

WARNER'S CHAPEL

M E S S E N G E R

"This then is the message which we have heard of Him, and declare unto you" 1 John 1:5

Vol. 1

Clemmons, N. C.

February 6, 1952

No. 15



WAS
THIS
YOU

LAST SUNDAY?

DID THE RAIN HINDER YOU FROM DOING OTHER THINGS? HOME CHORES ETC.? IF NOT—YOU HAD BETTER SEE THE LORD ABOUT THIS!

ATTEND ALL SERVICES SUNDAY!

"WARNERS CHAPEL MESSENGER"

Published weekly in the interest of New Testament Christianity; By Warners Chapel Church of Christ.

Clemmons, Route 1, N. C.

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NATION WIDE RADIO PROGRAM

The Churches of Christ will begin a radio program over the American Broadcasting Company net work on this coming Lord's Day. The program will be carried by the local A.B.C. station in this area which is WAIR, in Winston-Salem. The time is 1:00 to 1:30 each Sunday afternoon. This program can be heard on both AM and FM, and can be located on your radio dial at 134.0 AM, and 93.1 FM.

Be sure and tune in and hear this program. Urge your neighbors to listen to the Gospel of Christ as it is preached on this program.

If you live outside of this area, consult your local A.B.C. station for time of program.

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Bro. Foy E. Wallace begins a series of Gospel Meetings in Hickory, N. C. the first Sunday in March.

Bro. A. P. Warner seems to be improving.

COME TO BIBLE STUDY THIS SUNDAY

OUR SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible Study.....10:00 A. M.
Worship.....11:00 A. M.
Worship..... 7:00 P. M.

WEDNESDAY

Ladies Bible Class.....2:00 P. M.
Prayer Meeting.....7:30 P. M.

THURSDAY

Men's Training Class...7:30 P. M.

A WELCOME AWAITS YOU IN ALL OUR SERVICES

CHURCH of CHRIST
(Warners Chapel)

Located on Lassiter Lake Road

Clemmons, Route 1,
North Carolina

Vestal Chaffin, Minister

Phone 5-2414

OUR BIBLE SCHOOL RECORD

Attendance last Sunday.....117
Attendance a week ago.....106
Attendance a year ago..... 87
Average attendance for 1951.....105
Average attendance thus far 1952.....114

Our goal for our Sunday morning Bible Classes is still 150. Help us reach that goal within the next few weeks.

COME TO BIBLE STUDY SUNDAY 10 A. M.

QUESTIONS—BIBLE ANSWERS

IS ONE CHURCH AS GOOD AS ANOTHER?

Our readers are asked to read again the letter and comments in last weeks' issue, that you may get the connection of thought.

In the conclusion of our article last week, we were discussing the possibility of man building a church, and we ask, "Is a man-made church as good as the Lord's?"

HOW MANY CHURCHES?

Let us ask the question, how many churches does the Lord have? Now we are not interested in what some man has to say about this, or what your opinion is; But we are vitally interested in what God's word has to say on this subject.

In the New Testament the word "church" is used two ways. (1) The Universal, Comprehensive sense including all the saved of the earth. Jesus said, "Upon this rock I will build my Church." Matt.16:18 Paul said, "And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things to the church which is his body." Eph.1:22-23. How many bodies? "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling." Eph.4:4. Again, "But now are they many members, yet but one body." 1 Cor.12:20. These passages of scriptures make it very plain that there is but one church, mentioned in the New Testament. You will note in these passages the singularity of the Church. Yet in this country we have 250 separate and distinct religious bodies wearing different names, having different creeds, practicing different things in their worship, often found fighting each other. Who will say that they all belong to the universal church spoken of in the New Testament? Is there any

division among the religious bodies in the world today? Certainly so! Yet, we know that the Bible says, "Now we beseech you brethren by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be NO DIVISION AMONG YOU." 1 Cor.1:10.

The denominations are divided on many things, that make them distinct one from the other. Surely friends, you can see that all the religious bodies in the world today are not, and do not compose the Church of our Lord.

(2) The church is spoken of in the New Testament in a limited or Local sense, including all God's people in one community. Hence it is the local congregations that is spoken of when the word church is in the plural. Rom.16:16; Rev.1:4.

Now then, since we know that Jesus built only one Church Matt. 16:18; Col.1:18; Eph.4:4; Let us notice what the Bible says:

"Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it." Psalms 127:1. In the New Testament the "House of God" is the Church. 1 Tim.3:15. Let us hear Jesus as he spoke of the doctrines and commandments of men. "Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up." Matt.15:13. My friends these scriptures plainly teach that any church that is built by man cannot stand. Unless the church that you are a member of was built by Christ, it is doomed to eternal destruction in the day of judgement.

Those who follow the teaching of Jesus without addition or subtraction are building their house on a rock. But those who partially follow the teaching of Jesus, and add a few commandments of men, are

(Continued on Page 4)

CHURCH of CHRIST
(Warners Chapel)

Route 1,

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Clemmons, N.C.

(BIBLE QUESTIONS continued)

building on the sand. Their house cannot stand. Matt.7:24-27.

HOW MANY WILL CHRIST SAVE?

How many churches will Christ save? According to our respondent one church is just as good as another, therefore, they will all be saved. If this is true, then it does not make any difference what one believes or practices in religion, he will be saved. This would justify the man who says the pope of Rome is infallible, and that he (the pope) has a right to make the laws to govern the church. It would justify the Catholic asking the priest to forgive his sins. If one church is as good as another it would mean that the idea that man goes to a place, called by Catholics, "purgatory" a place of punishment; And the claim that the Priest have the power to pray men out of this place into Heaven. But I do not think our respondent believes that. Therefore, why believe that one church is as good as another, and that all of them will be saved?

But how many churches will our Lord save? We answer, he will save exactly as many as he built. How many did He build??? ONE! How many will He save? O-N-E one! Let us remember that the "body" is the Church of Christ. Eph.1:22---23; Col.1:18. Now, here is proof that Christ will save ONE CHURCH. "For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the Church: and he is the SAVIOR OF THE BODY." Eph. 5:23. Christ is not the saviour of bodies, but he is the saviour of "the

body" of Christ, the Church. How many churches did or does the Lord add the saved to? He certainly did not add the saved to the denominations of today, because they were not then in existence. But he added the saved to ONE CHURCH, as is stated in Acts 2:47.

The writer of the letter ask, "Is it wrong for one to belong to another church when we all worship the same Lord and God?" It is wrong to belong to any church that does not belong to the Lord. Since only one belongs to Him, it is very important that we know which one that it is, so that we may obey the Gospel, and let the Lord add us to it.

How may the Lord's Church be identified from all other man-made churches?

1. By its founder--Christ. Mat.16:18
2. By place of establishment.---In Jerusalem. Zech.1:16; Acts 1:4, 12. Acts 2:1-5, 47. Any Church that did not have its beginning in Jerusalem, and founded by Christ cannot be Christ Church.
3. By the things it teaches one to do to be saved. BELIEVE: Jno.8:24; Acts 8:37. REPENTANCE: Lk. 13:3; Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30. CONFESS CHRIST: Matt.10:32; Rom.10:9-10; Acts 8:37. BAPTISM FOR REMISSION OF SINS: Mk.16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet.3:21.

Any church that does not teach these things, and for the same purpose, cannot possibly be the Church of our Lord, and therefore is not acceptable to Him. These are the things taught by the early New Testament Church, and they are taught by the true Church of Christ today.