

Good News

From Getwell

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The Getwell congregation sends monthly support to the following:

- Tennessee Children's Home, Spring Hill, TN
- West Tennessee Children's Home, Pinson, TN
- Potter Children's Home, Bowling Green, KY
- Children's Homes, Paragould, AR

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY

- Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.
- Worship.....10:20 a.m.
- Worship.....5:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

- Ladies Bible Class (Sept. - May) 10:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

- Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

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ON THE HOME FRONT

Gary Colley

The brethren at Getwell church of Christ continue to be blessed daily! We are grateful to our Father in Heaven for all of our blessings. We agree with James, the brother of the Lord, that "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning (Jas. 1:17). It is important that we use these blessings in a responsible way.

We had a recent wonderful letter from Janice Diggs, secretary and elder's wife, for the Phillips Street church of Christ in Dyersburg, TN. Her letter informed us that one of the members there, Traci Ing, has her 84-year-old maternal grandmother who was just recently baptized into Christ! Sister Traci had taken her a box of **SPIRITUAL SWORD** publications to read, knowing her love of reading. She said that "basically it was this literature that convinced her that she was wrong in what she believed religiously." She had also asked Steven Sutton to show her in the book of Acts where the "sinner's prayer" was given. He told her it wasn't in there! She came to the conclusion that she needed to be baptized for the remission of her sins, and thus she obeyed the Lord (Acts 2:38-41; Heb. 5:8-9; Rom. 6:3-4). We rejoice with all of these good brethren and the angels of Heaven! We pray that more will be delivered out of the power of darkness, and translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son (Col. 1:13).

Where in the Bible Will I Find . . .

Gary Colley

That the Bible Is An Orderly Book?

The answer to our question follows: “Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, *rightly dividing the word of truth*” (II Tim. 2:15). Many seem to find the Bible hard to study. Some think one can flip open the Bible to any passage and find comfort and hope. When the “flip system” is used, it denies the Bible is an orderly book. Then, since it is found not to give satisfaction, these may throw the Bible aside, claiming it cannot be understood. Some claim one can prove anything by the Bible. What a horrendous misstatement to make about God’s Word! These desire to discredit the Bible, but in reality they only discredit themselves. It would be an insult to say of any one of us that one can prove anything by us. This would mean one charges us with being a liar, hypocrite, undependable and unreliable! We would not take such charges lightly about ourselves, and we should not about the Bible! Every passage in the Bible has but one meaning. There are many ways to misunderstand a passage, but only one way to understand it, and that is the right way. The Bible is always reliable, and should be handled with reverence and respect. Its orderliness includes three separate dispensations, the Patriarchal, Jewish, and Christian, which all must respect. We understand that Tennessee has had three distinct constitutions, 1796, 1834, and 1870. So with the Bible. We must know which dispensation we live under to “rightly divide” God’s Word, or confusion and misunderstanding will prevail. We do not *build an ark* today, though that was a command of God to Noah but in the Patriarchal dispensation (Gen. 6). If we “rightly divide” the Word today, we do not keep the “words of *the covenant, the ten commandments*” (Ex. 34:28; Deut. 4:13). All now are under the law of Christ revealed in the *New Testament* (Matt. 26:28). Where in the Bible we study depends on what one wants to know: *About Jesus?* (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John); *When New Covenant begins to be applied?* (Lk. 24:46-49; Acts 2:1-4); *How one is converted?* (Acts); *Actions of the church under inspired power?* (Acts); *How to live the Christian life?* (Romans-Jude); *Victory and the Home of the soul?* (Revelation). Let us handle this wonderful volume correctly.

The Pre-Eminent Name for the People of God Today?

In every age God’s people have borne His name. The name “Israel” was given to God’s people during the Mosaic age. In the name Israel “El” is the Hebrew word meaning God. When the name Israel was pronounced, the name of God was spoken! In this present dispensation God has selected the name “Christian” to be worn by individuals, not the church collectively. This name glorifies His Son, because you cannot say “Christian” without pronouncing the name of Christ, the anointed of God. That this name was Divinely given may be seen from the following considerations:

1. It is the new name of prophecy which was given by the Lord. Isaiah said to the Jews, “And thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name” (Isa. 62:2). After the conversion of Cornelius, a Gentile who saw the Gospel or righteousness of God (Acts 10), and after the kings saw His glory, “the disciples were called Christians first at Antioch” (Acts 11:26).

2. The people who have the Divine right to wear this name belong to Christ. The suffix “ians” means “pertaining to, or belonging to Christ.” By wearing this appellation we show to the world we belong to Jesus who is Christ. For this reason Paul was glad to be a Christian in the presence of King Agrippa (Acts 26:28-29).

3. We are to glorify God in this name Christian, while being persecuted because of our faith. We are not to be ashamed, but rather “glorify God in this name” (I Pet. 4:16).

4. We are not to wear the names of men and bring division, if we want to be saved (I Cor. 1:10-13).

“Christian” is the authorized pre-eminent name for the people of God today. What name do you wear religiously?

RON'S REMINDERS



One of the many ways that God has blessed Getwell is with excellent, enthusiastic, and prepared Bible class teachers that we have had in the past and currently have teaching. Below is a list of our current teachers, who we truly appreciate.

Two & Three Year Olds	June Barringer
Four & Five Year Olds	Christine Allen Pamela Nesby
First thru Third Grade	Karen Wallace
Fourth thru Sixth Grade	Connie Ferrell Frances Wallace Allison Wooley
Teenagers	Ron Wallace

Remembering Our Heritage Is the New Testament Church A Denomination? by Rex A. Turner, Sr.

The subject—"Is the New Testament Church a Denomination?"—necessarily requires defining of the term "denomination." Within a religious context, Webster's Dictionary defines the term "denomination" as being "a religious overhead organization" and describes it as a "uniting into a single legal administrative body the churches of the same religious and/or doctrinal commitment together with the order and procedure of the local church's reporting to its headquarters—that is, the headquarters of that specific denomination."

As a consequence of the prevailing concept that great blessings are to be derived from the existence of the many denominational churches, Christendom today is in a state of confusion, competition, misrepresentations, false doctrines and ill will. Such has been the state of affairs for centuries.

Relative to the question of whether the church is the Lord's or a mere denomination, these facts are submitted:

(1) Jesus the Christ purchased the church with His own physical blood. Paul admonished the bishops (elders) of the church at Ephesus: "Take heed . . . to feed the church of the Lord which he purchased with his own blood" (Acts 20:28).

(2) Jesus the Christ is the head of the church. Paul wrote about the power which "God . . . wrought in Christ when he raised him from the dead, and made him to sit at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule, and authority, and power, and dominion, and every name that is named, . . . and gave him to be head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all" (Ephesians 1:16-23).

Jesus died a cruel death on that Calvary cross in order that every responsible person may . . . qualify himself or herself to obtain the hope of eternal life.

We must also emphasize the fact that the local church (congregation) is the highest unit of action, and the respective members are answerable to only the Godhead and to the local congregation. There is absolutely no place for the denominations and their several respective headquarters where doctrines are formulated and imposed upon all the churches represented by the particular denomination and its adopted doctrines.

Is the church of Christ a denomination among denominations? The answer is positively and emphatically, "No!" Each congregation or church of Christ is the highest unit of action, and the local church is supervised by its local elders and leaders. Jesus Christ is the only head that . . . His church, has or will ever have.

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