

BITS & PIECES

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

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THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY

It says in Ephesians 4:11,12: **“And he gave some apostles; and some prophets; and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints for the work of the ministry...”** Whom does God expect to do the work of the ministry? The saints! Yet in the average Church we ask God to bless the pastor, anoint him, fill him with the Spirit, so he can do the work the saints are supposed to do. I think it was Vance Havner who said something like this: It is not the preacher’s job to fill the pews; it is the saints’ job to fill the pews and the pastor’s job to fill the pulpit. When was the last time you brought somebody to Church?

WE’RE NOT PRODUCING SAINTS

Over fifty years ago A.W. Tozer wrote: “The fact is, we are no longer producing saints. We are making converts to an effete type of Christianity that bears little resemblance to that of the New Testament. The average so-called Bible Christian in our times is but a wretched parody on true sainthood. Clearly, we must produce better Christians.” What would he say today? We may quote it, but how many know anything about Galatians 2:20: **“I am crucified with Christ, but nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me.”**

A SANDY GOSPEL

C.H. Spurgeon said: “As for that sandy gospel which lets you fall away and then come back again (i.e. lose your salvation and then have to get saved again), it is the wickedest falsehood on earth...Take the Bible as it stands, and if you do not see everlasting love there, there is some fault in your eyes, and it is a case rather for the ophthalmic hospital than for me. If you cannot see eternal security, blood-bought righteousness there, I am hopeless altogether of your conversion to the truth, while you read it with your present prejudices.” I was saved reading the Bible with no background whatever in the Bible and yet I clearly saw when I read John 10:28: **“I give unto them eternal life and they shall never perish,”** Jesus was saying the salvation He gave me was eternal and I would never perish! If that is not eternal security, what is it? When He said, “It is finished!” What was he speaking of?

GET SERIOUS ABOUT GOD’S WORK

The work is solemn - therefore do not trifle. The task is difficult - therefore do not relax. The opportunity is brief - therefore do not delay. The path is narrow - therefore do not wander. The prize is glorious - therefore do not faint. - Copied. **“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”** ~1 Corinthians 15:58.