

BITS & PIECES

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

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JULY 2012

A BIG DIFFERENCE

There is a big difference between the early Christians and we modern day believers in Jesus Christ. In spite of great persecution, here is how they prayed: **“Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word... And when they had prayed...they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.”** ~Acts 4:30-31. It is commonly reported that not more than 5% of modern day Christians seriously try to win someone to Christ. I believe this is true; it may well be less. Two causes strike me: There is not sufficient love for Christ to motivate us (II Corinthians 5:14) and we do not have compassion on poor lost sinners like our Savior does. We need revival, but it will not come without repentance.

SENTIMENTAL LOVE

A certain young man was in the habit of going to his mother and throwing his arms around her neck and saying, “Mother, I love you so much, I could die for you.” One day as he did that, the dear mother replied, “Son, I don’t want you to die for me, I just want you to come in a little earlier at night.” It is easy to mouth the words, “I love Jesus,” or to sing, “O How I Love Jesus.” But do our actions prove it? Many people claim to love Jesus but you wouldn’t know it by their indifference and disobedience to His Word. Did He not say, **“If ye love me, keep my commandments.”** ~John 14:15. Others may not be able to tell the difference between lip service and true love of Christ - but He can! He said, **“This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.”** ~Mark 7:6.

IT COSTS TOO MUCH

Dr. R. G. Lee told of a lady who said, “The Church costs too much. I am sick and tired of it.” Another standing near-by said, “Let me tell you a story. Several years ago a baby boy came to our house, and from the time he was born he cost me money. He cost me money everyday for food, clothing, toys, etc. When he went to school he cost even more. When he went to college the costs were greater. In his senior year, he died. Since then, he hasn’t cost me one cent.” The lesson is obvious. What has it cost you to support God’s Church and serve the Lord Jesus Christ? Yes, the Church costs money, but it’s only the carnal, selfish Christian that complains. Would you like to try to get along without the Church? Would there be a Church if everyone gave as you do?

THE SCIENCE OF PRIORITIES!

Someone has said that “The greatest of all sciences is the science of decision.” I would alter that just a bit and say, “The greatest of all sciences is having priorities.” The Duke of Wellington was a performer on the violin and after giving a great deal of time to it, he began to fear lest his liking for it would get the better of him. He realized that his primary calling was that of a soldier, and so, one day he decided to lay his instrument aside and never touch it again. Though he did not realize it, the issue was whether he would be a clever musician or the victor at the battle of Waterloo. I would say that most Christians do not have the proper priorities, that is they do not put first things first. They do not put God first! Lesser things come before God. **“Seek ye FIRST the Kingdom of God and His righteousness...”** ~Matthew 6:33.