



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.

April 16, 1952

No.25

## THE TRUTH ABOUT EASTER

(Editors Note) The following is a sermon preached over W.T.O.B. radio station last Sunday morning by your editor. Read it carefully and think.

Today is what the religious world calls "Easter Sunday." Many observe this day as being the resurrection day Jesus Christ. But as we search the pages of the New Testament, we are made to ask the question, should we observe this one day, above all others, as being the resurrection day of Christ?

As I come to discuss this subject, I am aware of the fact that many of you who are listening to this program may not agree with what I shall have to say upon this subject. But as I speak honest and good to you now as always, I am fully conscious of the fact that one day I must stand before God, and there give an account of the things that I shall speak on this program. God being my witness then I shall do my best to set forth the truth upon this subject.

To begin with let me suggest that the New Testament teaches abundantly the resurrection of Christ; but it does not teach anything on the so-called "lenten season", that we have heard so much about for the past few weeks, or "Good Friday" or "Easter." The Bible is silent on these things. On Friday of this past week, and today, the religious denominational world is observing its "annual

celebration" of the death and resurrection of Christ, which is known as "Good Friday" and "Easter" I use the term "annual celebration" because the majority of the religious world sets these days above all other days in the year, as the day, to commemorate the resurrection of Christ.

In the early days of Christianity, the Christians commemorated their Lord's death and resurrection every first day of the week, by meeting on that day for worship and the eating of the Lord's Supper. For we read in Acts 20:7, "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread." This was done under the direct guidance of the inspired apostles, and it should be, and is, practiced by the Lord's people today, on the first day of every week.

What authority has any man or group of men to set one day in the year above all other days to commemorate the death and resurrection of Christ, when the Bible does not do this? They DO NOT have any authority to so do! Therefore, those who teach this doctrine are false teachers. Jesus said of such people, "This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoreth me with their lips; but in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Matt.15:8-9. When man comes to recognize the supreme au-

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Vestal Chaffin  
EDITOR  
Clemmons, N.C.



Sis. Odell Holder was absent Wednesday night due to illness. She is now at Casstevens Clinic but hopes to return home very soon.

We wish to express our sympathy to Sis. Wilson Stewart upon the death of her sister, Mrs. Macie Ellis.

We are happy to have Sister Harmon Caldwell of Savannah, Georgia visiting with us.

Among those who were absent from services Sunday due to measles were: Dora Harper, Ronnie Harper, Lydia Binkley and Carol Warner.

Sis. Viva Warner is now in Casstevens Clinic. We wish for her a speedy recovery.

We hope all who are absent from services due to sickness will soon be back with us.

# FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MARCH 1952

J. W. Warner, Treasurer

Balance on hand March 1, 1952.....	\$ 482.04
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	
March 2;.....	\$ 192.10
March 9;.....	176.93
March 16;.....	164.78
March 23;.....	173.34
March 30;.....	181.56
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1370.75</b>

**EXPENDITURES FOR MARCH:**

Taylor Oil Company.....	26.57
Balance on Garage.....	30.00
Bro. Wright.....	25.00
Gospel Advocate.....	5.45
Herald of Truth.....	25.00
Bell Telephone Company.....	4.20
Gray & Creech - Ink.....	5.00
Watkins Book Store (Staples).....	2.00
Insurance on House.....	54.00
C. F. Spaugh-Sand screening.....	20.00
Duke Power Company.....	6.79
Work on yard.....	4.00
Stamps.....	11.52
Last payment on loan.....	205.72
House Cleaning.....	10.00
J. W. Pegram, labor and material on Baptistry.....	31.72
Preaching.....	400.00
<b>Total expenditures.....</b>	<b>866.97</b>
<b>BALANCE.....</b>	<b>\$ 503.78</b>

## OUR BIBLE SCHOOL REPORT

Attendance last Sunday.....	120
Attendance a week ago.....	120
Attendance a year ago.....	107
Average attendance for 1951.....	105
Average attendance thus far 1952.....	112

HELP US IMPROVE THIS RECORD! WE WANT 150 SUNDAY

THE TRUTH ABOUT EASTER  
(Continued)

thority of Jesus Christ through his written word, they will no longer follow the self-appointed religious leaders of today; but will demand that they have a thus saith the Lord for all they teach and do.

"Easter" is derived from the term which means, the goddess of spring and the dawn. It is the heathen name of a heathen goddess and of a heathen feast. The term does not appear in the New Testament, for in Acts 12:4, where the Authorized Version reads "Easter" the Revised or American Version rightly translates "Passover", as the reference is to the Jewish death and resurrection of Jesus. We should not recognize and observe the day called "Easter" as being a day set above all other Lord's Days as the DAY to observe the resurrection of Christ. Because it is not set aside by God, but by the authority of fallible men. Therefore we should not be concerned about "Easter" or any other day set aside by man.

The Holy Spirit has given no instructions about keeping "Easter"; hence, Christians should take no part in the worldly heathen custom. If God had wanted his people to observe a day in the year called "Easter," He would give them such instructions as they needed.

But someone ask the question, what is wrong with observing Easter as the resurrection day of Christ? My answer is that the Bible teaches against it. For in Gal. 4:10-11, Paul says, "Ye observe Days, and months, and times, and years. I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labor in vain." Paul had gone into the regions of Galatia, preached the gospel. These people had obeyed the gospel and become Christians. But now, they had gone back to observing these days, and Paul said

he was afraid that his labors had been in vain. WHY? Because by observing these days they were violating God's law, and therefore would be lost. But let us notice another passage of scripture. In Col. 2:16-17, the apostle says, "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days; Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ." From these passages of scripture the unbiased mind can readily see that it is wrong to observe special days in a religious way. But another reason why it is wrong to observe special days in religion is, in so doing we do not abide in the teaching of Christ. For we find in 2 John verse 9, the apostle John says, "Who-soever transgresseth, and abideth NOT IN THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he HATH BOTH THE FATHER AND THE SON." This passage makes it very plain that the individual that does not remain within the bounds of the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Can one be saved without haveing the Father? Certainly not! Do those who observe Easter as the resurrection day of Christ, remain within the bounds of the teaching of Christ? I charge that they are not. To them Easter is the most sacred day in the whole year. But where did they get the idea? They did not get it from the Bible. The Bible is silent on the observance of easter. Therefore, it is a doctrine of man, and I challenge anyman to prove that Easter is more sacred or significant than any other first day of the week. It cannot be proven.

The Lord's supper, eaten weekly on the first day of the week, (the day we call Sunday), is the only commemoration of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ that Christians can give by divine instructions. In Acts 20:7, we read, "And upon the first day of the

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CHURCH of CHRIST  
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Clemmons, N.C.*

(THE TRUTH ABOUT EASTER)  
(Continued)

week, when the disciples came together to break bread." What did they do when they came together to break bread? Here is the answer "For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come." 1 Cor. 11:26. They commemorated the Lord's death when they came together upon the first day of every week. Faithful children of God meet upon the first day of every week to commemorate the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, and not just once a year, twice a year, or four times a year, but EVERY first day of the week.

My friends, the church of Christ is making an earnest plea to all people, to lay aside the tradition of men, to take the Bible the word of God for your guide in all matters of religion. We plead for you to obey the Gospel of Christ, wear simply the name the early New Testament disciples wore, practice only the things that early disciples practiced. For this is a way that is right, and cannot be wrong.

---Vestal Chaffin

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GOSPEL MEETING

Our meeting begins on May 4th with Brother GUY N. WOODS doing the preaching. Let us all make plans to attend every service. Everyone is cordially invited to come.

Services -

Sunday 11:00 A.M. & 7:30  
Daily 7:30 P.M.

SERMON SUBJECTS

Our subjects for the service at 11:00 O'clock Sunday Morning, April 20th, will be:

"WHY I AM A CHRISTIAN"

Certainly everybody should be able and willing to tell why they are, what they are, in the matter of religion. I believe that I have some good reasons to be a Christian. BE SURE AND HEAR THEM! ASK YOUR FRIENDS TO COME AND HEAR THIS LESSON.

Sunday evening at 7:30 our subject will be: "THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST." Hear this subject, and be sure and bring a friend with you.

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PREACH THE GOSPEL

A young minister in a college town was embarrassed at the thought of criticisms from his cultivated congregation. He sought counsel from his father, an old minister, saying: "Father I am embarrassed when I preach. If I cite anything from Geology, there is professor Jones, a teacher of science, right before me; If I use an illustration of Roman mythology, there is professor Smith; If I instance something in English literature, I am answered by the learned man who teaches that branch. What shall I do?"

The sagacious old man replied "Don't be discouraged. Preach the gospel. They probably know little of that."

---- Gospel Digest.