

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.

January 2, 1952

No.11

A SPIRITUAL INVENTORY TEST

It is a common practice of business and industry, to take inventory at the end of the year. That is a good business policy, because it lets the business man know where he stands in regard to his stock and material. If it is a good policy for the business man, then surely it would be a good policy for us to take inventory of our spiritual standing in the sight of God.

So, as the year has come to a close, let us review what we have done for the Lord in 1951. Have you done your best in fulfilling your duty as a Christian?

We list below a few questions as a test. Allow yourself 10 point for each question you can answer "Yes."

1. Do you read a portion of the Bible each day?
2. Do you also read religious literature in addition to your secular newspaper, magazines and books?
3. Do you attend Bible School each Lord's Day?
4. Do you attend Church each Lord's Day?
5. Do you participate in Church services and other activities of the church?
6. Do you give thanks for your meals?
7. Do you pray regularly?

8. Do you have a family prayer and Bible reading?
9. Do you give regularly a definite percent of your income to the Lord's work?
10. Do you live the Christian life before God and your fellow men?
11. Do you talk to the unsaved about their need of Jesus Christ?
12. Do you endeavor to grow in grace and knowledge of your Lord?

Now, what is your score? Would you make a passing grade? Let us all resolve that we shall do more for the Lord in 1952 than we did last year.



"WARNER'S CHAPEL MESSENGER"

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Clemmons, Route 1, N. C.

- Vestal Chaffin.....Editor
- Jim Harper.....Assoc. Editor
- Mrs. Nora Holder.....Reporter
- Mrs. Blanche Griffith.. "
- Mrs. Irene Harper..... "
- Mrs. Tom Binkley..... Typist
- Mrs. Gladys Harper..... "
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We were happy to see so many visitors with us on Wednesday night. Among those present were Brother and Sister Parks Messick, Brother and Sister Sorrell, Brother and Sister Jones and Harmon and Dot Caldwell.

It is reported that little Michael Moser is improving. He has had pneumonia.

The Chaffins' had dinner recently with Brother and Sister J. W. Pegram, Brother and Sister Lonnie Moser, T. W. Pegram and Sister Pegram. They enjoyed visiting in these homes very much.

PERFECTLY UNDERSTANDABLE

"That's funny," said the dentist, who had been drilling and drilling and drilling. "You said this tooth had never been filled and yet there are flakes of gold on the point of my drill." "I knew it, I knew it!" groaned the patient, "You've struck my gold belt buckle."

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

(Warner's Chapel)

Located on Lassiter Lake Road

Clemmons, Route 1,

North Carolina

Vestal Chaffin, Minister

Phone 5-2414

VISITORS

December 23:

Mildred Barber, 938 Franklin St.

December 26:

Folly Alspaugh, 3905 W. 1st St.

Bro. & Sister T. A. Isaacs

Mr. and Mrs. Shore

NO PAPER LAST WEEK

You did not get you paper last week, because it was not published. A number people expressed regret that it was not to be published last week and expressed their appreciation for the paper.

There are a lot of "bright" children who should be applauded with one hand.

QUESTIONS—BIBLE ANSWERS

LETTER REVIEWED—INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Our readers are asked to reread the letter which we published in the December 19th, issue; and also the comments that was made. You should by all means do this, that you may get the connection of thought.

In paragraph three, of his letter, Mr. Miller says, "Your theory as stated is---Paul didn't say do it so therefore it is wrong." This shows that he missed the whole point in my article on instrumental music in the November 28, issue of the Messenger. In that article I pointed out the fact that Christ promised, and sent the Holy Spirit to guide the apostles in their work of preaching the Gospel. The Holy Spirit was to cause the apostles to remember, "Whatsoever I have said unto you." Jno.14:26. The Holy Spirit was to guide them "INTO ALL TRUTH." Jno.16:13. I also pointed out in my article that the Holy Spirit guided the apostles in writing the same things they taught. 2 Tim.3:16-17. Thus today we have ALL the Truth given to us in the New Testament. And let me add here that not one word about a musical instrument being used in worship in the church is mentioned in the New Testament. Mr. Miller missed this point altogether.

Then I quoted Eph.5:19; Col. 3:16; and Heb.2:12. Then, I called attention to the fact that there are only two kind of music in the world, and God has specified vocal to be used in worship. And when we play on the instrument we have added another kind of music, hence we transgress the Law of Christ. And when we transgress the doctrine of Christ we do not have the Father. 2 Jno. verse 9. But again, Mr. Miller missed the point. He failed to see that when God SPECIFIED one

kind of music, He excluded all other kind; He failed to see that when God specified vocal music, to add a different kind of music that is, instrumental music, is a violation of the Law of Christ. Tradition has blinded his and many other eyes, so they seemingly can't see the truth of God upon this subject. The thing needed today is for people to forget what father and mother did, or what grandfather did or taught in religion, and get back to what God's word teaches, and accept that without question.

In this same paragraph of Mr. Miller's letter he says, "Why be so biased with Paul? Why not say that he also didn't say not do it?"

That is the contention of many, they say, "The Bible does not say not have instrumental music, so therefore we can have it." But as already noted, God specified vocal music in worship. Was it necessary for God to say, now don't use instrumental music? God knew human beings were intelligent enough to understand that when he specified vocal music, that excluded all other kind. But according to Mr. Miller's theory, we can have anything in the worship that God has not expressly forbidden with a "thou shalt not." Therefore, according to his reasoning I can "burn incense" "count beads", "put a meat loaf on the Lord's table", or anything else that is not strictly forbidden, because God has not said, "Thou shalt not do these things." Surely friend you can see the fallacy of this kind of reasoning. When God told Noah to build an ark of "gopher wood", it was not necessary for him to say don't use any oak, pine, poplar etc. When he specified "gopher wood" that excluded all other kind.

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CHURCH of CHRIST

(Warner Chapel)

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TO Mr. James A. Harper
Route 1.
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(BIBLE QUESTIONS, CONT.)

Even so with music in the church.

Mr. Miller says in the fourth paragraph of his letter, "I read in five different places in the Bible about musical instruments, and they were commended not condemned as you infer in your paper. This reading was found in both the Old and New Testaments. Part of it as I understand is definitely proclaimed for public worship." If Mr. Miller found some passage that mentions musical instruments are to be used in public worship he did not cite the passage in his letter. If he or any other man knows where such a passage is I would be very glad to know the book chapter and verse.

He also mentions that he reads in Revelation about "harps" being in Heaven. Then he ask, "are they wrong in Heaven? If not, how can they be wrong in the church?"

Let me ask Mr. Miller a question. Does, because a thing is mentioned as being in Heaven, make it right to have it in Church? If his answer to this question is yes, then he would have a "throne" in the Church. Rev.4:2. Also he would have "lamps of fire" Rev.4:5. He would have "four beast" Rev.4:6, and a number of other things that we might mention. But would Mr. Miller have a throne in the church and say that it is alright? I think not! Would he have lamps of fire as a part of the worship? Or would he have some kind of beast connected with his worship in some way? I don't think that he would say it was right for these things to be connected with the worship. Yet, if he and others can justify

mechanical instruments of music in worship, because they think they will be in Heaven, 'by the same token we can have these other things.

(To be continued next week)

***** NEED TO BE CONVERTED

Some Church members are so busy that:

They have too much to do Sunday morning and CAN'T get to Bible Study at 10 oclock.

They can't stay for a baptismal service at the close of the regular service, for they are rushed for time.

They are so crowded for time that they can't wait for the service to be dismissed. They must leave while the last song is being sung.

They can't come on Sunday night because they are so tied up.

They just can't get their work finished in time to come to prayer meeting.

What can we do for these kind of church members? Shall we pray to God to lengthen the day for them so they can serve Him, or shall we convert them so they will WANT TO SERVE HIM? ? ?

WHICH SHALL WE DO? ? ? ?

WHY NOT MAKE A RESOLUTION THAT YOU WILL ATTEND BIBLE STUDY EVERY LORD'S DAY IN 1952? ? Can you think of a better resolution to make for the new year? Sunday morning is the time to start!