How To Obtain Godliness

I.- Godliness Involves Devotion:

A.- Communication TO God - 1 Tim. 2:1-2
1- Supplication
2- Prayers
3- Intercession
4- Thanks

B.- Communication FROM God - 1 Tim. 3:16
1- Truth of the Word

II.- Godliness Involves Discipline:

A.- Discipline is necessary
1 Tim. 4:7-8
2 Pet. 1:3
. Exercise is essential
Becomes second nature - HABIT
that characterized life.

B.- Discipline is profitable
1- For present
2- For future) 1 Tim. 4:8

III.- Godliness Involves Doctrine: 1 Tim. 6:3-6

A.- Wholesome Words
1- Christ
2- Apostles were expounders of X's message

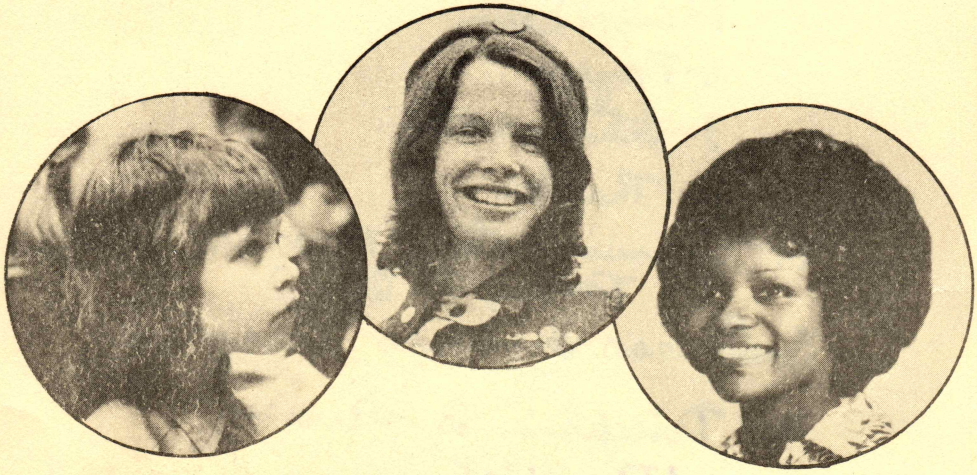
B.- Wholesome Results

C.- Wholesome Separation

Concl - Not so much what we DO as what we ARE
↓ Recap
↑ Challenge

GIRL SCOUT WEEK

MARCH 12-19, 1978



The Girl Scout Promise

ON MY HONOR, I WILL TRY:

To serve God,
My country and mankind,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.



BLACK DIAMOND GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL

ONLY ONE ① 1 Tim. 2:5

Intro:

A.- We Live In A World Of Variety
1- Birds, Animals, Fish
2- Trees, Plants, Climates
3- Social Customs
4- Religions

B.- GREAT EXCEPTION — X-nity
1- Unique in every respect
2- The incomparable religion
3- No basis of comparison w/others
4- Supreme + Different
5- Deals With FACTS:

I.- There Is One God — 1 Tim 2:5
A.- There Is — Existence
— Heb. 11:6
— Fact declared + proof is self-evident

B.- One ONLY God
1- Heathen polytheism — Acts 17:22-29
2- Biblical Monotheism — De. 6:4
3- He is "the One with Whom we have to do"
— Now
— Or later — Jn. 12:32
4- Equality in Δ — Jn. 10:30; Mt. 28:19
5- Fellow of Δ in Unity — SUN in SKY

II.- There is ONLY (2) One Mediator — 1 Tim 2:5

A.- There is One
1- Helpless w/o One
2- No need for more than One
3- Essential to have ONE

B.- Mediator
1- Between God + Man
2- Partakes of Each — Phs 2:5-11
— Heb. 2:14-17

3- Illus - He is our "Jacob's Ladder"
- Planted firmly on earth
- Our way to Heaven

4 Expressly related to X alone

III.- There is ONLY One Kind of Man

A.- Man's View is Not God's View:
1- Looks at Possessions
2- " " Attainments
3- " " Position
4- Forgets to look at SOUL + SPIRIT

B.- God's View:
1- Important View
2- Heaven is a PREPARED Place for a PREPARED People who come a PREPARED Way
3- Rom 3:3, 20, 23 — SINNERS
4- Not to get in — 1 Cor. 6:[illegible]
5- Man Needs RIGHTEOUSNESS — Isa 64:6

C.- One Kind Of Man:

1- Rom. 3:10-12

2- Matt 9:13 "I am not come to call the righteous to repentance, but the sinners"

3- 1 Tim 1:15 — To SAVE SINNERS

IV.- There is ONLY One Savior: Acts 4:12

A.- Purpose of Coming — Mt. 1:21
Jesus = Jehovah Savior

B.- "No Second" Name

— No other needed

— No other possible

— No other offered

— Illus — Methodist preacher in Dallas who thought there were MANY WAYS. Found only 1 WAY in N.T. — Jn. 14:6

V.- There is ONLY One Way Provided:

A.- Faith in X:

1- Acts 16:31

2- Rom. 4:5

3- Eph. 2:8-9

B.- Not by:

1- Ch. Membership

2- Water Baptism

3- Moral Rectitude

4- Good Works

C.- Salv. is not something the sinner works out, but something God Provides — Rom 6:23 — Jonah 2:9

VI.- There is ONLY One Thing To Do:

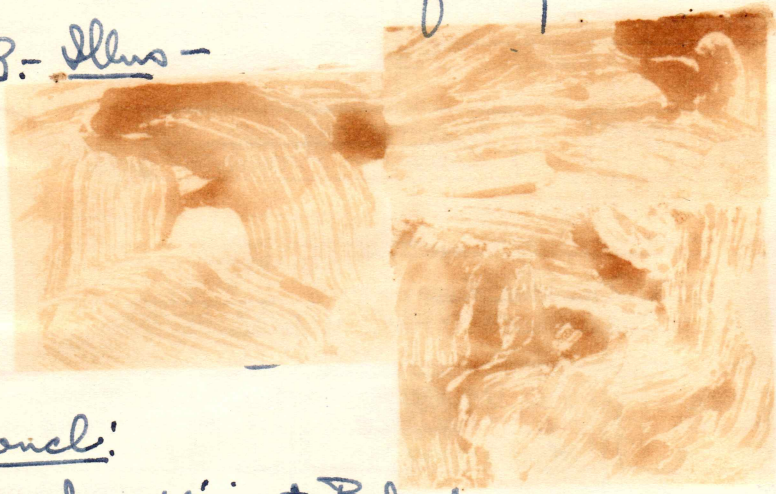
A.- What?

1- Sinner to be saved must "Come to Christ"

2- Sinner must accept + receive X as HIS OWN PERSONAL SAVIOR

3- Savior Extends Invitation
- Mt. 10: 28-30
- Sinner freely comes
- Savior freely saves

B.- Illus -



Concl:

A. Insufficient Belief:
1- One God
2- One Mediator
3- One Kind of Man
4- One Savior
5- One Way Provided
6- Illus — Jas. 2:19 - Faith in facts MUST draw you to the Savior to be Saved

B.- Where Do YOU Stand?
1- Intolerant to believe this — Yes
— But essential

J.E. Evans – Sept. 26, 1952

PRAYER

I Tim. 2:8 Attitude In Prayer

I desire therefore that holy men pray in all places, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and disputing.

1- Pray every where
" all ways
" always

PLACE

2- Lift up holy (clean + righteous) hands Ps. 66:18
(Inwardly upright
(Outwardly upright)

PURITY

3- Wrath – put it away Ep. 4:31-32
Pray for enemies + our attitude toward them will change

PEACE

4- Doubting – inward questioning –
Lightfoot – intellectual rebellion
against God Phs. 2:14

PERMANENT PERSEVERENCE

"THE CHRISTIAN LADIES" 1 Tim. 2:1-15 (esp. 9-15) (1)
Rom. 12:1-3

INTRO: A.-Having Read 1 Tim. 2...:

1-C.R. ERDMAN--"It is not difficult to understand why such statements by Paul have made him unpopular with certain elect ladies of the present day. Yet it should be said in defense of the apostle that his writings, taken as a whole, have done more for the emancipation of women, more to secure her social & civil & political rights, than the productions of any other author who could be named; and her highest happiness is enjoyed ONLY in those countries where the Christian principles set forth by the great apostle are accepted and obeyed." (1 Tim., P. 36)

2-Examples of non-christian lands:
- --Women sold for pride prices
- --Women sold into prostitution
- --Women in purdah & harems of seclusion

3-Paul sets forth a STRICT STANDARD
- --For the men; 2:8
- --For the women; 2:9-15
- --No distinction in position in the Church
- --EQUALS in Christ's Body
- --Different appointments in the Divine scheme of things for men & women

4-We live in a day of ANCHARCY & REBELLION:
- --Against parents
- --Against moral standards
- --Against school officials
- --Against government policies
- --BUT THE CHRISTIAN is not to be shaped after worldly patternsns

5-Rom. 12:1-2 is our "mold"
- --YIELDED to God ——— DEDICATION
- --NOT CONFORMED to the world — SEPARATION
- --BUT TRANSFORMED ——— TRANSFORMATION

B.-How Related To "THE CHRISTIAN LADIES?":

1-Outline--The Lady And Her CHARMS
- --The Lady and Her CHURCH
- --The Lady And Her CHOICE SPHERES

2-PROP:--To see that God's Word has clear words for Christian women & girls that vitally affect their lives by setting HIGH STANDARDS for them if they are to live as "Christian ladies"
- --These standards are NOT OPTIONAL
- --Much here for the "singles", "the widows", the "teens" and also for the "marrieds"

I.-THE LADY AND HER CHARM:

A.-Her Physical Adornment (1 Tim. 2:9):

1-Adornment is expected and not condemned for women

2-HOWEVER--It is to be with "MODEST apparel" ... of life
- --This modesty is in looks, in dress & in manner /
- --GOOD TASTE is expected wherever a christian

woman goes ** To Church
** To market
** To School
** AND in the home

3-"With shamefacedness"
--Corruption of old English word "shamefastness"
--Has nothing to do with SHAME
--Means "to stand fast in modesty"
--Not a self-assertive person
--A "HARD WORD" for modern women...AND for ancient women as well.

4-"Sobriety"=="Self-control" or "discreteness"
--Well-balanced mind resulting from habitual self-restraint

5-"Not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls or costly array"
--What is meant by this"
--HARVEY--"The reference is to the custom then prevalent in fashionable life, of interweaving in the hair gold, silver, pearls, causing it to flash brilliantly in the light."
--SO, striking hairdos or costumes are CLEARLY CONDEMNED!!
--1 Pet. 3:3-4--"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 ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price."
--H.A.IRONSIDE--"If we were to understand that the Spirit of God is here forbidding absolutely a woman to put up her hair neatly, or forbidding the wearing of an occasional gold ornament, then He is also forbidding the putting on of apparel." (1 Tim., P. 66)

6-Problems Timothy was facing in Ephesus where much like the ones we have in today's society
--Wild hair-dos
--Bared breasts
--Skimpy skirts
--Painted eyes
--Gilded nails & lips
--LOW moral standards
--SELF-ASSERTIVENESS & SELF-ATTRACTIVENESS of the outward appearance that is "PUT ON"
--Worldiness shows here very easily

7-What's wrong with these??--Money spent
--Time spent
--Interest spent
--An attempt to "BE LIKE THE WORLD"
--No evidence of godliness in these

8-Lady-Believer's attire or "adornment" should be
--Modest in dress & attitude
--Allowing nothing that would bring SHAME
--SOBER BALANCE of mind
--Not an offense
--ILLUS--Some of our concerned youths having prayer about older women's "TOO-SHORT SKIRTS" that are an offense & a stumbling block
--BETTER to be known for her.....

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

B.-Her Spiritual Adornment (2:10):

1-Professing godliness
- --Verbal testimony
- --Known for her faith before all & at all times
- --Always ready to share her love for Christ
- --Not depending on OUTWARD things for her charm or glamor
- --Rather an INWARD beauty of a meek & quiet spirit
- --Let hers be a SPIRITUAL HALO rather than an ornamental one

2-Practicing good works
- --Not just "in word", but also "in deeds"
- --Accurate reflection of her inner life
- --Words matched with works
- --Counteraction to loose doctrine &false teachers
- --People should notice christian women because they are so kind & good, not because of the way they fix their hair or the fancy clothes they wear
- --Moreover, when they find out that a woman is a Christian, they OUGHT NOT TO BE SURPRISED
- --Example
  - ** Dorcas
  - ** Acts 9:36-39
  - ** Good works
  - ** "Almsdeeds"--"Deeds of mercy"

3-See here that "TRUE CHARM"
- --Is spiritual & helpful
- --Comes from the INSIDE of a woman
- --Consists not in wearing the latest fads
- --Draws attention to the Lord, not the
  - ** Clothing
  - ** Cosmetics
  - ** "Catching" appearance
- --SO--"The Lady And Her Charm" is far more spiritual than physical
- --But the physical is MODEST & in keeping with spiritual values being uppermost
- --J.D.WHITE--"A woman's positive duty is to make herself conspicuous by good works, not by personal display." (Expositors, P. 106)

II.-THE LADY AND HER CHURCH:

A.-The Relationship:

1-Church membership is an important matter for a christian, when we are SAVED

2-We are not intended for ISOLATION, but for fellowship & participation in the local expression of God's family.

3-GO--GIVE--JOIN--SUPPORT--SERVE

NB 4-If we belong to THE CHURCH, then we ought to be a part locally of A CHURCH that is true to God's Word

5-Question asked of Guy King:
- --Can I not be a Christian without being an ac-

tive part of a local Church?"
--"YES, but not a good christian, for an isolated and uninvolved Christian is an ill-developed Christian."
6-Relationship to the Church is ordained of God--Mt. 16:18
--Heb. 10:25

B.-The Regulations (1 Tim. 2:11-12):
1-2:11-12 deal with the WORSHIP SERVICES & women
2-LEARNING--Always & continuously a learner
** Mt. 11:28-29
** That's true discipleship; Doesn't quit
--IN SILENCE
--Forbidden to speak out in "taking on" the preacher or the class teacher
--Not because the males always know more & are always right
--But because such an action betrays a WRONG ATTITUDE
--1 Cor. 14:35--"And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church."
--Not a matter of immorality, but of impropriety
3-TEACHING--Eliminates women preachers & evangelists
** Bebee Patton of Oakland * Kathryn Kuhlman
** Aimie Semple McPherson of Los Angeles
** Mary Baker Glover Patterson Eddy
--CHRYSOSTOM wrote: "Woman taught once & ruined all"
--NOT to teach in a mixed audience
--Public teaching is a GOD-GIVEN prerogative to the men, only
--1 Cor. 14:33-34--"For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints. Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law."
--Relates back to 14:23--"If therefore the whole church be come together in one place..."
--VIOLATION of this principle seen in "Jezebel" who was permitted to preach & teach in Rev. 2:20-22
--BUT.....OK with women, children & youths
4-LEADING--αὐθεντεῖν ="One who acts on her own authority"
--DOMINION is not a woman's place
--That eliminates ** Woman Elders
** Woman S.S. Superintendents
** Woman Board Members
** Woman Directors of Bds. or Missions
--Woman is to serve in places where she is "UNDER AUTHORITY" to men

MIXED AUDIENCE
Even acceptable on a "one shot" basis

C.-The Reasons (1 Tim. 2:13-14):
1-Paul obviously believed in the HISTORICITY & the AUTHORITY of the Genesis accounts of creation, the fall & the curse
* 2-Reason of PRECEDENCE or of DEPENDENCE
--Man was first formed
--1 Cor. 11:8-9--"For the man is not of the woman; but

the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man."

- So the ELDER should rule
- Not necessarily because he is superior to the woman
- But because as the elder he was made to be a RULER
- Woman, however, was made to be a "HELPER" & not a ruler
- I believe it was St. Augustine who said that woman was not taken out of man's head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be walked upon, but from his side so she would be dear to his heart.

3-Reason of DIFFERENCE OF NATURE

- Man is dominated by his HEAD
- Woman is dominated by her HEART or EMOTIONS
  - ** Greek says "being altogether deceived"
  - ** Ref. is to "the woman" rather than "EVE" to show the characteristics of the female sex
  - ** Woman are more easily DUPED
- Woman sinned because of DECEPTION
  - ** Gen. 3:13--"And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat."
  - ** Thus, the woman showed her incompetence in the face of Satan's subtle temptation, and therefore she is not capable of rulin
- Man Sinned
  - ** Not because of deception
  - ** But out of affection for Eve
  - ** Gen. 3:17--"And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, & hast eaten..."
  - ** Adam's sin was with his eyes wide open
  - ** So ADAM is held responsible, & Eve is considered dependent because of her GULLABILITY

4-Erdman--"In this act Adam was by no means morally superior to his wife, even if it is granted that his mind was more clear; and all that Paul intimates is that a woman, because of her greater trustfulness, is more easily misled into false beliefs & so is less qualified to be a public teacher of Christian truth. Paul does not mean that a woman is mentally or morally or spiritually inferior to a man."

III.-THE LADY AND HER CHOICE SPHERES:

A.-In Private Opportunities:

1-Not in the PUBLIC EYE as a Ruler, Preacher or a Teacher of the whole congregation of the Church

2-Not as a "bread-winner" except in RARE cases; not the rule for the woman to "work" outside the home.

3-Nonetheless, in PRIVATE SPIRITUAL endeavors

4-EXAMPLE--Acts 18:24-26
--Aquila & Priscilla heard Apollos
--Recognized his deficiencies of knowledge as they heard him speak in Corinth
--Did not publicly rebuke him
--Did not criticize him & leave it at that, for evidently they saw that he was such a gifted man it would have been a pity to leave him where he was.
--WHAT TO DO???
--"They took him unto them, & expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly"
--Too sensitive to handle Apollos' need of further & deeper instruction publicly, so they INVITED HIM TO THEIR HOME for a talk
--Note ** "THEY"; Aquila & Priscilla
** Here, in the home, Priscilla had a chance to share in the instruction also
** Though debarred from the pulpit in worship, she found a way to bear her testimony & give her message and help

5-Many other women also found PRIVATE opportunities for service
--Teaching-----Titus 2:3-5
--Giving-------Luke 8:2-3
--Serving------Rom. 16:1-2

6-How many souls are won to Christ & how much service to Christ is thus accomplished for eternity, we'll not fully know until we get to heaven.

B.--In Parental Responsibilities (1 Tim. 2:15):

1-2:15 is written to insure that the women NOT GET DISCOURAGED because of limitations on their public ministries
--No need to be disheartened
--Some spheres are closed to women
--But her SPECIAL "Choice Spheres" of the home & parental ministry is open to her

2-In the home & with her family--HER MAN is her glory
--Her children are "her life"
--Her home is her sphere
--MOTHERHOOD

3-1 Tim. 2:15 is an admittedly difficult verse with diverse interpretations
--PRESERVED THRU the great dangers & agonies of childbirth
**Problem
** What if they die in childbirth as some do??
** That cannot be the answer
--SAVED IF THEY BRING UP their children well
** Problems
** That is salvation by WORKS
** Contradicted by Eph. 2:8-9
--SAVED IF THEY BEAR children
** Problems
** How many children will bring salvation?
** No other verse says that
** What about unmarried "singles", youths or children?
** That cannot be a true answer

--Saved by means of THE CHILDBEARING of Mary in bringing Christ into the world to be our Savior
** Interesting view
** Strengthened by the definite article before "THE childbearing"
** Problem here
** It makes no sense in connection with 2:15b

--Saved from SPIRITUAL USELESSNES by ministering in a sphere for which they were designed & appointed by God
**TREMENDOUS MINISTRY !!!
** Fits the context of 2:11-14 which needs 2:15 to show that a woman DOES HAVE a sphere of useful ministry
** "Saved" is sometimes (as here) used in a sense other than that of spiritual salvation
==Acts 27:20--"Deliver from drowning"
==1 Tim. 4:16--"Preserve from entanglement in false teaching.
** EXAMPLE: ==("Tiny Tim" under grandmother LOIS & mother EUNICE was taught the truth
==Brought to Christ by Paul
==Now the Pastor in Ephesus to whom all this is written
==Outgrowth of the spiritual usefulness of women in the home

--Ladies, this is your SPHERE
** Motherhood, child-rearing & training
** Pour your life into your children for God

4-"If they"....--To whom referring ?
--THE CHILDREN as they live what you teach them & become faithful in church also
--Then your life is not "wasted" or "tied down" in the home, but WELL-INVESTED
--HOW ??
--When the Christian woman trains her children in a Christian home, for that is a responsibility that falls largely to her

CONCLUSION:

A.-Harry Ironside's Story:

1-ILLUS--Certain preacher was holding meetings in which he expounded clearly truths concerning the BODY OF CHRIST & our inheritance in Him. One lady who attended those meetings was so appreciative that in the appropriate place she stood to give a warm-hearted testimony to what these truths meant to her as she had heard them expounded.

Later the same preacher spoke from 1 Cor. 14 that dealt with the woman's behavior in Church, and the same woman rose in the midst of his message and shouted out: "I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT AT ALL."

The speaker stopped right there & said: "My dear sister, you have just been rejoicing in one truth from God's Word, and I am forced to inform you that the same inspired record of the Apostle's writing also teaches that your position in the church is not of prominence, but of quiet service in the HOME.....

The dear lady then burst into tears & said: "May God forgive me. I now see that I have been trifling with the Word of God."

2-One part of Scripture is as truly inspired as another part

3-When you have questions or problems with a passage, don't reject it.

4-RATHER--Ask the Spirit, who caused it to be written, to make clear the message there for you

--Submit yourself to the teaching of the Word, if you would model yourself after...

B.-The Christian Lady:

1-HER CHARM--Not in excesses of physical adornment

--Modest & of sober balance

--Emphasizing spiritual adornment

2-HER CHURCH--An active member

--Not pushing for public pre-eminence

--Sphere of service

** Not as a preacher or evangelist
** Not as leader over a congregation
** Not as a teacher of men or mixed couples
** But with women, children and youths
** Behind-the-scenes
** Heart to heart ministry
** Using her home for Christ
** Giving sacrificially and substantially

3-HER CHOICE SPHERE--Private opportunities

--Parental responsibilities

4-That is

QUITE A PATTERN, and it takes QUITE A CHRISTIAN LADY to measure up to it

11/23/69--Westbrae # 20-"Holy, Holy, Holy" or #5

349--"I Would Be Like Jesus"

5/4/75-Calvary Columbus # 305--"I Would Be True"

Church Government Developments:

1 Tim 3 Filed Here — Acts 6:1-7

I.- O.T. Pattern:

A.- Not the church, but a nation
1- Priests + H.P. — Religious mediators
2- Prophets — Revivalists + Revealers
3- King — Royal political heads of the Theocracy

B.- Sanhedrin: — TABERNACLE / TEMPLE
1- Outgrowth of Moses' 70 men — Num. 11.
2- 70 + H.P
- Scribes or Lawyers
- Priests = Levitical System
- Rabbis = Teachers
- Elders = Senior men of wisdom

C.- Local Synagogues after Babylonian Capt.
1- Priest / Rabbi
2- Elders
3- Minyon of 10 men over 13 yrs of age

II.- Church History Pattern:

A.- Local independent + Autonomous Churches: CONGREGATIONAL

N.T. Time

B.- Hierarchical Churches: — 5th century + later
1- R.C. + Eastern Orthodox
2- Episcopal or Ch. of England
3- Methodists

C.- Representative Government Churches:
1- Calvin's successors — Presbyterian
2- Balance of power + authority
- Pastor as leader among equals
- Elders
- Deacons

3- Series of Presbyteries, Synods + General Assembly as ascending Courts of appeal

First in Acts

Not in N.T. Little place for congregational input

III.- Biblical Pattern:

A.- Apostolic Era: — GIFTS
1- Apostles
2- Prophets — Eph. 2:20 — Foundational
3- Evangelists
4- Pastor-Teachers — Eph. 4:11 — Continual
5- 2 were temporary
6- 2 are permanent

Explain why

B- Church Leadership Development (OUT OF NEED)

1- Acts 6:1-7 — "Deacons", though not so named here.

Jerusalem

Dealt w/a PHYSICAL ISSUE

- The Problem
- The Proposal
- The Procedure
- The Priority
- The Performance
- The Prosperity

- How do we respond to Church PROBLEMS ?

a- Leave
b- Loaf
c- Love
d- Lift
e- Last

2- Antioch - Acts 11:19-30

- Gospel outreach
- Church sent Barnabas
- His ministry — By EXHORTATION
  — By EXAMPLE
- TEACHER of truth
- Recruitment of Saul
- TEAM ministry
- Famine relief sent to Jerus. Ch's elders

3- First Missionary Journey - Acts 13-14

- Call to service - 13:1-5
- Change of name + leadership - 13:6-13

Paul →

- Departure of John Mark - 13:13
- Pattern of missionary ministry 14:20-23
  1. TEACHING - 14:21,25
  2. CONFIRMING - 14:22
  3. EXHORTING - 14:22
  4. ORDAINING ELDERS - 14:23
     - Plural eldership
     - Each singular church
     - Congregational involvement in the process.
  5. COMMENDING 14:23,26
  6. Return to Report at Antioch - 14:26-28

4- First Ecumenical Council - Acts 15:1-32

- Problem of circumcision + law keeping - 15:1,5
- Polarization of viewpoints - LEGALISTS + LIBERTY
- Participation
  - Paul + Barnabas 15:2-4
  - Apostles + Elders 15:4,6,22
  - Believing Pharisees - 15:5
  - Peter - 15:7-11
  - Barnabas + Paul - 15:12
  - James 15:13-18
- Pontification by James - 15:19-21
  - No requirement of circumcision or Law-Keeping imposed - 15:19
  - Avoid unnecessary offense to Jews 15:20

1) IDOLS
2) FORNICATION
3) STRANGLED
4) BLOOD

- Endorsement by all - 15:22-32
- NOTE the prominence of ELDERS - 15:2,4,6,22,23, 16:4

***

5- Paul With Ephesian Elders - Acts 20:17, 28

- 20:17- Plurality related to one church

- Local church leaders, not a preacher's conference
- 20:28 * Same men called "overseers" or "Bishops" — INTERCHANGEABLE
  * Two terms one office
  20:17 * PRESBUTEROS = Man of maturity
  20:28 * EPISCOPOS = Man of spiritual oversight
  * Spiritual man over the spiritual affairs of the Church

VERY SIGNIFICANT
- Confirmation — Titus 1:5-7
- See SRB footnote P. 1283 — Titus 1:5
6 - Phil. 1:1 - Only single verse to set forth the TWO OFFICES of the N.T. Church.
- Question: How does the Pastor fit in?
- An elder among other elders
- FIRST among equals

"Every Pastor is an Elder, but not every Elder is a Pastor"

Q: Key Qualification Passages:

1 - Elders / Bishops — 1 Tim. 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9
- Internal qualification — DESIRE — 3:1
- Character qualifications — BEING, beyond DOING — 3:2 & -3
- Family qualifications — CONTROLLING — 3:2 b, 4-5
- External testimony — GOOD REPORT — 3:7
- One distinction between 1 Tim. + Titus is the issue of "not a novice" — 3:6
- SPIRITUAL MEN over the spiritual affairs of the Church.

2 - Deacons — 1 Tim 3:8-10, 12-13
"to hasten after" as a runner
- Dia + Konis, acc. to A.T.R. "to stir up dust"
- Used in N.T. in both a general sense + as an office. Always of a DOER, + never of a DECIDER.
- Character qualifications — 3:8
- Spiritual qualifications — 3:9
- Faithfulness " — 3:10
- Family " — 3:11-12
- Reward — 3:13

3 - Deaconesses — 3:11
- Parallel construction of 'oo-autos yuvaikas
- "Wives" = "Women"
- Italicized words
- 4 Qualifications
  - Worthy of respect
  - not malicious talkers
  - sober = temperate
  - faithful (= trustworthy) in everything
- Other refs. — Rom. 16:1
  — 1 Tim. 5:10-11
- DOERS, not DECISION MAKERS + to no "rule over men"

= Grave

-Baptisms, Visitation, E-vangelism, Discipling, Teaching, Hospitality, Nursery, etc.

D.- Other Elders passages

1 - 1 Tim. 5:1
2 - 1 Tim. 5:17
3 - 1 Thess. 5:12-13
4 - Heb. 13:7
13:17
13:18
13:24
5 - James 5:14
6 - 1 Pet. 5:1-4
7 - 2 John 1
8 - 3 John 1
9 - Rev 4:4, 5, 9-11
5:5, 6, 8, 11, 14
7:11, 13

6/24/93 - CMI, S. Africa

11 Leters:
- Acts
- Philipians
- 1 Tomothy
- 1 Thessalonians
- Titus
- Hebrews
- James
- 1 Peter
- 2 John
- 3 John
- Revelation

CONCLUSION:

A.- Review:
1 - O.T. Pattern
2 - Church History Pattern
3 - Biblical Pattern

B.- Quotation - J. J. Van Oosterzee opposite SRB
P. 1283

C.- Values of Biblical Organization:
1 - Clarifies aims + purposes
2 - Defines doctrine authoritatively
3 - Maintains spiritual unity
4 - Encourages efficiency
5 - Protects continuity
6 - Excites respect for proper functioning

Do it GOD's WAY for GOD's BLESSING!

Fiji - 4/14/98
Harper Heights Bapt. Ch - 2/4/07

"GOD'S MODEL MAN" — 1 Tim. 3:1-13; Heb. 13:7, 17, 18, 24 — (1)

INTRO: A. Man Is An Odd Creature:

1-ILLUS--Man can live without sleep 115 hours, without water for 22 days, without food for 75 days, stay under water for 6 minutes 29 seconds, live in a heat of 248 degrees Fah., live in cold of 103 degrees below zero, climb without oxygen to 28,200 feet, dive below water to 500 feet, run in 50 days a total of 5,625 miles, walk on his hands 16 miles a day for 55 days, hike on stilts 31 miles a day for 58 days, squat on a pole for 10 days, parachute. Jump from 30,800 feet, have a family of 44 children and live after his heart has stopped for 20 minutes.

2-Chemists used to say a man was worth less than a dollar, but now that the atom has been smashed, scientists say man is potentially priceless.!!!

NT →

3-Man was bought for a price--A VERY DEAR ONE

4-Christ gave His life for man as our Ransom

B. Man Is A Creature Of Standards: — What is RIGHT and WRONG?

Alternate Sources:
1-His own---------Ethics
2-His society's---Mores
3-His God's------Revelation.

ONE standard for all men everywhere
.No double standard
.No clergy vs. laity
.No changing standards

POLITICAL CORRECTNESS of the moment

4-The world is in flux

5-But that which is right doesn't fluctuate — FIXED like a COMPASS Pointing north

6-Scripture sets forth....

C. God's Model Man:

1-WHO is God's Model Man?

2-What Is God's Model Man?

--Qualifications in relation to SELF — THIS MESSAGE
--Qualifications in relation to CHURCH
--Qualifications in relation to WORLD
--Qualifications in relation to GOD
--Qualifications in relation to WIVES — LATER MESSAGE

3-Seen in 1 Tim. 3

4-Noteworthy facts--Not duties, but qualifications are stressed

**--Not mental acumen, but moral excellence was essential

D. Who Is The 'MODEL'?:

1-Bishop--Elder--Overseer / Tit. 1:5,7 — Pastor also meets these same qualifications + is one of the many 1 Pet. 5:1

A DECIDER (= Leadership + Administration)

--Spiritual leader over spiritual affairs

--Not a man wearing gaiters, a shovel hat, silk & lace, with his collar on backward

--LAY leaders.....always a PLURALITY of elders

--A number of bishops in one church instead of one bishop over many churches as in some groups today

Phs. B1

2-Deacon = Spiritual man over temporal affairs = A DOER
"servant" in the church — A.T. Robertson says it is from διά (thru) + κονις (dust) carrying the thot that deacons are so busy they stir up the dust because of their activity

3-Wives (3:11) == "women" (DEACONESSES?)

4-NUMBERS of officers are not stated — expanded to meet the needs of a congregation as it grows (2)

5-IDEALS are stated into which leaders are to mature more & more. — An ONGOING PROCESS!

6-"If a man desire the office of a Bishop, he desireth a good work" — Valid sphere to long to fill — God-given yearning!

SUBJECTIVE SIDE — 1 Tim. 3:1

* — Not passively waiting for an opportunity to serve but eagerly seeking such an opportunity

— Spiritual eagerness !!! INVOLVED whether in office or not

**For Christ's glory

**For Church's good

**Not for self-eminence

**Proper to covet to this end !

**Mt. 25:21—"His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou has been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things..

NB → **Evidence that Christ approved a spiritually centered ambition

— In the early church, it was not the easy posts, the placid positions, that were sought after, but the hard, & even the perilous jobs. It is a striking example of the enthusiasm of those first believers that they, many of them, actually coveted martyrdom; while too many of us curl up at the first sight of opposition

— In the light of all its heavy responsibilities, what are the qualifications of spiritual leadership?

PROP → Let's examine those requirements as they relate to the PERSON HIMSELF who would be "God's Model Man."

I. GENERAL QUALIFICATION — 'BLAMELESS':

A-What Kind Of Life?:

1-Not sinlessly perfect, but "BLAMELESS" (1 Tim. 3:2) — No handle of accusation

2-But living above reproach

3-Not practicing wrong

4-Behavior immediately identifies us

5-Does it identify us as a CHRISTIAN?

6-ILLUS—Sheep may get muddy, but it doesn't WALLOW! — Can't stand to be DIRTY!

B-What Character Of Life?:

1-Not giving a handle for someone to lay hold of to accuse

2-EXPOSITORS—"It is not enough for him to be not a criminal; he must be one against whom it is impossible to bring a charge of wrong-doing such as could stand impartial examination. He must be without reproach (RV)."

ILLUS: 3-1 Sam. 12:3-5—"Behold, here I am: witness against me before the LORD, and before his anointed: whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I received any bribe to blind mine eyes therewith? and I will restore it you. And they said, Thou hast not

defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken ought of any man's hand. And he said unto them, The LORD is witness against you, and his anointed is witness this day that ye have not found ought in my hand. And they answered, He is witness." (3)

4-3 Jn. 1-4--"The elder unto the wellbeloved Gaius, whom I love in the truth. Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came & testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in the truth."

AMEN!

5-Criticism ● Seems inevitable toward leaders
- Evaluate it !
- If it is true, amend yourselves--OURSELVES
- If it is false, we can safely ignore it.

1 Tim. 5:19

6-Such is God's Model Man..... BLAMELESS

II. MORAL QUALIFICATION—'HUSBAND OF ONE WIFE': (1 Tim. 3:2)

A.-Leading Characteristic—SELF-CONTROL: VERY IMPORTANT

1-High conception of the relation of the sexes

2-This attitude is characteristic of other areas:
- --Food
- --Temper
- --Possessions
- --Tongue
- --ALL under control

HANDS OFF OTHER WOMEN!

AND excludes one married to a divorced person—Lk. 16:18

3-Unquestioned morality in the person of a leader

B.-'Husband Of One Wife': (1 Tim. 3:2)

ILLEGAL in Roman Empire in 1st Century

1-No polygamist--at one time —or— --in a row

BIBLICAL Exclusion of women as Elder/Bishops — Not making women any "lesser" than men, but with different functions

2-No bigamist

3-MONOGAMIST--literally, "a one woman man"
- --Only one EVER living at one time

4-Excludes divorce —EVER

5-Excludes remarriage unless by reason of death of partner

6-Not disqualifying of bachelors from service

7-But it is amazing to think that one of this world's great religious systems which calls itself Christian, holds that no clergyman may have a wife.

R.C. Church

C.-'Ruler Of His Own Home' (3:5, 12):

1-Wife in subjection thru love — LOVE from husband makes him easy to SUBMIT to

2-Children in subjection thru example and precept

3-Not like Eli, who was family-indulgent. — Really HEAD of his family

III. CHRISTIAN GRACES QUALIFICATION—Eleven Of Them:

A.-Vigilant (3:2):

1-Means "Discreet, Temperate, Disciplined, Stable"

2-Openly awake to adversaries

3-Protector of the flock

4-Able to detect wrong doctrine, and to answer it

5-Titus 1:9-11 — READ

Watchdogs of the cong.

B. Sober (3:2):

1-Not just in **liquor**, but in **all things**
2-Meaning == **"self-controled, Calm"** — serious, sober-minded !
3-Similar to **"grave"** in 3:8, II
4-A person of **sound judgement** --- **Sanctified common sense**
5-**Master of himself**, and of every situation
6-Yet, not without a **sense of humor** at right things, but **not flippant** at holy things
7-**Not** a perpetual **"Dissenter"**
8-ILLUS--**Angus**, upon being elected an Elder in the Scottish Kirk was asked if he'd like to say a few words. He answered: "I just have this to say. From now on there'll be **no more unanimous decisions around here.**" — **NOT SO IN A BIBLICAL ELDER !**

C. Of Good Behavior (3:2):

1-Not only to **talk** well, but to **walk** well
2-A belief that behaves
3-ILLUS--As the **old Negro preacher** said: "Dere be two sides to de Gospel: dere's de **beliebing** side, and dere's de **behabing** side."..... **Quaintly put, but exactly true !**
4-Ps. **101:2b**--"I will **behave myself wisely in a perfect way.**"
5-**Contrast**--3 Jn. 9-11--"I wrote unto the church: but **Diotrephes**, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not. Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church. Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God."
6-ILLUS--A young **doctor** met an old schoolmate that he had not seen for years. The latter said, "Let me see, didn't you have a brother at school? **What** are both of you **doing nowadays?**" To which the young doctor replied on behalf of his **Pastor** brother, and himself, "Yes, there were the two of us: and now **my brother preaches** and **I Practice.**"
Well, what the true **MODEL MAN OF GOD** displays is **a combination** and **co-operation** of **both.** — Preaching AND Practicing

D. Given To Hospitality (3:2):

1-Ancient **INNS** were places of **ill repute**
2-**Large emphasis** on this in the N. T. as a ministry of hospitality
3-**Not limited** to Church leaders — OPEN HOMES
4-But **expected** of them
5-**Generous heart** is hereby shown
6-**Rom. 12:13-16**--"**Distributing to the necessity of saints**; given to **hospitality**. Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep: with them that weep. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits."
Example in PHILEMON
7-**Stewardship** of our **homes** as well as **time** & **treasure**
8-Literally--"a **love for strangers**" or "**disposed to entertain** with generous kindness."

9-NOT--"Come over for dinner & let us have a good time. Some time you will return the favor & I will enjoy your hospitality."

(5)

10-RATHER--One who uses his home freely for the sake of the gospel for meetings, prayer, classes & entertainment--------

AND all this without thought of reciprocity

ILLUS--I Cor. 16:15--"I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints)."

--OPEN HOUSE to all.....a blessed ministry

E-Not Given To Wine (3:3):

1-Not just that we christians don't dote over it

2-But not partakers of ANY OF IT--at all

3-Bible doesn't teach alcoholic moderation

4-Bible teaches alcoholic ABSTINANCE

5-Phs. 4:5 in Schenley's ad but the Greek means "purposeful forbearance." = "To say NO!"

Ch. Discipline in first 4 centuries if a believer drank publicly

F.-No Striker (3:3):

1-Not a labor-management term here

2-Meaning=="Not upset", "Not intemperate," "not pugnacious"

3-Not a violent man with hands
with words

4-How we need--all of us--to echo the Psalmist's prayer

5-Ps. 141:3--"Keep the door of my lips"

6-Every idle word will be judged (Mt. 12:36)

"But I say unto you, that every idle word that men speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment."

G.-Not Greedy Of Filthy Lucre: (3:3, 8)

1-Meaning--"not seeking ill-gotten gain"
"not greedy of gain"

2-Money--Not evil in itself
--Attitudes toward money can be evil
--Only then is it "filthy lucre"

NB→ 3-Many Godly men have been wealthy--Abraham, Job, David, Solomon
Joseph of Aramathea
BUT gain is not godliness

4-A man's character can often be judged in his attitude toward money and possessions--Look at his CHECKBOOK

5-Attitudes which were once acceptable when we were UNSAVED must be scrutinized and changed in the light of the Word of God & of a christian conscience

6-Christian leader (& all christians) to live for God's glory, not for earthly gain & acquisition of wealth

7-Special work of some church leaders was church finance
--Thus exposed to temptations
- --Not to expropriate for themselves
- --Not to use questionable means of livelihood
- --Not to say of Pastor--"Lord, you keep him humble and we'll keep him poor."
- Help to relieve monetary pressures & problems is a proper function of church leaders

8-Gold may be a GOD-SEND; but beware, it may also be a DEVIL-BAIT

9-Judas was not the last man to betray the Lord for silver

H. But Patient (3:3):

1-Meaning=="Gentle", kind, forbearing, "sweetly reasonable"
-Not urging his own rights or "due"
-Rather, a seeker of justice for all — Not a few or a faction
-Eph. 4:2-3--"With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2-Such gentleness has the incomparable advantage of not only winning the point, but also winning the man
3-Whereas pomposity may lose both
4-Jas. 1:4--"Let patience have her perfect work..." — should be clearly seen in church leaders

I. Not A Brawler (3:3):

1-Meaning=="Not contentious," "not a battle-seeker"
2-Peacemaker at every opportunity
3-But not "Peace at any price"
4-Jas. 3:17--"But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."
5-Able to counsel the flock--"Be at peace among yourselves" (I Th. 5:13)
6-No strife over leadership here — No games of ONE-UPMANSHIP

J. Not Covetous (3:3):

1-"Thou shalt not covet"--Ex. 20:17
2-Last of the 10 commandments
3-Not the least of them
4-Repeated for us in the N. T.
5-Temptation to live in the land of WANTS, rather than needs
6-Contrary to CONTENTMENT
7-Phs. 4:11-12--"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need."

K. Not Double-Tongued (3:8):

1-Straight-forward and with ONE story for everyone
2-Not one story for you and another for someone else
3-Sticks to FACTS
4-Sticks to ONE story to all people
5-Says what he means.....and means what he says
6-Willing to face the consequences
7-Duties of leadership require straight dealing & decided speech
8-Word is his bond
9-Speaking the truth in love — Not truth as a CLUB!

STRAIGHT as an ARROW!

what you see + hear in him is what you get.

CONCLUSION

A. God's Model Man:

1-General Qualification---BLAMELESS
2-Moral Qualification--HUSBAND OF ONE WIFE
3-Christian Graces Qualification--11 of them named here

B. Man's Model Man:

1-For us to seek in those who are elected Church leaders
- PASTOR
- ELDERS
- DEACONS

2-For us to be as Church leaders

3-For us to seek & become as young men

4-For girls to seek as husband-material

5-For wives to pray for in their husbands to become

6-THEREFORE--a very practical matter when we make God's Model Man to be man's model for himself → Room for GROWTH in each of us.

Illus ——→ 7

Joe McClung: "I want to so live these qualities that my fellow-church members may one day consider me worthy to serve them as one of their Elders"

C. Appeal:

1-Pray for our leaders that they may BE thus

2-Pray for our youth that they may become thus

3-Pray for yourselves...men...that you may BECOME thus in character to be fit to serve.

4-Seek to rightly appreciate and follow GOD'S MODEL MEN

OR - "Lord, Speak To Me" #435

Inspiring Hymns | Great Hymns

Hymns: God Of Our Fathers — 459 — 532
Our God, Our Help 465
I Am Resolved (1 & 3) 436 389
Have Thine Own Way, Lord (1 & 4) 435 388

Westbrae 11/14/65
10/24/71
Old Kanawha Baptist Church
1/27/85
Community Baptist Temple, Oak Hill, WV - 5/29/88
Fiji - 4/14/98
Grace Gospel Ch. - Beaver - 8/12/01 - AM
Hilltop Baptist Ch - 6/20/07 - Prayer Meeting

"GOD'S MODEL MAN"

1 Tim. 3:1-13
Heb. 13:7, 17, 18, 24

INTRO: A.-Man Is An Odd Creature:

1-ILLUS--Man can live without sleep 75 days, stay under water for 30 days, without

"QUALIFIED LEADERS" 1 Tim. 3:1-13
Read Titus 1:1-16; Acts 20:28-32

1

INTRO:

A.-Previous Study: — God's MODEL MAN
1-Leader's Qualification In relation to SELF
**General qualification----Blameless
--Moral qualification------Husband of ONE wife
--Christian graces qualification---11 of them
2-Needed--in leaders — Pastor + Elders
--in husbands
--in young men
--in OURSELVES

B.-This Study:
1-Leader's qualification in relation to CHURCH
2-Leader's qualification in relation to WORLD
3-Leader's qualification in relation to GOD
4-Leader's qualification in relation to WIVES

C.-Notice Again:
1-WHO are these??--Elders
--Deacons
--ALL leaders
--Pastor included
2-Qualifications, not duties are stressed.
3-Moral excellence, not mental acumen is essential
4-Leaders are to be ACTIVELY INVOLVED !
5-Able men in the pews will make an able man in the pulpit

PROP. Let us see the required relationships of the qualified leader

I.-QUALIFICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE CHURCH:

A.-Maturity (3:6):

1-Not a novice=="newly planted", a neophyte
--not a beginner in the faith
--let him gain experience & grounding first
--Otherwise he's likely to be a HARM rather than a HELP to the work
--Otherwise he's likely to be STUNTED in his development by facing problems for which he is not yet ready
2-Man who--Knows the Word
--Obeys the Word
3-Truly a DOER of the Word--Both TAUGHT
--And EXPERIENCED
4-Leadership calls for a man of experience...
--of the truth he teaches
--of the life he expounds
--of the world he reaches
--of the church he serves
--of the warfare he wages
--of the people he leads
Not a novice
5-OTHERWISE--Elders who don't "Eld"
--Deacons who don't "Deac"
--Trustees who aren't "Trustworthy"
--Temptation is put before them to fall into PRIDE

Pastor who is not flock-oriented

6-NOTEWORTHY that in Titus, which deals with an infant church, the restrictions of 3:6-7 are not given, but in a developed church as at Ephesus, these requirements are laid down authoritatively

(2)

B.-Proveness (3:10):

The way to PROMOTION.

1-In the matter of genuine salvation
2-In the matter of faithfulness
3-In regularity of participation
4-In "little" tasks as preparation for bigger ones
5-Lk. 16:10--"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much."
6-Deacons are "proving ground" for Elders material
7-ILLUS — Deacon PHILLIP in Bk. of Acts became used of God as an evangelist.

C.-Ability To Rule (3:4-5, 12):

1-Test case is IN THE HOME
--With wife
--With children
--Respected & followed willingly
--This is an IDEAL, but it must be REAL in the home life
--Must be "growing up" into this
--"Elder" means "PRESIDER"
--Ps. 101:2b--"I will walk within my house with a perfect heart"

2-Disqualified--By wife's rebellion
--By wife's lack of agreement
--By children's actions
--By children's attitudes

3-Home is a TRAINING GROUND for higher responsibility
4-MUST pass the test there first
5-Kinds of Kids---M-K's ==Missionary's kids
--P-K's ==Preacher's kids
--L-K's ==Leader's kids
--O-K's ==Ordinary kids
--Problem is that the P-K's and the L-K's have been playing with the O-K's
--What a leader does for and with his own children is calculated to help him greatly in dealing with his spiritual children in his church oversight

Doug Winds response as to why he was qualified to minister as a Pastor

As Moses learned by herding sheep, so the Church leader learns from training his family

6-"Rule" indicates a capacity to manage well — Leads by EXAMPLE
--accepts responsibility readily
--fulfills responsibility completely
--Operates on twin-rule of devotion & discipline
--Not with home "A SHACK"
.....at least not a DIRTY shack !
--Makes his home & his church
** Attractive
** Inviting
** Disciplined

7-Let's---Be faithful
--Not be self-recriminatory
--Leave it in God's hands to work out and to work in the things we each lack here

D.-Ability To Teach (1 Tim. 3:2; 2 Tim 2:2):

1-Meaning--Not "apt to" if caught
--Not "apt to" if forced
--But qualified, able, and willing; TEACHABLE!

2-Person who is **SKILLED** in the Word
--In Doctrine
--In Discipline
--In Instruction
--In Refutation

3-**Able to PREACH** or to **TEACH**
--An individual
--A class
--The church as a whole
--So that the **Church** can **carry on** even in the absence of the Pastor
--Some "**have it**" naturally
--Some must **WORK** at it

PASTOR — Of course
ELDERS + DEACONS — Why not occasionally?
Illus — Stanley Grim
But God can make one able.

E.-Ability To Shepherd The Flock:

1-1 Pet. 5:1-3 READ

2-Functions--"**Feed**"=="Shepherd" "Feed My sheep" — Jn. 21
--"Being ensamples"=="Being **examples**"

3-We are leaders--We're expected to **lead** properly
--We're to expect the flock to **follow**
--God holds us **mutually responsible**
--**Heb. 13:17**--"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as that that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

4-**Acts 20:28-32** — READ!
--Be taking heed
--Be good overseers
--Be prepared for **invasion** of **false teaching** — FROM OUTSIDE
--Be not surprised when it arises from **within**
--THEREFORE
** Watch
** Remember
** Stick to the WORD

It is better to be a CONSUMER of the truth than to be a CONNOISSEUR of terms.

II.-QUALIFICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE WORLD:

A.-Good Testimony!

1-Not just in the **church**
2-But also in the **world**
3-3:7
4-Clear-cut **stand taken**
5-World is--shrewd judge of character
--able to detect insincerity
--able to detect inconsistency
6-Let that testimony be **SEEN** and **HEARD**
7-**Let not sin mar it**
8-Spirit can take a man just so far, then **it takes** a MAN
--Acts 8:31--"And he said, 'How can I, except some man

should guide me?' And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him."
--Let's **be that kind of men to the world**.....with a GOOD TESTIMONY ! — Sharing that testimony
* Faithfully
* Frequently.

(4)

B.-Good Reality:
1-World makes no pretense
2-Religious Pharisees--
--Put on a "SHOW" of reality
--Just a **thin veneer** on the outside
--Luke 11:39--"And the Lord said unto him, Now do ye Pharisees make clean the outside of the cup and platter; but your inward part is full of ravening & wickedness."
--**Rotten inside**, but **covered over**
3-God's MODEL MAN is **pure inside**, & it **PERMEATES** the life
4-World doesn't understand it, but gives testimony of it
5-Such a life has **power**
6-Acts 2:47--"Praising God and having favor with all the people..." == "Having the power of a godly life"

"Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me"

III.-QUALIFICATIONS IN RELATION TO GOD:

A.-Not A Counterfeit:
1-Much of what we've described could be **counterfeited**
2-BUT--not pleasing to God
--not fitting a man for heaven
--Still leaves a man dead in trespasses & sins
3-ILLUS--Like **tying** tomatoes onto an apple tree. May look real to the uninitiated. But its **not real.** IT'S **COUNTERFEIT.** It isn't nurtured by life from within. Its easily detected upon close examination by an expert
4-So is a counterfeit spiritual life — Let such counterfeits not be in us — OR in our leaders
5-**God knows.....God isn't deceived !**

B.-God's Demand:
1-**Not reformation**
2-But **REGENERATION**--a new life
--a NEW CREATURE
--2 Cor. 5:17
3-New Life--in PRINCIPLE----Spirit, and not flesh
--in ACTIONS------Purity, and not sin
--in LOVE---------For God, and not self-centered
4-Surely seen in a **born-again experience** of trusting Christ; A GENUINE child of God

C.-A Pure Conscience:
1-3:9
2-Sacred treasure in a **clean** vessel
3-Pure--before God
--before men
--Acts 24:16--"And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men."
--In the realm of what we **HAVE DONE** Positive
--In the realm of what we **HAVE NOT DONE** Negative

4-Light brings **responsibility** of **purity** (5)
5-Jas. 4:17--"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."
6-1 Jn. 1:6--"If we say that we have fellowship with Him, & walk in darkness, we **lie**, and **do not the truth**:"
7-Handling the affairs of the local church, the spiritual leaders must be meticulously **careful** not to deviate in the slightest fraction from the straight and upright path of purity.
8-**FAITH** and **ETHICS** are **closely linked**; Inseparable!

D.-Desiring Leadership Offices:
1-**Re-iteration** is worthwhile
2-3:1
3-Desire of a place to serve is commendable
4-We're not to be **PASSIVE** in service
5-But to be **ACTIVE** in seeking a sphere of ministry
6-Not just as a **title**, but as a **ministry** of love — ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT

IV. QUALIFICATIONS IN RELATION TO WIVES (Women):

A.-Meaning Of The Term Used:
1-3:11
2-Translations--KJV--"wives"
--ARV--"women"
3-**Possible meanings**--Wives of Deacons (1)
--Wives of both Elders & deacons (2)
--Women who serve in the Church....as our Deaconesses (3)
--**Really** a little **ambiguous**
--Often intentional ambiguity is left so we apply the truth widely **to all**
By application this verse should be true of all 3 categories

B.-Kind Of Women Intended:
1-Supporter of husband--in their home
--in their testimony
--in the church
2-Not insisting upon knowing **BOARD BUSINESS** which is sometimes private or premature, or not for publication
3- Spiritually minded

C.-Four Specific Qualifications:
1-"Grave"=="Serious-minded" — Not a frothy flibberty gibbet
2-"Not slanderers"=="Not **she-Devils**" in Gk.
--**Not gossips**
--Because their positions will bring much **information** which could easily be used in a wrong way.
--"It starts with a feather, & grows into a goose" is the way with many stories
3-"**Sober**"=="Calm, unimpassioned, self-controlled" — In person
— In influence
— Kathy Brown
4-"**Faithful**"--Not just in apparent areas
--But "in **ALL** things"
--Lk. 16:10--"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much."
--Because **greatly privileged**

--Because of the **office** she holds
--Because of her **relationship** to her Husband who is a leader

5-It might well be observed that an ELDER or a DEACON whose wife does not possess these qualities **ought not to be chosen** ! ! AMEN !

CONCLUSION:

A.-God's Model Man--A Qualified Leader:

1-Qualif. In Relation to **SELF**
--Blameless
--Husband of 1 wife
--Christian graces evident — 11 of these

2-Qualif. In Relation to **CHURCH**
--Maturity
--Provenness
--Ability to rule
--Ability to teach
--Ability to shepherd

3-Qualif. In Relation to **WORLD**
--Good testimony
--Good reality

4-Qualif. In Relation to **GOD**
--Not counterfeit
--But genuine
--With a pure conscience

5-Qualif. In Relation To **WIFE**
--Supporter in the work
--Personally qualified herself

B.-God's Blessing On The Qualified Man:

1-Good work-----(3:1)--Strive for it
2-Good behavior-(3:2)--Live it
3-Good report---(3:7)--Seek it
4-Good degree---(3:13)--Gain it
5-Position of **influence** & **trust** in the church because you have delighted to serve the people of God
6-Isn't this kind of blessing
--worth the time & cost ?
--worth the sacrifice ?
--worth the effort ?
7-ILLUS --**Doris Cole**

In our first church on one occasion a young woman went with Mrs. Reiter to make a call on a recent addition to the Church. On the way this young woman was **complaining bitterly** about the amount of time that her husband was spending in the Church, and how much she **felt "ROBBED"**.

When they arrived to visit Mrs. Cole they found a calm, serene and warm welcome. But the **spiritual fervor mounted** as she talked of how glad she was for the spiritual involvement of her husband. He was **attending all four services** on Sunday, Bible Class on Monday, Boy's Brigade on Tuesday, Prayer Meeting on Wednesday, and periodic Young People's activities with their boys on Friday night. How **very happy** she was that both **he and she** had been **saved** and that their **lives** were so wonderfully being **transformed**.

Nothing was said by my wife when they left, but the young woman said that she felt ashamed and rebuked. YET, her attitude in days following was NOT CHANGED. (7)

Today Mr. & Mrs. Cole are active in a Bible-teaching church in another locality. Their 3 children are all saved, and one has been called to the ministry. They are happy in the Lord. They have "great boldness" in the faith, which is the reward of faithful service.

Today the other young woman is ~~running after a man 10 years younger than she is; she is~~ divorced from her husband + married to another man; and neither of them--nor their 3 children--are in Sunday School or Church.

God's blessing is upon those who are QUALIFIED and who seek the good work of christian leadership.

WHAT are you seeking? ?

To be a QUALIFIED LEADER?

It IS worth the cost!

AND...

There is great reward

319 Great Hymns 436

(3) "I Would Be True" 305

(2) "Bring Them In" 32

Westbrae 11/28/65 10/31/71

Hymns: (1) "My Faith Looks Up To Thee" — #409 359

I Saw The Cross Of Jesus — #59

(4) To The Work — #401 428

2/10/85 Old Kanawha Bapt. Ch.

6/5/88 - Community Bapt. Temple, Oak Hill

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS FOR CHURCH LEADERS (Practical)

INTRO: A.-Church Strength:
1-Strong Covenant of membership
2-Strong Doctrinal Statement
3-Strong Pulpit
4-AND ALSO Strong Leaders
5-Without these the membership and the church will be weak

B.-Qualifications For Leaders:
1-Practical Considerations (This study)
2-Biblical Considerations (Next Study)

I.-TRULY CONVERTED:

A.-Regenerate Membership:
1-Guard as to the kind of leaders you get
2-Protects from worldly philosophy dominating
3-Obviously only those can be used to lead the church who are a part of the church
4-None but "born again ones" on the Boards & in all places of leadership
5-Real loyalty to Christ

B.-Joy In Salvation:
1-Some claim to be saved.....but
2-Church leader needs to be truly converted
3-And also to have an evident love for the Lord
4-Which evidences itself in joy
5-Love and Joy are fruit of the Spirit

II.-DEEPLY CONVICTED:

A.-Man Of The Book:
1-Not just carrying it
2-But knowing it
3-And feeding upon it
4-And living it
5-Life governed by Scriptural principles
6-Life controlled by Scriptural attitudes
7-Real loyalty to the Bible

B.-Agreement:
1-Unity of heart--with the church as a whole
--with the Boards
--with the Pastor
--with theaims projected
--Amos 3:3--"Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"
--Not the place for a "free for all"
--ILLUS--Scotsman when elected as an Elder in the Kirk. "From now on there'll be no more unanimous decisions."
2-Leadership is not for novices
3-1 Tim. 3:6

4-Qualified already, though still to grow spiritually and in leadership
5-ILLUS---Phillip--Acts 6:3-5 and then 8:5ff.

III.-WHOLLY COMMITTED:

A.-Distinction:

1-To be Convicted is to hold certain truths
2-To be Committed is to be held by certain truths
3-Conviction is PASSIVE
4-Commitment is ACTIVE

B.-Commitment:

1-Involvement in the work-----WHOLLY, not PARTIALLY
2-Willing to labor
3-Counting it "worth it" to be on the Lord's side
4-Realizes that labor for Christ is going to bear eternal fruit
5-Localizes in the LOCAL CHURCH
6-Man of three loyalties--loyalty to Christ
--loyalty to the Bible
--loyalty to the Local Church
7-Such a man is "WHOLLY COMMITTED"

CONCLUSION:

A.-Practical Qualifications For Leadership:

1-Truly Converted
2-Deeply Convicted
3-Wholly Committed

B.-Results:

1-Encouraged Pastor
2-Enlivened Program
3-Encouraged People
4-Enriched life for yourself throughout eternity

C.-Loyalties:

1-Christ as Savior and Lord
2-Bible as the very Word of God
3-Local Church as God's house and place for my labor
4-ILLUS---Every Christian abhors even the thought of Nazism, but this satanic system produced some amazing people sold on its principles. Every good Nazi carried a knife stuck in a small scabbard and on it was engraved

"MEINE EHRE HEIST TREUE"---
"LOYALTY IS MY HONOR"

What about our loyalty to the Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Lord?

Have we pledged to Him.....to His Word,.....and to His Church, our irrevocable loyalty?

If not.....then why not.....right now!

Hymn - Loyalty To Christ - 174
A Charge To Keep - 63
As A Volunteer - 167

PRIVILEGES OF CHURCH LEADERS

INTRO: A.-Often Hear Of:
1-Qualifications of church leaders
2-Duties Of Church leaders
3-Responsibilities of church leaders

B.-Seldom Hear Of:
1-Responsibilities of the people toward their leaders (covered in the last session)
2-Privileges of church leaders
3-Need to emphasize these too!

I.*LIMITATION:

(Note:--Some limitations are necessary to maintain order & a pattern of organization so we don't end up all going our own direction without thought for others or the best end of Christ 's church)

A.-Privileges As Christians:
1-As limited by Christian liberty--Gal. 5:1--"Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage."
2-As limited by concern for Christian brethren--1 Cor. 8:9-13

B.-Privileges As Church Members:
1-Properly a matter for mutual agreement among Christians
2-Matt. 18:18--"Verily I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."
3-Share in--furtherance of gospel
--salvation of souls
--spiritual edification of believers
--joint worship of our Father
4-Pledge--Loyal and faithful attendance
--Material support
--Spiritual encouragement of the Church program
--Doctrinal agreement
--Personal dedication to the task
5-Eliminates---Doctrinal hobby horses
--Pet Schemes
--Independent action in favor of united effort

C.-Privileges As CHurch Leaders:
1-Be Church Members
2-Abstain from--alcohol
--tobacco
--divorce
--theatre
--secret societies
--worldly pursuits

3-Spiritual men (or women)
--Gauis
--Demetruis
--Phebe
4-Serving Men (or women)---Acts 6
5-Not seeking pre-eminence--3 Jn. 9-11 (~~Demetrius~~)

II.-APPROXIMATION (Nearness):

A.-To Know The Pastor And Other Leaders:

1-1 Th. 5:12--"And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you."
2-Be an "intimate" of God's man
3-This is a precious "building up" experience in your life and should mean much

B.-To Uphold The Pastor & Other Leaders:

1-Ex. 17:10-12
2-Know more & thus be more able to serve & help

C.-To Protect The Pastor & Other Leaders:

1-1 Cor. 16:10-11
2-1 Cor. 16:15

III.-CONSULTATION:

A.-And Advisor To Pastor:

1-1 Kings 12:6, 10
2-Prov. 1:5
3-Prov. 9:9

B.-And Advisor To Members:

1-Prov. 11:14
2-Prov. 15:22
3-Prov. 24:6

C.-An Advisor To Others:

1-1 Pet. 3:15
2-Prov. 14:25
3-Prov. 25:11

IV.-EXEMPLIFICATION:----Prov. 29:2--"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn."

A.-In The Church:

1-True for <u>every</u> leader; <u>no</u> double standard
2-1 Tim. 4:12
3-Acts 6:3, 5
4-Others will know if he's not an example in the church

B.-In The Home:

1-1 Tim. 3:4-5, 12
2-Probably this is the area of the "acid test"

C.-In The World:
1-1 Tim. 3:7
2-Mt. 5:16

V.-COMPENSATION (Not Financial):

A.-A Good Report--3 Jn. 12

B.-A Good Work--1 Tim. 3:1

C.-A Good Degree--1 Tim. 3:13

D.-A Good Profit--Heb. 13:17

E.-A Good Word--Mt. 25:21

F.-Great Boldness--1 Tim. 3:13

G.-Double Honor--1 Tim. 5:17

CONCLUSION:

A.-All vital relationships carry great responsibilities. As a man considers the responsibilities to his own household as privileges, so should a leader in the church consider the responsibilities to the household of God as privileges ---------only to a greater degree.

B.-1 Cor. 4:1-2--"Let a man so account of us,as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful"

"THE OFFICE OF DEACON" 1 Tim. 3:8-13

I.-HISTORICAL ORIGIN--Acts 6:1-7:

II.-HISTORICAL PARALLEL--Neh. 11:15-16; 13:7-13:

III.-DEFINITIONS AND DISTINCTIONS:

A.-Definitions:

1-"To hasten after", as of a runner

2-"Thru" plus "Dust"=="Stirring dust because of their activity of service for the Lord"

B.-Distinctions:

1-Bondservant or Slave--Relation to his Master δουλος

2-Deacon or Servant--Relation to his work διακονος

IV-NEW TESTAMENT USAGE:

A.-Domestic servants--John. 2:5, 9

B.-Civil Ruler--Rom. 13:4

C.-Christ--Rom. 15:8; Gal. 2:17

D.-Followers Of Christ:

1-In relation to Christ--Jn. 12:26; Eph. 6:21; Col. 1:7; 4:7

2-In relation To Each Other--Mt. 20:26; 23:11; Mk. 9:35; 10:43

3-In preaching and teaching--1 Cor. 3:5; 2 Cor. 3:6; 6:4 11:23; Eph. 3:7; Col. 1:23; 1:25; 1 Thess. 3:2; 1 Tim. 4:6

E.-Church Office--Rom. 16:1; Phs. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:8, 12

F.-Servants Of Satan--2 Cor. 11:15

V.-QUALIFICATIONS OF DEACONS:

A.-Moral--1 Tim. 3:8-9

B.-Ministry--1 Tim. 3:10

C.-Marital--1 Tim. 3:11-12

D.-Reward--1 Tim. 3:13

"Co-Laborers For God" Acts 6:1-7; Ex. 18:12-27; Nu.11:26-29

Intro: A.-Elections Coming:
1-God-appointed jobs
2-Need God-Appointed men
3-Follow Biblical principles
4-Generalities of Co-Laborers, not qualifications of each office.
5-No one in office who doesn't meet these.

I.-PRINCIPLE OF CO*LABORERS Ex. 18:12-27

A.-Situation:
1-Too big a job
2-Moses alone
3-Co-Laborers needed
4-Labor----Counseling, Judging, Interpreting the law
5-NOT GOOD

B.-Organization Needed:
1-Not good as is
2-Not worldly advice as Scofield Note
3-Division of Labor--THOU THEM
4-Moses hearkened---"It is better to set 10 men to work than to do the work of ten men."

C.-Organization Implemented:
1-Moses chose---De. 1:13
--Popular election; Moses then ordained them
2-They judged themselves & the people then
3-Hard cases still come to Moses

D.-Promotion Of Co-Laborers: Nu. 11:26-29
1-Not all stay permanently in their first job
2-Some more capable & will go on to bigger things
3-Promote your best---ILLUS---Stephen & Philip in Acts 6
4-He that is faithful in little shall be given much.
5-Would to God that all His people were prophets
6-No jealousy among God-called servants

II.-QUALIFICATIONS OF CO-LABORERS Acts 6:3

Explain Situation here as an intro

1-"Look ye out"--Popular election---DEMOCRATIC

2-"Among you"--Born again & in fellowship with their local church

3-"Honest report"--A good testimony within & without the church

4-"Full of the Spirit"--Right with God for salvation & Power

5-"Full of wisdom"--Experienced in SPIRITUAL matters-----NOT JUST MEN WITH BUSINESS EXPERIENCE, BUT SPIRITUAL STATURE.....

III.-ORDINATION OF CO-LABORERS Acts 6:5-6

1-Chosen---popularly
2-Appointed---By Apostles
---For SPECIFIC JOBS, not just a title
3-Ordained-----By Prayer & Laying on of hands
4-N.B.---Grecian names of men selected----Proper Church Politics.
----Led to the end of Feud

IV.*RESULTS OF CO-LABORERS — Acts 6:4, 7

1-Frees "Special Service" men---not too good for it, because they have been doing it
---allows MORE EFFICIENCY

2-Word increased

3-Number of disciples multiplied

4-Breach repaired in fellowship of brethren--no more murmurings
--ILLUS

"Isit a strong congregation?"
"Yes," was the reply.
"How many members are there?"
"Thirty."
"Thirty! Are they so wealthy?"
"No, many of them are poor."
"How then, can you say it is a strong church?"
"Because they are earnest, devoted, at peace, loving one another, following the Word of God in all things, instant in prayer, and striving together to do the Lord's work. Such a congregation is STRONG, whether composed of 30 or 300 members."

5-Good Testimony

6-Even larger service for the 2 deacons here---Stephen & Philip

Concl:----A.-Principle:
1-Too big for Moses------ALONE
2-Too big for Apostles---ALONE
3-Too big for Pastor-------any pastor----ALONE
4-Therefore, God has ordained that there be co-laborers for Him.

B.-Qualifications:
1-Spiritual men
2-Democratic choice
3-Specific jobs---to be accomplished
---as much a"calling from God" as the preacher

C.-Results---"Biblical methods lead to Biblical results"
1-Freedom of men for effective service
2-Word increases
3-Converts multiply
4-Good testimony

.....

Deacons — Acts 6:1-7

See outline at 1 Tim

Also see overhead she

Acts 6 #1 6:1-6

1- Numerical Problem
2- Spiritual Problem
3- Preferential Problem
4- Financial Problem
5- Social Problem
6- Continual Prob.
7- Rational Problem 6:2
8- Manial Problem 6:3-5
9- Political Problem
10- Psychological Problem - 6:5 - Unknowns for Christ.

Ken Smith

How do WE see our Problems?
1- Leave
2- Loaf
3- Love
4- Lift
5- East

Mk 25:21

PRIORITIES OF THE MINISTER'S WIFE

1 Tim. 3

INTRO:

A. Minister's Wife's Role:

1. Effort of "WOMEN'S LIB" today to redefine the female role.
2. Antidote needed
3. ILLUS- Sara Edwards, wife of Jonathan Edwards, the great Puritan divine, illustrates the old truism that behind every great man is a great woman.

"While she uniformly paid a becoming deference to her husband and treated him with entire respect, she spared no pains in conforming to his inclination and rendering everything in the family agreeable and pleasant; accounting it her greatest glory and there wherein she could best serve God and her generation, to be the means in this way of promoting his usefulness and happiness."

4. This is a woman of whom Proverbs says: "She shall be praised" (Pr. 31:20)

B. Worthy of Praise Because PRIORITIES are straight:

1. #1 - To the Lord
2. #2 - To her Husband
3. #3 - To her Family & Home
4. #4 - To Herself
5. #5 - To the Church
6. #6 - To People

on a Par

7. PROP - A minister's wife's joy, usefulness and effectiveness will be enhanced or hindered by her priority choices.

I. PRIORITY #1 - TO THE LORD:

A. Spiritual Realities:

1. Saved
2. Dedication - Rom. 12:1-2
3. Baptized
4. Church member
5. Spiritual graces (fruit) and gifts
6. Service area(s) - willing to give herself
7. Sense of "CALL"

B. Spiritual Renewal:

1. Devotional life
   a. Personally
   b. Familially

2. Prayer Life
   - A — Adoration
   - C — Confession
   - T — Thanksgiving
   - S — Supplication
   - S — Service
3. Sharing your faith every week!
4. Books - Living your life on THE GROWING EDGE

5-TO SELF — Song of Solomon 1:6

II. PRIORITY #2 - TO HER HUSBAND:

A. Personal Relationship:

1. Helpmeet - "One who fills in the empty places"
   - Weaver of the fabric of the home
2. Partner
   - Friend
   - Companion
   - Sharer
   - Supporter
   - Sexual relationship SATISFY HIM
3. Respect his leadership in the home
   LOVE/HONOR/OBEY

B. Professional Relationship (=Related to his Profession)

1. Believe in your man
   - TRUST his personal integrity
   - His call
   - His ministry
   - Even though you know he has his flaws (2 Cor. 4:7)
   - Be willing to sublimate yourself to his work
   - You are an important part of HIS TEAM

   Illus. - Mrs. Albert Einstein was asked: "Do you understand your husband's Theory of Relativity?" She replied: "No, but I know my husband and you can trust him."
2. Protect him
   - His reputation
   - His health
   - His study & prayer time
   - DON'T INFRINGE on his study time.
     * Count how many times you interrupt his study
     * Then STOP!

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

3. Help Him
   - In times of trial which will come (JUNIPER TREE TIMES)
   - In times when someone else needs an ear that will listen
   - In times of stress (Accidents, deaths)
   - Cheerful and helpful
   - "Comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable" Dr. Harlan Roper
   - Don't press him for more in a material way than he can provide.

4. Kindly criticism
   - Not easy, but necessary!
   - Mannerisms & grammar
   - Message improvements
     *Always in private
     *Never on Sunday, but LATER in the week,
   - with an atmosphere of honest appreciation so no husband should object to a suggestion or two.
   - Tell him what he needs to know, even if it causes strains
   - Accomplish more by PRAISE intelligently given than by rigorous criticism

5. Cheer Him
   - He'll like to hear words of thanks and encouragement for a good job, good message, etc
   - Self-appointed leader of the CHEERING SECTION for husband
   - Watch out for self-pity
     *Over salary
     *Over time he spends with others
     *Over slights you receive
   - Don't press him for details on matters he is not at liberty to share
     *HE has grace of God for these
     *SHE probably does not!

6. Learn to SHARE him with others - JOYFULLY!

C. Perspective on Husband/Wife Relationship:

1. "BURIED" or "PLANTED" as his wife?
2. Distinguish housewife from homemaker
3. "How could I ever keep going if I did not have you and our peaceful home to come back to?"
4. ILLUS - "I think I learned to be a good wife, wrote Mamie Eisenhower. As Ike rose in rank and his responsibilities grew, I tried very hard to make our home a place of calmness and good cheer, where he could relax in the midst of his strenuous life. He was not the sort of husband who brought his big problems home for

discussion and advice, and I rarely intruded in such matters. I knew he already had the best counsel he could get from brilliant advisers and that in due course he would make his own decision. He didn't need that kind of help from me.

I do know that at times he went through a great deal of inner turmoil when some momentous decision was pending. Yet he was not a worrier. Sometimes, after a day when he had to make wome fateful decision, I have heard him say almost inaudibly as he lay in bed: "God, I did the best I could today." Then he would turn over and go to sleep. He was a man of great inner strength."

5. Commend and "spoil" each other
6. Remind of PAST voctories when PRESENT problems beset the work or plans.
7. You'll be the key - make him!
   - OR, break him!!
8. Remember, this team can only have ONE CAPTAIN!

III. PRIORITY #3 - TO HER FAMILY AND HOME:

A. As A Mother:
   - Excell here!
   - You haven't taken "second best" and don't act as if you have.

1. "OUR" children
   - Marked in the community as P.K.'s
   - Not perfect
   - Shouldn't be expected to be
   - They will misbehave
   - Make them your MAJOR MINISTRY when they are small
     *For God's glory
     *For your good
     *For example to other women

2. What to give them:
   -Godly example
   -Much love (including physical demonstration)
   -Firm discipline in harmony with husband (Settle this in private)
   -Admission when you are wrong-ASK FORGIVENESS
   -Training
   -Play time
   -Responsibilities suitable to their ages
   -Devotions

3. What not to give them?
   -No favoritism
   -No criticism of father, church, or members
   -Too little of yourself & your time
   -Spoiling
   *by yourself
   *by grandparents
   *by church members

4. More P.K.'s are in "Who's Who" than any profession's children
5. BOTH advantages and disadvantages to being a P.K.

B. As A Homemaker:

1. Ideal for others to imitate
   - Attractive, homey and HAPPY home
   - "OPEN" to your people of the church
   - "It doesn't matter so much what sort of a home you live in, as what sort of people live in the house."
   - Always open and always presentable!
   - "Life in the GOLDFISH BOWL--Make sure they see the right things.
   - Isa. 39:4 "What have they seen in thy house?"
2. Object lesson for community on GRACIOUS CHRISTIAN LIVING to the congregation and community
   - Put visitors at ease
   - Make ALL feel welcomed and wanted!
   - Love people--be BLIND to their faults
   - Don't COMPETE WITH THE WEALTHY IN THE CONGREGATION
   - Brook no criticism of your guests when their backs are turned
3. Setting and comfortableness of the home will probably mean more to the wife than to the husband, since she spends so much time in it.

C. As A Gracious Hostess: (Heb. 13:2)

1. HOSPITALITY = "to entertain strangers"
   - Preacher's wife ought to excell at this fine art.
2. Always dressed and presentable, for you'll never know when the doorbell will ring and who you'll find at your door.
3. It will take PLANNING!
   - Details for the programmed entertaining
   - Emergency shelf for unexpected guests
   - "PARSONAGE HILTON"
4. Gain experience as a hostess by doing it!
   - Begin with a few guests
   - Luncheon or after-church refreshments
   - Keep things SIMPLE!
   - Buffets for larger groups
   - Kids free to bring friends home
   - Missionaries, Foreigners, Travelers
   - Drop-ins your husband brings home
     * Notify wife in advance
     * Ask if needing something from the store on his way home
     * Gives her time for pick-up and personal grooming

-Lonely, desperate and stray ones
-Learn when to say "NO" and send guests to a restaurant

5. Little touches - centerpiece of flowers or fruit
   -Color scheme for eye appeal
   -Be "at ease"
   -Prepare in advance so you are with your guests and not in kitchen all of the time
6. Details - Go slow; feel your way
   -Don't set a pace you can't maintain
   -Invite organizations, boards, committees, etc.
   -OPEN HOUSE occasionally
   -Guests get no "fuss or feathers" that would break the family budget.
   -Homey contact draws people together and advances opportunity for ministry
   -Keep a GUEST BOOK - Rich blessings from entertaining
   -Share recipes if asked
7. "Nothin' speaks of lovin' like something from the oven"
   -Gifts to others
   -Bread, cookies, cake, pie
   -Hot dish
   -Students, young people, servicemen
8. Q - "How can I ever repay all those who invite your family into their homes?
   A - You can't! But most of them don't expect equal reciprocity.

D. As A Financier:

1. Def. = "One skilled in money matters"
   -Who can better qualify in view of working to make ends meet on a TIGHT budget.
   -Deserves a MEDAL OF HONOR
   -A high school drop-out bricklayer will make 2-3 times what a Pastor does.
2. The BUDGET
   -No less than 1/10 for the Lord's work
   -Most of your giving to the local church
   -Set an example!
   -Save a tenth of salary
   *Life Insurance
   *Savings account
   *Investments
   -Keep records on what is spent on the home, the office, drugs, etc.
   -Become TAX WISE

3. Establish your credit and keep your record clean.
   - "Pay as you go," and if you can't pay, then DON'T GO!
   - Nothing will ruin your testimony faster than unpaid bills.
   - Don't let charge accounts or VISA get out of hand
4. What about GIFTS of money, goods or clothes?
   - TAKE THEM with grace and appreciation
   - People are showing love & concern
   - Given "as unto the Lord," and we ought to receive them the same way.
   - Attitude of PCR in Texas
   - Learn that God is working in them, thru them, & in you
   - Take all that's offered
   - Pass on what you cannot use
   - Express your THANKS . . . . Genuinely!!
   - Return dishes in which food was received, and do it promptly!
5. Not too tight a budget
   - Wife should be trusted
   - Wife should be taught
   - Leave her something of a "slush fund" for her own needs too
   - Be frugal without being penurious
6. Wedding and Funeral fees
7. Ministerial discounts are about gone
8. Insurance
   - "Life" on husband, and wife & kids (FAMILY PLAN)
   - Health and Hospitalization
   - Home and Contents
   - Car
   - Encourage husband to carry as much insurance as income warrants
9. Make a will
   - So you leave what you have to those you want to receive it
   - So guardians for children are chosen by you, not the state.
   - Die INTESTATE and the state writes it for you.
   - This is one of the important acts of life.
10. Carolyn P. Blackwood
    - Cheer up, my daughter. If you and your man keep doing the will of God with your money and everything else, you can trust Him to take care of you and your little ones, both today and all the tomorrows." (p. 88)

THE VALUE OF AN INFORMED WIFE

1

INTRO:

A. "Knowledge is Power":

1. To know is to be one-up
2. To know is to be ready
3. To know is to be prepared
4. To know is to never be caught off-guard
5. THEREFORE, to not know is DUMB in the extreme
6. The wife of the man in the ministry must be well informed; actually AS WELL INFORMED as her pastor husband.

B. The Pastor As A Married Man:

1. Roman Catholic view - Celibate priesthood
2. Protestant view - Married pastors are preferred
3. Scripture-1 Tim. 3:1-5 ". . . the husband of one wife"
   "One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity."
   -Titus 1:6-"If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly."
4. Woman's touch-Helps the man
   -Encourages his spirit
   -Enhances the ministry
   -Frees his time
   -Reaches more people
5. Illus-Peter, Paul, Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, Knox, Wesley, Moody, Sunday, etc.
6. VERY FEW EXCEPTIONS! - George Linhart
   - Walter Loitz
7. Some Episcopal Bishops are now requiring seminary men to be married as a requirement for enrollment.
8. For the wife of the Minister of the Gospel, her wedding vow becomes, in a sense, her ORDINATION vow as well.
9. Life in the ministry-BLEND of the routine
   -With the ideal!
10. Like the children's game-"Here I come, READY OR NOT!
11. Best if you get ready by being informed

C. How To Be Informed:

1. Set PRIORITIES-#1-To the Lord
   (See my message #2-To her Husband
   (PRIORITIES OF THE #3-To her Family & Home
   MINISTER'S WIFE) #4-To Herself-#1 & #4 go together
2. See To Herself (Point I, following)
3. Set An Example (Point II, following)
4. Seek Your Niche (Point III, following)

5. PROP "To be forewarned is to be forearmed," but one must arm oneself for what is ahead and knowledge is power. BECOME (in a process of time & work) PREPARED.

I. SEE TO HERSELF-PREPARED:

A. Prepared Basically:

1. Saved
2. Dedicated
3. Growing in grace DAILY
4. Knowing that she is "CALLED of God"
5. Some training in the WORD
   - -Correspondence Courses
   - -ABCES
   - -Bible Certificate
   - -Bible Diploma
   - -B.A.
6. Experience in Christian service
7. Willing to GIVE HERSELF to God's work
8. The majority of wives come to this new life calling PROFESSIONALLY UNTRAINED. You'll have to work on your P.W. degree (Pastor's Wife) in the University of Experience all your life long.

B. Prepared Spiritually:

1. People EXPECT a minister's wife
   - -To be able to pray
   - -To be able to teach the Word
   - -To lead with ease
   - -To relate to women and girls
   - -To play the piano
   - -To work with children
   - -To sing in the choir
   - -DRILL YOURSELF in private so you can PARADE
2. "So much is expected of her--the health of an Amazon and the dedication of a Florence Nightingale, the patience of a Job and the zeal of a Carrie Nation, the peace-loving thoughts of a Ghandi and the fighting spirit of a warrior, the charm of a debutante and the intelligence of a Phi Beta Kappa. Besides all this, she must live her life in a goldfish bowl, well aware that it is her sole responsibility to see that the goldfish behave."
   (How To Be A Minister's Wife and Love It,p.9)

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

3. Personal Prayer Life
   -Take time; Make time!
   "Steal away to Jesus"
   -A HOUSECLEANING of the soul
   -Pray to God and don't worry about your listeners
   -Be sympathetic to those who are learning
   -Private habits will appear in public
   -Pray to the Lord in private and He will stand by you in public.
4. Learn to lead others [illegible] and natural
   -In your home or in theirs
   -In your own language terms
   -SHOW THEM HOW!
   -Coach them along
   -The method and the terminology is not so important as the DOING as we lead others to learn to pray.

C. As To Characteristics:

1. Attractive - "First Lady" concept
   - Personality that "radiates" the joy of the Lord
2. Neatness of appearance
   -Neither overdressed nor under (CHASTE APPEARANCE)
   -Personal grooming
   -Cosmetics on the conservative side
   -Attractive; "First Lady" concept
3. Graceful carriage - NOT FLAUNTING of body
4. Pleasing voice (Not whiney)
5. Submissive
   -To husband's leadership
   -"Let me ask my husband about that."
6. Sympathy
   -With problems
   -With people
   -Without always giving advice unless it is asked for
7. Common Sense-Nothing suits a minister's wife so well
8. Courtesy
   -Especially in little things
   -Toward all, but especially toward the older people
   "Little foxes spoil the vines."
9. Sense of humor
10. Willingness to FORGIVE, and to ask for forgiveness
11. If the wife fails in these characteristics, she'll likely drive her husband out of the ministry.

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II. SET A PATTERN:

A. As A Member of the Flock:

1. Attendance
   - -Regularity, unless prohibited by childrens' health
   - -You need it for your own life
   - -People expect it--EXAMPLE
   - -"First Lady" at her post
   - -"The faith of the worshipping congregation lifts us to heights we can scarcely hope to attain alone."
2. Greeting
   - -The regulars need our notice
   - -Strangers
   - -"Contact Woman" to make newcomers feel "at home."
   - -95 out of 100 want a friendly welcome in church
3. Winning friends
   - -Cultivate this art
   - -REACH OUT and care for people
   - -Handshake (the golden mean between firmness and flabbiness)
   - -Remember names and faces & relationships
   - -Help husband here too (Practice will help you both to improve. WORK at it!)
   - -CONTRAST - Some are hurt because no one reaches out to them.
4. Work with 3,5, or 10 "UNLOVLIES" in the congregation will help them and your husband as well.
5. "There is a time to weep and a time to laugh" (Eccles. 3:4)
   - -May the good Lord protect the preacher's wife who cannot laugh.
   - -Surely, great will be the weeping!

B. As The Subject of Criticism: (1 Cor. 13:4)

"Love suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up."

1. How to cope/conquer with criticism
   - -Thick skin needed (Rhinoseros)
   - -Sense of humor
   - -Ignore it
   - -Expect at least some of it--skies will not always be clear. Some problems and controversies are to be expected.
   - -Recognize when you deserve criticism and GROW!
2. How to avoid criticism
   - -Be a GOOD LISTENER
   - -Learn to keep your lips sealed! DON'T GOSSIP! This is an absolute imperative!
   - -If you and/or your husband openly find fault with the officers and others, both of you will receive criticism and abuse--DESERVEDLY!

(5)

-Principle of SOW/REAP
-We need a LARGE CEMETARY and learn to bury deep the hurts and words

3. "What criticism? We love our Pastor's wife"
   -Fine!
   -More likely she'll have a favorable relation with the people than her husband does
   -She doesn't have to TAKE A STAND so often and so publicly
   -When you are involved, you'll get some carping
   -No blade will cut you so deeply as criticism of your husband. Don't answer back!
4. What to do with criticism?
   a. FRONTAL APPROACH - Make sure of your facts. Go directly to the attacking party and ask if what you've heard is what they have said. SMILE! Ask why and how it can be ironed out. Takes courage, but it usually works.
   b. INDIRECT APPROACH-Find out what lies behind the criticism (Jealousy, Sadism, Misunderstanding). Seek to find a remedy that proves the criticism to be unfounded or inaccurate.
   c. IGNORE MOST OF IT-Many times people are just trying to get you to react. If you react, THEY WIN. If you don't react, THEY QUIT. Also, try to go out of your way to show kindness to your persecutors.
      **Won't always work
      **But it's worth a try
   d. Be big enough to admit mistakes. Say "I AM SORRY, PLEASE FORGIVE ME."
      -Mean it
      -Do it without justifying your words or actions
      -If they refuse forgiveness, then it is their problem, not yours
5. Carolyn Blackburn-"When you really love people and know that they return your affection, you get into the habit of accepting words and deeds that might hurt if they came from strangers. Learn to look on the sunny side of life, and think of humor as one of God's best gifts to the minister's wife." (p. 133
6. Remember-For every difficult person in the congregation there are countless good Christians; dear, dedicated souls.

C. As A Friend Of Everyone: (Prov. 17:17-"A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.")

1. Learn to LOVE THEM ALL
   -It takes no brains to criticize and find fault. Even an idiot can do that.
   -Learn to love the "Black Sheep"

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-Point out something good about each person (Mrs. Madge Graves)
-Don't bar anyone out from your friendship.
-No more important function for the minister's wife than to show warmth and concern.
-If you become close to the people in FAIR WEATHER, then they'll more readily turn to you in THE STORMS of life.

2. No favorites
-This will be one of your GREATEST TRIALS
-Careful about being too intimate
-Choose some "Mother in Israel"
*Not in your local church
*Perhaps an older pastor's wife

3. Special friends?
-Even our Lord had them
-Peter, James, John
-Mary, Martha & Lazarus
-Pastor's wife will need at least one

D. As A Living Example: (1 Tim. 4:12-"Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example . . .")

1. You'll influence and help most by BEING, even more than by words and deeds.
2. Suggestions
-Main ingredient is LOVE (AGAPE)
-Keep growing
-Learn to "read people" (attitudes; body language)
-PRAY MUCH!
-Abstain from worldly pleasures
-Don't "look down your nose" at people
-Live within your means
-Spirit of self-denial for the sake of the weak (1 Cor. 8:13)
-Seek out the weak and unlovely (Illus - Lou with Lucille Yuen at Pastors Conferences)

E. As An Influence In the Community: (Esther 4:14)

1. Opportunity to meet and be met (NO HORNS)
2. Moral and spiritual testimony
-P.T.A.; Girl Scouts; Brownies, etc.
-Womens Club, Literary Guild, Garden Club
-Any other activity which matches her interests
-"Remember, girls, when you have your St. Agnes School uniform on, everything you DO & SAY reflects on the school."
-Similarly, the wife wears the church's uniform daily as surely as her husband does.

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3. Activity Priorities
   -Home first
   -Church second
   -All else thereafter
4. Promote inter-church friendships
   -Not ECUMENISM
   -But body-relationships among Christians
5. Be willing occasionally to help in what tends to make the community a better or safer place, or which keeps it from getting worse.
6. The volunteer can learn much, as well as have a good testimony in such situations.

III. SEEK YOUR OWN NICHE:

A. Remember That You're Unique; You're YOU!

1. Not like Pastor's wife back home where you grew up
2. Not like predecessor's wife
3. Not like wife of Pastor at "First Church" in the area
4. NOT WRONG--JUST DIFFERENT!
5. Many variables
   -Your age
   -Your training
   -Your experience
   -Your spiritual gifts
   -Your talents (Piano, Voice, Readings)
   -Your childrens' ages
   -Your family situation (bedfast mother)
   -Your leadership ability
   -Your interests
   -Your husband's wishes as to the measure of involvement
6. Realize that some things about you, your family and your involvements will CHANGE across the years.
7. DON'T -
   -Try to be something you're not
   -Try to turn the clock back and be one of the teenagers
8. Believe that with the aging/maturing process comes a deepening sense of security and satisfaction
   -With what you are in Christ
   -With what you have with husband and children
   -With what your areas of effective service are
9. Illus - We are told that the FIREFLY only shines when it is on the wing. So it is with the soul and mind. When we rest them too much, they become darkened.

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B. Reaching For Your Own Sphere:

1. Experiment now to find your abilities, blessings and best contributions.
2. You can't do everything and shouldn't try
3. But you should find your SPECIALTY!
   - -Childrens work
   - -Womens Group
   - -Bible Class
   - -Teenagers
   - -Visitation
   - -Counseling
   - -Committee work
   - -New people
   - -Hospitality
   - -Music (choir, solo, organ, piano, choirmaster, etc.)
   - -Encouragement

C. Reminders That Will Help:

1. Pastor's wife works best INDIRECTLY (steering others)
   - -Others as leaders
     - *Guide them behind the scenes
     - *Cheer them on
     - *Show them how to lead a meeting, but let them do it
   - -Silent partner to husband (Contrast, Rosalyn Carter)
   - -Seldom holding offices
   - -Serve ex-officio
   - -Train others
   - -Keep organization simple
   - -Make changes VERY SLOWLY!
2. Help others to become actively involved. People are happiest when they feel needed and participating in "their program."
3. Be ready to be a "Pinch Hitter"
   - -Speaker doesn't show up
   - -Office help is sick
   - -Planning sessions for womens program
   - -Kitchen help
   - -Nursery fill-in
   - -BUT realize that you are not the ASSISTANT PASTOR
   - -AND keep it so the congregation doesn't see you in that role.

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4. Counseling
   - Opportunities grow with your own maturity and age
   - Learn to LISTEN!
   - Remember 1 Cor. 10:13
   - Don't condemn those who come seeking help
   - Counsel from THE WORD
   - Teach them to forgive
   - Don't undertake soul surgery beyond your expertise. Say: "That will require the Pastor's help."

5. Warnings
   - Don't be surprised when a neurotic woman or a teenager "falls in love" with your husband.
   - Don't give advice that's not backed by Scripture. It may well come back like a BOOMERANG!
   - Don't undermine the role of parents in the minds of teenagers. Send them back to their moms and dads with a submissive spirit.
   - Don't be surprised if what people talk about first is less than THE REAL ISSUE. They are working up their courage and also seeing what kind of help you can offer.
   - Don't undermine your husband's principles or the church's policies, for this will produce deep conflict.

6. Answers you'll need and should work through with your husband
   a. FAMILY LIFE
      - Dress standards
      - Child rearing
      - Child discipline
      - Husband-wife relations
      - Divorce position
      - Remarriage position
      - Abortion position
      - Entertainment standards
      - Hospitality
      - Budget
   b. CHURCH LIFE
      - Church discipline
      - Dress codes
      - Separation ecclesiastically
      - Conflict management
      - Counseling
      - Membership standards
   c. Get started working through these issues NOW!

ABC – Oct. 1980

CONCLUSION

A. Recapitulation: (KNOWLEDGE IS POWER) There is MUCH to learn!

I. SEE TO HERSELF--PREPARED:

A. Prepared Basically
B. Prepared Spiritually
C. Prepared As To Characteristics

II. SET A PATTERN:

A. As A Member of the Flock
B. As The Subject of Criticism
C. As A Friend Of Everyone
D. As A Living Example
E. As An Influence in the Community

III. SEEK YOUR OWN NICHE:

A. Remember That You're Unique--You're YOU!
B. Reachin For Your Own Sphere
C. Reminders That Will Help

B. Rewards:

1. Mingle with best people--GOD'S PEOPLE
2. See lives changed
3. Loved deeply and dearly
4. Experiencing God's sustaining and enabling grace
5. Growing in likeness to the Lord
6. UNCROWNED QUEEN of the congregation
7. Deep Satisfaction, for the minister's wife can say to herself:

"Isn't it wonderful that my husband can be of help to people, that he is needed, that they want him? These people are God's people and they have been placed in our care. We belong to them!"

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR"

INTRO:

A.-The Contact:

1-ILLUS--One Sunday in London in **Oct. 1953** a mysterious tomb baffled the experts when Westminster Abbey opened its doors to the public for the first time in months. The ancient abbey where British sovereigns are crowned had been closed for repairs since shortly after the coronation of **Queen Elizabeth.**

During the repair work laborers found a **TOMB** believed to be more than **5 centuries old** under the floor of the chapel. The discovery was kept secret by abbey officials. They still refused to give details, but reports said the tomb contained a wooden **coffin.** Inside were a **skeleton** & a **crozier,** the pastoral staff of a BISHOP.

Archaeologists were trying to decide **who was buried there.** The abbey is the great royal mausoleum of Britain, with tombs dating **back 1,000 years.** It is also the final resting place for many poets & statesmen. Alan C. Don, Dean of Westminster, said: "I don't want to say anything about finding this tomb. Our inquiries aren't yet complete."

* 2-**A GREATER MYSTERY** than this one Paul mentioned when he wrote to Timothy, saying:

1 Timothy 3:16

B.-The Context:

1-**Instruction** on **appointment** of brethren to official **leadership** in the local church
--3:1-7--Bishop's qualifications
--3:8-10, 12-13--Deacons Qualification
--3:11--Wives qualifications

2-Concern over **BEHAVIOR** in relationship to the Body of believers, for we are **TO CONDUCT** OURSELVES in a fashion befitting our calling as saints in the "house of God"
--3:15b
--Not a direct reference to behavior in a building, but in our **lives**
--Church is **for DISPLAY** OF **THE TRUTH**

C.-The Content:

1-Pervading & controlling influence on the child of God is **CHRIST---The Head** of the Church

2-1 Tim. 3:16
--"Without Controversy" — Illus →
** **No doubt** about it; **BEYOND QUESTION** !!
** Common confession of the Church
--**"GREAT"**=="Immense; Important; Significant; Of weighty importance"
--"The Mystery"=="**SACRED SECRET**"
--Fairbairn well says this is a verse describing "...**HIM** who in His per-

son & work is the disclosing of that mystery respecting the **divine life in man** which had hitherto been hid in God." (Pastorals, P. 162)

3-Alford--"This **mystery** of the life of God in man is, in fact, the unfolding **of Christ** to and in him; the key-text to our passage being Col. 1:27....This was the thought in St. Paul's mind, that **the great revelation** of the religious life is **CHRIST**....he is led to a summary of those particulars wherein Christ has been revealed as a ground for the godliness of His Church." (P.)

4-ILLUS--In the days of the wilderness journeying the Israelites carried **the ARK OF THE COVENANT** as a typification that God dwelt with man and as a meeting place between God and man, for it was a **visible reminder** that **GOD IS WITH US.** **

Today we have **no such single article**, but we do have the Church of which each believer is a vital part. Today *** each **Christian** is **GOD'S ARK**---the place where God dwells in the midst of men. What this means is that we are **to show forth** our God to those about us, and that this will be possible as we properly understand our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, and allow His life to show in and thru ours.

We have **no right** to live our own lives **according to our own plans**, but to yield ourselves as **channels** of THE MYSTERY OF GODLINESS. — 1 Tim 3:16

5-Outline:--Six phrases
--Two sets of 3 phrases
--I.-**THE LIFE** OF THE **INCARNATE WORD**
II.-**THE LIFE** OF THE **ASCENDED LORD**

6-Prop--See Him as He is now
--Be a channel for an expression of the Savior to others in all His beauty & power
--Let Him have His way with us

INT How do I see Him as He is?
To know Him is to love Him.
To love Him is to worship Him.
To worship Him is to serve Him.

I.-THE LIFE OF THE INCARNATE WORD:

A.-"God Was Manifest In The Flesh"---INCARNATION:

1-KJV translates "GOD"
--Some MSS read this way
--Other MSS have ὃς =="Who"
--**Context** shows there is **no significant difference**, for no mere man fulfills these words
--Definite statement of **DEITY** BECOME INCARNATE
** John 1:18
** John 1:14
** 1 John 1:1-3a
--**He** who had been **from all eternity** "in the form of God" **became recognizable** by the limited senses of human beings because "God was manifest in the flesh"

2-GOD-MAN--**Prophesied** in O.T.
--Isa. 7:14--"Therefore, the Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."
--**Fulfilled** in Jesus of Nazareth
--Mt. 1:20-23
--**Person** possessed of **two natures**; Equally God & Man

"This is a faithful saying:" It is a **true** saying, not to b

argued or debated, but to be received and believed. A dedicated go
bring the morning sermon, but the request was carefully worded. **do not preach anything controversial!** The liberal pastor did not want such doctrines as the diety of Christ, substitution, divine revelation, or the mediatorial work of Christ preached to his people. The faithful servant of the Lord fulfilled his brother's request, not to preach anything controversial, and at the same time glorified his Lord by announcing as his text **I Timothy 3:16** "And **without controversy** great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into
"

MAY

1980

--Set apart from all mankind; UNIQUE
--Capable of being our SAVIOR as well as Teacher and Example — LIFE (3)
--Basis of our REDEMPTION

3-"Manifest" = "A shining in of God" (επιφανεια)
--This is IN THE FLESH
--1 Pet. 1:20--"Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you."
--Unveiling of His previous existence to human view
--BIRTH REPORT:
** From a blacksmith??
** From a soldier??
** From a physician!! (Lk. 1:31-35; 2:11,21
--Incarnation was for "a body hast Thou prepared Me." (Heb. 10:5)
--STILL the God-Man today and He forever will remain so.

4-ILLUS--A good old Swedish woman took her Pastor severely to task one morning because he declared in his sermon that Jesus was a Jew and spoke Aramaic. She declared he was wrong, that Jesus was a SWEDE and that He spoke SWEDISH. The Pastor condescendingly said, "My dear sister, you may have some difficulty proving that."

"None at all, I have the proof right here," said the woman as she produced her Swedish Bible and showed him that all the words were in Swedish.

How glad I am that this Swedish woman thought Jesus was a true member of her race---and of mine. What a compliment to the Son of God who was "God manifest in the flesh."

B.-"Justified In The Spirit"---VINDICATION:

1-Some read "Spirit" with a small "s", but I believe KJV is correct in making this a reference to the Holy Spirit as the VINDICATOR----Giving proof of who Christ is

2-"Justified" = "Declared righteous"
--Jesus Christ came to settle the sin question
--Spirit "justifies Christ" as having no taint of sin in Him
--Declared to be ABSOLUTELY HOLY !
--Jews' accusation--Jn. 8:41--"Then said they unto Him, 'We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.'"
--Jesus' answer--Jn. 8:46--"Which of you convinceth Me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe Me?"

3-Radical contrast:
--You and I are condemned because of sin nature & acts of sin both
--Our only justification in God's sight is by faith in a blood sacrifice of ANOTHER — SUBSTITUTE
*-Jesus ** Blameless & sinless
** Needed no sacrifice for His justification
** Conscience was void of offense
** John 14:30--"...the prince of this world

cometh, and hath nothing in Me."

4-Vindication by the Spirit
--Perfect harmony between Christ and the Spirit throughout the whole of the Incarnation
--Baptism
--Mt. 3:13-17
--Miracles of healing & demons cast out
--John 3:34 "... God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto Him
--Sacrifice for our sins
--Heb. 9:14--"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God."
--Resurrection from the dead
--Rom. 1:3-4--"Concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; and declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead."
--Ascension acceptance of Christ proven by the coming of the Spirit on Pentecost

--ILLUS--JUSTIFIED before the JUDGE when I was ticketed for an alleged traffic violation. The officer's presentation of the case was so inaccurate and self-contradictory that I never got to present my own case.
Rather, I WAS VINDICATED as the Judge scored the arresting officer for his inaccuracies and dismissed the case against me.

Just so the Spirit totally vindicated the nature and the life of Jesus, for the SON OF GOD WAS JUSTIFIED!

5-It is always a mistake bordering on irreverence to speak, as some do, of Jesus as the first christian, or the greatest christian, or the only true christian...
....JESUS WAS NOT A CHRISTIAN !!!
--A christian is a sinner who's trusted the Savior for forgiveness of sin & gaining of salvation
--A christian is a possessor of Christ
*--But Jesus Christ Himself needed no Savior
--He is "God manifest in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit..."

C.-"Seen Of Angels"---ATTESTATION:
1-Trinity's persons were INVISIBLE in eternity past
--Father, Son and Spirit were spirit beings without physical bodies —Eternally the 3 Persons
--Christ become incarnate as "the image of the invisible God" (Col. 1:15)
-Before the Son became incarnate as Jesus, the angels were the only ones who could look upon God and "SEE" Him
2-Angelic observations before the incarnation
--Pre-existent glory of God (Isa. 6)
--Creation of the universe
--Foretelling of the Savior's birth to Mary & to Joseph
--These "ministering spirits" were fully qualified to

attest as to WHO JESUS IS.

3-Angelic observations during the incarnation
- --Announced His birth in Bethlehem
- --Ministered to Him during the 40 days of Temptation
- --Sustained Him in His humiliation
- --Strengthened Him in Gethsemane
- --Proclaimed the truth of His resurrection (Lk.24:6)
- --Comforted & instructed the disciples at the ascensn.
- --Declared His "coming again"
- --Behold and worship Him now (Phs. 2:9-11)
- --Will accompany Jesus at the Second Advent to judge the lost
- --NO SALVATION FOR ANGELS !
- --But they are credible witnesses of Jesus Christ our Savior

4-Angelic INSTRUCTION
- * Sustaining grace of God in the believer as we are made a spectacle to men and to angels and to the world (1 Cor. 4:9)
- * Manifold wisdom of God demonstrated "thru the Church" (Eph. 3:10)
- * As to the abundant salvation which God provides for sinners through Christ's sacrifice and the message of the gospel (1Pet.1:10-12)

5-POINT--The angels have seen Him and they bear repeated witness of His PERSON as God and of His WORK as Redeemer
- --"...Seen of angels..."

II.-THE LIFE OF THE ASCENDED LORD:

A.-"Preached Unto The Gentiles"--PROCLAMATION:

1-The Message preached--THE GOSPEL
- --Proclamation of "good news"
- --Not argued or reasoned
- --But DECLARED ! !

2-The Message's preachers
- --NOT the angels
- --No redemption for them to tell of
- --Command for EVERY BELIEVER
- --Mk. 16:15-16--"And He said unto them, Go ye into al the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned"
- --We are responsible ! ! !
- --Acts 8:30-35

3-The Message's hearers
- --"GENTILES"=="Nations"
- --Message of God is no longer confied to 1 nation
- --Now there is hope for ALL PEOPLE
- --Lk. 2:32a--"A light to lighten the Gentiles.."
- --God's love embraces all mankind

NB
- --Atonement is universal, rendering all men savable
- --MIDDLE WALL OF PARTITION now broken down (Eph. 2:14+

*-No preference for Jews
*-No exclusion of Gentiles
4-Jesus Christ is not generally recognized by Gentiles (or by Jews, for that matter) as WHO HE IS....
...Yet HE is their only hope of salv.
...Acts 4:12
5-"FULL GOSPEL"--Evangelization
--Identification
--Indoctrination (Mt. 28:19-20)
6-ILLUS--Some years ago the late Mr. Gokhals, in conversation with Dr. Hume, after speaking of Jesus Christ with the deepest reverence, remarked: "BUT THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IS HOPELESSLY HANDICAPPED BY HIS CONNECTION WITH THE WEST."
To which Dr. Hume replied, "For nineteen centuries the Lord Jesus Christ has been handicapped by His connection with His followers, but hopelessly, never!"
*7-Aren't you glad that the GOOD NEWS has been preached to YOU ??
--1 Cor. 1:21--"For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe."
--1 Cor. 2:1-2--"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 any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified."
--Have YOU BELIEVED the message preached???
--Jesus Christ ascended to heaven and is now...
...."Preached unto the Gentiles..."

B.-"Believed On In The World"---APPROPRIATION:
1-People "believed on Him" while He lived on earth
--Woman at the well (John 4:29, 39)
--Nobleman--(John 4:53)
--Many common people (John 8:30)
--Chief priests (John 12:42)
--Response of sinners--APPROPRIATION!! To ACCEPT HIM as God's Gift
2-People are still "believing on Him" since He's gone to Heaven
--Pentecost in Jerusalem
--Antioch
--Mars Hill in Athens
--Ephesus
--Rome
--Houston, Los Angeles, Berkeley, Columbus
--Response of sinners--APPROPRIATION!!
3-But there is a limited TIME for believing
--2 Cor. 6:2
*--NOW is the time — Your only sure opportunity!
--Faith must be exercised while "in the world"
--After death it is TOO LATE!!!
--Here and Now is God's place and time for your salvation
READ
--Matt. 9:1-6
--DECISION REQUIRED:
** Not just facts perceived intellectually
** But the Person appropriated personally
** "Believed on in the world"
** This is THE ISSUE that's the purpose of life

4-ILLUS--The New England dreamer & mystic Bronson Alcott, on a visit to England, had a conversation with Carlyle in which he said that he could sincerely say, just as much as Jesus, that he was "**one with the Father**."

"Yes," replied Carlyle, "but Jesus got men **to BELIEVE HIM** WHEN HE SAID IT." Only a sinless Christ Who was "God manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit" could have convinced men to **stake their eternity** on Him.

C.-"Received Up Into Glory"---GLORIFICATION:

1-**Heaven's response** to this Savior-----**RECEIVED HIM**!!!

2-Term is used of Christ's **ascension** to heaven

--Glory as the **place** of heaven

--Glory as the **condition** to which Christ returned, as He had been throughout eternity past (John 17:5)

--Now "There's a **MAN** in the glory, and He's there **for me**"

3-**SEAL** of **acceptance** upon our redemption

--**Victory** proven

--**HEAD** of the Church which is His Body

--**Spirit** bestowed

--**Position** at the Father's right hand

--**Gifts** given to men & gifted men to the Church

--John 16:10--"Of righteousness, because I go to My Father, and ye see Me no more:"

4-**GLORIOUS RECEPTION** into heaven

--Left the glory-palaces of heaven to save us

--And He **returned in TRIUMPH**!!

READ --Ps. 24:7-10

--He **didn't sneak back in**

--But He was "received up into glory"

--ILLUS--"RECEPTION that servicemen received after World War II as they returned to their hometowns.

--**PROOF** that the cross-work of Jesus Christ **satisfied all** the righteous demands of a holy God in behalf of sinful men

- CREATION formed us
- SIN deformed us
- EDUCATION informs us
- GOOD MORALS reform us
- CHRIST alone transforms us!

CONCLUSION:

A.-Important Mystery:

1-1 Tim. 3:16

2-Speaks of CHRIST

--**What** He's **already done** as the Incarnate Word

** Manifested in the world

** Vindicated by the Spirit

** Attested by angels

** Nothing of man in this

** Salvation provided

** Glorious Savior of HIS CHURCH (3:15)

--What He's **now doing** as the Ascended Lord

** Proclaimed to all nations

** Appropriated by believers on earth

** Acclaimed by all heaven

--Secret of piety.....is....OUR SAVIOR

B.-Imperative Message:

1-**Must be appropriated**----"**believed** on in the world"

2-Determines our **attitudes** and **actions**
--HEAVEN has received Him
--Have **YOU**?????
--HEAVEN adores Him
--Do **you**???
--HEAVEN rejoices to serve Him
--**WILL YOU**???

3-**Is this confession** of faith (3:16) **YOURS** ???
.....Then **WORSHIP** and **SERVE** Him

4-**If not...**
.....Why not **settle it TODAY!**
...."Believe on Him in the world"....now=

SOLO
I Am Not Skilled to Understand

Westbrae--6/30/68--#465--"Our God, Our Help" (10)
6/23/74 #9----"The Name Of Jesus" 73 (64)
Columbus-6/16/74 #2----"O Could I Speak" 31 (48)
Calvary Bible #420--"Have You Any Room For Jesus?" 439 (241)

(205)

Paso Robles - 6/30/74
Bethel Baptist - Lattabre 7/7/74
Community Bible Ch. of Yucaipa - 7/21/74
1st. Bapt Ch, Minds, Fla. 10/22/75
Bethel Bapt. P.O.S. Trinidad - 10/26/75
Camp Site Trinidad - 10/28/75
Temple Bapt. - Fredericksburg - 8/22/76
Berlin - 1977
Mt. Tabor Bapt., Beckley, WV - 5/18/80
Grace Gospel Church Huntington, WV. - 5/25/80
Kanawha Dr. Church, Glenville, WV - 6/1/80
Community Bible Ch, Paris, IL. 6/29/80
Maple Valley Bapt. Ch, 7/13/80
Cross Lanes Bible Ch. 9/14/80
Oak Hill Presby. Ch. 8/3/80
1st Bapt Ch. Eleanor, WV - 11/9/80
C.B.C. Byrdstown, TN. 3/12/81
Faith Memorial Ch, Cleveland, Oh. 3/21/82
Lower Falls Baptist Church - 1/30/83
Jonestown Bible Ch., Jonestown PA, 3/13/83
Lockout Bapt. Ch, WV - 3/20/83
Victory Bible Ch., Meyersdale, PA - 7/12/83
Old Kanawha Bapt. Ch. - 11/11/84
Oak Hill Bible Church - 10/2/88
Victory Bible Ch, Alum Cr, WV. 10/8/88
Hilltop Baptist Ch, Crab Orchard, WV - 9/17/89
Bible Center Ch. 6/10/90
New Hope Bible 6/24/90
Princewick Bapt. Ch. 7/1/90
WV IFCA Regional - 9/24/91

9/21/93 Middletown Bible Church; N.E. Bible Conf
4/27/94 - Maxwell Hill Bapt. Ch, WV.
7/24/98 - Corrientes, Argentina.
8/2/98 - Parque Batlle, Montevideo
5/23/99 - Faith Bapt. Ch, Dundas Aus
- Emmanuel Bapt Ch. Sydney
5/30/99 - Condell Park Bible Ch, Aust
6/6/99 - Fellowship Bapt. Ch, Sydney
Evangel Bible Ch, Sydney
6/13/99 Grace Bapt. Ch, Eastern Hills
4/24/05 - Open Bible Ch, Beckley
7/3/05 - Harvest Baptist Ch, Blacksburg
11/9/05 - Bible Center Ch.
5/21/06 - Hilltop Bapt. Ch. - Mens S.S.

INTRO: A.-Three Possible Approaches:

1-Divine ATTRIBUTES Belong To Jesus:
- --Eternity
- --Immutability
- --Omniscience
- --Omnipresence
- --Omnipotence
- --Sovereignty
- --Holiness
- --Love
- --Life

2-Divine PREROGATIVES Belong To Jesus
- --Creator
- --Preserver
- --Pardoner
- --Resurrector
- --Rewarder
- --Judge
- --Object of worship

3-WITNESSES To Jesus' Deity:

B.-We'll follow the latter to show 13 proofs of Jesus' Deity:

1-ILLUS--Yale Chaplain William Sloan Coffin, under federal conviction in relation to draft violations, is quoted in July 1968 JUBILEE--a liberal Catholic publication:

"You take something like the divinity of Christ; to me, what the Church has been saying is that in seeing Christ at work men have seen the power of God transparently. So the important thing is not so much whether Christ is God-like but whether God is Christ-like; that Christ is not only a mirror to humanity, but also a window to divinity. That's what my understanding of what Christ's divinity essentially is.

"Christ is a kind of Rosetta Stone that makes understandable the hieroglyphics of history. For that you don't need a great complicated metaphysical paraphernalia, it seems. This is my preacher instinct that the divinity of Christ can be presented in a much simpler fashion than it's traditionally presented.... Christ is God's love in person on earth, as it were. And when we say through Jesus Christ our Lord, we're saying we know we can say this because of what we see of God's power in Christ."

2-Do you KNOW WHAT he said?

3-Is he clear.....or just WORDY ?!

4-Not enough to trust "instincts"

5-Inadequate view to see Jesus as a "mirror" or as a "window" into DEITY

6-What we need is a clear view of the SON OF GOD as the revealer of the TRUE GOD

7-John 1:18--"No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him."

8-ILLUS--This story is told of DANIEL WEBSTER when he was in the prime of his manhood. He was dining with a com-

pany of literary men in Boston. During the dinner the conversation turned upon the subject of Christianity. Mr. Webster stated his belief in the divinity of Christ, and his dependence upon the atonement of the Savior. (2)

One said to him, "Mr. Webster, can you comprehend how Christ could be both God and man?"

Mr. Webster promptly replied, "No, sir, I cannot comprehend it. If I could comprehend Him, He would be no greater than myself. I feel that I need a SUPERHUMAN Savior."

7-Our Outline--Witnesses BEFORE His Ministry
--Witnesses DURING His Ministry
--Witnesses AFTER His Crucifixion

PROP. We need to be assured of the DEITY of Jesus Christ

I.-WITNESSES BEFORE HIS MINISTRY (On Earth):

A/-Witness In Anticipation:

1-By many prophets--we'll select one.

2-Isa. 9:6-7--"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this."

3-Child BORN----HUMANITY Son of Man

4-Son GIVEN-----DEITY Son of God — Eternally!

5-Exact terms; Precise order

6-Exalted titles

B.-Witness In Proclamation:

1-Message from God to Mary

2-Angel Gabriel was God's messenger

3-Lk. 1:35--"And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

4-No doubt about the One who was proclaimed as "coming" to be born of Mary

5-"The Highest", of whom Jesus was to be the offspring, is the same one known by this term in the O. T. as the "Possessor of heaven and earth." El Elyon — Gen. 14:22

C.-Witness In Attestation:

1-On the Night of Messiah-Jesus' birth

2-Angels gave corroborative witness

3-Lk. 2:8-11--"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, A Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

4-Clear attestation that the One born is DEITY incarnate.

D.-Witness In Presentation:

1-Following 30 years of silence since Gabriel to Zacharias, Mary + Joseph

2-Jesus is now grown to manhood, ready to embark upon His divinely commissioned ministry

3-Inauguration via John baptizing Him

4-Mt. 3:16-17--"And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God discending like a dove, and lighting upon him: and lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

5-The "delight of the Father" is presented to the world for His ministry

6-The "pleasing" character of deity in flesh is witnessed by the breaking of the silence of God

7-TRINITY is seen here--Son, Dove, voice of the Father

8-ILLUS--J. Sidlow Baxter tells the story that some years ago a minister of the Gospel was preaching in a Midland town of England, when he was interrupted by a man in the audience who loudly challenged the preacher's emphasis on the deity of Christ As the interrupter was insistent, the preacher felt obliged to address him directly for a moment, telling him that if he really wished to ask a serious question, he could do so, on the understanding that there were no more interruptions from him.

The man proved to be a JEHOVAH'S WITNESS; and this was his objection: ---"You say that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, and co-equal with the eternal father; but He cannot be, for if He be God's Son, He cannot be as old as the Father, since no son is as old as his father; and if Christ is not as old as the Father, then He is not eternal; and if He is not eternal, then He cannot be God as you say He is."

WHAT would the preacher say to THAT? Well, he paused for a moment, and then gave this devastating reply:

"Out of your own mouth I will condemn you. You yourself have just called God the eternal Father. Does it not strike you that God can only be the eternal Father by having an eternal Son? Eternal Fatherhood demands eternal Sonship. Moreover, you have said that Christ the Son, cannot be as old as the Father because no son is as old as his father, and that Christ, therefore, cannot be eternal.

"You are wrong there too!, for, strictly speaking, no father as such, is older than his son, and no son is younger than his father. When did my own father begin to be my father? He began to be my father at the very same moment that I became his son. He is therefore exactly as old as a father as I am as a son!

"The very terms 'Father' and 'Son', as used of the Godhead imply co-equality in nature, and co-eternalness."

THERE WERE NO FURTHER INTERRUPTIONS,----and we can leave the preacher's reply to make its own impression.

II.-WITNESSES DURING HIS MINISTRY (On Earth):

A.-Witness In Temptation:

1-Inadvertent testimony of the Devil

2-Lk. 4:1-4--"And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordon and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he ate

did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered. And the devil said unto him, 'If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.' And Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'"

3-"IF" of the KJV is really "SINCE" in the Greek, which means that it is a condition of reality. The devil would cast doubt on the fact if he could, but it is a matter of clear fact

4-So we have at the beginning of Jesus' ministry, an inadvertent testimony to the truth of His DEITY by the Devil

B.-Witness In Opposition:

1-Any witness has some weight to his testimony

2-Cumulative witnesses give cumulative clarity to a case

3-One of the most powerful witnesses to truth is the words spoken by a HOSTILE WITNESS

4-Not wanting to advance your case, but doing so in spite of himself

5-Example in the demons inhabiting the man of Gadara

6-Mk. 5:6-8--"But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, and cried with a loud voice, and said, 'What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.' For he said unto him, 'Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit.'"

7-Even enemies of the truth sometimes come as witnesses to the veracity of the truth-----and must be heard.

C.-Witness In Confession:

1-Opinions of men about Jesus are many

2-Very often based on inadequate or improper evaluation of the facts----or even on ignorance of those facts

3-Mt. 16:13-14--"When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, 'Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?" And they said, 'Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others Jeremias, or one of the prophets.'"

4-Unbelief doesn't agree in its evaluation, except to agree to be wrong in evaluating the facts

5-From a GENERAL QUESTION, Jesus narrows it down to a SPECIFIC QUESTION....

6-Mt. 16:15--"He saith unto them, 'But whom say ye that I am.'"

7-Reply was instantaneous....and clear-cut

8-Mt. 16:16--"And Simon Peter answered and said, 'Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.'"

9-OPEN CONFESSION.....by a qualified observer

10-Yet, even this required divine revelation to unveil sin-blinded eyes...

11-Mt. 16:17--"And Jesus answered and said unto him, 'Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven"

12-ILLUS--An American woman offered to teach a young foreign man the English language. The Gospel of John was used as a basis for the study. Finally he was able to read it through. But he became agitated. He came to his teacher and said, "WHO IS THIS MAN about whom I am reading--this Jesus? You call Him a man, but HE MUST BE GOD!"

(5)

Any sincere, honest, open student of the Scriptures will come to this **same conclusion.** The doctrine of the **DEITY** of Christ is so thoroughly imbedded in the teaching of God's Word that you cannot get rid of the doctrine without getting rid of the Bible itself!

13-And **no wonder,** for--Jn. 20:31--"But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, **the Son** of God; and that believing ye might have life through his Name."

D.-Witness In Transfiguration:

1-We've heard a number of expert witnesses

1--O. T. Prophets
2--Angelic messenger, Gabriel
3--Host of angels at His birth
4--Voice of the Father at baptism
5--Satan's inadvertent agreement
6--Fallen demons admission
7--Open confession of a disciple, Peter

2-Curtain of time is once opened, so we can read of the future...

3-Mt. 17:1-5--"And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, and was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud which said, 'This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; **hear ye Him.**'"

4-Peter seems to have **equated** the position of exaltation due to Jesus with that due to Moses & Elijah 3 EQUALS

5-This **LOW** appreciation for the Son of God is instantaneously corrected by a second breaking of the silence of God from heaven.

6-"**HEAR YE HIM**" is God's singling out Deity as in a class altogether unique Jesus stands ALONE! UNIQU

7-This is a second witness from the Father

E.-Witness In Accusation:

1-Pilate found **no grounds** in the accusations of the Jews that Jesus was guilty of sedition (18:38; 19:4, 6) Jn.

2-Yet the Jews would not give up

3-They had used that charge, for they thought that it would be a charge to ellicit an immediate reaction with out the formality of inquiry and proof

4-Having failed in that attempt, they come now to the **real truth**

5-John 19:7--"The Jews answered him, 'We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, **because** he made himself **the Son of God.**'"

6-This would have been **BLASPHEMY** by any other, but it was **THE TRUTH** about Jesus

7-This accusation, then, is the testimony of his accusers of what His own claim had been

8-ILLUS.-There is a legend of an IRISH KING who disguised himself and went into the banquet hall of one of his barons. He was escorted to a lowly place among the throng who sat at the feast. The brilliance of his conversation and the nobility of his manner soon attracted the attention of someone with sufficient authority to escort him to a higher table. The same thing occurred once more, and soon he was seated among the nobles of the realm. After a display of great wisdom, one of the lords spoke out and said, "In truth, Sir, you speak like a king. If you are not a king, you deserve to be."

THEN the IRISH KING removed his disguise and took his rightful place among his subjects.

When our Lord Jesus came from heaven's glory, His subjects were so blinded by their own darkness of heart that they were not willing to stoop before Him. The KING OF KINGS and LORD OF LORDS was there, but they received Him not, even though He stated over and over again that He was the ETERNAL GOD come down to redeem them.

III.-WITNESSES AFTER HIS CRUCIFIXION:

A.-An Eyewitness Exclamation:

1-Concommitant circumstances-Jesus crucified
--Skies darkened
--Veil of the temple rent
--Earthquakes
--Raising of dead bodies

Miraculous

2-Centurion in charge was an eyewitness

3-Mt. 27:54--"Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, 'TRULY THIS WAS THE SON OF GOD."

He was THERE.

4-He had been present at other crucifixions, but this One was different than any other

5-FAITH of the centurion is evidenced by this exclamation

B.-A Doctrinal Declaration:

Rom. 1:3-4

1-Paul speaks of the content of the Gospel, which is "concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord."
--Emphasis on the HUMANITY of Christ
--"..made of the seed of David according to the flesh
--Emphasis on the DEITY of Christ
--"..declared to be the Son of God with power..by the resurrection from the dead."

2-Bible teaches both the humanity & deity of Jesus Christ as being factual realities

REVERSE ORDER

C.-A Doubters Adoration:

1-"Doubting Thomas" was absent on the night of Resurrection when Jesus appeared to the other disciples.

2-For a week they had told him ...but he DOUBTED!

3-Even said he'd refuse to believe unless he saw the nail prints in Jesus' flesh, & unless he thrust his fingers into the holes

4-But when Jesus appeared to him, & invited him to make such a thorough investigation.....

5-Jn. 20:28--And Thomas answered and said unto Him, "MY LORD AND MY GOD."

6-Thomas' witness is clear !!--He worshipped Jesus

7-ILLUS--Dr. R. A. Torrey used to tell of going up to a man one night and asking him if he were a Christian. The man answered that he was a UNITARIAN, and that therefore Dr. Torrey would probably not consider him a Christian.

Dr. Torrey said: "What you mean is that you do not think that Jesus Christ is a Person that should be worshipped."

He answered: "That is exactly what I think." Then he added: "The Bible nowhere says we ought to worship Him."

Dr. Torrey got out his Bible and leafed through it to Heb. 1:6--"Let all the angels of God worship Him," and read that aloud---------- to which that poor man had to admit that he did not know that was in the Bible

8-Indeed.....ADORATION of Christ rightly leads to a WORSHIP of Christ....

...and that is right, for He is God

Personal

D.-In Dissemination:

1-Each must first hear & believe the message of a Divine Savior, Who died and rose again to provide forgiveness of sin

2-No one can really SHARE that truth until it has been personally embraced.

3-But when it is believed in the heart, it puts a personal responsibility upon us.....as was the case with PAUL-

4-Acts 9:20--"And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the SON OF GOD." !!

5-Have you BELIEVED this message?

6-Are you SHARING the truth of that life-giving message?

CONCLUSION:

A.-Message Outline:

1-Witnesses BEFORE Jesus Earthly ministry
2-Witnesses DURING Jesus Eearthly ministry
3-Witnesses AFTER Jesus" Crucifixion

Jesus CENTRALITY— A poll of 100 teachers + students of Rutgers Univ. asked "Which dozen persons have influenced most the history of the world? ALL 100 votes gave first place to Jesus Christ.

Adney — "You must tear the Bible to shreds and scatter it to the four winds if you would get rid of the great truth of the deity of Christ."

**Resurrection of Christ
** Truth of the Scriptures (10:11)

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

Harold Bickett in PROFILES IN CLAY

"Many of our contemporaries are missing the point as to the main purpose of the ministry of Jesus Christ. For example, one day I was riding across Boston with a Jewish taxi driver.

Our small talk ranged from the weather to the Boston Red Sox. When the opportunity came to introduce the gospel, I asked, 'Why do you think Jesus Christ came to the world? What really was His purpose?"

Without hesitation he replied "That's easy. He came as the world's greatest Teacher."

"WHAT ABOUT HIS DEITY? Do you think He was the MESSIAH?"

"NO, Jesus was only a great Teacher. I don't go for this idea that He was the SON of GOD, that He was our Messiah.

"Don't you believe that a man has to be fundamentally honest in order to be a great Teacher?"

"Why, of course!" he replied.

"If Jesus Christ was not what He claimed to be, He was history's greatest impostor. HOW, then could He be the great teacher you say He was?"

My taxi-driver friend was quiet for a moment. Then, as if measuring his words, he said, "You Know, I never thought of that."

It must be thought about, and dealt with in faith!

"You must tear the Book to shreds and scatter the fragments to the four winds if you would get rid of the great truth of the divinity (deity) of Christ." Adney

Westbrae – 1/5/69
Chinese Bible Mission – 1/26/69
Chinese Bapt. Ch – 1/31/82
Boomer Bapt. Ch – 9/29/
Middletown Bible Ch – 9/
Grace Gospel Ch – 8/6/95
Bible Center Ch – 9/21/05

9/21/05 Bible Center Church
10/23/05 - SS - Hilltop Bapt. Ch
10/23/05 - AM Harper Heights Bapt. Ch
11/20/05 - Lick Creek Bapt. Ch, WV
6/13/10 Hilltop Bapt. Ch - Mem
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"BE A GOOD MINISTER OF JESUS CHRIST" 1 Tim. 4:11-16

Read 1 Cor. 4:15-17; 1 Tim. 4:1-16

(1)

INTRO: A.-Contact With This Message:

1-ILLUS--Many years ago in England there lived a young Pastor, only 21 years old, whose name was **Jeremiah Horrox**. Even at so young an age, he had made wonderful discoveries about the stars. But although he loved his work **studying the stars**, there was something else he felt was **MORE IMPORTANT**, and that was to bring God's truth to the people who met in his little church each Sunday.

One of the things he wanted to see in his observations of the skies was the **planet Venus** moving across the sun. This would have helped him in one of his important scientific discoveries. He knew it was going to happen the next week & he was very happy that he was finally going to see it. Then, as he watched his calendar for **the BIG EVENT**, he realized it was going to **happen on a Sunday**. And so, late Saturday night he put away his telescope & put aside all distracting thoughts, going to church the next morning to preach as was his custom.

He mentions in his **DIARY** words which are now **written** over his **gravestone** in **Westminster Abbey**:

NB "**Called aside to greater things** which ought not to be neglected for the sake of ordinary pursuits."

By these words Jeremiah Horrox meant simply that **PREACHING** to his people was **MORE IMPORTANT** than making great scientific discoveries for which the world would honor him.

2-The Apostle Paul was thinking about a man much like Jeremiah Horrox when he wrote to "**YOUNG**" **Timothy**

3-**1 Tim. 4:11-16**

* 4-Charles R. Erdman--"It would be difficult to imagine 6 verses **more weighted** with **wise counsel for a young minister** than these." (Pastoral Ep., P. 55)

B.-Context Of This Message:

1-Written to a **PASTOR**--**Timothy**

The recipient

--**Understudied** with Paul as an apprentice for 10-15 years

--Now "**in charge**" & responsible as Pastor at EPHESUS

2-Book of **FIRST TIMOTHY** written to instruct & to inspire God's Man

Latter's subjects

--Introduction to the letter (1:1-20)

--Instruction Concerning The Sexes (2:1-15)

--Instruction Concerning The **Local Ch.** (3:1-16)

--Instruction Concerning The Good Minister (Ch.4)

--Instruction Concerning **Pastoral Oversight** (5:1-6:21)

Outline of contents

3-Closer look at 1 Timothy **4**:

--The Minister's WARNING (4:1-5)

--The Minister's EXHORTATION (4:6-10)

--The Minister's ENCOURAGEMENT **(4:11-16)**

--This last one is what we'll "**zero-in**" on

4-**HOWEVER**--First we need to make an important point

4:6 "a good minister"

--"MINISTER" ** Commonly thot of as a CLERGYMAN
** Gk word DIAKONOS = Deacon; Server
** Frequent and common term
--Used of those in "special service" (Paul, Timothy)
--Used of Church officers (1 Tim. 3:8, 13)
--ALSO used of any obedient & serving believer
5-THEREFORE let us begin with the realization that the instruction given to Timothy in particular, is equally applicable to EACH ONE OF US!!!

C.-Content Of This Message:

1-Outline: I.-Be Thou An EXAMPLE (4:11-12)
II.-Be Thou An EXTENDER (4:13-14)
III.-Be Thou An EXPERIENCER (4:15-16)

2-PROP: --Fitting text and topic for this special occasion of licensing (ordaining) (ministry seminar)
This is --Needful instruction concerning the function of "A GOOD MINISTER"
--Also.....something here for each one of us!!

I.-BE THOU AN EXAMPLE-----(4:11-12)

A.-The Heavenly Commands:

PREACH IT!

1-Two positive commands: (4:11)
--"Command" == "Continue charging"
--"Teach" == "Continue teaching"
--Both are present IMPERATIVES--Not optional
--Essentials that are never outgrown in Christian ministry
--These are the christian worker's "meat and potatoes"; his "stock in trade" — All his days of ministry

BALANCE THESE

2-The Negative command:
--"Let no man despise thy youth" (4:12)
--"DESPISE" **"To think down upon"
--The word does not denote merely a feeling of contempt---IT IS ACTIVE. We may infer that Timothy is being told not to let men PUSH HIM ASIDE as a stripling." (Wuest)
--RESPECT is due the man because of the office to which God has appointed him.
--"Thy youth" ** Timothy was no youngster
** Probably now between 35 & 40 years old
** Term NEOTES (youth) was used of men up to 40
** For such a position of responsibility, Timothy was YOUTHFUL.

1 Thess. 5:12-13- "And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, + are over you in the Lord, + admonish you; + to esteem them very highly in love for their works sake."

-The problem
** Many in the congregation were OLDER than Timothy
** These "seniors" included some who were purveyors of false doctrine
** They used the tactic of the "put-down" on Timothy as if he were too young to really KNOW the truth.
--Paul gives an exhortation & command to Timothy not to allow his authority to be undermined.
--Charles R. Erdman has well written: "Nor was Timothy the last youthful pastor to need the comfort of these words. To act as the public mentor and guide of those who are more mature and more

experienced is a task which **throws** one **back** upon his Master, and makes him **depend** upon divine grace, and seek more earnestly to understand the inspired Word that he may **speak with** the **authority** which becomes an ambassador of Christ, however many or few his years." (Pastoral Epistles, P. 56)

3

B. The Holy Conduct: (LIVE IT!) (4:12 b)

1-Commendation to the christians you are to lead will **not only** be by exercising your duties & position -PERFORMANCE

2-Commendation is also BY YOUR LIFE !! - PRACTICE

3-Timothy---and we also---should **offset** the **fewness** of his years by the **richness** of his character.

4-"But be thou **an example** of the believers"

7 --Lit. "Keep on **BECOMING** an **example**" Present Tense

--This is a process------We've **not** "ARRIVED"

--We ought to be showing continuous growth

--**Example OF**.....not, **TO**

*** --We are a **PATTERN** of what is expected in others

--ILLUS--**Paul's testimony**

--**2 Tim. 3:10**--"But thou has fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, long-suffering, charity, patience, persecutions...

--**Same thing** is **expected of Timothy**...**and of us**

→5-"IN WORD"--**Speech** is to be exemplary

--Guarded, seasoned, upbuilding & encouraging

--**Without idle words**

--Vance Havner--"The preacher who **jests** & **jokes** with his people all week will soon find that he cannot stand in his pulpit on Sunday with power to **reprove**, **rebuke**, & **exhort**. He may be the **life** of the party, but it will be the **death** of the prophet."

→6-"IN CONVERSATION"

--Manner of life; **Conduct**

--**All** we **are** and **do**

--ILLUS--**P.W. Philpot**, the Cannadian preacher, had **13 children** to feed. Consequently he spent every available moment nurturing the **fruit** & **vegetables** growing in a plot of ground behind his home. Neighbors moved nearby & the grandfather came to live with them. Because of ill health the old man spent a good deal of time out of doors. He too wanted to have a garden & asked Philpot if he would **plow it** for him.

Although the Preacher was extremely busy, he consented to do so. It proved to be a difficult task, since theground the old man wanted turned was covered with weeds & bushes. But Philpot stuck with it & did a commendable job.

As he was leaving he heard the old fellow's daughter ask him, "WHAT WAS THAT MAN **DOING** HERE?"

"**He plowed** my ground for me," the grandfather explained, proudly pointing to the plot where he would soon begin planting. "He's the **fruit farmer** who lives next to us."

"**FRUIT FARMER?**" the woman exclaimed. He's a **preacher**!"

All his life the man had **despised preachers**. "He **couldn't be**, he mumbled." "He had **overalls on**." As a result Philpot was privileged to **lead** that man **to Christ** as Savior.

7-"IN CHARITY" = Love. Not eros or phileo, but AGAPE
Attitude
--Love that has its wellspring in God!
--Rom. 5:5--"And hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us."
--This is our attitude toward others, and it has to be guarded carefully

8-"IN SPIRIT"
--Some MSS. omit this, and so does NASB, unfortunately
--Idea of enthusiasm & zeal — NEEDED
--Rom. 12:11--"Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit; serving the Lord."

9-"IN FAITH"
Faithfulness — Stick to it in ministry!! YES
When tempted to give up------KEEP ON!

10-"IN PURITY"
--Certainly this deals with morals
--But it extends also to motives & manners also.
--ABOVE REPROACH in everything — "blameless"

11-H. A. Ironside: "A young man may be very immature in some respects, but if he is characterized by these things: careful as to his words, particular as to his behavior, and is manifesting the love of God, if he is a man of faith, and is careful as to purity of life, he will not have to try to compel others to accord him recognition. His behavior will accredit him to those to whom he ministers." (Timothy, Titus & Philemon, P. 107)

12-Indeed, the more excellent way than DEMANDING people's respect is to be their EXAMPLE and PATTERN. !!!

II.-BE THOU AN EXTENDER-----(4:13-14):

I.- EXAMPLE
II.- EXTENDER

A.-By Balanced Ministry:

1-"Give attendance to READING" (4:13)
--Greek uses 2 different words for private & public reading
--This one is for PUBLIC READING
--Of course there is the presupposition of private preparation
--This is a carry-over from Judaism
** Luke 4:16-17
** Neh. 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7d-8
--HOW VERY IMPORTANT is God's Word to us!

Needs to be read for all to hear it.

2-"Give attendance...to exhortation" (4:13)
--This is preaching of God's Word
--2 Tim. 4:2
--Acts 13:15--"And after the reading of the Law and the Prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on."
--An appeal to MORALS !!
--Guidance, rebuke, comfort or challenge as needed
--Dr. Roper: "The Pastor's task is to COMFORT the afflicted and to AFFLICT the comfortable"
--Keep close to your Bibles----and exhort from them.

THIS IS AUTHORITATIVE

3-"Give attendance...to doctrine" (4:13)
--DOCTRINE == TEACHING
--One can't just deal with "froth" or "emotions" or

experince---there MUST BE TEACHING !!! (5)
--This formal instruction according to the need
--An appeal to the MIND, just as exhortation is an appeal to the morals
--This distinction (between exhortation [preaching], and teaching) is seen in Mt. 4:23--"And Jesus went about all Galilee teaching in their synagogues, & preaching the gospel..."

DISTINCTION
Teaching = "Pouring it on"
Preaching = "Rubbing it in"

--WHERE and WHO can teach???
** Parents in the home; BOTH father & mother
** Teachers in Church; BOTH men & women in different situations
** Man of God as God's special gift & leader with the Pastor/Teacher ministry
** NOT ONE to the exclusion of others, but ALL THREE !!

4-There's more to the ministry than this, for evangelism is also a LARGE PART. However, it is omitted here because Paul is speaking of the ministry TO THE CHURCH, which has already heard & believed the gospel

5-ILLUS--Letter to the Editor (ETERNITY, June 1972)
"Re 'WHAT'S WRONG WITH PREACHING?' in your April issue. The average sermon in a fundamentalist church is geared to unbelievers even though there is hardly anyone but believers present. The minister preaches on Christ and His atoning work weekly as though no one had ever heard of it.
But Paul indicates that services should be geared for the edification of BELIEVERS. Then the believer evangelizes the unbeliever." R. D. Erickson, Glendale, CA.

B--By Constant Diligence: (4:14)
1-"Til I come"--Paul's immediate orders until he personally arrived to "set right" whatever might be too BIG or too HOT for Pastor Timothy
--Larger sense of those words in Lk. 19:13--"And Jesus called his ten servants and delivered unto them ten pounds and said unto them, OCCUPY TIL I COME."
--We are to be occupying until Jesus comes again----and we're not to stop short for any reason

2-Knowing his GIFT--χαρισμα or χαρισματα are used 16 times by Paul & once by Peter in the N.T.
--"GRACE GIFTS" for the ministry
--Lange--"The χαρισματα gifts of the apostolic age were partly extraordinary, fitted to that early period; partly ordinary, designed to remain for all ages."
(J.J. Van Oosterzee, P. 54, 1 Timothy)
--Timothy knew he was a Pastor/Teacher
--Eph. 4:11--"And He gave some apostles; and some evangelists; and some prophets; and some Pastors and teachers."

3-"Neglect not the gift that is in thee"

--This is capable of 2 different renderings:
OR ** "STOP NEGLECTING (making light) of the gift..."
** "CONTINUE NOT NEGLECTING the gift..."
--Probably both senses fit any man at different occasions
-Reminder that Timothy was ordained by the PRESBYTERY, or the group of the Church's ELDERS (1 Tim 3:1-7; Tit. 1)
--Paul also shared in that public recognition of the God-given gifts at Timothy's ordination (2 Tim. 1:6)

III.-BE THOU AN EXPERIENCER——(4:15-16):

I.-EXAMPLE
II.-EXTENDER

A.-By Personal Preparation:

1-CONCENTRATION--(4:15)

"BLESSED is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his DELIGHT is in the law of the LORD; + in His law doth he MEDITATE day + night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall not prosper."

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day + night, that thou mayest observe to do all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, + then thou shalt have good success."

--Meditation on the truth you "learn", so it becomes YOURS — In the secret place with God.
** Ps. 1:1-3
** Josh. 1:8
--"Give thyself wholly to them" — THIS is our business!
** Not just KNOW these truths mentally
** But BE AN EXPERIENCER in your own life daily
** Lit.="Be up to your ears" in what you know and do.
** TOTAL COMMITMENT AMEN
--Kent--"A constant attention to the work of the ministry removes many a criticism before it begins." (Pastoral Epistles, P. 166)
-ILLUS--John Morely writes in the biography of the great Prime Minister that Gladstone was asked the secret of his success. He replied in one word: "CONCENTRATION"!
--H. A. Ironside--"No one who really wants to count for God can afford to play at Christianity. He must make it the one great business of his life. Whether he is set apart for special ministry, as a missionary who is going to a foreign land, a laborer in the gospel in home-fields, or whether he remains in business and seeks to witness for Christ there, he needs to give himself entirely to a life of devotion to the Lord." (Timothy, Titus & Philemon, P. 109)

2-CHARACTER--"Take heed unto thyself" — What you ARE when no one is looking
--SALVATION sure first
(4:16)
--Richard Baxter--"It is the great, widespread evil of the Church, that it has unrenewed & inexperienced pastors; that so many become preachers before they become Christians, & are consecrated as priests before the altar of God before they are made holy to Christ by the offering of heart to Him; & thus they worship an unknown God, proclaim an unknown Christ, and pray through an unknown Spirit..." (Lange, Timothy, P. 55)
--KEEP SHORT ACCOUNTS
--Continue to grow

--Your **first duty** before God is concerning **YOURSELF**!!! (7)
--Ezra 7:10--"For **Ezra** had **prepared his heart** to seek the law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach in Isarel statutes and judgments."

3-**CREED**--"Take heed...unto the **doctrine**" (4:16)
--If you are to **teach** truth to others, you'll have to **KNOW IT** yourself first
--Someone has well put it: "Prepare your **SELF** as well as your **SERMONS**."
--Right doctrine is **grown in the soil** of right character
--Let's not be so busy "chopping wood", that we fail to take time to **SHARPEN THE AXE**.

4-**CONDUCT**--"Take heed...and **continue in them**." (4:16)
--Not enough to **begin well**
--Gal. 5:7--"Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?"
--**CONTINUANCE** is expected!
--Acts 2:42--"And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine & fellowship, & in breaking of bread, and in prayers, and fear came upon every soul
--ILLUS-Daniel in 1:8 and 21 —All thru life

5-BE AN EXPERIENCER of the truth by **personal preparation** and this will lead to an experience...

B.-In Public Profitability: (4:16)
1-"Thou shalt **save thyself**"
--Not a matter of soul salvation
--But of **preserving your effectiveness**
--ILLUS-Paul in 1 Cor. 9:27--"But I **keep my body under**, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a **castaway**."
--Solemn matter to keep yourself useful to God
--**Guarding** against being "put **on the shelf**"
--Havner speaks of a well-known preacher of some years ago "He was at one time my greatest **inspiration**, but there came a day when he was my greatest **warning**."
--**Same word** to the **Elders** at Ephesus:
--Acts 20:28--"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock of God over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers,..."

2-"And **them** that **hear thee**" (4:16) Both the Pastor + the Lay Leader

--In **several senses**:
** Soul salvation
** Deliverance from demon-influenced men
** Deliverance from false handlers of the Word
--**Phs. 2:12-13**
--SHOW THEM HOW to "work out" the inwrought salvation which is the gift of God
--Notice the Scripture **never** says "**WORK FOR** your salv."

3-ILLUS-Wilbur Chapman used to tell a story of a man who was making his way over a mountain in a terrible **snow storm**. He gradually got weaker & weaker until at last he stumbled & fell, saying to himself: "THIS IS **THE END**. I SHALL **NEVER BE FOUND**."
But as this hiker **fell** his hand struck the **body** of

another man who had fallen in the same place---and the first man was unconscious.

The second man to fall rose to his knees, bent over the previously fallen man's prostrate form. He began to chafe his hands and to rub his face until the man's eyes opened. HE HAD SAVED THE OTHER MAN'S LIFE----

----and his own also in the process, for the exercise had kept life in his own body when he was about to give up.

So it is---when you have a PASSION FOR SOULS, you go seeking the lost and you lift the burdens of others, and God makes your own vision just that much clearer of the Lord Himself, and your hope of eternity. Keep that passion Hot!

4-Fairbairn:--"Nothing is so well fitted for bringing us safely to heaven as engaging in good, earnest to be instruments in God's hand of bringing others thither." (Pastoral Epistles, P. 191)

CONCLUSION:

A.-Summary On "BE A GOOD MINISTER OF JESUS CHRIST":

1-Be thou an EXAMPLE:--Be it
--Live it
--Set the pattern for others to follow

2-Be thou an EXTENDER
--Work at expanding God's work
- Be faithful
- Be aggressive

--God has called us to be "Fishers of men"
--Let's never become content to be KEEPERS OF THE AQUARIUM
--We're here to teach the saved so that the saved can reach the lost

3-Be thou an EXPERIENCER--Expect the MOST of yourself !!!
--Set the standards from God's Word at work into your own life
--Don't ever become "satisfied"
- -Always be S T R E T C H I N G FORTH for more of God's truth & reality
- -EXPECT God to work
  ** Both IN you and
  ** Also THRU you in others

B.-Same Standard For US ALL:

1-True for "A Good Minister"
2-ALL of us are called to such a ministry
3-No "double standard" christianity allowed
4-May God help us----------ALL OF US !!

6/4/72 – Westbrae
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3/26/2000 – Grace Gospel Ch – John McKinney
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BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

#63 – "A Charge To Keep Have I"
#316 – "All For Jesus"
#349 – "I Would Be Like Jesus"
#395 – "Make Me A Channel Of Blessing"
#252 – "Footsteps Of Jesus"

"WIDOWS IN THE WORD" + THE WORLD"

I Timothy 5:1-16
Psalm 146:5-9

INTRO:

A.-The Situation In The U.S.A. Today:

1-When a young man & a young woman come before God & a select company of witnesses and pledge themselves to each other "UNTIL DEATH DO US PART", the contingency for which this promise provides seems a remote unreality, lost in the haze of the dim distance

2-The **specter of death** never recedes so completely as in that happiest of all hours, when love & laughter hold undisputed sway over hearts aglow with radiant hope and trembling expectation.

3-**YET**, in the far-visioned love of a Divine heavenly Father, Who "doeth all things well," **it happens** all too frequently for our human affections that the **cold clutch of death intrudes** & **separates** the 2 partners in pilgrimage on that journey which at the moment of marriage seemed a long & perpetually deepening path of blessings

4-TRUE PICTURE--**Husband** has **4** chances in **10** of becoming a widower

--**Wife** has **6** chances in **10** of becoming a widow.

Widows outnumber Widowers **7 to 1**

Over 1/3 are under Age 50 when their husbands die

B.-The Situation In Other Parts of The World:

1-In non-christian lands widows have few civil & social rights, & even these have usually been disregarded

2-**EXAMPLES** Formerly

--Self-immolation of **HINDU** widow on the funeral pyre that **consumed** her husband's remains

--Now that this is no longer "legal", the widow is turned adrift after her husband's death & she must live either by **charity** or by **prostitution**

--In New Guinea a widow must **cover** her **face** for **half a year** after her husband's death & then every day **crawl**--animal-like--on her hands & knees to his grave. Since she cannot see thus other women must **lead her with a halter** on her pilgrimages to the dead

--In **Papua** custom compels a widow to **wear the SKULL** of her departed spouse around her neck all the days of her life

--In **Nias** the widow is frequently **sold** to another man on the day of her husband's burial.

3-Such **BRUTALITY** stands in defiant opposition to the sympathetic attitude of the Holy Scripture as the revelation of the righteous God

--In the **O.T.**, passage after passage forbids disregarding & defrauding of widows.

--Ex. 22:22--"Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child."

-- De.24:17--"Thou shalt not pervert the judgment of the stranger, nor of the fatherless; nor

take a widow's raiment to pledge:"

--Deut. 14:28-29--"At the end of 3 years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year, & shalt lay it up within thy gates: And the Levite, & the stranger, & the fatherless, & the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat & be satisfied; that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand wihich thou doest."

--Isa. 1:17--"Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow."

4-JESUS hurled a "WOE of destruction" at the profiteers who mercilessly "devoured widow's houses." (Mt. 23:14)

5-Scripture is replete with stories from the lives of widows

--Tamar, who wore mourning (Gen. 38:14)

--Naomi, Ruth & Orpah from Moab (Book of Ruth)

--Widow from Zarepath who fed Elijah (1 Kings 17:10-24)

--Widow of Nain whose son was restored (Lk. 7:11-15)

--Importunate widow who wouldn't give up (Lk. 18:3-5)

--Poor widow who cast in her 2 mites (Mk. 12:41-44)

6-N.T. PRINCIPLE--1 Cor. 7:39--"The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord."

7-"Time mercifully, will diminish the passion of missing something but indefinable & fundamental stays within a widow forever," Jane Gunther Readers Digest article

C.-The Key Passage of Scripture----1 Timothy 5:1-16:

1-Outline---I.-Widows IN NEED

II.-Widows INDEED

III.-Widows IN YOUTH

2-Context--1 Tim. 5:1-2

--Elderly men; Entreated & not rebuked

--Younger men; As brethren

--Elderly women; as mothers

--Younger women; as sisters & with all purity

--EXPOSITORS--"The wise Church leader must understand how to deal with his people INDIVIDUALLY. Each age & condition needs separate treatment: Older men, young men; older women, young women. WIDOWS IN PARTICULAR need discriminating care; since some of them may have to be supported by the Church; and we must not let the Church be imposed upon, nor give occasion for scandal." (IV, P. 127)

3-PROP:--Instruction for those involved as leaders

--Understanding for those concerned about our WIDOWS

--Preparation for the "unexpected"

*Realize "God has a Word" for every person in every category of need.

INT. What instruction does God give the Ch. for their caring concern for Widows?

I.-WIDOWS IN NEED-----(1 Tim. 5:3,4,8):

They need our SUPPORT psychologically to feel SECURE

A.-Proper Attitudes (5:3):

1-"HONOUR"=="Respect, regard, sympathize"; and also financial aid when & where needed

2-"WIDOWS"--Comes from a word that means "LONELINESS", for a widow is bereft of both companionship & support

--Even if the financial resources are adequate, she faces life bereft of the guiding & stabilizing influence of a helpmate — EMPTY DAYS + NIGHTS

Xnpa

--Widowhood, called by Washington Irving "a **living monument** of real **grief**"

3-The church, and its Pastor, are **not to neglect** or shun or fail these dear ones in their needs - THEY ARE LONELY

* 4-**NO WORD** in Scripture specifically to the **widower**, though

B.-Proper Support (5:4,8):

1-Children or descendants (KJV says "nephews") are **responsible for support** of their relatives

2-This support is to begin **"AT HOME"**

--**THIS** is where charity ought to start before such is considered

--Not in place of **church support**, but in addition

3-"**Requite** their parents"==**sufficiently support**

4-Evaluation--"For that is good & acceptable before God"

--It is a solemn & imperative **duty** for the children to afford all needful succor--a duty not to be evaded by any bearing the christian name

5-ILLUS--**Jewish evasion** was commonplace

--**Mark 7:9-13**

--**PERVERSION** of commands is not acceptable for a Xn.

6-1 Tim. 5:8--Instruction needed both **then & now**

--He who possesses ought not to calmly look on his family in their NEED, but to **DO SOMETHING** about it.

--"Own house" shows **a larger circle** of responsibility than just to immediate relatives

--**Not limited** to widows & orphans, though that is the emphasis of this passage

--Gal. 6:10--"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto **all men**, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

7-"WORSE THAN AN INFIDEL" = "Unbeliever"

--W H Y ??

--Because even the nobler Pagan moralists **forbid** such a selfish attitude & pattern

--Christian should **show** the love of Christ, for Christ is our example

--The Christian faith **releases no man** from the fulfillment of natural duties, but imposes them on all

8-ILLUS--**Jesus Himself** gave us an **example** of the providing for one's own when He provided **a home** for **His mother** with the beloved disciple (John 19:26-27)

9-SO--Widows and others **may need support**

* --First line of responsibility lies with the immediate family members

--To do otherwise is **to deny** the faith one professes

C.-Perspective From History:

1-Internal problems in the primative church

--Began **EARLY**

--Ananias & Sapphira; Pretended piousness (Acts 5)

--Neglected **widows**; Murmuring begins (**Acts 6**)

* 2-FIRST OBJECTS of the church's beneficence were its **WIDOWS**

3-Deacons--Appointed to handle this physical ministry

--Chosen from among the congregation members

--**SPIRITUAL men** set over this task

--Freed the Apostles for ministry of Word & Prayer

4-This need was REAL & it was MET by the Church
5-In that day women had no recognized public occupations apart from the home, so were utterly DEPENDENT
6-Proper handling of this problem contributed spiritually, for "the word of God increased & the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly..." (Acts 6:7)
7-PRINCIPLE for the Church
- --1 Timothy 5:16
- --Reiteration of 5:4, and 8
- * --Re-emphasis that relatives are to be resp.
- --So "that the church be not charged"
- --Church has aid it may need to give, but to those who are.....

II.-WIDOWS INDEED-----(1 Timothy 5:5-7, 9-10):

A.-Widows Band:

1-Called "WIDOWS INDEED" if qualified to be enrolled for church aid because they have no other means of support 5:3,5,16
2-THIRTEEN qualifications if they were to be considered "Widows indeed"
3-Many would be widows without being enrolled
4-Church assistance might occasionally be given without them being enrolled, but that would be temporary aid, not continual!!
5-NOTE: Not all Deaconesses were widows, and not all widows were Deaconesses, so these 2 groups of women might overlap, but they would not be identical
* 6-TWO-FOLD WARNING
- --Against indiscriminate charity thru the church
- --Against failure to recognize the truly needy and worthy
- --This led to a system of restraints & rules not found in Acts 6, so as to control entrance into the "WIDOW'S BAND"
- * --This is why a Pastor or Elders often ask questions which would otherwise not be their business.

BOTH ARE WRONG!

B.-Widows Qualified As "WIDOWS INDEED" (5:5,7,9, 10):

1-"Worthy of honor"(=respect)--5:3
2-Must be "DESOLATE"(=bereft, helpless, alone)--5:5
- --A financially indepentent woman would, thus, not qualify

3-Must be a woman of devotion to God--5:5
- --Testimony clear-cut and consistent
- --"trusteth in God", since there is no other to whom she might turn

4-Woman of continual prayer--5:5
- --"continueth in supplications & prayers night and day"
- --ILLUS--Anna--Luke 2:36-38

5-Must be "blameless"--5:7
"w/o reproach" =
- --Not sinless, but w/o a handle for any accusation to be lodged
- --Avoid giving slanderers any ammunition

6-Must be 60 years old or older--5:9
--Therefore not expected to be able to work & support self
--Advanced age; esp. in 1st Cen

7-Must have been the wife of one husband
--Parallel to 3:2 & 12 for Elders & Deacons
--WHAT MEANING ??
** Not a polygamous marital situation
** Not a divorcee
** Faithful & true to her husband in their married life
** Not disqualified if remarried after death of 1st husband
** C. ERDMAN --"This can hardly mean that a widow who had been married twice was ineligible to such church support, for Paul at once proceeds to urge young widows to marry." (p.63)
** FAIRBAIRN--"...they should be chargeable with no indecency in their married life, & never stood related to but one living husband." (P.203-204)

8-Must have a testimony as regards "GOOD WORKS"--5:10
--Not just that there is NO EVIL to say of her
--But also she must be well known for her GOOD WORKS
--Eph. 2:10--"For we are His workmanship, created in Chris Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Not just GOOD, but good for SOMETHING!
--ILLUS--DORCAS (Acts 9:39)

9-Must have reared children well (if she had any)--5:10
10-Must have been HOSPITABLE ("lodged strangers")--5:10
11-Must have shown humility to other christians--5:10
("washed the saints feet")
12-Must have relieved the afflicted--5:10
13-Must have followed diligently every good work--5:10
--This sums up her beautiful character
14-HIGH QUALIFICATION requirements--MORAL, SPIRITUAL, PRACTICAL — WELL ROUNDED

15-In all of this the PASTOR is to "give in charge" (5:7)
--He has a responsibility to the WIDOWS
--He has a responsibility to the widows FAMILIES
--He has a responsibility to the CONGREGATION as a whole
He is to TAKE THE LEAD to see to their care!

C.-Widows NOT Qualified As "WIDOWS INDEED" (5:6, 11):
1-Those living in self-gratification (5:6)
2-Those who are too young (5:9,11)
3-Those having other means of support (5:4)
4-Those failing to "fully qualify" in other respects

III.-WIDOWS IN YOUTH -------(1 Timothy 5:11-15):

A.-The Refusal (5:11a):
1-Not a refusal--Of them as PERSONS *
--Of their fellowship in the church
--Of spiritual ENCOURAGEMENT to them
*--Of temporary aid
--Of a place of spiritual service.

2-BUT a refusal of ENROLLMENT as a "widow indeed" for continuing church aid

3-No church is bound to maintain widows who can earn their bread with their own hands

4-2 Thess. 3:12--"Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread."

B.-The Reasons (5:11b-13):

1-"Wax wanton"=="Feel the impulses of sexual desire"
--When they become RESTIVE they'll desire to marry

2-"Having damnation"=="Being guilty"
--Having cast off their first faith (of a vow to devote themselves to the Church after they became widows)

3-IDLE, WANDERING, TATTLERS, BUSYBODIES & GOSSIPS
--Result of young widows not working
--Too much free time for their maturity
--Church support would free them for "things which they ought not"
--Fervor cools off and WASTE OF TIME sets in

4-Paul seems quite strong in these reasons and perhaps it is that young widows with time on their hands would not have the maturity to use that time wisely

Only 1.03% of widows remarry + of those who do 75% are under Age 44

C.-The Recommendation (5:14-15):

1-"Younger women(widows)"--Marry
--Bear children
--Guide the house (Not, "RULE" as RSV.

2-WHY ??--Give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully
--Worldlings watching them will find fault with these christian women in indolence & use this as an excuse for their unbelief because of their actions
--Because Satan is our Opposer
*--Because remarriage is the BEST CURE for the life problems they face as widows

3-NOTE:--No word written especially to the older widows; just to the younger
*--OLDER ones are left more to their mature discretion
--1 Cor. 7:39 limits for all remarriage; "ONLY IN THE LORD"

4-Remarriage presents some difficulties, it is true
--FINDING a suitable second mate
*--COMPARING the second mate with the first one -- DON'T !!
--FRIENDS and CHILDREN's attitudes toward a remarriage
*--TIMING of remarriage after the death of first husband
--AGE relationship to 2nd husband -Illus- Louis Talbot -Perfume vs. Liniment
**--Remarriage is not a bad reflection on the deceased husband. Rather, it is evidence that such a good first marriage makes you prefer to marry again rather than remain single.

5-NO "Death Bed Pledges" against remarriage for the survivor
--THAT IS CRIMINAL !!!
--ILLUS--Walter Loitz

CONCLUSION:

A.-Principles Learned From "WIDOWS IN THE WORD":

1-God's Word and Widows
- --Widows have a high & **honored** place
- --**Protection** of their persons and rights
- --**AID** as needed & as in accord with certain conditions set forth in the Bible

2-Widows **SUPPORT**
- --**Family responsibility**
- --Church may need to aid on occasions
- --A "Widows **Roll**" is proper
- --**Shared support** by the WHOLE CHURCH FAMILY
- --Officers to handle this must be wise & prudent

3-No evidence the Church was ever designed to be a "**SOCIAL WELFARE AGENCY**"
- --Temptation today to give up a SALVATION gospel
- --Widespread **substitution** of a **SOCIAL gospel**
- ** --General Booth, addressing a group of Salvation Army officers: "My comrades, never allow yourselves to put social work **before** the gospel of the grace of God."
- --Yet, that's all the "message" the Salvation Army has today

4-**Family finances**
- --Care for your own needs
- --Be sure you are **liberal in giving** to God's **work & workers**
- --Support your **needy relatives**
- --Share the care of **OTHER** NEEDY ONES in the household of faith

5-Remarriage is proper and encouraged for widows, and by application, to widowers as well

6-**PEOPLE** need to be treated as **INDIVIDUALS** and know...
- That **God cares** about them
- That **WE care** with courtesy, kindness & personal interest as to their welfare
- --Isa. 54:4-10

GOD'S CARE for them

Let's REACH OUT to others!

Westbrae--5/24/70--# 358 - "Through The Love Of God Our Savior"
Calvary Columbus 9/7/75
Bible Center Ch, Charleston 360 - "Sweetly Resting" 2/28/79
Lookout Bapt.Ch., WV - 10/1/83 346 - "His Way With Thee"
Maple Valley Bapt. Ch - 10/12/83
Spencer Baptist Church, WV - 6/14/84

(OVER)

See folder on WIDOWS

"WHAT WILL JESUS BE LIKE?" 1 Tim. 6:1-16
1 John 3:1-3

INTRO: A.-Pictures Of Jesus:
1-Some are paintings
2-Some are word descriptions
3-ALL are inadequate; insufficient
4-We long for fulfillment of 1 John 3:2--"...for we shall see Him as He is."

B.-What Is Meant----"As He Is?":
1-Truly God--One with the Father & the Spirit
--Absolute Deity
--Creator of the universe
--Sustainer of all things
2-Truly Man--Born of Mary
--Lived 33 years in Palestine
--Labored as a workman
--Loved as a friend
--Died a violent death by crucifixion
3-ETERNALLY COMBINED in One Person the full of Deity and the full of humanity; The GOD/MAN
4-Do you still find it hard to picture in your mind's eye this Jesus?
5-Then let's approach seeing Him "AS HE IS" from another vantagepoint:
--The WORDS of Jesus
--The WITNESS of Jesus
--The WORTHINESS of Jesus
6-PROP--To know Him is to receive Him;
To receive Him is to love Him;
To love Him is to serve Him
To serve Him is to look for Him to come again

I.-THE WORDS OF JESUS (1 Tim. 6:3):

A.-Their Character:
1-Wholesome words
2-Doctrinal words
3-Words that lead to GODLINESS
4-These are "the words of our Lord Jesus Christ"
5-Therefore, it was noted that Jesus spoke "gracious words."

B.-Their Content:
1-To the unsaved
--Matt. 11:28-30
--ILLUS--Some years ago when the Christians in Lahore, India, wanted to stamp Matthew 11:28 on the back of Gospels they wanted to distribute, they found they could not obtain a rubber stamp with which to do it.

The only way to obtain this stamp with the words of the Lord Jesus on it, "COME UNTO ME ALL YE THAT LABOR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST," was to get a clever Mohammedan to cut the words in rubber for them. This follower of the false prophet did a good job for the saints. He also cut, according to instructions, the address of the

church in the rubber.

But while the Indian was doing his work on the soft rubber, God by His Spirit was doing a work in the heart of this Oriental. What was the surprise and joy of the missionary when the stamp was finished to hear the Mohammedan say: "WHILE I WAS CUTTING THOSE WORDS IN THE RUBBER, GOD WAS CUTTING THEM IN MY HEART."

Oh, how many have heard these "gracious words" of our Savior and been CHANGED

3-To the Saved--Matt. 28:19-20
--Evangelize
--Baptize
--Catechize
--LORD'S TABLE
--Morialize

4-So, you can get to know our Lord Jesus by THE WORDS OF JESUS....and also by...

II.-THE WITNESS OF JESUS (1 Tim. 6:13):

A.-Witness Before The People:

1-John 6:1-14---Feeding of the 5000
2-Miracle is clearly acknowledged by all present
3-FAITH by the common people is seen
4-6:14
5-They received His witness

B.-Witness Before The Skeptics:

1-John 6:25-31 (READ)
2-They KNEW of the feeding of the 5000 the day before
3-Yet they ask to see a miraculous sign in order that "we may see and believe thee"
4-WHAT would it take to make them believe???????
5-John 6:32-36
6-Their reaction was UNBELIEF----Jn. 6:66

C.-Witness Before Pilate:

1-John 18:33-38a
2-VERDICT--Jn. 18:38b
--Jn. 19:4
--Jn. 19:6
3-Pilate KNEW the truth about Jesus, but had not the moral courage to act on his knowledge
4-Do you have that moral courage ???
5-We know something of what Jesus is--"AS HE IS" from the faithfulness of His witness under every circumstance

III.-THE WORTHINESS OF JESUS (1 Tim. 6:15-16):

A.-His Condition:

1-1 Tim. 6:15
2-He is "Blessed"=="Spiritually happy"; "Prosperous"
+-Relates to relationship to God
3-He is "only Potentate"=+Unique ruler
+-RULER without any peer
4-King of kings=+KING over all mere kings of earthly thrones

5-Lord of lords==LORD over all mere leaders & masters
6-Revelation calls Him the "DESPOT", for He is WORTHY to rule.

B.-His Character:
1-1 Tim. 6:16
2-"Who only hath immortality"
--Unique in that He has passed beyond death
--Endless life because He is alive from the dead
--Rev. 1:18--"I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."
--Source of OUR CONFIDENCE, for our bodies is in HIM
--Job 14:14--"If a man die, shall he live again?"
--Job 19:25--"For I know that my Redeemer liveth, & that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth"
--Thru Him WE also have immortality (2 Tim. 1:10)
3-"Dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto"
--More than Ps. 104:2--"Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment..."
--Whole abode and being is LIGHT (purity and power)
--Unapproachable brilliance
--Heb. 1:3--"Who being the brightness of His glory"==
"Who being the effulgence (==outshining) of His glory"
--Unapproachable holiness, except we be bidden to "COME" by the grace of God
4-"Whom no man hath seen, nor can see"
--Drift of the description begins to merge the attributes of the Father with those of the Son
--TRIUNE GOD has never been seen
--Apparently the triune God will not even be seen in the millennium
--UNSEEN, but not unfelt and not unknown
--The God of the universe can be "SEEN" with the eyes of faith'!!!!
--HOW!!/?????///????
--John 1:18--"No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him."
--"DECLARED"==Same word as "shew" in 1 Tim. 6:15
** Means "unveiled"; "exposed to view"
--John 14:9--"Jesus saith unto Philip, 'Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, "Shew us the Father'"
--SO.....one can see God when he sees HIM in the Person of His Son, Jesus Christ.
5-"To whom be honour and power everlasting"
--Worthy of the respect and acknowledgement ofall
--His power is not temporary, but eternal
--Christ is WORTHY

CONCLUSION:

A.-Recapitulation:---"What Will Jesus Be Like?"

1-WORDS of Jesus--Graciously inviting
--Doctrinal in character, so we can KNOW
--Leads to GODLINESS in our lives

2-WITNESS of Jesus--People believed Him....and still do
--Skeptics refused to acknowledge the obvious evidence and blindly rejected H m
--Pilate evaluated Him correctly, but lacked the moral courage TO STAND upon his own evaluation of Christ

3-WORTHINESS of Jesus--Equal with the Father
--In a class shared by no other
--Reveals God's Person and Love to us
--Eternal and immortal

B.-How Do You See Jesus Christ?

1-"By faith" now

2-John 14:5-7--"Thomas saith unto Him, 'Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?' Jesus saith unto him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know Him, and have seen Him.'"

3-"AS HE IS" we will see Him very soon now

4-Rev. 1:9-20

5-Are you ready to meet HIM ???

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O, Could I Speak---------- 2
I Know I'll See Jesus Some Day------488
A Haven Of Rest----------284

"HOW TO BE A MAN OF GOD" 1 Tim. 6:11-12
2 Tim 2:22-25a (1)

INTRO: A.-What Do We See?:

1-Some time ago one of the Boston papers carried the story of a man who went into a drugstore to buy a fountain pen. When the young saleswoman gave him one to try, he covered several sheets of paper with the Latin words,

"TEMPUS FUGIT".

Watching the proceedure with keen interest and thinking the man somewhat dissatisfied with the performance, the girl hurriedly sought another pen and offered it to her customer, saying, "Perhaps you'd like this one, Mr. Fugit."

2-The story may be pure fiction. I've been too busy to check. But it is a positive fact that regardless of the fountain pen Mr. Fugit uses, TIME FLIES!

3-It hardly seems possible that the old year has turned in its tattered uniform and shuffled off-stage to make way for the apple-cheeked New Year. Yet just last night millions of people in this favored and fortunate land "CELEBRATED" the swift passage of time and the amazing brevity of life in a night of raucous merrymaking.

4-The dawn of another year finds folk
- --older, but not wiser
- --grayer, but not kinder
- --bigger, but not better
- --larger around the waist, but smaller around the heart
- --POWERLESS to "turn over a new leaf" and utterly unprepared to face up to the many certainties and uncertainties of the future.

B.-What Do We Need?:

1-Not a time-worn greeting of "Happy New Year"

2-But a grand crop of "BLESSED NEW MEN"

3-1 Tim. 6:11-12

4-Term--"MAN OF GOD"
- --Not a title, like "Reverend"
- --But a characterization of what a man is
- --Used of those who "STAND" in a day of declension
  - ** Elijah so addressed after he raised the widow's son (1 Kg 17:24)
  - ** Elisha so called due to the godliness of his character by his landlady (2 Kings 4:9)
- --One to whom the Word of God
  - ** Has been entrusted
  - ** Has become the "orders" of his life
  - ** 2 Tim. 3:16-17

5-NEED OF THE HOUR--for our world
- --for our country
- --for our state
- --for our communities
- --for our church
- --for our homes.... FOR US

TO Timothy + FOR Us

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®
BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

6-NEED those who are MEN OF GOD
  --Believing as a man of God
  --Belonging to God
  --Behaving like a godly man
7-BUT HOW?-----Practical question
  --God answers it !

C.-What Do We Find?-----THREE SLOGANS:
1-First is NEGATIVE---------"Flee Vices"
2-Second is POSITIVE--------"Follow Virtues"
3-Third is ACTIVE-----------"Fight For Victory"
4-Prop.---Our purpose is to show God's formula for being a "Man of God", and encourage one another that if God expects this, He will enable us to perform as Men of God.
5-Clarifying word--Talking about LIVING a life for God
  --Don't confuse this with BEGINNING a life for God
  --Salvation must come first
  NEW Life must come first !
  --Possess life thru Christ, then live it in your life------ w/ Three Key ACTIONS

I.-THE FIRST IS NEGATIVE-----"FLEE VICES":

A.-Why To Flee:
1-Discretion is often the better part of valor
2-Not infrequently a christian's safety & wisdom is TO RUN!.....from evil
3-FLEE.....like you would from a snake
4-Because of the moral poison which comes from proximity and association with evil
5-SUSANAH WESLEY---"Whatever weakens your reason, impairs the tenderness of your conscience, obscures your sense of God, or takes away the relish of spiritual things; in short, whatever increases the strength and authority of your body over your mind---that thing is SIN to you"
6-Present Imperative - Continuous action of fleeing

B.-What To Flee:
1-Immediate connection in passage is with COVETOUSNESS ("the itch to get")
2-1 Tim. 6:10
3-Flee the love of money
4-Other vices to flee--6:4--flee conceit
  --6:5--flee impurity
  --6:6-8--flee discontentment
  --6:9--flee uncontrolled passion
5-ILLUS---Joseph and Potiphar's wife (Gen. 39:1-12)
6-Christian is to turn his back and RUN AWAY from anything that is calculated
  --to spoil the christian experience
  --to hinder the christian's progress, or
  --to lower the christian standard.
7-This will settle many questions about "DOUBTFUL THINGS"
8-1 Cor. 10:13--"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are

able; but will with the temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

9-ILLUS--P.C.R. and smoking tobacco in the window in Denver in December 1950

10-What to flee?-----Flee evil and its vices ! ! (3)

C.-Where To Flee?:

1-Not from one point of temptation to another

2-Signpost--Prov. 18:10--"The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe."

3-When temptation comes, the secret is not to stand & fight it, but to FLEE

4-TWO CONDITIONS of Prov. 18:10

--This is only for the "righteous", who possesses the key of faith to enter to tower

--There must be no "dallying"--RUN!

** Delay and trifling are not covered

** To stroll leisurely in the direction of safety is not enough!

5-Conclusion to this "running" from evil---"and is SAFE"

6-First slogan of the "man of God"---"FLEE VICES !"

7-And keep on fleeing that which is evil

II.-THE SECOND IS POSITIVE----"FOLLOW VIRTUE":

A.-Biblical Balance:

1-Christian life is not merely a set of NEGATIVES

2-Also the POSITIVE is present

3-Christianity is fundamentally a POSITIVE faith

4-Yet, the negative as well as the positive is essential

5-ILLUS--Car battery won't give power to your car engine unless it is properly and balancedly hooked up to both poles

6-So--Negative----------"FLEE"

--Positive----------"FOLLOW"

--Let's look at these...

B.-Positive Pursuits---Sixfold Relationships:

1-Follow Righteousness--Relation to our fellows

--Sense of being "Right" with those around us

--"Right" with wife or husband, or constant friction between us?

--"Right" with our children, or Parents or consequent unhappiness ?

--"Right" with our neighbors, or School-mates or inconsistent behavior ?

--"Right" with our co-workers, or inconsiderate ?

--Being "RIGHT" with our fellows is conduct that shows the integrity of a life guided by principle, not by expediency

--Man of God must be careful to act righteously in all his relationships...

....and so must we !

2-Follow Godliness--Relation To God

--Is His WORD our constant study?
--Is His WILL our earnest endeavor?
--Is His WORK our happy employment ?
--Is His WORTH our daily theme?
* --Godliness means "God-likeness" as we grow like Him
--2 Cor. 3:18--"But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."
--Transformed character
--1 Tim. 2:1-2--"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, giving of thanks, + intercessions be made for all men; For Kings, + for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness + honesty."
--Are you following godliness?

3-Follow Faith----Relation to Duty

--Faith here, as so often, represents faithfulness, and fidelity
--Gal. 5:6--"For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love."
--Question of whether God can count on us !
--ILLUS--1 Kings 17:9--"Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have a widow woman there to sustain thee."
--This poor woman had every excuse for pleading her inability
--Poor and down to her last handful of meal
--Yet, told to feed the prophet of God
--In those circumstances, HOW COULD SHE? ?
* --Remember---God is part of the circumstances !
--God knew He could count on her
--Can He count on US? ....on ME ? .....on YOU?
--Do we fulfill our promises?
--Do we carry out our obligations ?
--Is there complete fidelity in us?
--Let's seek, under God, to make this a New Year of following faith

4-Follow Love---Relation To All

--Rom. 13:8 says: "Owe no man anything, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law."
--Debt of love to all
--Responsibility to others
--Eph. 5:1-2--"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savor."
--Where there is love followed in our lives, there will be
* no desire to hurt others
* no desire to steal from others
* no desire to tell lies
* because love puts their interests first !

--Secret power is Rom. 5:5
--May it be our ambition to be loving at all times

5-Follow Patience--Relation to circumstances (5)
--Conditions of life can be very "trying"
--Progress is slow
--Early christians had their difficulties !
--We modern christians have ours !
--Patience is the quality of holding on whatever betide
--N.T. usage == "Steadfast endurance"
--Heb. 10:36--"For ye have need of patience..."
--Rom. 12:13--"Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation;..."
--Rom. 5:3-5 in LIVING LETTERS (read)
--Believers are to follow the grace of consistency in the face of life's circumstances

6-Follow Meekness--Relation To Self
--Meekness is not weakness
--Christ was meek
--Mt. 11:29--"Take my yoke upon you, and lean of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."
--Meekness is not ME living MY Life, but the LORD living HIS Life thru ME
--Gal. 2:20
--What a contrast this is to self
** Self righteousness
** Self confidence
** Self will
** Self seeking
** Self importance
** Self pity
--Meekness is the evidence of the Lord in your life
--CANON THORPE--describes meekness as "the minimum of self, and the maximum of God"
--Meekness is "to be strong in the Lord, and the power of His might," not in my own strength
--So, we've seen 6 points of relationship from a positive viewpoint in this second slogan of: "FOLLOW VIRTUES"
--Watch out that you don't end up fleeing the things you should follow, and following the things you should flee!

III. THE THIRD IS ACTIVE---"FIGHT FOR VICTORY":

A.-For The Advancement Of The Faith:

1-Personally, we are to FLEE, not fight
2-Corporately--we are part of the army of the Lord
--We are in a contest for the faith
--We must do battle for the minds and hearts of the lost
3-Our foes--Eph. 6:12
4-Our equipment--Eph. 6:13-18
5-We dare not stand idly by:

--Edmund Burke--"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

--Vinet--"The church must fight and struggle for its very life, and suffer."

--Winston Churchill--(The Gathering Storm)--"We shall see how the counsel of prudence and restraint became the prime agents of mortal danger, how the middle course adopted from desire for safety and a quiet life led directly to the bulls-eye of disaster."

Insert other Churchill quote on P. 8.

6-The Church is in a battle for the advancement of the faith
for TRUTH & SOULS
NOT just for the fight's sake.

--A cause worth STRIVING for
--A cause worth SUFFERING for
--A cause worth SACRIFICING for
--A cause worth SERVING for

7-2 Tim. 2:3--"Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."

B.-For The Honoring Of The Savior:

1-"Whereunto you are also called..."

--We've received our "summons" to salvation
--Verb tense tells us this happened at a point of time
--Reference to our CONVERSION experience
--This puts us "in the army" of the Lord
--There is no discharge from this warfare

2-"And hast professed a good profession before many witnesses"

--"Professed"=="Confessed"
--OPEN STAND for Christ; probably at his BAPTISM
--Many witnesses saw and heard it !
--Good and strengthening to a christian to be publicly "on record" for the Lord
--Mt. 10:32--"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven."

* --Declaration of allegiance !
--In the ranks of the "COMPLETE"--** Unashamed
** Unafraid
** Unhidden
** Uncompromising !

3-"Lay hold on Eternal Life"

--Life for the believer is a gift
--Life for a believer goes on thru all eternity
--Life is now a PRESENT POSSESSION
--"Before we upward pass to heaven
We taste our immortality"
--Sense of this exhortation is to ENLARGE our hold on eternal life---MAKE IT PRACTICAL in your life !
--ILLUS--Sometimes said of a sick man that "he has only a slight hold on life"
--Similar with some christians
** delicate
** invalided & ill
** they have life, but it is faint & feeble.
--So much less than the Lord's conception
--Jn. 10:10--"I am come that they might have life, & that they might have it more abundantly."

4-Strength sufficient for our soldiering comes, not only just from having the life, but from laying hold on it, getting such a grip on it as to secure our drawing to ourselves all the VIRILITY, VITALITY, AND VICTORY it can supply (7)

5-"This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." 1 John 5:4

CONCLUSION:

A.-Three Slogans:

1-Flee Vices----------Negative Note
2-Follow Virtues----------Positive Note
3-Fight For Victory----------Active Note
4-Montague Goodman put it:

"The Fight of Faith our fight shall be,
Till faith shall end, in sight, Lord;
As men of God we'll live for Thee,
And FLEE and FOLLOW and FIGHT, Lord."

B.-The Man Of God:

1-How to become one-------BE SAVED
2-How to live it----Three F's
--Flee, as from a snake
--Follow, as a pursuer of virtue
--Fight, because engagement in the contest of the faith and its profession is a noble one
3-Have you begun the christian life?
4-Are you progressing well in it?
5-Why not a day of NEW DEDICATION this New Years Day?

6-To many this new year will be as barren and frustrating as the old one just past. They'll remain in the same old rut possessed of the same old habits and overcome by the same old problems, surrounded by the same old cronies, and making the same old excuses.

7-Why not put aside all that & become--A Man of God
--A Woman of God
--A Youth of God....

...forsaking the arm of the flesh and the path of the world

...seeking the help of the Savior

...and walking in newness of life !

Westbrae--1/1/67
Sequoia-8/4/68
Chinese Ch-8/18/68
Heritage Xn School-11/20/69
NCS Chapel-4/15/76
Hilltop Bapt. Ch-12/27/09

Our God, Our Help
None Like The Master
O Jesus, I Have Promised

Winston Churchill said:

"Still, if you will not fight for the right when you can easily win without bloodshed; if you will not fight when your victory will be sure and not too costly; you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all the odds against you and only a precarious chance for survival. There may be even a worse case. You may have to fight when there is no hope of victory, because it is better to perish than to live as slaves."

WHAT WILL JESUS BE LIKE? 1 Tim. 6:14-16

INTRO: A.-Purposes Of The N. T.:
1-Bring us to know Christ Himself — LIFE
2-Bring us to know how Christ is living in us — LIVING
3-Bring us to know how a Christian is to seek to live for his God — SERVICE
4-Bring us assurance about the FUTURE — HOPE
5-Ignorance of the N.T. at our peril

B.-Question Answered:
1-1 Thess. 4:13
2-About living believers they understood
3-About sleeping believers they were confused
4-Paul's answer----1 Thess. 4:14-18

C.-Real Hope:
1-Based on God's promises
2-Expressed in life & in death
3-"BORN A SLAVE: DIED A CHILD OF THE KING"
4-Epitaph on a tombstone in the deep south
5-Could be written over ME, or over YOU — if we know the Savior
6-Slave to sin — By nature
to death — By Adam
to Satan — By Fatherhood
to the flesh — By inclination
7-Rom. 6:17-18--"But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness." ...
8-Now invested with the wealth of our Heavenly Father as a "Child of the King"

I.-OUR LIFE: whether w/ much or w/ little of this world's endowments

A.-Transformed By The Gospel:

B.-Directed By The Word---1 Tim. 6:13-14

C.-Incentive To Fidelity:
1-The coming of the Lord
2-His return is IMMINENT
3-Incentive to a pure life
4-Incentive to fidelity of service
5-1 John 3:3

"I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession, that thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Wm Graves: "Not coming tonight, or tomorrow or a year from now. May come this very next moment."

II.-OUR HOPE:

A.-Appearing Of Christ:
1-"Epiphany"---="expose to the eyes"
2-It is "in His own times", as directed by the Father
3-That time is not to be known by us
4-Acts 1:7--"He said unto them, 'It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power.'"

5-Not even known by the Son in His humanity
6-Mark 13:32--"But of that day & that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.
7-Though the time is not known
yet, it will be on time!
8-Just as surely as with Christ's birth
9-Gal. 4:4-5--"But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."

B.-What He Will Be Like (1 Tim. 6:15-16):
1-"Blessed Potentate"==Happy & prosperous supreme Ruler
2-"Only Potentate"==Unique Ruler without peer
3-"King of Kings"==King over all mere kings
4-"Lord of Lords"==Lord over all mere lords
Revelation calls Him the "BENEVOLENT DESPOT"
5-"Who only hath immortality"
--unique Person who has passed beyond death
--has endless life because He's alive from the dead
--Rev. 1:18--"I am He that liveth, & was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell & of death."
--Source of our confidence for our bodies is in Him
--Job 14:14--"If a man die, shall he live again?"
--Job 19:25--"For I know that my redeemer liveth, & that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth."
--Thru Him WE also have immortality — 2Tim. 1:10
6-"Dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto"
--More than Ps. 104:2--"Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment..."
--Whole abode is LIGHT
--Unapproachable purity & brilliance
--Heb. 1:3--"Who being the brightness of his glory"== "Who being the effulgence of His glory"
--Unseen, but not unknown or unfelt!
7-"Whom no man hath seen, nor can see"
--drift of the description begins to merge the attributes of the Father with those of the Son
--Triune God has never been physically seen
--And apparently will not be seen with human eyes in the Millennium or in Heaven
--But can be "SEEN" with the eyes of faith
--John 1:18--"No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him."
--John 14:9--"Jesus saith unto Philip, 'Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, 'Shew us the Father'?"

C.-The WORTH Of Our God (1 Tim. 6:16):
1-Honor is ascribed
2-Power everlasting is His — Mt. 28:18 — Rev. 5:11-14
3-God is WORTHY ! ! !

D.-Think Of Our Privilege---John 14:1-4--"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way you know.

E.-Be Sure You Know The Way---John 14:5-7--"Thomas saith unto Him, 'Lord, we know not whether thou goest; and how can we know the way?' Jesus saith unto him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know Him, and have seen Him.'"

F.-THEN you can be sure of seeing Him as He is

...Read Rev. 1:9-20.

... This is the way you'll see Him —— SOON!

Hymns: A Child Of The King 248
"O, Could I Speak" —2
"I Know I'll See Jesus Some Day" - 488
A Haven Of Rest — 284

Westbrae - 1/3/65 P.M. - Communion