the prerogative of organizing the body, not all so well agree. The general teaching in sectarian theology is that God only saves and gathers men out of the world into a general mass and that it is the duty of ministers to form the material thus provided into organic form. But our teaching is that God not only saves men into His church, but also forms them in due order and really organizes the church itself.

In order to show which position is correct, we will now appeal to the Word. A few texts will be sufficient to settle the question. The church, as we have seen, is a building, a house; that is, an organic structure. Now, it must be apparent to all that whoever is the architect and builder of a house is also its organizer. But “he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house.” And “he that built all things is God” (Heb. 3:3-4). “But now hath God set the members every one of them in the

body, as it hath pleased him.” 1 Cor. 12:18. “And God hath set some in the church, first apostles,” etc., 1 Cor. 12:28. To furnish with organs, “built,” “compact,” “fitly framed together,” and to “temper the body together” cover all that is included in the word “organize.” And “all these worketh that one and the self-same Spirit” (1 Cor. 12:11). Yea, “it is the same God which worketh all in all” (1 Cor. 12:6). He, then, through the Spirit, is the organizer of His own church.

As we view the pure church in her morning glory, we see her a perfect organized body. She had law, discipline, and government. This was all contained in the gospel—the New Testament. The law of Christ being a perfect rule of faith, the church needed no other, and it needs no other today.


There is no excuse for the modern creeds of men. Modern sects are of human origin. Hence they need man-made rules and discipline. The church of God is divine. Hence the divine law is sufficient for its government.

Moreover, the Lord calls, qualifies, and sends forth by His Spirit certain ones for the ministry. Among these are evangelists, pastors, and teachers. They prove their call by their ability to minister. Such are acknowledged by the church and by the direction of the Lord are ordained by the imposition of hands to the important work to which the Lord has called them. This is all done by the direction of the Holy Spirit, without voting into office. In every congregation saved out of the world by the blood of Christ, the Lord calls certain ones and by His Spirit qualifies them to be elders or overseers. Others He calls to the work of deacons. He sets the members every one in the body as it pleaseth him. The min-

istry recognizes these calls and by the laying on of hands, just like the apostles and ministers of old, dedicate to the various kinds of work those whom the Lord has chosen and qualified.

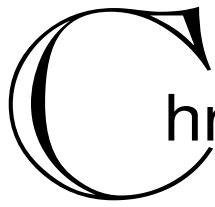
This is called ordination. These officers of the church are in authority, and execute His Word. They are called “overseers.” They are not made so by man, but “the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers” (Acts 20:28). The church is commanded thus: “Obey them that have the rule

o v e r
y o u ,
a n d
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s e l v e s .”
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So before the advent of any of the modern sects, God’s church was a perfectly organized structure, and we are happy to say that since we have come out of and discarded these sects of human origin and have been abiding only in the church divine, we have the same government, rule, discipline, officers, authority, and organization that the primitive Christians had. 

*There is no
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Write in for a copy of the booklet, “What the Church of God is and What it is Not.”



Christ and the Church: A Perfect LIVING Whole

Bro. Jordan Roose

A Word of Testimony

For years now, my truth-loving heart has not allowed me to receive the “evangelical” teaching that the church is both an *organism* and an *organization*. In the majority of church history and theology text books which have been written, you will find this teaching. It is upon this teaching that the founding and development of denominations has been based and justified.

I have both discovered personally, and observed in others, that faithful adherence to a denominational “church” organization or system creates many hindrances to true spiritual life and growth. There are definite unnatural pressures, and therefore, limitations, urged upon those who love and want to walk in all the truth of God without any prejudice or compromise. Although my heart could not receive the teaching of the church being an organization, and the resulting concept of denominations, my head could not quite explain why. I failed to fully understand, and therefore found it somewhat difficult to properly articulate God’s view of the church as presented in the scriptures. In the spring of 2006, I found myself in a very sectarian setting, with strong denominational pressures on all sides. However, it was in this environment that God’s Holy Spirit began giving me clear revelation concerning the issue at hand. Having given this testimonial introduction, I will now share the glorious and liberating truth God revealed to me concerning His church.

“And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him *to be* the head over all *things to the church, which is his body*, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.” *Ephesians 1:22-23.*

“And *he is the head of the body, the church*: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all *things* he might have the preeminence.” *Colossians 1:18.*

“Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for *his body’s sake, which is the church.*” *Colossians 1:24.*

“For the husband is the head of the wife, even as *Christ is the head of the church*: and he is the saviour of the body.” *Ephesians 5:23.*

The church is not a religious organization, nor is it a physical building where we go to worship. It is the “body of Christ.” Christ is the Head; the church is His body. *Together, Christ and the church make a perfect LIVING whole.* Therefore, rather than being an organization, the church, with Christ as its Head, is an organism; *a living being having various parts that function together as a whole to maintain its life and perform its activities by the Spirit.* An organism can and will have at least some measure of organization, but an organization in itself, cannot be an organism. An organism is animate. An organization is inanimate. The former is charged with life, and therefore

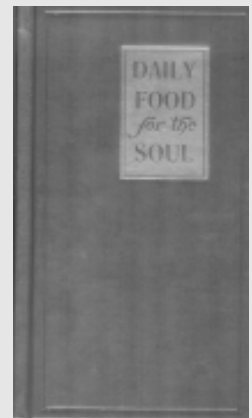
functions accordingly. The latter is destitute of life and is destined to also function accordingly. Only life can produce life. The living *organism* will produce living organization, but the lifeless *organization* will produce lifeless organization.

The church will most definitely *have* organization, but it will not *be an* organization. The organization of the church will be that which is dictated by its Head and carried out by its Spirit-led and empowered members. When organization occurs that is not dictated by Christ and carried out by Spirit-led and empowered members of the body, it is not rightfully referenced to the church. This is lifeless organization because it’s coming forth from some other source than the Head, who alone is “the way, the truth, and the LIFE” (Jn. 14:6). He is the only “LIVING way” (Heb. 10:20). “It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you,” Jesus said, “they are spirit, and they are LIFE” (Jn. 6:63). “For the letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth LIFE” (2 Cor. 3:6). Harkening to the words and will of Christ, the Head, is to LIVE. Harkening to the words and will of an organization, some so-called church, is to DIE.

Many people have come together in groups and have formed religious organizations. They agree on certain beliefs and practices, establish them as orthodox, form a religious organization,

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and then call it a church, or the church. However, this is not the church. These are lifeless religious organizations

founded and established by men. The church is no longer founded or established, it only grows and is built. As individuals are born again by the Spirit of God, they become part of the body of Christ. A new body of Christ does not form; His already existing body, the church, grows.

Jesus said, "Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matt. 16:18). Christ is not only the Head of the church, but also, He has been laid in Zion as "a chief corner stone, elect, precious" and we "as lively stones, are built up [upon Him] a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ" (1 Pet. 2:5-6). The church is "the household of God...built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: in whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit" (Eph. 2:19-22). God doesn't live in organizations; He lives in people, individually and collectively. Christ is not the Head of an organization. He is the Head of His body, an organism, which merely has organization.

By emphatically stating that the church is not an organization, I am not opposing organization within the church. I am in fervent support of all that necessary organization which freely flows from Christ's dictates to the Spirit-led and empowered members of His body. Every work that is Spirit-inspired obedience to His word and will, is charged with life and results in true kingdom-fruitfulness.

However, I do strongly oppose all organization in the church which is of mere man and cast it off as the arm of flesh which will fail "because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God" (Rom. 8:7-8). All these lifeless religious organizations called "denominations" are actually abominations, in that they are not the

I have discovered that faithful adherence to a denominational "church" organization or system creates many hindrances to true spiritual life and growth.

Spirit-inspired, God-honoring work of Christ and His obedient body. Rather, they are the man-inspired, God-dishonoring works of the flesh and its carnal ideas, trying to do God's work man's way. This has never truly suc-

ceeded, and it will never truly succeed. God's work must be done God's way, and that is "not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts" (Zech. 4:6).

I pray that you too will be illumined by the glorious truth of God that liberates and vivifies us to worship Him in spirit and in truth! 📖

Why I Do Not Wear a Necktie

I have been asked in the past and expect to be asked in the future my reason for putting off the necktie. This surprisingly seems to be a very controversial issue among certain groups and denominations. It seems that such a small piece of material would hardly be missed or noticed since it serves no purpose in preserving biblical standards of modesty and plainness.

Yet when the Lord showed me in His Word that the necktie does not belong in the Christian's wardrobe, and when I obeyed Him and got rid of all such nonsensical items of clothing, sincere Christians around me began to question the wisdom of my decision. It then became very clear to me that there is much more involved than a simple piece of cloth hung about one's neck. Somehow it seemed to have a much larger meaning or symbolism.

With God's help, I will attempt to bring the scripture to light and present the reason more clearly why it is that I have put away the necktie and now do my best to dress as a follower of God should.

Let us begin in the scripture. 1 Peter 3:3-4 reads, "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the or-

nement of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price."

Here Peter is speaking to the wives in regard to how they ought to dress. Some would say that he is just addressing the women here and says nothing to the men. To this I would say that God does not have a double standard, and if we should follow that rule, then everywhere in the scriptures where it addresses men, the women would not have to obey.

The first thing brought out here is adorning. Peter is not saying that adorning is wrong but that true and beautiful adorning is on the inside. He said, "let it not be that outward adorning" and goes on to list some things that were evidently creeping into the church. In today's world, these things are no longer creeping in, but are boldly on display, even in pastors' homes and other so-called pillars in the so-called church.

If a necktie is not outward adorning, then I don't know what it is. As already mentioned, it serves no purpose in regards to modesty, but rather is in opposition to modesty itself.

So what should be the adorning of a Christian? The scripture is very plain, "let it be the hidden man of the heart...the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit..." The hidden man of the heart refers to the soul, and God is

saying that the soul should be adorned with meekness and quietness. Many neckties, if not all, are in direct opposition to meekness, as they are designed to stand out and catch the attention of others. True value in God's eyes is found in meekness and quietness of spirit; the spirit that does not seek to have undue attention or popularity.

I Tim. 2:9-10 says, "In like manner also, that women [and men] adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women [and men] professing godliness) with good works."

Much could be said about these verses, but I want to focus on the words "modest apparel." Many Christians believe that if it covers the body it is modest, regardless of color or cost. Modesty goes much farther than that. In fact, Webster had this to say in regard to modesty: "Modesty, as an act or series of acts, consists in humble, unobtrusive deportment, as opposed to extreme

boldness, forwardness, arrogance, presumption, audacity or impudence." Part of being modest and wearing modest apparel is humility and unobtrusiveness. Christians will stand out simply because they are Christians, but we do not need the world and its clothing to help us along that line.

Another factor is the money that is spent on ties. Even if they are second-hand and only cost a dollar, we are still spending the Lord's money on something that is unnecessary and will not help to further God's cause. If our money truly is the Lord's, then every dollar we spend should be spent with the thought in mind that God will someday go over the records to see if we have been faithful stewards.

Adam Clarke had this to say in re-

Write in for a copy of the booklet, "Dress - An Issue of the Heart."

gards to the cost of clothing, "When either women or men spend much time, cost, and attention on decorating their persons, it affords a painful proof that within there is little excellence, and that they are endeavoring to supply the want of mind and moral good by the feeble and silly aids of dress and ornament. Were religion out of the question, common sense would say in all these things: Be decent; but be moderate and modest."

Many wear the tie simply because they feel that in the denomination they are a part of they would stand out if they did not wear one. As for me, I would rather obey God's Word and stand out than try to fit in just so I would not cause contention.

Dear reader, it is not wrong to stand

out in a crowd. In fact, we as Christians are called to be separate and stand out. But the question is, why am I standing out; why do I look different? If we are standing on God's Word alone let us never be ashamed, but let us hold our head high and be the light that God

wants us to be. If we are not trying to measure up to man's creeds and rules, we will stand out, but praise God for it!

Many times I feel that people wear the tie so they can blend in with the world. It makes them feel just a little less separate and therefore no one stares at them and ridicules them. True Christians want nothing to do with looking like the world and avoid it at all costs.

I know that there are many sincere Christians who wear the tie simply because others do and feel that it is best to avoid contention. My desire is not to be contentious, but simply to follow God's truth as outlined in the Word. Too many, I fear, have become content to follow man's doctrines and go with the flow. But praise the Lord for the liberty of the TRUTH!

The truth truly sets men free to follow God! I challenge truth-loving Christians everywhere to seek God and His

truth alone. It will lead you directly cross-grained with society and so-called churches, but hallelujah, it also leads to heaven above and true liberty with God for eternity!

This article has been written with prayer and yet the author realizes it is not exhaustive and that it has been simply and roughly written. But the prayer is that God can use these few words to help another sincere seeker of truth to a fuller realization of God's plan for His people.

Bro. Ben Dyck, Canada

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Germany

Christliche Schule der Gemeinde Gottes

Baja California, Mexico

Baja Church of God Mission School

Chihuahua, Mexico

Evening Light Christian Academy

Durango, Mexico

Church of God Evening Light School

MEETING REPORTS

Chihuahua: We rejoice in the Lord as we look at what He did during the past meeting here in Chihuahua, Mexico, August 13-20. Besides this being the largest meeting ever held in this area, we feel that it was also one of the best and most profitable. Represented in the meeting were the Mexican states of Durango, Zacatecas, Baja California, and Sinaloa, two provinces of Canada, three of the United States, and Germany.

The Lord richly anointed the preached word, which was directed to sinner and saint alike, and the saints rejoiced in the God of their salvation, as they sang the sweet songs of Zion. Among other things, we were exhorted to serve and follow after God with our whole heart, while sinners heard the message of a radical experience of Bible salvation. We are thrilled about the dear souls that were gloriously saved during the meeting. All of the services were attended by visitors and we trust that the Lord will continue to deal with their souls.

Numerous outreach services were held during the meeting. These included a street meeting in Rubio, and services held in a local prison, a juvenile detention center and a rehabilitation center for drug addicts and alcoholics.

Sixteen of God's children testified of their death to sin and of their new life in Christ by being "buried with Him in baptism." We thank God for His glorious blessings and await even greater things as His work progresses. Additionally we thank all of the saints for their support and ask them to continue to pray for this locality and for all of Mexico.

Bro. Benjamin Tovstiga

Zacatecas: After the meeting in Chihuahua, numerous saints traveled to La Honda, Zacatecas for a meeting which was held August 25-27. Once again the Lord was faithful to bless His people. Saints from Ontario and Manitoba, Canada; Durango, Chihuahua, and Sinaloa, Mexico; and Germany supported the meeting.

Numerous visitors from the nearby town of Juan Aldama visited every evening service. Although some other people from the community did not enter the meeting house, they listened while standing on the parking lot, or from their vehicles on the road. On Sunday afternoon the saints were invited to preach in the above-mentioned town, after which a short singing service was held in the town square.

While we are much encouraged about and thank the Lord for the wonderful work He has begun to do in Zacatecas, we ask the saints to continue to pray for the furtherance of the restoration in this area.

Bro. Benjamin Tovstiga

Greece: Bro. Harry Weiss and I traveled to Greece this summer to again meet with those the saints met in the spring. They introduced us to another family with four children, though their minister didn't want us to meet with them. One sister had told them a lot of positive things about the church of God. God had already prepared them to meet us. They took us home, and we had the opportunity to give them books and tracts. We had a good evening together. The parents and the twelve year old son are saved, but they see that they need much more.

They had a lot of questions about sanctification and the church. God helped them, they already put the TV and computer games away. He had a problem with women ministers, but we talked about this and he looked up a few scriptures in the Greek, and it seems that this is now clear to him. He is looking for opportunities to come to Germany. Since returning home, I often talk with them on the phone. He also introduced me to his friend in the Ukraine. I have spoken to him a few times since on the phone. He is seeking for sanctification and completeness. He lives near to where we will stay in September and wants to come to the services and for us to visit him.

The sister in Greece believes from the heart that this restoration work is the

truth. She already translated the tract "Salvation" into Greek and wants to come to the meeting in Germany this fall. Bro. George is willing to translate tracts into Bulgarian.

May God continue to bless and guide all of these dear and precious souls.

Bro. Karl Anselm

California: The California congregation was wonderfully blessed to have Bro. Stephen Hargrave hold a special meeting for us from August 20th - 27th, 2006. The preaching was richly anointed! The messages were primarily doctrinal in nature; ones that challenged you to go home and search the scriptures for yourselves. He covered topics like: Holy Living, Free From Sin, The Gift of Tongues, The Witness of the Spirit, and The Spirit of Prophecy. There were many visitors that came out from the community. The saints from Baja California came and also three men from the Sacramento area, one from British Columbia, Canada and one from Manitoba, Canada that flew in particularly to be in this meeting. It was an encouraging time of deep Bible study!

On Friday and Saturday of the meeting, we went to Hollywood and to Skid Row in Los Angeles to have street meetings. There was much work to be done in both places. The streets of Hollywood are a typical tourist destination and there are large crowds of people all year round. We handed out hundreds of tracts and were able to talk to people about their souls. It was a profitable time; much good was accomplished. We pray that the Lord will bless the literature abundantly and follow those who saw and heard the truth.

In His service,

Sis. Diana Kissling

France: Bro. Dietrich and I drove to southern France in August to keep in contact with the families there. Besides the family that was in Germany for the spring meeting, there are three more Armenian families and a young man from

Ukraine (who was here in Germany two weeks ago). They show much interest in the truth, and are displeased with their present church. They want to stay in contact with us, study the books of the church of God and desire us to visit them again.

It is a blessing to meet with souls that are hungry for truth. Pray with us for the work in Europe. Bro. Karl Anselm

Bolivia: We are thankful for the opportunity we had to go to Bolivia this summer. A company of seven saints from Canada and Mexico met in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, on July 11th, 2006, with the goal of spreading the gospel to hungry souls. We went on the streets of Santa Cruz for a street meeting in an area where many people gather for business and visiting. It was a sight to behold as both German and Spanish speaking people stood behind, beside, and in front of us. Others were standing or sitting across the street listening as we ministered to them in German, Spanish, and English.

Then we went on to a colony of Chihuahua, where we lodged until the following Monday. We had services in a home from Thursday through Sunday. During the weekdays we visited homes in different colonies, and in the evenings we had services.

The Lord assured us that we were in the right place at the right time. At first, it seemed as if there was very little interest. However, the breakthrough came on the weekend. Saturday night we had a couple come from another colony, Valle Esparanza. On Sunday afternoon, we were able to go over to their home and had a blessed time with them and two of their married children with their families. A number of us also went to another home where some of the saints' relatives were having a family gathering.

While some visited with their relatives, three of us waited for them. But, oh, the time was precious. As children came around to the vehicle, we seized the opportunity to witness to them. We sang them an English children's song. Then after some time, we were given the liberty to sing to them in German. More children gathered around until there were about fifteen to twenty. We sang and explained the way of salvation to them.

May the Lord bless the seed.

Sunday night was a memorable service. A couple came that was tired of the sectarian place they were attending and had just discontinued fellowshiping with them. The young man seemed open to the truth. We have much hope for them and trust the Lord to bring them home to Zion.

On Monday, we returned to Santa Cruz, where we did personal outreach with relatives and acquaintances. It was touching to see children that had no idea of salvation, soaking in the words of life and the children's songs. Even teenagers would be asking us to repeat "action" children's songs. On Wednesday, we had another street meeting in Santa Cruz. Many souls were touched once again with the gospel through song, and Bro. Henry Hildebrandt had the opportunity to preach to the hungry souls for about fifteen minutes.

In the afternoon, some of us went to the poorest area of a suburb of Santa Cruz. There we had the joyful pleasure of distributing bags of groceries to families and handing out candies to many children. It was rewarding to see the appreciation from the different ones as they took a bag of groceries consisting of things like oil, rice, sugar, and flour. We left Bolivia with the desire to return again.

"The harvest truly *is* plenteous, but the laborers *are* few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest." Matt. 9:37-38. Sis. Christy Schmidt

Texas: Praise the Lord, saints. We are glad to report to you that we had a wonderful meeting Sept. 8-10, with the saints from the Oklahoma congregation.

The Lord richly blessed Bros. Gary Boevers and Ernest Benion, Jr. to preach the clear gospel messages that were much needed for the edification and upbuilding of the kingdom here in Paris, Texas.

Please continue to remember us in your prayers, as we are learning how to walk more fully in the will of the Lord. Bro. Johnny Friesen

Wisconsin: The meetings in Shawano, Wisconsin, Sept. 1-4, were wonderful, with approximately 250 to 300 saints

present from various places in the U.S. and Canada. We had a number of visitors each service, some families even coming from neighboring states for the meeting.

Bro. Ray Tinsman preached with much liberty and anointing. It is truly wonderful to be where the Word of God is preached in its fullness. It is a blessing to see the Lord bringing people out of false religion and giving them a desire for the truth. "I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely." Rev. 21:6.

We are encouraged here and feel like the Lord is helping us in our local services, but the scripture that says "every joint supplieth" became a greater reality to us in these meetings. We appreciate the support of everyone that came and desire the continued prayers of the saints for the work of God here.

Bro. Allen Bontrager

Pennsylvania: "Come over into Macedonia, and help us." Acts 16:9.

It was with great joy that the saints answered the call and travelled to Pennsylvania for meetings on September 9th.

There were visitors in both the morning and evening services, mostly all young people. The Lord blessed us together and tears were shed as we parted from these precious, newly found brothers and sisters.

Let us be faithful to pray for this area, as there are many more that are longing and searching for the living bread that will feed their souls. The cry for help is sounding from all corners of the earth. Let us be up and doing, rescuing them, for time is short and eternity long.

Harvesting in the Master's field, Sis. Tamara Tinsman

Publishing House Needed

The Gospel Trumpet Publishing Co. has sold their building in Winchester, Indiana. Though an interim office space has been procured, there is a pressing need to either build or find a larger premise to buy. Please pray with us concerning this matter.

Any having a burden to financially help with this need may send their offerings to P.O. Box 1139, Greenville, Ohio 45331. Tax receipts are available upon request.

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