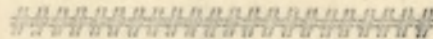


Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. Galatians, 5:1.

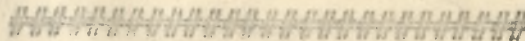


ROOTS ARE IMPORTANT

He shall be like a tree planted by the streams of water.-Ps.1:3.

The Psalmist is talking about the fruitful life. He compares a man to a tree, and says that the fruitfulness of the tree depends upon where its roots are. In his land, drought was common and trees withered under the heat of the sun. But when a tree was planted by a flowing stream, its roots could reach out and find moisture. The fruitfulness of our lives depends upon where we are rooted. From what kind of reading do our minds draw their ideas and their stimulation? With what kind of friends do we associate? How much do we draw upon the refreshing streams of truth that flow in the scriptures? Do we delight in the law of the Lord and meditate upon his law day and night?

The church, with its worship and preaching, is also a great source of inspiration and strength. But above all we need to remember the words of our Lord: "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit." Then we must be rooted in Christ who is the only source of "SUPPLY". Except we abide in Him, we cannot bring forth fruit.



YOUTH NEWS

Chicago, Ill.

March 27, 1949

Greetings in the name of Jesus.

We are glad today able to report of the faithfulness of the Lord once again.

Elder Screamer brought the message on Young People's day. His text was from Isaiah 35:8. Truly the Lord blessed us much as we listened to this wonderful man of God.

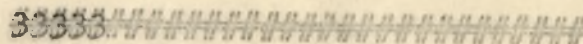
We thank God for our Youth work. Recently we have begun a Bible class for young people on Thursday nights, with Sister Ida Riley as teacher. What rich truths are unfolded to us through the Holy Spirit as we study the word of God together.

Pray our strength and endurance in the Mighty Christ.

Lucille Sanders--Pres.

Ida Riley -- Sec'y.

Elder J.M.Melvin -- Pastor.



Cedar Rapids, Iowa

March 27, 1949

Greetings of love to all the saints of God.

Another month has rolled around, and we are yet spared of the Lord to be in the land of the living and sharing in the blessings of the kingdom of God.

Our Youth Day of Worship was glorious because the Lord was magnified and praised all day.

The President was in charge and the devotional was conducted by Bro. James Carr.

Bro. Leroy Miller preached a wonderful sermon, in the afternoon from the 14th chpt. of St. Jno. --- A very comforting message in these times of strains and stresses, when men's hearts are failing them for fear of what is to come and the current problems of life. It made us so glad to know that 'Jesus cares' and is concerned about his little ones, so much so that he has made the necessary preparations for our well-being

Sunday-school lessons---cont.

and still is, concerned about our faith in him. Having chosen and called these men from their daily occupations in order that they might learn first-hand of and about him through his daily works and teachings, and now that he was turning toward the cross he was really concerned about their faith in him.

Had his works proved him to be the son of God, in their opinion? Peter answered "Thou art the Christ". When Jesus began to teach them that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of religious leaders, and finally put to death, it didn't set so well with Peter--thus Jesus had to rebuke Peter because he didn't understand and was unaware of the real meaning of his mission and purpose. It was an essential part of the Messiah's work to die for the sins of man, so the cross was inevitable. Without the shedding of blood there could be no remission of sin.

In the transfiguration we see Law, Prophecy, and Grace coming together. Moses typified the law, Elias the prophecy, and Jesus-- grace.

The law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ--thus identify under the law until he came. The prophecies pointed to Christ--thus identifying him as to how and why he would do when he came.

Now he has come, and I am sure in their conversation on the mount Jesus told them He was going to accomplish the work that his Father had sent him to do. So we see Law and Prophecy giving away (a cloud overshadowed them) a voice was heard saying "This is my beloved Son: hear him". When the voice was past Jesus was found alone---- only Grace remained, no wonder

Paul said "For by grace are you saved" Eph. 2:8. Jesus is the Way to salvation. In Luke's account he said "when the time was come that he (JESUS) should be relieved up, he steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem. Yes, he knew what awaited him there but being a good shepherd he was willing to give his life for the sheep.

Lesson two tells of his Pecan Ministry. The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life for a ransom for many. Jesus is commonly and rightfully regarded as the greatest of all men. Yet he had no concern for the things which had been traditionally associated with greatness. He traveled an entirely different road. He had neither wealth nor position, and lived a simple life. When he predicted to his disciples that he would be betrayed, mocked, and put to death, it indicated seemingly, anything but greatness, but it was the path to his supreme achievement. His highest and most essential service to the world was to give his life a ransom for many. In rendering it he has established a supreme claim upon our lives. We are not our own - because he bought us with his precious blood.

Lesson three (The Easter lesson) gives us the reality of eternal life when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead and proclaimed himself to be the Resurrection and the life, it caused a marveling and wondering in the minds of those that heard him-- but behold on the third day he proved that he was life because the quickening spirit (which is life) brought him forth out of the grave. Death has no power over Eternal life, it may overcome the natural life but the eternal life of the soul cannot be dimmed by death, thus we can lay down this natural life and yet through eternity we can live on.

It is a mystery to those that have not the spirit of Christ.

Lesson four teaches us how we may live "successful Christian lives" by disciplining ourselves: dying daily after the manner of man, keeping our bodies under subjection to the spirit of God, abstaining from strong drinks over-indulgence in any-thing harmful to the body, which is the temple of God.

Jesus said "Who-so-ever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, can not be my disciple." Luke 14:27. A true disciple must be willing to endure for Christ's sake anything he is called upon to endure. What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his soul, or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? We must keep our heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life. Self discipline is vital in every Christian's life. We cannot please self or the flesh and still be in harmony with God's will.