


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.

March 26, 1952

No.22

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HEAVEN?

Preacher: "Are you interested in going to Heaven?"

Church Member: "What a question to ask me, preacher! Of course, I am interested in going to Heaven. Anybody that believes the Bible is interested in going to Heaven. That is the reason I was baptized by old Brother Faithful over at Piney-Slab Holler back-----well, I just don't remember the date, but I was baptized."

"What's that? Where am I going to church? Why I go once in a while over to Antioch where Brother Smoothit preaches. You say he has been gone from there for three years? Well, I didn't know it had been that long since I had been to church! Course now, I've been busy, and then I have not been feelin' very well and the weather hasn't been what it should have been. But Brother, I am interested in heaven!"

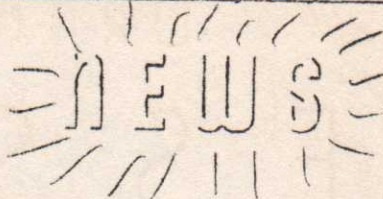
"Where does my family go to church? Why, they don't go anywhere. You know how my wife is. OH! You ain't never met my wife? Well, that woman just won't hear anything about church. She won't get the kids ready and take 'em to Sunday school, and you know it's not the man's place to do that. I tell you, I just don't know how I've stayed interested in heaven and lived with that woman. I've put up with more from her than Dan ever put up with his wife Beer-Sheba."

"Do I take a gospel Paper? Naw, sir! I took one once, and it just laid around the house and I never had time to read it. Time I got all the Newspapers and magazines read it was time to go to bed, so I just didn't send 'em any more money. I think I can get to heaven without a gospel paper anyhow."

"How much money have I given to the Church? Now, just a minute, preacher! You can ask all the questions you want to, but when you ask about money, you've gone a mite too far. It's none of your business how much money I give to the Lord! It's nobody else's business either! That is one thing I never do, go around bragging about how much I give!! And when people ask me, like you did, I ain't going to tell 'em. Just makes me glad that I don't give anything. The very idea asking me IF I WAS INTERESTED IN HEAVEN, and then trying to find out how much I've been giving to the Lord."

-----Selected.

(Editor's Note: Any similarity of places or persons is purely coincidental, but if this shoe fits you, wear it.)



"WARNERS CHAPEL MESSENGER"  
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 interest of New Testament  
 Christianity; By the Church of  
 Christ at Warners Chapel,  
 Clemmons, Route 1, N. C.  
 Vestal Chaffin,.....Editor  
 Mrs. Tom Binkley.....Typist  
 Mrs. Gladys Harper.....Typist  
 Mrs. Virginia Elam.....Typist

Mrs. Flossie Yarbrough has been absent from services for the past two or three weeks due to illness but is reported to be much better now.

Sister Ida Pegram is still not able to be back to worship with us. We hope she will soon be feeling better.

Sister C. E. Warner has now recuperated from flu.

**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.  
 Mid-week Service..... 7:30 P. M.

THURSDAY

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

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A WELCOME AWAITS YOU IN ALL OUR  
 SERVICES

SERMON SUBJECTS

Brother Chaffin's sermon topics for Sunday, March 30, are:

11:00 A.M. "FREEDOM BY THE TRUTH"  
 7:00 P.M. "WAS CHRIST DIVINE?"

Be sure to hear these subjects discussed. Invite your friends to come with you.

"It takes less time to do a thing right than it does to explain why we did not do it."

"The best way to save time to salt it down with noble deeds."

"If you brood over your troubles you are sure to have a perfect hatch."

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 (Warners Chapel)  
 Located on Lasater Lake Road  
 Clemmons, Route 1,  
 North Carolina  
 Vestal Chaffin, Evangelist  
 Phone 5-2414

OUR BIBLE SCHOOL RECORD

Attendance last Sunday.....108  
 Attendance a week ago..... 96  
 Attendance a year ago..... 95  
 Average attendance for 1951.....105  
 Average attendance thus far 1952.....110

NOTE: Can't we improve this record? Why can't we have 150 in Bible Study? ? ? IF WE LOVE THE LORD, LET'S PROVE IT!!!

# WHY NOT OBSERVE LENT?

During the past few weeks we have read in the newspapers, and heard over the radio, a great deal about the so-called "Lenten season" now being observed by many of the churches. Until just a few years ago, you never heard the so-called protestant churches ever mention "Lent." Only the Catholics observed "Lent." But now, things have changed. Many of the denominational churches have started to observe "Lent" at least in a limited way. In so doing are they not following their "Mother" the Catholic church? They have stopped protesting many things that the old "Mother of Harlots" have been doing all down through the ages, and have fallen right in line with her. Is such to be questioned? If these things are right, why have the so-called protestant churches failed to practice them all the time?

There are many things which the Church of Christ does, or does not do, that make us conspicuous. As a result, we are looked upon by many as being narrow. We know that there is no merit in being "religious freaks", but our convictions are such that we cannot act as many do. We believe that all acts of service to God (that is, the things that we do in our religious life) must be found in the New Testament-----we must have a "Thus saith the Lord."

WHAT IS LENT? WHERE IS THE AUTHORITY FOR KEEPING LENT? You may search your Bible from cover to cover and you will find not a single word about "Lent." In order to find out what Lent is, we must go to the works of man. The New Standard Encyclopedia says: "Lent, an annual fast of 40 days preceding Easter Sunday. The word is Anglo-Saxon, meaning the season of spring. It begins on Ash Wednesday

and closes on Easter Sunday, in commemoration of Christ's fast of 40 days, described in Matt. 4:2, and as a preparation for Easter, the absence from amusements and from eating of hearty food is enjoined by the Greek, Roman Catholic, English and Lutheran Churches" We are made to ask, how long will it be until this is "enjoined" by denominational Churches? So-called protestant churches? How long?

It is said to have been a fast of 40 hours until the time of Gregory the Great when it was made a fast of 36 days. Sometime later Ash Wednesday and the remainder of the week were added. WHO EVER READ OF "ASH WEDNESDAY" IN THE BIBLE? AS FAR AS THAT GOES, "EASTER SUNDAY" IS UNHEARD OF IN THE BIBLE! Where did the 40 hours of fasting come from? IT CAME FROM THE CATHOLICS! And her children, the denominational churches are following after her precepts and examples. Who changed the 40 hours to 40 days? THE CATHOLIC CHURCH! This forces us to the conclusion----ALL THESE THINGS CAME FROM THE DOCTRINES OF MEN AND NOT FROM GOD. For this reason, we reject the keeping of these things. If God had intended for His people to keep the Lenten season, the Holy Spirit would have guided the apostles with the words of authority and this forty days of special penitence and self denial would be found in the New Testament.

There certainly is nothing wrong with penitence and self-denial as an individual matter, but to force them upon the church as a religious act has no sanction in the word of God. The word of God does have something to say about such things, however: "Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years. (Continued page 4)

