

The AND Staff

"Preach the Word!" (II Timothy 4:2)

•

"Feed the Flock!" (I Peter 5:2)

Are You a Part of the SILENT MAJORITY or the VOCAL MINORITY?

◆ By GARY J. FLOM ◆
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IT HAS ALWAYS been the vocal minority that has gotten things done. It was the vocal minority that "turned the world upside down" in the first century. In America it was the vocal minority that had prayers removed from the public schools. It always will be the vocal minority that will get anything accomplished whether it is good or bad, for the silent majority don't want to be bothered or they don't want to get involved. The silent majority, by their attitude, are followers and not leaders.

Jesus spoke of the majority and the minority in Matthew 7:13, 14, when he spoke of two ways. He said the majority enter in at the wide gate and travel the broad way to their own destruction. While the minority SEEK out the narrow gate and enter there and travel the straitened (narrow) way that leads to life. The majority of the human race in every generation has traveled down the wide road to destruction. The silent majority who were ashamed to confess Christ before men! The silent majority who in

the time of trial, did not take a stand for the right, but chose not to become involved!

The minority who seek out the narrow way and find it are willing to confess their faith in Christ, willing to sacrifice, to stand against opposition, to speak out for Christ. The vocal minority will speak out and defend the Bible in the school classroom, while the silent majority with tight lips are afraid to speak out. By their silence they are giving consent to what is being taught. The vocal minority will speak out against the evils of our day whenever and wherever he has a chance, while the silent majority sits home and complains about the way things are going.

In the church today there is also the vocal few and the silent many. There are those who actively witness and teach their friends and neighbors the gospel of Christ, and there are those who become a "mummy" when they walk out of the church building into the lost world. Which group are you with, the vocal minority or the



silent majority?

VOCALIZATION REQUIRES CONVICTIONS.

No person is willing to take a stand if he is not thoroughly convinced of the foundation he is standing on. "I think," or "I hope" is insufficient to unseal our lips. We must "know" and be "persuaded" that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation. A person with strong convictions can not remain silent.

There are a number of convictions that we need to unseal our lips. The first is the conviction that the world is lost until they obey Jesus Christ. There are no exceptions to this. Some dear old grandmother or uncle who really lives a good life but has never obeyed Christ is as lost as the alcoholic. We need to see people as God sees them, that is, lost, condemned

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Proverbs of Today

As Christians we have a responsibility to increase our knowledge, and as we increase our knowledge our responsibility is increased.

"That laughter costs too much which is purchased by the sacrifice of decency"

When we give fair treatment, we are more likely to receive fairness in return.

"Fear is the darkroom where negatives are developed — negatives offset positive action."

Some preachers try to cloak their compromise in "love" and "scholarship."

"Beware of your spiritual condition when the most pleasing part of the service is the closing song and dismissal."

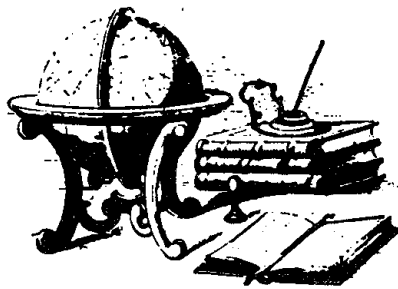
When it comes to witnessing for Christ, too many of us are like the Arctic River — frozen at the mouth.

"Many of us grumble because we are temporarily deprived of blessings our forefathers never heard of."

When family ties, friendship ties, and worldly ties are stronger than ties in the Lord, it ties a lot of knots in the Lord's work.

"When one becomes a Christian, he takes up infinitely more than he gives up."

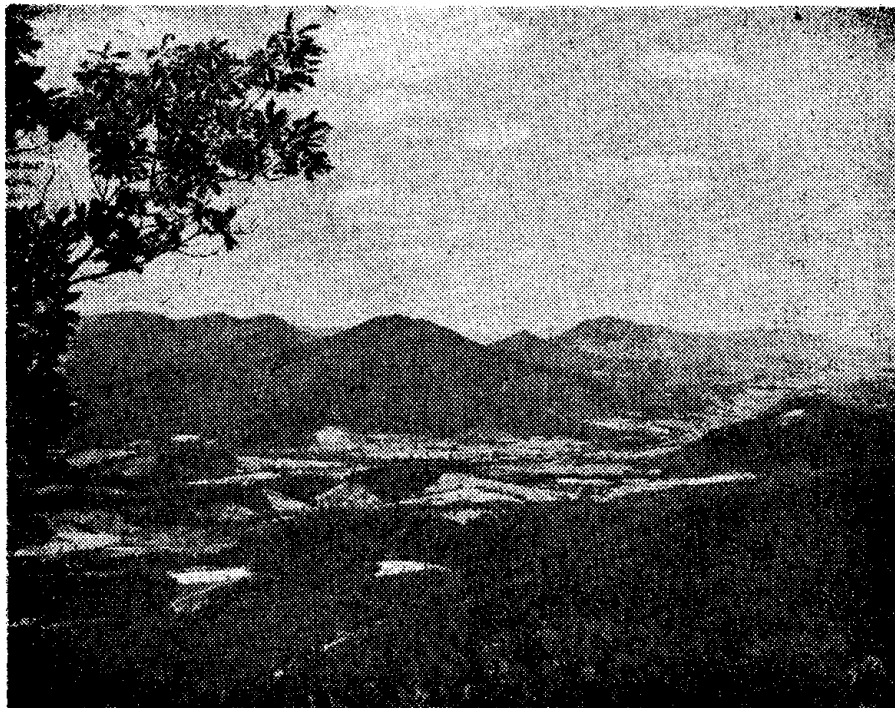
Faith without works is dead, but works without faith and love are also dead.



EDITORIAL

COMMENTS...

MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW!!!



MAKE DEFINITE PLANS NOW to attend our gospel camp gathering (for the whole family) in the beautiful Blue Ridge mountain area near Mt. Airy, North Carolina. This will be a wonderful time for you to take your vacation in a Christian atmosphere with others who love the Lord. There will be plenty of challenging preaching by several preachers, classes for all ages, and free time for relaxation and recreation.

The camp gathering will be held the week before July 4th (1971). Our plans call for the camp to start Monday evening, June 28th, and close on Friday at noon, July 2nd. This will give time for those who travel from distant states to leave and to get back on the Lord's day.

We will have sleeping quarters for a considerable number, and there are plenty of trailer or camper hookups on the wooded camp grounds. Meals will be served.

Additional information will be printed later in **THE SWORD AND STAFF**. A brochure will be printed with details for those interested in coming.

Please make plans **NOW** to come. You'll be glad you did. Let us hear from you. Camp cost will be kept as low as possible.

TIME TO RENEW

It is time for many who receive this paper to renew their subscription. Please do this (no notice will be sent). Thank you.

“YOU’RE BETTER THAN ME...”

• By MARK McDOWELL
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PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11: *Is there any such thing as Christians cheering each other up? Do you love me enough to want to help me? Does it mean anything to you that we are brothers in the Lord, sharing the same Spirit? Are your hearts tender and sympathetic at all? Then make me truly happy by loving each other and agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, working together with one heart and mind and purpose. Don't be selfish; don't live to make a good impression on others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself. Don't just think about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and in what they are doing. Your attitude should be the kind that was shown us by Jesus Christ, who, though He was God, did not demand and cling to His rights as God, but laid aside His mighty power and glory, taking the disguise of a slave and becoming like men. And He humbled Himself even further, going so far as actually to die a criminal's death on a cross. Yet it was because of this that God raised Him up to the heights of heaven and gave Him a name which is above every other name, that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow in heaven and on earth, and under the earth, and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

—THE LIVING NEW TESTAMENT

WHILE THE TITLE of this message would cause English teachers to shudder, it still expresses Paul's message to the Philippian church. Every church is made up of people and people have always seemed to have problems—especially with one another. In this passage are some statements which, if followed (even today), will lead a congregation to UNITY—and a church must be united to be successful! Oh, I realize that in this world exist hard-to-get-along-with people, and that there are even hard-to-get-along-with Christians. But Christians make congregations; and congregations make the total church in the world; and without unity the church can never reach its goal or accomplish its purpose. Whether it be calling, or serving, or singing, or teaching, or soul-winning (our main goal)—none of these can be done successfully if the church is divided.

We worry about the large number of souls who once knew the truth, but are faithful no longer... or the ones who need to be taught, but refuse to listen. But the key, the answer, to those problems is just one word—UNITY! When a church is united and growing as it should, you don't hear of souls leaving the church, or ceasing to meet with the church, or being bitter against the church. When a congregation is truly united, you don't find any small, petty quarrels, or strained relationships, or hurt feelings. Why? Because the church is pulling together—

the people have their eyes set on one common ideal: Jesus Christ! Paul told the church in Philippians 2:21: "For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's."

We hear the cry of "Unity!" from every hand in the religious world today, but they do not speak of unity within the church. There is only one church that has the true basis for unity—and that is they who use the Scriptures as their exact guide in all matters. You can only find Bible unity in the church which is built upon the God-given book, the Bible. Perhaps you wonder just how there can be unity IN the congregation where you attend. Here's how.

I. BE OF ONE MIND (Philippians 2:2).

That's the first commandment of unity. Perhaps you've seen pictures of rowing crews as they raced in Ivy League competition. In the front of the boat sits the coxswain. At the oars are eight men, and they must row together at precisely the same instant in order to attain the utmost power and speed. The coxswain calls out the tempo and they try to respond exactly to his directions; they slow down or speed up as he wishes. They strive for perfect harmony; they try to pull together; they listen to only one voice; their eyes are fixed upon that one man as they race. They all have the same mind.

I'm sure that Paul had such unity in mind when he tells the church to "be of one mind." If the members of Christ's church would strive for perfect harmony, try to pull together, listen only to His voice, and fix their eyes upon Him, wouldn't the church be united?

But what would happen to Yale's crew if each man decided to call his own cadence and row at his own tempo? What if each man looked in a different direction? There would be a loss of power, a jerky-jerky motion, and a distinct lack of harmony! When men row together, a boat seems to leap through the water. But if the coxswain is missing or ignored, the strongest man cannot make the boat respond.

The church will not respond either, when the members are not pulling together. When members have "different minds," when their thoughts are on the things of this world instead of the things of Christ, UNITY is an impossibility! Paul urged the Philippian church in 1:27 to "stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel..." Peter added in 1 Peter 3:8: "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another..."

II. EVERY MEMBER is BETTER THAN You (Philippians 2:3).

The second commandment of unity—every member is better than you. It's the price tag of unity...that we count the other fellow better than ourselves. Satan, when asked by God about Job, said: "Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life." And Paul wrote in Ephesians 5:29: "For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church." We love ourselves—but the price tag of unity is counting the other man better.

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ARE YOU A PART OF...

(Continued from Page 1)

to a burning hell unless they obey the gospel of Christ. God is no respecter of persons, the rich and the poor, the morally good and the morally corrupt alike must obey the gospel or they are lost. If the morally good can be saved without Christ then Christ died in vain. Build the conviction that all the world is lost and you will see the need of becoming vocal.

We need the conviction that life is really short, that we don't have "all the time in the world" to help the lost. The Bible from cover to cover pictures life as a vapor, a shadow, or a flower in bloom that is here for a little while then gone. If we are young we need to see that the young die also, and if we are old we must see the brevity of life. Time is short! Jesus is coming! We know not when, maybe today, maybe tomorrow. Work for the night is coming when no man can work.

We need the conviction that God has prepared a heaven for the faithful and a hell for the wicked. No one will work, sweat and toil for an imaginary reward. And no one in their right mind would become excited and shout to warn people about an imaginary fire. Unless there is a strong conviction concerning the eternal life of the saint and the sinner, we are not going to get excited about speaking out for Christ.

THROW AWAY YOUR EXCUSES

Have you ever seen a huge elephant chained to a stake in the ground? Though this elephant is strong enough to pick up a ton load or more, yet he is held fast by a little stake driven in the ground with a chain around it and his leg. When the elephant was young and weak, he was tied to an iron stake, and no matter how hard he tried he could not break the chain or move the stake. As he grew larger and stronger, he continued to believe that as long as the chain was fastened to his leg and to the stake he couldn't move. So he didn't try. He stood a captive of his own thoughts.

Many people are like the elephant. They are restrained by their own thoughts. They have told themselves for years, "I don't know enough," and so they stand chained to their own stake. This may have been true

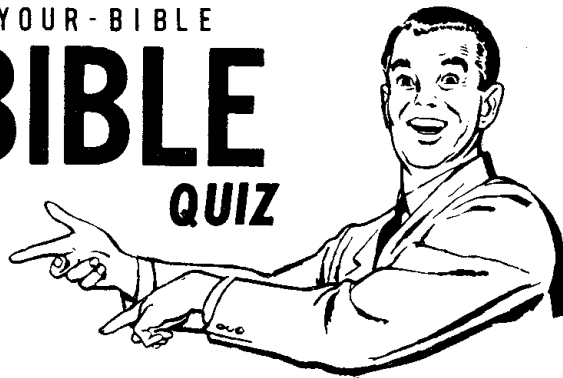
at one time but "by reason of the time ye ought to be teachers" (Hebrews 5:12). I have even heard some preachers say, "This is a difficult area. People here are not interested in Christ." Frankly, I have not found an area where this is not true, but this thought must not become our self-imposed chain and stake that keeps us from speaking out for Christ and teaching some. There are some Christians who have imposed the restriction upon themselves that some religions can not be won to Christ. When asked to talk to their neighbor about Christ, they reply, "He's a Catholic." As if that ends the matter. No sense in even talking to him. These can and must be seen as mere excuses. We have seen three Catholics become Christians here in

Loveland in the last six months.

What is your excuse? What is your chain and stake that are holding you back from becoming vocal for Christ? See them as mere excuses and leave the silent majority and become a part of the vocal minority. Remember the words of Christ in Matthew 10:32,33, "Everyone therefore who shall confess me before men, him will I also confess before my Father who is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father who is in heaven." Don't "deny" the Lord by your silence. Speak out for Christ, vocalize, let the world know that you believe. Let them know what God wants them to do. □

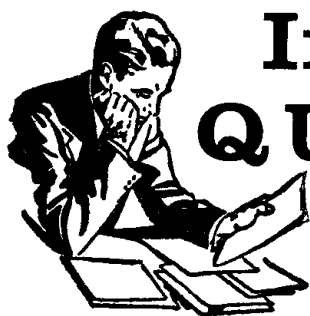
KNOW-YOUR-BIBLE

BIBLE QUIZ



1. How is the manna that God provided for the children of Israel to eat described in the Scriptures?
2. What city was located between mount Ebal and mount Gerizim?
3. Who said, "Choose you this day whom ye will serve... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord"?
4. "Wine is a, strong drink is: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not"
5. Who had the Holy Spirit without measure?
6. Bethany was the hometown of what friends of Jesus?
7. What one exception does the New Testament give whereby a person may be divorced and remarry without committing adultery?
8. What was the name of the man who replaced Judas as an apostle?
9. According to Paul, flesh and blood cannot inherit what?
10. What man and his wife are mentioned twice in the New Testament Scriptures as having a church in their house?

(Answers found elsewhere in this issue)



Inquirer's QUESTIONS Answered

• By James E. Gibbons

A SINCERE and conscientious reader in a distant state has sent some rather searching and relevant questions pertaining to religious related matters. Let us now present them, then afterwards give our answers, which, we trust, will be of some help.

(1) "Was not Adam made first and then his wife, making her younger than he? Yet we see our young men that are to be the leaders of God's work, being taken in by older girls. I know it is harder for a woman to be in subjection to a younger man. The man being older makes him feel more manly. Not one reference or example in the Scriptures where a man had a wife older than himself."

(2) "Do the Scriptures say men (boys) are to have short hair—in the back—but it can hang over their eyes in front?"

(3) "Is modest apparel just for the older women and maybe a few younger ones, or is it okay for some to show their thighs and get by with it? Where is church discipline?"

(4) "Do the Scriptures say it's okay to ordain younger men as elders and then hope they will qualify themselves as they grow older? Can they get by Scripturally with just two baptized, believing children, regardless as to how the other one, two or three may turn out?"

(5) Is it "okay for young boys to fill the position of deacons and ignore the qualifications?"

(6) "Is it correct for a preacher to discuss personal problems with other preachers when you went to them in strictest confidence, only to find out later that several preachers and congregations know all about it? Can't we trust our preachers to not gossip? We are not supposed to."

(7) "Can an elder truthfully do the work of an elder when not Scripturally qualified as an elder? Can his

teaching, exhorting and overseeing have the expected results if his life is not in harmony with the Scriptures?"

Then our reader and inquirer says, "I am indeed concerned as our younger folk, the leaders of tomorrow, will get the idea it doesn't really matter whether or not we adhere to the Truth, but can change things to suit our wants and desires. We must keep them from becoming another denomination. We must show them the Truth as well as teach it."

1. Question concerning the wife being older than the husband.

What you say concerning the wife being younger than the husband is no doubt good from a practical viewpoint, as you stated, but the problem you mentioned wouldn't necessarily always have to occur. However, as far as the Scriptures teaching that the husband must be older than the wife, we haven't been able to verify it. Therefore, we must leave this in the realm of opinion and practical wisdom (but not Scriptural teaching).

If we take the days of creation as literal days, which we are disposed to do, then Eve was created on the same day that her husband appeared. Yes, she was created after Adam, but what is a few hours in determining one's age? She was, for all practical purposes, the same age of her husband.

You said there is "not one reference or example in the Scriptures where a man had a wife older than himself." We are not so sure about that. The Jews had a custom (which was divinely recognized) that when a brother died, leaving a widow with no children, the next unmarried brother was to marry the widow. The firstborn from this marriage "which she beareth shall succeed in the name of his brother which is dead, that his name be not put out of Isra-

el" (Deut. 25:5-10). In Genesis 38:6-11 we have the record of a brother marrying the widow, but not wanting to have children in the name of his brother. The Lord "slew him." "Then said Judah to Tamar his daughter in law, Remain a widow at thy father's house, till Shelah my son be grown..." (38:11). This next son was so young that he had to wait until he grew up to marry his deceased brothers' (two of them now) widow. When the two sons of the widow Naomi died, and she was about to return to her homeland, she said to Ruth and Orpah (the widows of her deceased sons), who were ready to accompany her, "Turn again, my daughters: why will ye go with me? are there yet any more sons in my womb, that they may be your husbands? Turn again, my daughters, go your way; for I am too old to have an husband. If I should say, I have hope, if I should have an husband also tonight, and should also bear sons; Would ye tarry for them till they were grown?..." (Ruth 1:11-13). Having reference to this custom, the Sadducees spoke to Jesus of a woman widowed seven times, each time marrying another brother (Matt. 22:23-28).

This custom is not part of the religion of the New Testament, nor does the New Testament say anything one way or the other about the age relationships of those who enter into marriage. It is a matter of human opinion, and all we can do is give our advice based on human experience and practical considerations.

2. Question concerning men having long hair.

Yes, we believe the Bible teaches that a man should not have long hair. Paul wrote, "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?"

What is involved here? Why does it seem, even from a natural point-of-view, that it is a shame for a man to have long hair? Obviously having long hair tends to make the man appear effeminate. This is in the direction of homosexuality.

Just how long a man must let his hair grow before it becomes a shame, we are not prepared to say in this writing. You can pretty well tell by looking. Regardless, the Christian should stand as a stalwart independent in society, and not always be just

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INQUIRER'S QUESTIONS...

(Continued from Page 5)

a copycat of everything the world does (even in matters indifferent). However, we are inclined to believe that short hair in ancient times would not necessarily have to be as short as we can easily get our's cut today. Their cutting instruments were crude, and thus not as efficient as our's.

As far as the hair being short in back and long in front, we are not prepared to say whether such falls under Paul's label of shame or not. We do believe the definite shame is in looking like the girls (also the wearing of effeminate looking clothes by men).

(NOTE: The artists' conception of Jesus and the other Biblical characters having such long hair is not Bible-based).

3. Question concerning modest apparel.

The New Testament instructs all Christian women to "adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety" (I Timothy 2:9). There are no exceptions to the "rule." Several factors are involved in modesty. A modest woman does not put herself on display in extravagant clothes as well as a lack of clothes. She manifests "shamefacedness" (just the opposite of being enticing and alluring in appearance—the whole theory behind modern "makeup").

Jesus said, "That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matthew 5:28). Mark that down, kind reader, to have sexual desire for a woman (outside of the bounds of marriage) is labeled by our Lord as "ADULTERY." Adultery will send a man's soul to hell, and so will dressing immodestly on the part of woman. Let's stop fooling ourselves. The part of a woman's legs above her knees is sex-related and stimulating to the sight of men. The ungodly fashion designers know this. Men know it (and enjoy it). And we believe most women know it—especially the worldly ones. It is a shame that some professing Christian women don't know it. They don't have the discretion or good judgment to know that their dresses need to be at least to their knees if they are to appear modest when they sit down. Our shame today is that there is no sense of shame.

"Where is church discipline?" We would hope that teaching and preaching would touch the sincere hearts, and that all professing Christians would comply to what the New Testament teaches on modesty.

4. Question concerning qualified elders.

The New Testament does not allow ordaining unqualified men as elders. It says "must" in I Timothy 3. See our May-June issue for a more involved answer to this.

5. Question concerning boys being deacons.

Obviously the answer is "no." The qualifications for deacons are presented in I Timothy 3 also.

6. Question concerning confidential matters related to preachers.

Your grievance is justified. We have had the same thoughts as you about the matter. At times (we don't recall the particulars) we have heard preachers speak and felt that their illustrations were too personal. What they said should have been held in confidence. More respect should have been shown to other brothers in Christ. It made us wonder if we would become an illustration used elsewhere. Gossip is a sin for all Christians (needless to say).

7. Question concerning unqualified elders functioning effectively.

If a professed elder's life is not right, if he does not qualify, certainly he can't do justice to the work, regardless how much personal ability he may have. Elders are to be "examples" to the flock (I Peter 5:3). The church is charged to follow the example of their faith and manner of living (Hebrews 13:7). (The preacher who ordains a man unqualified to be an elder is a partaker in his shortcomings, I Timothy 5:22).

Inside or Outside ?

INSCRIBED on the gray walls of an English prison are the fitting words: "Cease to do evil; learn to do well."

Obvious words of wisdom; there is only one problem. The inscription is outside the wall, the prisoners inside!

Just the opposite situation exists in the Church today. We have a great message within our fellowship, the

good news of the Gospel. But we need to get the message outside the walls of our church buildings.

We can talk about, preach about, study about, and pray about soul winning within our church buildings. But this can never take the place of personal contact with unsaved people.

When we witness, it is important that we be spiritually right. It is just as important that we be physically right in contact with the unsaved where they are.

This requires knocking on doors and speaking face to face with unsaved friends as we witness.

The sign on the prison had no effect on the prisoners, for they never saw it. The great Gospel message within the church buildings will have no effect on those outside if they never hear it. —Selected—

SIGNS OF SPIRITUAL DECLINE

1. When you dislike religious conversation, or the company of Christians.
2. When you stay away from church by your own willful choice.
3. When you worry more about a clean conscience than a clean heart.
4. When you are more afraid of being overstrict, than of honoring Jesus.
5. When you trifle with temptation or think lightly of sin.
6. When you condemn in others that which you tolerate in yourself.
7. When you are impatient and unforgiving toward others.
8. When you confess, but don't forsake sin; acknowledge, but neglect duty.
9. When you shrink from self-examination.
10. When you "strain at the gnat, and swallow the camel."

—SELECTED

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“YOU’RE BETTER THAN ME...”

(Continued from Page 3)

Honestly now, can you say that is the way you think or have always thought? But can’t you see, too, that if we all thought each other to be better than ourselves, how it would make for unity in the church? Then too, can’t you see how attracted outsiders would be to a congregation that thought each member better than themselves? Can’t you see how quarrels would be eliminated if each man thought himself least? Can’t you see how there could be no hurt feelings if you considered every member better than you? Can’t you see how homes would be happy—much happier than they are—if all thought of others first? Can’t you see how your community would be changed if the church of Christ only obeyed this verse? How that souls would be restored to the church? How that backsliders would return and give their lives back to Christ? How that there would be new conversions constantly? Can you see it?

It costs. Sure, it does. It’s the pricetag of unity—to feel that each member is better than you and then act that way!

III. TAKE CARE OF ONE ANOTHER (Philippians 2:4).

Look to the interests of others is the third commandment of unity. This isn’t permission to be a busybody,

DEDICATED TO NATIONS THAT MAKE WAR

*Give us your sons,
Your young and tender ones—
Yes, young and tender from their mothers’ womb;
Now strong and eager in adulthood come.*

*Give us your sons,
Your idealistic ones—
To whom you taught respect and love for others;
Ones innocent and beloved to their mothers.*

*Give us your sons,
They are the wanted ones—
We will take them, remake, recreate them
For our designs are doomed to fail without them.*

*Give us your sons,
Behold what they become—
Ego, and values gentle and restrained—
They must be crushed and brutalized and changed.*

*Give us your sons,
And we’ll give them guns—
Let us turn them into a tool of death
To kill, heartless and cold—to life but laugh.*

*Give us your sons
Until our aims are won—
To slay embodied souls in bloodiness
To send them out to God without redress.*

*Give us your sons,
Your young and tender ones—
To kill, to die, that death may have its prey;
The old are not enough—the young must pay!*

By A. BROTHER

but it does include helping a sliding brother. It is as if we were all mountain climbers tied together by a common bond as we climb toward heaven. And as a single brother begins to slip back or slide to the bottom, it is our duty and a necessity to help him in any way we can. Too often we sit by and watch as a man begins missing services, or begins to show a rebellious attitude, or starts rejecting Christ and His church. And all the while we’re murmuring to ourselves: “It’s a shame; what a pity; it’s sure too bad; but really it’s none of my business!”

That’s where you’re wrong! It is your business! If you were scaling a sheer mountain side and a man tied to you began to slip, you’d think: “Wait! This involves me, too!” We do need to concern ourselves with those who backslide.

Perhaps there would be many more souls in the church today, and a lot less living in the world, if we had only realized it was our duty and privilege to show enough concern to help restore a sliding brother. Paul commanded in Galatians 6:1,2: “Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted; bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” And James recorded in James 5:19,20: “Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth and one convert him; let him know that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way, shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.” Can’t you imagine, in the Jerusalem church, of which James was a part, when perhaps a new convert began neglecting the assembly or renewing worldly ties, no doubt some older, stronger brother came to him in love and talked with him or encouraged him or showed him just how important church attendance was to his spiritual growth...and he was restored!

Yet there is one fact above all that should keep the church united: THE CHURCH IS CHRIST’S BODY. Paul told the Corinthian church of the importance of every member in I Corinthians 12:12-27, especially verses 25 and 26: “That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.”

Perhaps you’ve been reading and agreeing, but you’re saying: “That’s all fine, and it sounds good, but just how far can you go with this?”

How far should we go with this “unity” business anyway? Being of one mind, esteeming every member better than yourself, and taking care of one another...that’s fine and it sounds good, but really, just how far should we go?

If you’ll read Philippians 2:5-11, you’ll find that Paul told us just exactly how far to go! Go just as far as as Christ did. Jesus was equal with the Father in heaven, but he was willing to come to earth and live among us as a servant and then die a criminal’s death on the cross. When you begin to take it this far...when you

(Continued on Next Page)

“YOU’RE BETTER THAN ME...”

(Continued from Page 7)

begin to put others’ interests that far ahead of your own, you need go no farther! That’s how far we should go!

Is it asking too much for the church to “be of one mind?” Is it too much to expect you to “esteem another better than yourself”? Or is it too great a demand that you “look to the things of others”? Is it beneath your dignity to be humble, to serve?

Then, friend, you need to take another longer look at Jesus Christ, your Saviour! Jesus suffered the greatest of blows to a man’s dignity in leaving heaven to come to earth to be a humble servant—even succumbing to death between thieves, the death of crucifixion. He has asked you to “take my yoke upon you, and learn of me for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls...” “Have this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.” □

THE BLESSED SAVIOR

*He came, the blessed Savior,
God’s only, precious Son,
The long looked for Messiah,
The holy, promised One.*

*He died, the blessed Savior,
And as a Lamb was slain,
But in His death He purchased
A people for His Name.*

*God raised the blessed Savior,
And now He liveth still,
And intercedes in heaven
For all who do His will.*

*He’ll come, the blessed Savior,
To gather all His own
To be with Him forever
In His eternal home.*

*Will He, the blessed Savior,
Return for you and me?
O how we need obey Him,
That it will surely be.*

*By DALE VICTOR KNOWLES
1609 Huasna Drive
San Luis Obispo, Calif. 93491*

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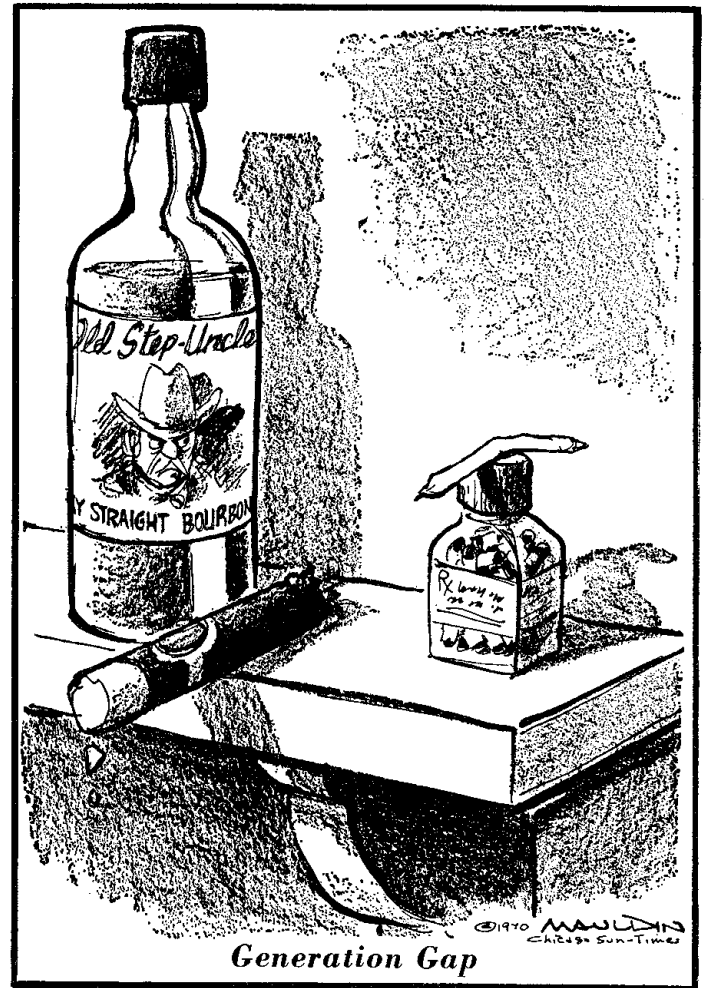
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ANSWERS TO “KNOW-YOUR-BIBLE” BIBLE QUIZ

1. Exodus 16:31; Numbers 11:7,8; 2. Shechem; 3. Joshua 24:15; 4. Proverbs 20:1; 5. Jesus—John 3:34; 6. John 11:1-3; 7. Matthew 19:9; 8. Acts 1:21-26; 9. I Cor. 15:50; 10. Romans 16:3-5; I Cor. 16:19.

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