

The Christian Training Center Crusader

VOL.1

April 1977

No.8

GOD is.....



PSALM 19:7

"..... the testimony of the LORD is
sure, making wise the simple."

THE SEVEN UNITIES THAT WILL
MATURE THE CHURCH

Eph.4:1-16

By Dr. Albert Grimes

In these days there has been much effort put forth in regards to unity. But still there remains in the United States Two Hundred and Fifty Denominations and more coming into existence.

The main principle of this effort of unity centers around the fact of just fellowshiping around Christ. They claim that it does not matter what we believe or what we are in a Denominational sense. This is the type of unity that has always been attempted but it is a type of unity that allows the principles of division to remain, and become stronger.

All these efforts towards unity, while maintaining our divisions will never accomplish the unity of the Church as described in Eph.4:1-16.

Before we deal with the seven unities that will unite the Church, it is necessary to look at another problem which we as believers have in the Church. The problem of nationality and culture.

As believers we should in the church among ourselves as believers, have no nationality and no cultures. We are Christians, and the scriptures are very plain in regards to these things.

The Jew and the Gentiles are one in Christ. Eph.2:14"For He is our peace who hath made both one," that is Jew and Gentile.

This oneness is further described in Gal.3:28"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female, for ye are all one in Christ Jesus!"

The individual differences between Jews and Greeks, between slave and free, between male and female, are merged into a higher unity in Christ.

Among our own people who are not saved, we may to some degree, have to maintain nationality and culture. But we must not in the Church for this is a barrier to unity.

This principle we must understand: we minister as one to the Body of Christ.

In the Christian Training Center we have not just formed another division in the Body, but we have set ourselves into an educational Institute to minister to the whole Body of Christ. We want to try and produce a message that will help to bring all groups into a scriptural unity.

Our message is to the whole Body of Christ. The Chapter which speaks of these seven unities is Eph. 4:1-16. We will relate these seven unities in their order in the Chapter.

1. The Unity of the Spirit: vs.1-3
2. The seven unities of Foundational Truth: vs.4-6
3. The unity of Ministries: vs.11
4. The unity of purpose for those Ministries: vs.12
5. The unity of the Faith: vs.13
6. The unity of doctrine: Vs. 14,15.
7. The unity of operation in the Body of Christ of those ministries: vs. 16

1. The Unity of the Spirit:

This principle of keeping the unity of the Spirit relates to walking as is described. This will allow the Holy Spirit to work through us in a oneness of purpose which will produce the unity of the Spirit, because He will be working in our lives without human interference. If the Holy Spirit is allowed to walk in us as He desires, this will produce His unity.

How it is brought about is described in vs.1 "Walk worthy of the vocation(divine summons unto Salvation) to which ye are called!" The word "walk" relates to: to conducting oneself, to order one's behavior. "Worthy" is in a manner worthy of, or in other words, Paul exhorts these saints to see to it that their Christian experience, the Christian life they live, should weigh as much as the profession of Christianity which they make.

They are to see to it that they practise what they preach. That their experience measures up to their standing in grace.

The "calling" refers to the divine summons unto Salvation, which God gives the sinner, through which he is made willing to accept the Salvation offered. It speaks of that effectual call into Salvation which God in sovereign grace extends to a sinner.

These sinners were called unto Salvation and made saints. They are to be obedient to that heavenly calling or summons to be saints and live as saints should. (To be Continued)

OLD TESTAMENT PREDICTIONS
CONCERNING CHRIST

By Dr. Albert Grimes

The Bible came into existence as God revealed Himself to human beings in such a manner, that they, the men whom God had chosen, recorded accurately, and free from all human error, whatever God divinely revealed to them. This is the statement of the scriptures as in 2 Tim.3:16 "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness!"

Those who are called into a ministry, and desire to teach the Bible, as it is the Word of God, are exhorted through the same scripture to study the same in 2 Tim.2:15 "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth!"

The study of God's Word will prepare us for our ministry as stated in 2 Tim.3:17 "That the man of God may be perfect thoroughly furnished unto all good works!"

The term in 2 Tim.3:16 "All scripture" relates to the thirty nine Books of the Old Testament and the twenty seven Books of the New Testament. So we have a divine library of sixty six Books which are all, because of the different principles of truth revealed through them, one book.

The Old Testament came into existence from 1400 B.C., the time of Moses, to 400 B.C., the time of Malachi. The New Testament was produced during the last two thirds of the first Century, from about A.D.33 to A.D.100/. Thus the entire Bible was produced over a period of about one thousand and five hundred years, from 400 B.C. to A.D.100.

The main theme is Christ, the Redeemer, and its one purpose is the record of human redemption. This is the theme of this study: "Old Testament Predictions about Christ." A prediction is a foretelling concerning a person, place, or thing. It is a revelation, and the truth is contained in the words concerning the prediction, being uttered, or written.

As we have stated, Christ is the central theme of the Bible, and in the study of this truth is this principle understood, that the

6.

New Testament is enfolded in the Old Testament. Or as Augustine states, "The New is in the Old contained. The Old is by the New explained!"

In the study of this main theme "Christ;" we will find that there are two branches in the stream of Messianic Prediction. There are the predictions of the suffering Messiah, or the First Advent of Christ. Then there are the predictions of the Kingly Messiah, or the Second Advent of Christ.

In the principle of connecting the Old Testament with the New Testament we will discover that the prediction is first made in the Old Testament, then its fulfillment brought about in the New Testament.

THE FIRST ADVENT OF CHRIST

The Seed Of The Woman:

The first statement regarding Christ is made in regards to the fact, that He is to be the seed of the woman as stated in Gen. 3:15. "And I will put enmity between thee, and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel!"

God here is talking to Satan, the enmity spoken of was first to be directed against the woman. Satan has degraded women wherever possible.

Then this enmity has been directed by Satan's seed, or the unregenerated, against those who are God's seed. The "he" in Gen. 3:15 the woman's seed was Christ, who on the cross, which would relate to the statement "he shall bruise thy head", brought about Satan's defeat. The term "and thou shalt bruise his heel" refers to the fact, that Satan would be the actual person that placed Christ on the cross; but in doing so he brought about his own defeat.

The fulfillment of this promise is brought out in Gal.4:4, "But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son made of a woman, made under the law!"

Having now related in the Old Testament scriptures the method of how Christ was to come through the woman ; the Old testament further reveals through whose seed Christ was to come.

(To Be Continued)



THE "HOW TO" CORNER

"HOW TO HAVE TIME"

By Dr. Edith R. Grimes

It is a very common remark these days to hear someone say, "I just do not have time" or "There just are not enough hours in the day!"

There are a few questions we need to ask ourselves in regards to planning our time.

First: What is your life time goal? Then, what would you like to accomplish in the next three years? In the next year? If you knew you had only a few months to live what would you want to accomplish?

It is only as we have this "over-all framework" that good Time planning is possible. Set goals for yourself then pick out and arrange in order the most important A-1 tasks to be tackled and accomplished on the way.

To reach your goal you need to plan your time each and every day. By failing to plan, you will free very little of your time, if any, and by failing to plan, you will almost certainly fail to discriminate between the most important things in the order of A,B,C,etc.

Some people resent the thought of schedules but if you want to spend your time profitably and accomplish goals, this is the best procedure.

It is good to have a "month at a glance" Diary book for your monthly schedule such as Seminars, Classes, Church services to take, etc. Also a large calendar with plenty of room to mark your commitments, hung in front of your desk or table, where you can see it well and often is a great help. Just be sure to check it often.

A weekly schedule gives you the commitments for the week so you know what meetings or classes you have to plan and study for.

First thing in the morning schedule your day. Figure out the most important things to be done and make a "To Do" List. Try to do the most important things first, as much as possible, while you are fresh and alert.

If you have a class today, plan accordingly and for time to

8.

review the lesson before you go. You have already studied the lesson, for it was on the schedule you had yesterday, for you to prepare it.

Have a pen in hand as you read your mail - mark on the outside of each envelope such as: "Ans. immediately" or "Bill" or "Book Order," or "check enc." etc. Place circular mail of no interest in waste basket immediately. For circular mail you would like to read or glance at, place in a pile where you can relax and read at a rest period.

When handling papers, etc. handle them only once. If paying bills put the stub or receipt in the proper file rather than piling them up to do at a later date.

Schedule appointments, where necessary, but always reserve at least one hour a day of uncommitted time. Invariably some of your time will be spent on activities out of your control.

The "To-Do" List assures that none of the important items are lost or overlooked. Perhaps all you have listed may not get done today so transfer it to the next days list until it is completed.

Plan at lunch time, after you have eaten, to lay down flat for fifteen minutes. This is a good time to read your circular mail. If you fall asleep you can be sure you must have needed it and will accomplish more for being rested.

Your morning has been a busy one and your heavy work has been accomplished. Let your afternoons be less pressure packed.

"Relax more and you will get more done and enjoy your work more!" Always take one day a week to go for an outing and take the whole day off. You owe it to yourself and your family. God intended for us to enjoy His handiwork in creation and we must take time to relax and enjoy it. God intends for one day a week to be a rest day. If we are busy in the Lord's work or not, we must take one day a week to relax and do none of the usual things we do other days except our devotions of course.

"Procrastination" is a very bad habit and causes frustration and failure. Putting off doing a job that needs to be done is neglect. Having a large job to do - perhaps one you do not enjoy or hate to tackle, is not helped by putting it off and doing the easy, small more enjoyable things first.

9.

The way to tackle an A-1 task is to poke holes in it. It is called "Swiss Cheese". It works by finding tiny, five minute tasks that have to do with the dread of the A-1 project. Make a priority list and then start with the most attractive item to you. Get involved with the project and you will find it is not so hard and time consuming as you thought. Just a five minute glance at it may end up being thirty minutes. A few of those and the project is finished.

Do anything that has to do with the A-1 project, no matter how trivial, for it all helps to get it done. Record on paper whatever decisions come to your mind about it. Like when to start, what to do first, what to do next, what information you need. What equipment will be needed and who else will be involved.

The more concrete decisions you can make the more likely you are to find some easy ways to get involved. Start with the most profitable parts of large projects. Divide your time and tasks into manageable parts and conquer each part in turn.

Concentrate on one thing at a time. Each one done is one less to be concerned about. Regardless of what kind of work you are in, office work, house work, etc. if these principles are applied they will help you get the job done.



"Crusader"

