

The Sabbath Recorder

Accessions

DODGE CENTER, MINN.

By Baptism:

Diann Bartz Greene

WASHINGTON, D. C.

By Letter:

Earl Hibbard

Dianne (Mrs. Earl) Hibbard

Rev. Delmer E. Van Horn

Rowena (Mrs. Delmer) Van Horn

Darwin Van Horn

Robert Van Horn

By Baptism:

Donald Chroniger

Charles T. Brissey, Jr.

WHITE CLOUD, MICH.

By Baptism:

Lucy Simpson Mosher

Births

Butts—To Dale and Linda Spaine Butts of Alfred, N. Y., a daughter, Angeline Linda, on Jan. 31, 1967.

Clapper.—A daughter (by adoption) six-week-old Heidi Marie to Mr. and Mrs. Barry Clapper of Mankato, Minn.

Dare.—A son, Raymond Everest, Dec. 12, 1966, to Raymond and Donna (Branch) Dare, Jr., R.D. 3, Bridgeton, N. J.

Davis.—A son (by adoption), Jerry Ray, Sept. 1, 1966, to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Davis of Chehalis, Wash.

Moncrief.—A son, William Everest, Sept. 27, 1966, to Lorenzo and Leanore (Davis) Moncrief of Shiloh, N. J.

Schrier.—A daughter, Elizabeth Ann on Sept. 12, 1966, to Helen (Wilde) and Warren Schrier of Salem, N. J.

Marriages

Camenga-Van Horn.—John H. Camenga, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Camenga, Beaver Dam, Wis., and Linda R. Van Horn, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Delmer E. Van Horn, Laurel, Md., were united in marriage in the Adams Center Seventh Day Baptist Church, Sept. 3, 1966, by the bride's father.

Flaherty-Cagwin.—George Flaherty, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Flaherty of Adams, N. Y., and Margaret Ann Cagwin, daughter of Mr. Elden Cagwin, Adams, N. Y., and Mrs. Margaret Cagwin, Watertown, N. Y., were married May 14, 1966, in the Adams Center Seventh Day Baptist Church by the Rev. Delmer Van Horn, pastor of the bride.

Fogg-Peterson.—Karen Peterson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Peterson, Bridgeton, N. J., and Peter Fogg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fogg, Canton, N. J., were united in marriage in the Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist Church, Nov. 26, 1966, by the Rev. John Carmon of Newport Baptist Church (brother-in-law of the groom).

Greene-Downs.—Arden Greene, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Greene, Adams Center, N. Y., and Linda Downs, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Downs, Adams Center, N. Y., were united in marriage in the Adams Center Baptist Church by the bride's pastor, the Rev. Floyd C. Wilder. The pastor of the groom assisted in the wedding ceremony.

Zifers-Jaros.—Gus Paul Zifers son of Mrs. Isaac Cramer and the late Paul Zifers of Lanham, Md., and Roberta DeMaria Jaros, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Caporale, No. Plainfield, N. J., were united in marriage in the Chapel used by the Washington Seventh Day Baptist Church, Dec. 4, 1966, by the Rev. Delmer Van Horn.

Obituaries

AYARS.—Albert C., son of Edo and Laura Sheppard Ayars was born at Greenwich, N. J., Mar. 12, 1897, and died Dec. 8, 1966.

He lived all of his life in the vicinity of the Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist Church, of which he was a faithful member, joining by baptism in 1915. On July 31, 1918, he married Lavina Monroe, who preceded him in death.

Mr. Ayars is survived by: his children, Rose (Mrs. Norman) Davis of Bridgeton, Sophie (Mrs. Paul) Amaranto of Bridgeton, Fred of Lansdale, Pa., Herbert (U. S. Army), and Howard of Cincinnati, O.; brothers and sisters: Milton of Pennsgrove, N. J., Elwood, Lewis, Francis, Edna Wildermuth, Julia Gandy, Myrtle Penton, Laura Garrison, and Lona Mick, all of the Bridgeton area; 15 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren.

Farewell services were conducted by the neighboring pastor, the Rev. Charles Bond in the Marlboro church with burial in the church cemetery. —Mrs. Paul Lewis, church clerk.



Jesus Christ
Is Lord!

THE SABBATH RECORDER

First issue June 13, 1844

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Member of the Associated Church Press

REV. LELAND E. DAVIS, Editor

Rev. LEON M. MALTBY, Managing Editor

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Presenting
the Editor
of this
Special Issue
Leland Davis

Leland Eugene Davis has served in the gospel ministry for the Seventh Day Baptist denomination abroad as well as here in the United States. He labored four and one-half years as a missionary in Guyana, South America, returning to the United States in July, 1966. He was an active pastor for five years in Boulder, Colo., and served the church in Battle Creek, Mich., for seven and one-half years.

After returning from Guyana, S. A., he took up the pastorate at Schenectady, N. Y. His wife, Gertrude, has faithfully served by his side in Bible Schools, Sabbath Schools, church camps, Christian Endeavor, and in many other ways. They have two sons and one daughter, Mary Sue. Their elder son, Kenneth, is a sophomore at Bob Jones University, and Ronald is a sophomore at Salem College, Salem, W. Va. Several members of the family assisted the guest editor in his work. Two young men of Guyana, trained in Christian work by Mr. Davis, contributed articles which were edited by the Rev. Leroy Bass, successor to Mr. Davis as supervisor of the Seventh Day Baptist mission in that country.

This issue of the **Sabbath Recorder** is offered to you in hopes that you will make Christ the supreme Lord of your daily life and faithfully serve Him wherever you live.



Jesus Christ Is Lord!

Jesus Christ is Lord! His Lordship is proven by His glorious resurrection. The Bible clearly points out, "This Jesus God raised up." It says, "God made that same Jesus whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ." Again it says, "Him hath God exalted . . ." He lives in heaven, and by faith He wants to live also in our hearts. When we give ourselves to Him as Lord, He gives Himself to us. He comes to us and abides with us.

In his letter to the Christian Church at Philippi, St. Paul wrote that "every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Then Paul emphatically added the application to the truth of Christ's Lordship over us. He said, "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure" (Phil. 2: 11-13).

The Lordship of Christ assures us of all the love and help we need in our daily lives. He wants to be our all in all! Dominion of the world has been put in His hand. "All power is given unto me," He exclaimed, "in heaven and in earth." Only those who trust and obey Him are promised His divine presence. "Go," He said, ". . . and, lo, I am with you. . . ." It is His presence that gives us His power. Apart from Him we can do nothing.

As Lord of the universe, God has put life within Christ's hand. "For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself" (Jn. 5: 26). To have eternal life we must believe on Christ as our personal Savior from sin and acknowledge Him as the Lord over life and death. We must come to Him in true repentance and faith. "Search the scriptures," Christ said, "for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and

they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life" (Jn. 5: 39-40). "Him that cometh to me," He said, "I will in no wise cast out."

The authority to execute judgment has also been given by God to His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: that all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father" (Jn. 5: 22-23). Unless we now acknowledge Christ as our smiling Savior, then one day we will face Him as our frowning Judge. "For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Rom. 14: 11-12).

God has raised up His Son, our Lord. He will also raise us up by His own power (1 Cor. 6: 14). If we do not hear His loving voice now, we will hear his judgmental voice hereafter (Jn. 5: 28). His judgment will be just, because He will not seek His own will but the will of the Father (Jn. 5: 30). None shall escape the resurrection; all must stand before Christ. "For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living" (Rom. 14: 9).

Do not delay! Prepare **now** to meet Christ when He comes again. Daily confess your sin and turn away from it that God may cleanse your heart. "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." Come now to Christ that you may not only be forgiven and cleansed of all your sin but given the wonderful assurance of everlasting life. Then out of love obey His voice; put into practice what His Word teaches you. Jesus Christ is Lord!

Jesus Christ Is Lord of the Church

Her message and mission must always center in the redeeming work of the crucified, risen Lord.

We often sing with enthusiasm the hymn, "The Church's One Foundation."

"The church's one foundation

Is Jesus Christ her Lord;

She is His new creation,

By water and the word:

From heaven He came and sought her

To be His holy bride;

With His own blood He bought her,

And for her life He died."

When we say, "Jesus Christ is Lord," what is implied? Webster defines the term "lord" as "a person . . . that has the power; owner, ruler, or master." Apply these thoughts to the relationship between Jesus Christ and the Church.

The Church belongs to Jesus Christ; He is owner. Jesus said, in reply to Peter's confession that Jesus was the Christ, ". . . and upon this rock I will build my church" (Mat. 16:18). The Apostle Paul wrote, "And he is the head of the body, the church . . ." (Col. 1:18a). Since Jesus Christ brought the Church into being and is her Head, she must be His possession in a peculiar way. The Scripture speaks of the Church as His bride.

What or who is the Church? Although some churches may be only a religious organization, the true Church is an organism ordained by God possessing the life of Jesus Christ. The different parts of



The Rev. Donald E. Richards was born in a Seventh Day Baptist family, but lived where there was no church of that faith. It was not until his return from military service that the Sabbath came to have a real meaning to him. He is now pastor at Verona, N. Y., having served churches in West Virginia and Minnesota.

the body serve specific purposes which are essential and beneficial to the function of the whole organism. When all parts labor in unity and love under the direction of the Head (Christ), the Church becomes a mighty army proclaiming the truth of God and demonstrating God's concern for mankind.

God sought to demonstrate through the nation Israel, during much of the Old Testament period, the benefits for all people from obedience to the rule of God. In spite of God's blessing, Israel failed to be that "light unto the Gentiles" because of disobedience.

God then demonstrated in and through Jesus the power and wonder of a life lived in perfect obedience to God; but men, because of blindness and hardness of heart, refused to submit to the sovereignty of God. Instead of accepting Jesus and submitting to His authority, they crucified the "Lord of Glory."

The life of Christ, through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, was then placed in individual believers who submitted to the rule of Christ. "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. . . . And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:41, 47b). Individual believers, thus, became units within the corporate Church. The power of God was, and is, demonstrated in the Church.

The Church is paradoxical. On the one hand, she possesses the life and power of Jesus Christ; on the other, the visible Church is imperfect because the individual Christian is imperfect. Jesus,

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THE SABBATH RECORDER

Serve The Lord Christ

"Whatever you do, put your whole heart and soul into it, as into work done for God, and not merely for men—knowing that your real reward, a heavenly one, will come from God, since you are actually employed by Christ, and not just by your earthly master" (Col. 3:23-24, Phillips).

It is a hot summer day, and a boy and a girl turn from the street up to the door of a strange house. They mount the steps and ring the doorbell, perhaps somewhat hesitantly, certainly with some apprehension. Presently the door is opened. . . .

But from this point on the story is no longer standardized. Just about anything could happen, yet the door is almost never slammed once it is opened. More often the two callers are welcomed; and when they leave, there is often rejoicing. Perhaps the people relieved themselves of some of their problems to our friends; perhaps they will come to church next week; perhaps they have even accepted Christ as Lord and Savior. Such was the work I was involved in while serving in the Summer Christian Service Corps of our denomination last summer.

However, calling was not all that we did. We enjoyed having Bible School for some real live-wire kids. How they loved to sing! How they listened when we told them of Christ! How hard they played during recess! But most of all, how they responded to the message! What a joy and privilege to serve!

This year there is a call for even greater varieties of dedicated service. Recently a pamphlet was sent out to our



Dale E. Rood, son of the late Edward, and Doris Coon Rood, is a senior at Milton College, Milton, Wis., where he is majoring in mathematics. He has given two summers to dedicated service in the Summer Christian Service Corps in New Orleans and Syracuse. After college he plans to enter seminary in preparation for the gospel ministry.

churches and included in **The Sabbath Recorder** telling of the need for dedicated workers. This need runs all the way from missionaries to dedicated carpenters and plumbers. The fields are truly white for the harvest, and the laborers have never seemed fewer. Dedicated work is desperately needed today.

I wonder, how often have we thought of our everyday, routine lives as dedicated service? Paul says to the Philippians, "But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the gospel of Christ" (Phil. 1:22 Phillips). Day by day our Christian belief must be a living experience. How are we going to let our light shine before men unless we let it shine in our daily lives? Our dedication to Christ is not limited to certain hours; we do not have to start at a particular time in the morning and quit at such and such a time in the afternoon. We are on duty all the time!

This is only part of what is meant by complete commitment. There is much more. Paul writes in Colossians 3:17, "Whatever work you may do, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus." This means that we must do our best in our work, or we will actually be taking the Lord's name in vain. Further, Colossians 3:23 reads, "Put your whole heart and soul into it, as work done for the Lord." Would you want to do anything less than your best for your Master? As a Christian, you are not employed merely by men; "you are actually employed by Christ" (Col. 3:24). I believe too many times Christians do not stop to think that they are actually working for Christ.

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THE SABBATH RECORDER

New Life In The Lord

Someone may ask you, "What is the Christian life?" How would you answer? Would you say, "The Christian life is a great improvement on the old life"? Or rather, would you say that "The Christian life goes far deeper than this"? Personally, I believe that in a true Christian there is a change of nature and a new life altogether! The Scriptures speak of the new life as a resurrection, following a burial. "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:4).

The Apostle Paul clearly distinguishes between the old life and the new life when he says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away: behold, all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5:17).

I remember how, many years ago, I spent my leisure evening hours after a hard day at tailoring. I would sit for hours in some liquor restaurant, drinking and chatting with friends; we called it "having a spree." I told lots of lewd jokes to amuse those around. The cinema was my first love. I did almost everything that a worldly man does. But today I don't indulge in those things. My life has been changed; my desires are different. I remember one night I



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stood at a corner junction with roads leading in three directions and a dance in each direction. I couldn't decide which way to take. But now I know which way I am going; I am going with the Lord! My time after work is spent in Bible study, visiting the brethren and the unsaved, and giving out gospel tracts. As a result of all this, a new joy and happiness have come to my home life. Even my wife has been "buried with Christ" and also "walks in newness of life."

As you start this new life in the Lord, you are not "in the flesh" but "in the Spirit," because the Spirit of God dwells in you. When there is a death to the reign of self (which is what Paul means when he speaks of putting off the old man), the reign of Christ takes over! Paul speaks of being renewed in the knowledge of God, after the image or likeness of Christ. This new life in the Lord is a growing life; it is a Spirit-controlled life.

In natural growth, babies are fed on milk and orange juice. As they grow up they move on to solid, heavier food. If you are a young Christian you cannot digest all of the solid food of the Bible at once. If you would grow up in the Lord, you must learn first to drink "the milk of the word" then slowly feed on the "meat" of God's Word. "For everyone that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (Heb. 5:13-14). When Christ has given spiritual life He will provide spiritual food to nourish and strengthen us for eternal life. He promises that He will never for-

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Receive Christ As Lord

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him" (Col. 2:6).

These are words of instruction given to the church at Colosse at a time when false teaching was poisoning the church life. Through Epaphras the Apostle Paul learned of their godly order and steadfast confidence in Christ, and he rejoiced. He then exhorted them to continue in their trust of knowing Him as Savior and owning Him as Master. He also urged the believers not to turn aside to any new teaching or perversion of the truth.

What a message there is in this verse for us today since there are so many false doctrines and teachings in the world. Having received Christ as Lord we also are to walk in Him. He is Lord when He has absolute authority over our hearts. Then we shall become rooted and built up in Him.

When we truly receive Christ as Lord and are walking in Him, we will desire to keep His commandments, all of them, even the Sabbath of which He is Lord and for which He has set a perfect example. Jesus said, "Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). It is His absolute authority over our hearts that enables us to be happily obedient to the will of God. This Lordship of Christ in you and me is what will gain us entry into the kingdom of heaven. Jesus also warned, "Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of



Mr. Jacob N. Tyrrell is a lay-preacher at the Georgetown Seventh Day Baptist Mission and attends Guyana Bible College. He serves as recording secretary of the Guyana Conference and is a delegate to the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation. He attended the First World Consultation of Seventh Day Baptists.

heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven" (Mat. 7:21).

God has great joy and peace of mind for you when you fully receive Christ as Lord, for He will hold you close, giving you the heavenly light of His presence. His Spirit will quicken you; His power will uphold you so that no power or person on earth, not even the angels of darkness, can separate you from Him. His presence will lift all heaviness from your heart; He will dissolve your grief and dry your tears. Like Thomas of old, your doubts will disappear. Jesus has wonderfully promised, ". . . Lo, I am with you always . . ." (Mat. 28:20). We need not bear anything alone. Through Christ Jesus the Lord you and I have power to rise out of darkness into the light of faith, hope, and love. We can overcome the world and meet all things in the strength of the Holy Spirit. This is the joy of receiving Christ as Lord and fulfills Revelation 3: 20: "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

When we open our heart's door and receive Christ as our Guest and Lord, He comes in to us and sets us really free forever. For Jesus Himself assures us, "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed" (Jn. 8:36). Yes, if we long to be free from some habit, from some unhappy situation, or even from our own negative thinking He will give us this freedom. However, this freedom comes to us only when we let Christ completely take over. In this full surrender to Christ the Lord, He also frees us from bondage to false doctrines and teachings that enslave so many to-

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Christ Is Lord of My Life

"... He died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves but unto him..." (2 Cor. 5:15).

The unbelieving world today believes God is dead because it has been watching Christians who show no evidence of what they claim to be. The world expects to be loved and demands that we be what we profess to be. This is an age of much profession but very little real possession. God's problem today is not with sinners but with Christians who are not surrendered to Him.

One problem lies with professing Christians who have never been born again. They may be church-goers, live moral lives, and even give mental assent to what the Bible says about Christ but they have not personally committed their all and trusted Christ to save them. On the other hand, there are Christians who have accepted Christ as Savior but not as Lord of their lives. These Christians are saved, but that is about all. As Dr. Henry Gruby has said, "Every Christian is a saved person but not every saved person is Christian (Christlike)." It took me some time to realize this.

The Christian whose life is not wholly right with God is starving himself of the happy, purposeful Christian life God intended him to have. This person is stubborn and rebellious to the will of God, and his life is an inconsistent Christian testimony. Such a person is complacent and indifferent to lost souls going to hell; usually he is conformed to the world and its selfish lusts. It is no wonder so many



Kenneth L. Davis is a sophomore at Bob Jones University where he is preparing for the gospel ministry. He has a vital interest in missions having served with his parents in Guyana. He is active in evangelistic endeavor, seeking to win souls for Christ.

Christians are discouraged, defeated, and dismayed. They have eternal life but not the abundant life Christ wants us to have.

Many Christians live inconsistent lives because they have failed to realize Christ's terms of discipleship. Have you taken up your personal cross of discipleship? Have you counted the cost? Christ teaches that we **must** deny self. We must yield our desires, ambitions, pride, will, and life to Him (Mat. 16: 24). We must be willing to renounce all earthly friendships and plans and must be supremely devoted to Him alone (Lk. 14: 26). Being a Christian also means a continuing steadfastness to His will (Jn. 8: 31). Finally, Christ demands that our lives bear much fruit (Jn. 15: 8). We must win lost sinners to Him. In short, we must be willing to leave **all** for Him (Lk. 14: 33).

Christ wants nothing short of all-out surrender to Him as Lord of our lives. Our whole life—social, mental, physical, and spiritual—must be in total, voluntary, irrevocable subjection to Him. God would rather have us be unsaved than lukewarm, half-hearted Christians (Rev. 3: 15, 16). He does not want useless Christians who scatter rather than gather in the harvest of lost souls (Mat. 12: 30; 9: 37, 38).

We must put Christ in complete control of our lives. St. Paul teaches in 2 Corinthians 5: 14-21 that a Christian has a new relationship, a new reward, and a new responsibility.

A New Relationship

As Christians we are no longer in our sins bound for a Christless eternity, but in Christ we are sons of God and new creatures. Self is no longer on the throne because Christ is the controlling person. Formerly, it was self not Christ, then it was self and Christ, later it may have

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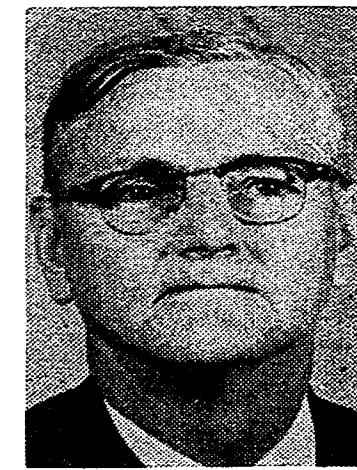
Christ Is Lord of My Home

"... But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Josh. 24:15).

As I sit here at the typewriter in the study, with the picture window at my left, the sunshine pours into the room. I look up at the picture of Christ just in front of me, and I pause to breathe a prayer of thanksgiving for the warmth of the sun.

The air we breathe is a gift from God, our Creator and our Father. In order to live, I must breathe this air. I must accept it as a gift from my heavenly Father. If I refuse to accept it, I will die. But freely I inhale the gift that God has provided to keep me alive. Now this example of the gift of air given to me is not any different than the other gift that has been given to me from the Father: the gift of eternal life. I can refuse to accept Christ into my life, and I will die; or I can believe on Him as the Son of the living God and receive Him as my Lord and Savior, and I will live. We ought not to spurn the greatest gift that God has given to man: the gift of His Son, Christ Jesus our Lord.

In order for Jesus to be Lord of my home, he must first be my Lord and Savior. This will give Him an opportunity to live in my home. I do not know, but I think that we have almost a perfect home. In our home life, night and day, we are encircled with the spirit of the Lord. Speaking through the prophet Isaiah, God said, "I even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no savior" (Isa.



The Rev. Paul L. Maxson has been pastor of the Berlin, N. Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church since 1940, is active in legislative affairs at Albany in behalf of the New York State Council of Churches, and is a member of the Advisory Council of the American Bible Society and the Missionary Board of his denomination.

43: 11). We must believe this in order to have eternal life. Our duty or our responsibility does not stop there; we are His witnesses. We were given the great commission to go out into the world and tell the glad news of salvation.

When I first wake in the morning, I pause to breathe a prayer of thanksgiving to God for his loving care over my house and my family through the night. I ask that His Spirit encircle each one of us for the day, endowing us with power to resist those things we ought to resist, and give us wisdom to make the right choices. I feel as did the Psalmist when he said, "As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people from henceforth even for ever" (Psa. 125: 2).

I believe these precious promises that God has given to us, and this is the reason I do not become so upset about many things. "For I know in whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (1 Tim. 1: 12b). This is a great comfort, for each Christian to know that God is interested in him so much that He will go with him all the way every day. It makes no difference where we are working or what vocation we are following; we can and ought to live a life which reflects the love of Christ. His love must be reflected in all our conversation, it must govern all our decisions, and it must permeate every action.

Job put it quite well when he said, "Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? Hast not thou made a hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land" (Job 1:9-10).

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Christ Is Lord Also of the Sabbath

"The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath" (Mk. 2:27-28).

This statement made by Christ was probably one of the key reasons for complete rejection of Him by the Jews. He had not only been breaking the Sabbath, according to their laws, but now He had claimed deity.

It sometimes seems difficult for us to grasp the whole picture for we were not brought up in the rigid laws of Sabbath-keeping as were the Jews. We might take a look at some of the acts that Jesus committed that were unlawful according to Jewish law.

He plucked the ears of corn to eat (Mk. 2: 23-24). He healed on the Sabbath (Mk. 3: 1-6). In fact, the Gospels record seven healings on the Sabbath. Also he told the man to carry his bed on the Sabbath (Jn. 5: 1-12).

Our Lord said several other things that could be construed by the Jews as Sabbath-breaking. He hinted that it was all right to remove a fallen ox from a pit (Lk. 14: 4, 5). He pointed out that not only He but the Father also was still working (Jn. 5: 17).

The Jews assumed they were following the Word of God in their Sabbath observance. How could they accept one who was breaking the laws as they understood them? He called God His Father, making himself equal with deity (Jn. 5: 18). How could one be God, they reasoned, and still break the laws of the Torah?

The scribes who interpreted the Torah

for the people had hundreds of minute regulations, many of which pertained to the Sabbath. These regulations were gathered together into what was called the **Mishna**. This body of man-made traditions took precedence over the Torah or the law of God. Therefore, the Lord Jesus Christ challenged their tradition when he said, "... the Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath."

On another occasion the scribes and Pharisees asked the Lord, "Why do your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders?" He answered, "Why do you also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?" (Mat. 15: 1-9).

The Jews thought they were following the teachings as set forth in the Torah, but they were not ready to accept the teaching of God as revealed through His Son. These teachings of Christ are the same as those the Father set forth in the Torah. Christ said to them, "The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise" (Jn. 5: 19).

Likewise, in support of his teachings, Christ said, "For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak" (Jn. 12: 49). He asserted further, "I and my Father are one," and pointed out that the works He did were the works of the Father.

All authority was given by God to his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, on earth and in heaven (Mat. 28: 18). He has been given the authority to execute judgment (Jn. 5: 27) also. "All things were made by Him [the Word or Christ]." Therefore, can we doubt that He is "Lord also of the Sabbath"? If we are willing to accept Him as Lord of the Sabbath, then we should be willing to follow His

teachings. Are we going to reject His teachings as the Jews did and, therefore, reject Him also?

It is true that Christ healed, performed deeds of mercy, and preached that it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath. Can we do our shopping, get engrossed in T.V., engage in various forms of recreation, and in other ways do our own pleasure on the Sabbath? Can we do these things and still expect to delight ourselves in the Lord? Isaiah 58: 13, 14 states, "If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight... not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord..."

Because of their own interpretation (**Mishna**), the Jews were too strict and lived by their law rather than by love for God. "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments, and His commandments are not grievous [burdensome]" (1 Jn. 5:3). We today, because of our own interpretation, are often too liberal and live apart from the law. We should live within the law of God because of love for Christ. "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law" (Rom. 3:31).

We know the seventh day of the week commonly called "Saturday" was set apart, sanctified, and blessed by God. Our Lord Jesus did not indicate in any way that we should do away with spiritual Sabbathkeeping. Neither did He intend that the Sabbath should be a burden to us. It was intended to enrich and strengthen our faith. It was meant to be a blessing and joy to us. On God's holy day we are privileged to attend church, study His Word, talk to Him through prayer, fellowship with His people, give witness to the unsaved concerning our faith, visit the sick and shut-ins, and lead the lost to Christ. In these and other ways we find the Sabbath a delight.

I, personally, find that keeping the Sabbath holy opens up many doors for witnessing. When you tell the boss you

will not work on Saturday, the salesman you do not do business on Saturday, your neighbor that you would be glad to help him another day, or the salesman not to deliver goods on the Sabbath, you are witnessing to your faith. Witnessing to the Sabbath opens up doors to further witnessing.

Some may accuse you as a Sabbath-keeper of living under the law. Others may say you are under bondage because you are a Sabbathkeeper. However, did not Christ Himself keep the Sabbath holy (Lk. 4:16)? Why? To accommodate Himself to the Jews? Or to do His Father's will because He found it a delight (Psa. 40:8)? We have His perfect example. Whom shall we follow? The traditions of men? The traditions of the Church, or the commandments of God? By precept and example Christ teaches us to keep the seventh day holy (Ex. 20: 8). In this way Christ demonstrated His Lordship over the Sabbath which He Himself created. What He created He still controls and is Lord over. You can make the Sabbath a special day to worship your Lord. Will you?

SERVE THE LORD CHRIST

(Continued from page 5)

Consider the story of the workers building a cathedral. One cut stone, another cut timber, and the third only hauled materials. The first two workers were grumpy and always complaining; the third worker was always cheerful and whistling a tune while at work. When the stone cutter was asked what he did, he replied, "I cut stone." The wood cutter, when he was asked, replied, "I cut timber." When the third man was asked what he was doing, he answered, "I'm building a cathedral for my Lord."

Christ is not only calling us to dedicated service specially set aside, but also he asks us to dedicate even our everyday labor to Him. He wants us to do our best to "build a cathedral to our Lord." Particularly in this time of shoddy workmanship, dedicated service such as this is really a bright and shining light for Him.



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Christ Lives Forever

"He ever liveth to make intercession"

Christianity is superior to all other religions because its author, Jesus Christ, still lives. Listen to His own words: "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and death" (Rev. 1: 18). Christ is our contemporary today. We worship a living Savior, not a dead Savior.

Why does He live? God's Word assures the believer, "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing that he ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Hebrews 7:25). Through the living Savior, the believer approaches God in prayer. Through Him we have direct access to the throne of grace. We need only to trust completely in Him as we call upon God's holy name.

It is not God's will that a believer sin. Yet even the strongest child of God at times commits sin. The moment we sin we are assured that we can go to God through Christ and confess it. Unlike the children of Israel, we no longer need an earthly priest. St. Paul says in his first letter to Timothy, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (2:5).

We need no other to intercede for us today; that is why He lives. Only He can fully comprehend our needs and sympathize with us. He was tempted in all points as we are, but the difference is that He never yielded to the temptation. Yielding is sin. Earthly priests sin. None but the sinless Savior can save us. His perfect sacrifice on Calvary for our sin makes possible our salvation. The Bible says, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Circumstances may require human priests to move from our community. Ill

health may force them to retire. Death may strike at their door. God's precious word declares, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever" (Heb. 13: 8). He is always constant and true. "Here is the high priest we need. A Man who is holy, faultless, unstained, beyond the reach of sin and lifted up to the very heavens. There is no need for him, like the high priests we know, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins and then for the people's. He made one sacrifice, once for all, when he offered up himself" (Heb. 7:26-27, Phillips).

By voluntarily laying down His life as a perfect sacrifice for our sins, Jesus Christ defeated Satan, paying the debt we owe and freeing us from sin's bondage. By His glorious resurrection He conquered the grave and overcame death. Jesus Christ is Lord! He had power to lay down His life; He had power to take it up again. ". . . Thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 15: 57).

Lord of My Life

(Continued from page 8)

been Christ and self, but now it must be Christ alone. Now "the love of Christ constrains us" to do His will. Our new relationship to Christ makes us desire to do His bidding.

A New Reward

Our new relationship as Christians brings a new reward. In Christ our sins are under the blood and forgiven. However, each of us shall give account of what he has done for Christ (2 Cor. 5: 10). Our works and not our sins shall be judged. If He is Lord of our lives, we will do His will and work faithfully, patiently and lovingly. Then we shall hear His voice: "Well done thou good and faithful servant. . . ." If we live for self, we shall suffer loss (1 Cor. 3: 11-15).

A New Responsibility

We shall be rewarded accordingly to our faithfulness or lack of it in accomplishing our God-given mission. We are to live for Him and serve Him alone (2 Cor. 5: 15). How do we serve Him? What is our task as Christians? Since we are His representatives (2 Cor. 5:20), He has given us the ministry of reconciliation. We are to get people saved and reconciled to God by witnessing to them. This is the charge we will keep if Christ is Lord of our lives.

Have you made Him Lord of your life? If you have not, how can you do this? You must surrender your all to Him, then continually trust in Him to work out His will and way through you. Have you reckoned yourself to be "dead to sin" and yielded yourself to Christ in complete trust (Rom. 6: 11-13)?

Once you have made Christ the Lord of your life you will want to get involved in the greatest business in all the world, soul-winning. It is impossible to be in the will of God without being busy in the work of God. Every Christian should have as his purpose the evangelization of the world. This is not an option but a command from our Lord. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16: 15).

Christianity is not programs, institutions, social welfare, earthly peace, demonstrations, or organizations, but witnessing (Acts 1: 8). Everything else is subordinate to world evangelization. This task isn't impossible if each Christian does his job. We must win souls and then teach and train them in turn to win others.

It has been two thousand years since Christ gave us this commission, and still the task is not complete. His last command should be our first concern. Today, however, only about one percent of all Christians are soul winners. If we really believe in heaven and hell, we should be willing to go anywhere, go anytime, and tell anyone the good news. To refuse to obey His command is to be guilty of disobedience, spiritual rebellion, and high treason.

Winning souls is wise (Prov. 11: 30), glorifies God (Jn. 15: 8), saves a soul from hell (Jas. 5: 20), and takes the blood off our hands (Ezek. 33: 8). With all this incentive we should be willing to say as did Isaiah, "Here am I; send me!" Are you willing? Is Christ Lord of your life?

Lord of My Home

(Continued from page 9)

I am certain that, if we will submit ourselves, our families, and our homes unto the Lord, He will care for us as He did the men of old. I fear that far too many are afraid that they cannot trust the Lord and His promises. Therefore, they try to make out in life without God. This is the reason so many people make a mess of life.

There is a story told of a missionary who had a card on the wall of one of his rooms which read, "Can you trust the Lord?" This was a heart-warming challenge. However, as one went into the next room, on the other side of the same wall was another card which read, "Can the Lord trust you?" Now this was something deeper, and it struck a challenge to the depths of the heart. I know that I can trust the Lord. Can you? Just look back over your past. Has He ever failed you? I am sure that you will have to say that He has not. Can He trust you to trust Him for the future? I know that I can and do trust Him for the present as well as for the future. I am assured that He keeps me, my family, and my house in the hollow of His precious hand.

Dr. J. Allen Blair said, "Do not turn your face from the Christ who died on the cross that you might have eternal life." Many times we try to go it alone when we could have the sustaining power of God the Father and Christ His Son. If we have been trying to go it alone, no wonder we have made such a mess of life and have gotten lost in the temptations and storms of life. It is no wonder we have failed in our many and varied activities in life. Many of these things are good, but they are not the best nor the highest things in life for us.

All we need to do is to turn to Christ, believe on Him, accept Him, and with assurance live in Him. If you are burdened beyond what you think you can bear, turn to Christ. If you are broken-hearted, downcast, and discouraged, look to Him. Receive Him, and He will abide with you and keep you forever. He is the unfailing Friend and the everlasting Savior. He is the Keeper of my house. Won't you let Him be the Keeper of your house, too?

New Life in the Lord

(Continued from page 6)

sake us, for we are the work of His own hands. Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven" (Jn. 6:32). "This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die" (Jn. 6:50). The newborn child of God finds this bread from heaven very nourishing, and his heart is made joyous.

In 2 Peter 3:18 we are admonished to ". . . grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. . . ." Again Peter says, "And besides this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity" (2 Pet. 1: 5-7).

New life in the Lord means that we are no longer in darkness, for Christ, the light of the world, has illumined us. His gospel gives light to all who once sat in darkness and in the shadow of death. We are thankful that His Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. With new life and light in the Lord, we have fellowship one with another and "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." This is the blessing and the assurance that is given to us when we obediently walk in the light. The Bible further tells us, "He that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God" (Jn. 3:21).

The new life in the Lord brings with it responsibility. We must first believe on the Lord Jesus Christ with our whole heart, yield fully to Him, then continue to feed on His words daily by reading and studying. As the Holy Spirit reveals precious truths to us, we cannot help but experience a deep peace in our soul.

Christ's ultimate desire for us is that we be perfect, even as our Father which is in heaven is perfect. He wants us to be holy in our thoughts, actions, and conversation. We must "follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14). "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification . . ." (1 Thess. 4:3). "But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption" (1 Cor. 1:30).

Our Lord came into the world to destroy the power of sin, pardon guilt, and purge from pollution. He was born; He suffered and died, even rose again to accomplish these very things in us by transforming our natures, thus enabling us to receive new life in Him. What a precious Lord and only Savior!

Receive Christ as Lord

(Continued from page 7)

day. He promises to dwell in us forever, helping us to be free to reach up and out toward the light of truth.

In my own personal experience of having received Christ as Lord and of walking daily in Him, I find great joy, peace, and strength. I recall that as a child I grew up in a Sabbathkeeping Christian home and was taught from the Bible. I had head knowledge of what Christ came to do, but I had not personally accepted Him as my Lord. When I was about eighteen years old, I left my father's home and went to live with my sister in the city. Then I tried to find joy, peace, and happiness in the things of this world, but I discovered that they last only for a time. The Holy Spirit kept reminding me of the things of God I had learned as a child. One of the verses which brought me to make a final deci-

sion for Christ as Lord of my life are the Master's own words: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (Jn. 14:27). I learned that the world didn't have any real joy or peace to give.

After receiving Christ I still did not get the peace of mind or experience any real joy, and I knew why; I had not given Him absolute authority over all matters in my life. I was not doing all the things He said I must do. For one thing, I was working on His Sabbath, doing secular work. I was not keeping it holy as He commanded. Then I read Jesus' words, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (Jn. 14:15). Well, I did love Him, but how would I be able to keep His day holy? "I have to work on Saturday," so I thought, but I was not happy to do so. Then I made a new decision to surrender this matter to the Lord. I prayed that the Lord would give me the courage to approach the overseer of the department where I worked. I asked him for Sabbath days off from work and he granted my request. I was happy God worked it out so nicely for me, and I praise Him for it! I know that if I trust Him in all matters I will be able to do my Father's will. May we all prove our loyalty to Him as Lord, not only by confessing Him with our lips, but by giving Him the supreme place in our lives by our faithful obedience.

Lord of the Church

(Continued from page 4)

our Lord, ordained that the Church be His chosen instrument to continue His ministry in this era of time. In a similar manner Israel was chosen to serve God during the previous age. Christ sees through the weaknesses and inconsistencies of humanity to a time of ultimate triumph, which will be realized through the outworking of His mighty power. Christ works within and through His children, the Church, instructing them in the way of righteousness and truth and

bringing purity of life within those who daily submit to His sovereignty.

The Church through the centuries has experienced growth and decay. Amidst our changing world conditions, which will it be? Temporal, ecclesiastical power becomes an inadequate substitute for spiritual, dynamic power. Though the outward dress needs alteration, her message and mission must always center in the redeeming work of the crucified, risen Lord. Her methods of life and witness will vary according to her spiritual vitality, coupled with the needs of the hour. Her basic concern for the spiritual and physical betterment of all men must never die, but it must be expressed in relevant and humble religious and civic action. The Church, instead of isolating herself from the world forces of evil, must become through the power of Christ's spirit the redeeming, healing force needed today. When the Church recognizes and honors the "Lordship of Jesus Christ," there is power and growth.

Regardless of the responses of men, Jesus Christ remains Lord of the Church. Man cannot change this fact. Christians everywhere can, however, submit to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and rediscover the thrill and excitement of a spiritual adventure with Christ which imparts strength for each day and bright hope for tomorrow.

Christ says, "I pray not that thou shouldest take them [my followers] out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from evil As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth" (John 17:15, 18-19).

Yes, Jesus Christ is Lord of the Church. May every individual and organized church group be faithful to the task of the master Teacher and Lord and thus share in the inheritance ordained for all His obedient children. Then Christ will not only be Lord in word, but also in deed.

The Sabbath Recorder

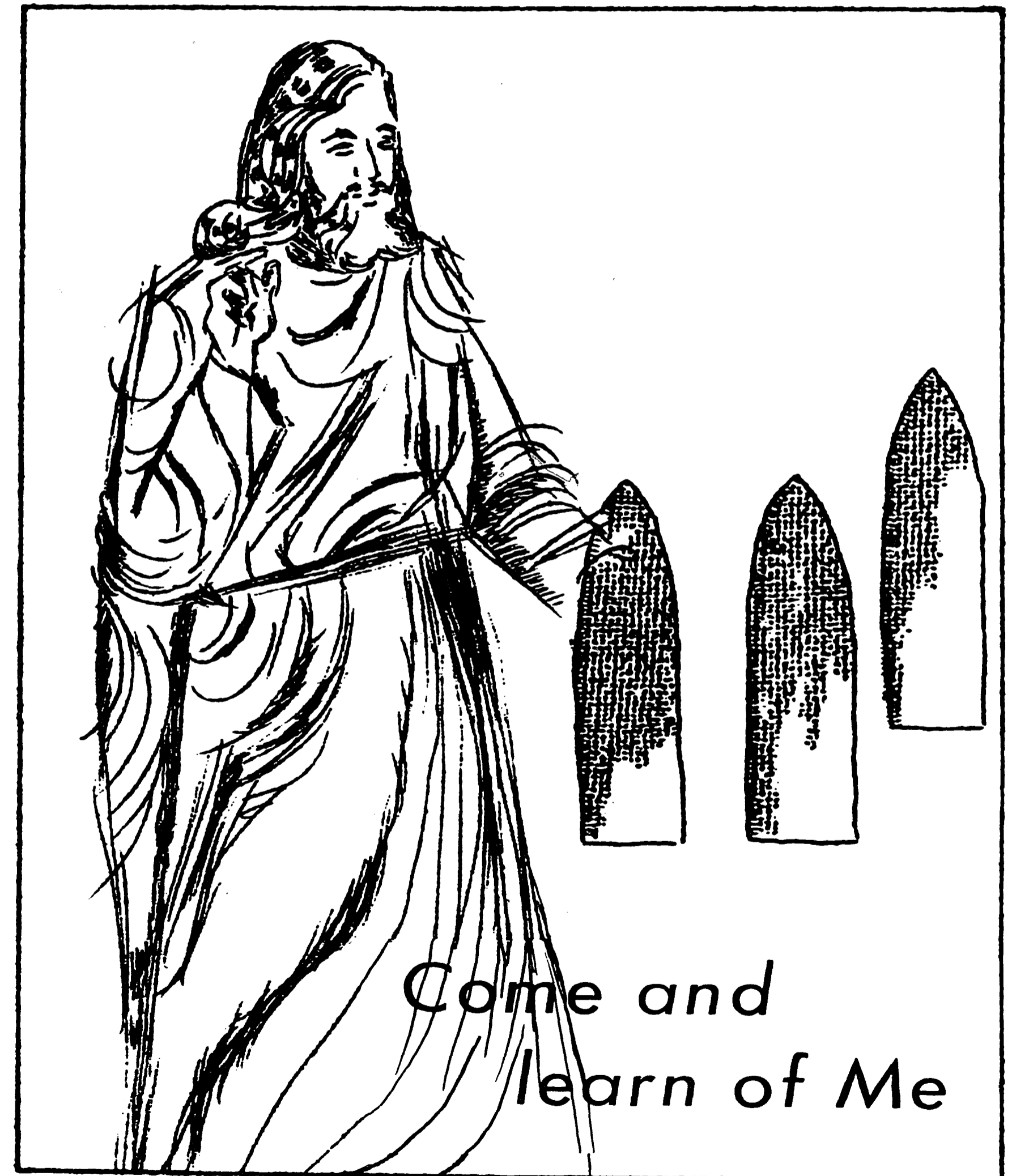
Let Us Go On

Some of us stay at the cross,
Some of us wait at the tomb,
Quickened and raised together with Christ,
Yet lingering still in its gloom;
Some of us bide at the Passover feast
With Pentecost all unknown—
The triumphs of grace in the heavenly place
That our Lord has made our own.

If the Christ who died had stopped at the cross
His work had been incomplete,
If the Christ who was buried had stayed in the tomb
He had only known defeat;
But the way of the cross never stops at the cross,
And the way of the tomb leads on,
To victorious grace in the heavenly place
Where the risen Lord has gone.

So let us go on with our Lord
To the fullness of God He has bought,
Unsearchable riches of glory and good
Exceeding our uttermost thought;
Let us grow up into Christ,
Claiming His life and its powers,
The triumphs of grace in the heavenly place
That our conquering Lord has made ours.

—Annie Johnson Flint.



*Come and
learn of Me*