

2001 Proclaimer

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, .. to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord!" - Isa. 61:1-2

A teaching and exhortation medium by members of the Carmichael Church of Christ, meeting at 6044 Sutter Ave. Carmichael, CA 95608

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October 7th, 2001

DO THE BEST YOU CAN

By Robert F. Turner

Out in Arizona they tell about a "never say die" judge who sentenced an old man to twenty years of hard labor.

The prisoner pled, "I'm ninety years old, your honor, and I won't live another twenty years."

To which the Judge replied, "Well just get in there and do the best you can."

That's the old spirit --- of sorts. Anyhow, it reminds me of an attitude all too scarce these days: the bull-headedness - the try, try again, that **will not give up**.

People who succeed at anything are usually a special breed that go ahead and "do it" after it is impossible. They have learned to **use** troubles and failures as their stepping stones to the top.

I once heard of a mishap which spread a lack indelible stain across a young lady's expensive evening gown. The girl looked at the stain and cried. Her artist boyfriend looked at the stain, called for a brush and more of the same indelible liquid, and **enlarged** the original stain to a beautiful design which complemented the dress.

One winter morning our Arizona mountain town was blanketed with deep snow. The aging president of a bank came to work on skis atop the same stuff that kept lesser employees home. It is just barely possible that this kind of spirit explains why he was president.

Morals? Horatio Alger stories? Perhaps so --- and why not? Our modern sophisticated and blase' society does little to make better men of us. The hep, hip-swinging, banner-toting parasites of our day are dime-a-dozen. And who is to mind the store? Those who learn unselfish principles of honesty, hard work, and "try again." We sorely need those who dare to be the "squares." *Cont'd next page....*

And the principle is much the same in the cause of Christ. The church member who lives only on the excitement of controversy or the glamour of "Campaigns for Christ" is of little genuine value. The future of our work for Christ depends upon those sturdy souls who work on, overcoming obstacles as a matter of course, asking no quarter with the world, and giving none. They live, not to do that which is easy, but that which is right. If, and when they fail, they get up and try again. God asks not more!
 (From "Stuff About Things")

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Truman and Sue Claiborne Willa Lockett
Clifford Marshall Kaye Pennant
John & Norma Romine Evie Westphal
Helen Gray Gordon & Glenda Wilson
Nancy Valine Brett Westphal
Jerry & Melissa Baty

THOSE WHO ARE TRAVELING

Roger Lehman away again today
Singleton's in in Grass Valley today
Rusk's are in Maryland
Nikki Willey Ola Thornburg

PLEASE PRAY for these, and others you may be aware of. PRAISE GOD FOR ALL HIS BLESSINGS TO ALL OF US! PRAYERS DO AVAIL!

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**ATTITUDES TOWARD GOD**

by **Gordon Wilson**

There are those who, for all practical purposes, are unaware of God. They do not, or barely, acknowledge His existence. They are so concerned with the affairs of this world that they do not think about God at all. Longinus in his time complained that men were so involved in seeking money

and pleasure, and commented, "Inevitably they cease to look up."

Others are attempting to evade God. The Psalmist spoke of the fool who says in his heart there is no God. This is not the intellectual fool; he has no difficulty in understanding the evidences for the existence of God. He is simply a moral fool. Because of his preferred mode of life he wishes that God did not exist, and so denies Him.

An attitude much more common than these is that which acknowledges the existence of God, but gives Him no important place. God is left on the outer fringes of life. It is the attitude expressed about God by Voltaire: "We nod, but we do no speak." The person with this attitude tends to compartmentalize his life; for him religion is a matter of church-going, but has nothing to do with his daily life. When crises arise he may think about God, but when things are going well he can handle life just fine by himself, thank you.

All of these attitudes have in common the fact that in none of them is God the central factor in forming attitudes and making decisions for living. But when one is converted (or "turns himself" to use the reflexive mood as the New Testament does) he centers on God. The life he has in Jesus Christ becomes the atmosphere in which he lives; virtually the air that he breathes. He turns toward the source of life and light. "For me to live is Christ," wrote Paul --and he certainly knew what conversion means, both from personal experience and revelation. Let each one examine himself.                    ###

## GOSPEL MEETINGS IN AREA

**Frank Macy** will be preaching in Carmichael, **October 18-21**. Take the advertisements to all you know and urge attendance!

**Bob Owen** from Florida will be preaching in Folsom, **October 7-12**, (7:30 M-F) nightly during the week.

**Hugh Delong** from Tucson will be preaching in Pinole, **Oct 14-20**

**Richard Dowdy** from Fremont will be preaching in Oakdale, **Oct 21-26**

### Avoiding Detrimental Exercise!

Many people need to get off their couch and into an exercise program in order to promote and sustain better health. But sometimes such desires lead us into the wrong kinds of exertion, that which may really be detrimental to our well-being (spiritually, that is!). Do not do just ANY exercise program! Be sure to avoid those things that will cause us to be less desirable to our Lord, or less effective in His Cause!

- Jumping to conclusions
  - Beating around the bush
  - Climbing the walls
  - Passing the buck
  - Dragging your heels
  - Throwing mud
  - Pushing your luck
  - Making mountains out of molehills
  - Running around in circles
  - Opening a can of worms
  - Starting the ball rolling
  - Jumping on the bandwagon
  - Picking up the pieces
  - Going over the edge
- borrowed and adapted from Dear Abby.*

S I N G I N G   A N D   P R A Y E R  
S E R V I C E   A T   6 : 0 0 P . M .

## CARMICHAEL CHURCH OF CHRIST

### Times Of Services

#### SUNDAY:

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| Classes     | 9:00 AM |
| Worship     | 9:55 AM |
| Eve Worship | 6:00 PM |

#### WEDNESDAY:

|         |         |
|---------|---------|
| Classes | 7:00 PM |
|---------|---------|

The elders urgently request every member to attend every service of the Church –

1. For the good you can get from the studies and your association with godly people
2. But especially, for the encouragement you can give to the other members.

### CHURCH SIGNS MIGHT READ....

- "Under same management for over 2000 years"
- "Soul food served here"
- "You can give without loving but you cannot love without giving!"
- "Beat the Christmas rush, come to church this Sunday!"
- "Don't give up. Moses was once a basket case!"
- "Come early for a good Back-seat"
- "Seven days without prayer makes one weak"
- "No Jesus - no peace, Know Jesus - know peace!"
- "Worry is interest paid on trouble before it is due"
- "A man's character is like a fence. It cannot be strengthened by white-wash"
- "Wal-Mart isn't the only saving place!"
- "Delay is preferable to error"
- "Prevent truth decay. Brush up on your Bible"
- "What part of "THOU SHALT NOT" don't you understand?"
- "A clear conscience makes a soft pillow"

## **"CHRIST AND THE CHURCH"**

It is not uncommon today to hear people devalue the church. Some say in effect, "Christ, yes; the church, no." While some profess they love Jesus, desiring even to follow Him, they have little use for "the church."

The Scriptures, however, are clear: **One cannot have the church without Christ, and one cannot have Christ without the church.**

The church was God's idea, God's plan. It is not man-made. In fact, observe the close relationship between Christ and the church. **Christ is the head of the church** (Ephesians 5:22-23a); He is the complete voice of authority. **Christ is the Founder of the church.** Christ said to Peter, "On this rock [the confession that Jesus Christ is the Son of God], I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18). **Christ is the foundation of the church.** No building or institution can be stronger than the foundation on which it rests. And for the church, "no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:11). **Christ is the Savior of the body, which is the church:** "For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body" (Ephesians 5:23).

Indeed, as has often been noted by some in an attempt to minimize the church; **"the church doesn't save anyone."** However, **Christ saves the church!** In fact, the church is composed of the saved (Acts 2:47). **Christ loved the church and gave himself for it** (Ephesians 5:25). We usually judge the value of something by the price we pay for it. For what price was the church purchased? **Christ purchased the church with His own blood** (Acts 20:28).

**One cannot separate Christ from His church.** A low estimation of the church may be due to a lack of understanding of what the church truly is, as taught in the Bible. There is also a misconception of what the church is all about.

One of the most simplistic, yet one of the most beautiful images of the church in Scripture is that of the **family of God**. As such, the church is designed to be a place of loving encouragement (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Hebrews 3:13) to those who are seeking to follow Christ. Also, it is God's desire for His family, the church, to grow and grow. God wants His family to share the good news about Jesus Christ, as Jesus instructed His disciples: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen" (Matthew 28:19-20 NKJV).

**How does one become a member of God's family, the church?**

To those who were convicted of their sin and believed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, Peter said, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). "Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them" (Acts 2:41). "And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47).

**Only the Lord can add one to His church when one obeys the Gospel as Peter and the apostles presented it.**

**Has the Lord added you to His church?**  
May God bless you abundantly.

**David A. Sargent**, Minister  
Mobile, Alabama 36695

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Quotes

He who waits to do a great deal of good at once, will never do anything.

--Samuel Johnson

"Quitters" in the church are like motors: they start "sputtering" before they miss, and start "missing" before they quit.