WLBQ Dec. 27, 1982

Dec 26, 1984

HES COMING AGAIN

This is Pastor R.V. Gibbs of the Morgantown Wesleyan Church, coming to you this first week afte Christmas, Thanks to Station W L B Q.

I trust you all had a wonderful Christmas and are ready for the coming New Year which will soon be with us. What we have done this past year is history and cannot be changed for better or worse, but the future is before us a nice clean sheet for us to use for God and His glory, and to help others along the pathway of life.

Jesus coming to this earth the first time about 1982 years ago was the greatest thing that had happened on earth since its beginning. Many prophets foretold His comming but not many realy were looking or were ready for His coming. Nevertheless He came when the fulness of time was come and fulfilled the prophecies to the letter. Now I am thinking of a verse of Scripture found in Heb. 9:28 "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he apperar the second time without sin unto salvation." He's coming again. The first coming was a great event but His second coming will also be great. The importance in God's thought of the Second coming of Christ is seen in the fact that this event is mentioned more times in the New Testament than there are chapters. It has been said by those who have taken the trouble to count that it is mentioned 318 times in the 260 chapters of the New testament. And one who made a life-long study of the doctrine has said that it occupies one in every twenty-five verses from Matthew to Revelation. It also occupies a prominent place in the Old Testament, as by far the greater part of the predictions concerning Christ in the Old Testament are connected, not with His first coming to die as an atoning Saviour, but with His Second Coming to rule as King.

The coming again of Jesus Christ is the one doctrine with which God commands us to comfort sorrowing saints. When death had begun to thin the ranks of the believers in Thessalonica and hearts were aching over separation from those who had fallen asleep, the Apostle Paul wrote, "But we would not have you ignorant, brethren, concerning them that fall asleep; that ye sorrow not, even as the rest who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also that are fallen asleep in Jesus will God bring with Him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we that are alive, that are left unto thw coming of the Lord, shall in no wise precede them that are fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trunp of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first; then we that are alive, that are left, shall together with them be caught up in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore, comfort one another with these words" (1 Thess. 4:13-18). There is no other truth that has such comfort in it for intelligent believers when they are called upon to pass through deep sorrow as that of the return of the Lord and what it involves for us and for those who have fallen asleep.

In the Old Testament also we find God through His servant Isaiah comforting Israel in the time of their misery and desolation with the thought of the Coming of our Lord: "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God, O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up on a high mountain; O thou thattellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up on a high mountain; O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy vioce with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold, your God! Behold, his reward is with him and his recompense before him" (Is. 40:1, 9, 10).

Time and again in the New Testament the Coming again of our Lord Jesus Christ and the events connected therewith are held up as "the blessed hope" and the eager desire of every true believer. In Titus 2:13 Paul says, "Looking for the blessed hope and appearing of the glory of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." And Peter in 11 Peter 3:11, says: "Seeing that these things are thuse all to be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy living and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved,

ought ye to be in all holy living and godliness, looking for and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God, by reason of which the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?" To the true believer, the Coming Again of Jesus Christ is not something to dread, but it is the brightest hope the future holds for us and it should be the objest of our eager desire and longing anticipation. The last prayer in the Bible is also the cry of every intelligent ~~Christ~~ CHRISTIAN heart, "Amen; come, Lord ~~Jesus~~ Jesus" Rev. 22:20).

But while the Return of our Lord is the blessed hope and eager desire of the true believer, it is the particular objest of the hatred and ridicule of the mockers who walk after their own lusts, like the communist who sneer at Christians about their "pie in the sky." Peter's ~~Peter's~~ prediction has come true: "In the last days mockers shall come with mockery, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of His coming? for, from the day that the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation" (11 Pet. 3:3, 4).

A worldly Church and worldly Christians join with these mockers in their hatred of this truth. As a bride who is flirting with other men does not long for the return of her absent husband, so the faithless bride of Christ, who is flirting with the world does not long for the return of her Lord. But for the believer whose affections are all fixed upon Jesus Christ the Word of God contains no other promise so precious as the promise that He is quickly coming again.

The fact that our Lord Jesus is coming again is the great Bible argument for a life of watchfulness, prayer, and abiding in Christ. During the last week of His earthly life, our Lord said to His disciples, "Therefore be ye also ready; for in an hour that ye think not the son of man cometh" (Matt. 24:44)

Our Lord Jesus tells us that His return is the one event for which we should be looking. "Let your loins be girded about," He says, "and your lanps burning; and be ye yourselves like unto men looking for their Lord when he shall return from the marriage feast; that, when he cometh and knocketh, they may straightway open unto him." (Luke 12:35,36). In the next verse an especial blessing is pronounced upon those "Whom the Lord when He cometh shall find watching." Then the verse I read at the beginning of this message found in Heb 9:28 "to them that wait for Him," shall He "appear a second time apart from sin unto salvation."

These words ought to lead us to some very deep and earnest thinking and to ask ourselves whether we are really looking, watching, and waiting for Him. Let us Pray, Dear Lord we are so glad for your first coming and the atonement you made for our sins, but we are so glad you are coming again to take us away from this sin cursed world. Bless each one listening today and may they be ready when you come. In your blessed name we pray, Amen.

"As thou goest by step, I will open up the way before thee."
Proverbs 4:12.

Child of my love, fear not the unknown morrow.
Dread not the new demand life makes of thee;
Thy ignorance doth hold no cause for sorrow.
Since what thou knowest not is known to me.

Thou cans't not see today the hidden meaning,
Of my command, but thou the light shalt gain;
Walk on upon my promise leaning,
And as thou goest all shall be made plain.

One step thou seest then go forward boldly.
One step is far enough for faith to see.
Take that and thy next duty sahall be told thee.
For step by step thy Lord is leading thee.

Stand not in fear thy adversaries counting.
Dare every peril save to disobey.
Thou shalt march on all obstacles surmounting.
For I the strong, will open up the way.

Wherefore go gladly to the task assigned thee.
Having My promise, needing nothing more.
Than just to know where'er the future finds thee.
In all thy journeyings I will go before.

Author unknown

time of their misery and desolation with the thought of the Coming of our Lord: "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God, O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up on a high mountain; O thou thattellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up on a high mountain; O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift pp thy vioce with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold, your God! Behold, his reward is with him and his recompense before him" (Is. 40:1, 9, 10).

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W L B Q June 6,1983

GARDENS

This is Pastor Ransom Gibbs, of the Morgantown Wesleyan Church, coming to you this week on the Ministerial association devotional time. First I would like to express my appreciation to station W L B Q for giving us this time each morning.

At this time of year many of you are thinking of your gardens, you love to work the soil plant the seed and watch it grow until you have a harvest of good things. It seems to taste so much better if you grow it yourself.

You know God is interested in gardens too. The first garden in the world we read about in Genesis 2:8-18

God planted that garden, it was for mans pleasure, every tree that was pleasant to the sight and good for food was there. The herbs also were for food, It must have been a beautiful place, All Adam and Eve had to do was to take care of it and enjoy it. Even the tree of life was there and the tree of knowledge of good and evil, and a river of good water also.

But this paradise garden did not last for the first man and women, they disobeyed God and were driven from the garden and gardening has been harder ever since. Thorns and thistles were given to them and to us as a curse. Did you ever think how easy it would be to grow a garden if there were no weeds. It would sure save a lot of work, wouldn't it?
God placed an angel with a flaming sword to keep adom and Eve out of this beautiful garden but He has promised that he will give another garden to mankind. We read about this in Rev. 22:1-5

It is God's plan to restore man to that garden and to the fellowship that He created us for. Eden - paradise lost. The New Jerusalem - paradise regained. God has revealed to us that He is preparing this great city that will come and sit on a new earth, under a new heaven. Verse 2 tells us that in the middle of this city will run a life-giving river of water. Verse 3 says that the Tree of Life is three also, fed by the ingredient of everlasting life by the river of water that comes out of the throne of God. This tree of life has 12 different kinds of fruit and bears the year around. so you can drink from the river of life and ##### eat of the trên of life and live forever.

Everything needed will be fully supplied in this new garden. The curse is removed, no more weeds, no more labor and toil. No night, no need for the sun for the Lord God will be the light. We will have perfect fellowship Verse 4, and they shall see his face: and his name shall be in their foreheads.

There is another garden we all must pass through before going to the garden of paradise. Jesus spent time there, The garden of Gethsemane. Matt. 26: 36-44.
Jesus went there because he needed to pray, He needed help He needed strength to go to the cross. The load of a sinful world was pressing Him down. He needed His disciples to help Him pray but they did not understand, they fell asleep. He struggled there alone, but He gained the victory and the strength to drink of the bitter cup. The whole world would have been lost if He had not gone through that lonesome garden.

We too have our lonesome garden, not just like His but nevertheless we all have struggles because of something God has for us to do or to suffer for Him and it takes some agony and praying to gain the victory. We look to relatives and friends but they don't seem to understand But Im glad Jesus understands, He has gone this way before. Jusus settled it there that He would pay the price of suffering in order to save us from our sins. Jesus will be with you in the loneliest hour He knows just how to help you but tyou must say yess to the will of God for your life no matter what the cost. The decisions you make in this garden of struggle will eternally effect you and the lives of others, so lets face it and not try to take the easy way. Weeping may endure for a night but joy cometh in the morning. Jesus said, "Take up you cross and follow me." A crown awaits you if you do.

There is one more garden I want to mention this morning, I call it the Garden of My heart. Before Jesus saved me my heart was like a piece of ground that HAD grown up in weeds, not of much value that way, but when Jesus saved me the old weeds of sin He took out and planted the seeds of love joy peace long suffering goodness faith and hope. As a garden always needs careful attention so my heart needs to be looked after to keep the old weeds of doubt, fear, bitterness, envy, jealousy and striff out. The Bible says, "Keep thy heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life".

Though I love the gardens of earth, still I believe the most beautiful garden of all is a heart garden full of all goodness faith and love. so go ahead work in your earthly garden make it a beautifull place, keep out every weed so that it will be a joy to you and your friends but don't forget to tend to that wonderful garden of your heart. Earth gardens soon fade away but the heart garden lives on and on long after the body is dead.

Haldor Lillenas expresses my fealings very well in the song "The Garden of My Heart".
There's a sacred and hallowed retreat, Where my soul finds a fellowship sweet;
Where the Lord of my life I may meet, In the garden of my heart.

There is naught can disturb or molest; There my spitit finds comfort and rest;
And my soul is no longer distressed In the garden of my heart.

Shut away from earth's strife and its din, And protected from soul-stainin-ing sin,
For my Saviour is dwelling within, In the garden of my heart.

There the dove of sweet peace always sings, and my faith ever trustingly clings;
And the chime of sweet happiness rings In the garden of my heart.

In the cool of the day He walks with me; In the rosebordered way He talks with me;
In love's holy union, And sacred communion, In the garden of my heart.

Let us pray, Dear Lord and Saviour, we thank you for the blessings and beauty of Earth The gardens of good things, that are such a pleasure to us but most of all we are glad you are preparing a wonderful garden in the New Jerusalem, Help us to be faithful to you, and help any that are not savved to not put off seeking you with all their heart we ask in Jesus name, amen.

FAMILY BLESSINGS

A sermon by Rev. R. V. Gibbs, Pastor in Morgantown, Kentucky

Today I would like to speak to you about family blessings. The scripture lesson is found in Psalm 128; "Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee. Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table. Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord. The Lord shall bless thee out of Zion: and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life. Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children, and peace upon Israel."

Of all the things that God has intrusted us with, the most valuable of all is the building of a christian home. A home where love is mutual between husband and wife and God is given first place in all decisions that are made. A home where children are considered a sacred trust that God has given us.

In these days when the murdering of children by abortion is considered a mothers right. We need to realize that the caring and rearing of children is a sacred trust and that God's blessings will frow to the mother and father that will honor the principles given them in His Holy Word.

The future of the world lies in the hands of the mothers and fathers of today. If we as parents live for God and righteousness God will bless us. Psalm 127 says, "Except the Lord build the house they labour in vain that build it...."Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord, and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

There is at the marriage altar when vows are exchanged and sacred trusts are made a peculiar loveliness and radient light upon the countenance of two lives united together that helps us to realize anew that God is love and he wants to bless the family and home. Also in my own experience when the first child was born, there was a renewed love my wife and I had for each other as we held in our arms the new life God had given us. This was true also when each one of our four children were born. When our last child was born my wife was in danger and I spent a sleepless night. In the morning light I thanked God that he had spared her life and given us another child to bless our home.

Jesus warned against despising children in Matthew 18:10, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven." I have a picture at home of a beautiful angel watching over a sleeping child. There is another picture I have seen of two children, a boy and a girl crossing a deep canyon on a little foot bridge, the bridge is old and some of the boards are gone. It is getting dark and the children are going hand in hand accross, seemingly unaware of the danger, but just above them is a guardian angel to guide them safely accross. The scripture I just read says beware that you despise not one of these little one. If God is so concerned about their welfare that he delegates angels to watch over them, just think how blessed we are for God to place them in our hands, what a sacred trust. How we should be careful to fulfill our mission to teach them in right ways. Proverbs 22:6 says "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Jesus warned against turning a child away from God. Matthew 18:6. "But whoso shall affend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea."

We as parents have the responsebility of providing for the needs of our children; physically, mentally, and spiritualy. We can provide for them the guidance and instruction to make them a success or a failure; happiness or misery; heaven or hell. What a blessed privilage we enjoy of rearing our children in the ways of Godliness and holiness.

The scripture lesson says, you will be blessed. Proverbs 17:6 says, "Children's children are the crown of old men, and the glory of children are their fathers." A christian father and mother are honored by their children, and the grandchildren are the delight of the grandparents.

God's way is a blessed way, God's way is the right way. If we take His way our children and our grandchildren will rise up and call us blessed, but if we fail to walk in God's way there will be a day when our children will curse us: As Joshua said to the children of Israel: I set before you a blessing or a curse. If you follow God, blessing will come, if you follow not God's way cursing will come. This basic principle still holds true today. Which way will you take?

Isaiah prophsied of Jesus. 40:11. "He shall feed his flock like a shepherd, he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young." Here we see the picture of Jesus love for the family. May we as parents realize the love and tender care Jesus has for us and our children. If we will heed his call, listen to his voice and follow him, he will lead our family along the uneven journey of life to a home in heaven where we can be as my mother used to pray, "An unbroken family around his throne."

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CHRISTIAN GRACES

Dec 24, 1984 P1

W L B Q Nov. 15, 1981 3.00 p m
aug 11, 1982

This is Pastor Ransom Gibbs of the Morgantown Wesleyan Church coming to you again this 3rd Sunday in November. The summer has ended and the harvest has about all been gathered in and we are thinking of Thanks giving again. Certainly we do have much to thank the Lord for. and we do need to come before His presence with thanksgiving and enter His courts with praise.

This afternoon I would like to speak to you from II Peter the ist chapter, the first to the tenth verces. V 5 - 10

Here we find a precsription for a successful Christian life. Notice V8 For if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

V 5 says that we need to be diligent, "giving all diligence." To be diligent means to pay close attention to. Lazy Christians have a hard time pleasing God.

In this same verse we notice that virtue is important, When a person is first saved there may be many things that people have noticed about their past life that is not virtous, so we neet to add to our faith virtue which the dictionary says means "general moral excellence; goodness of character. this envolves such things as Honesty, fairness, faithfulness, being good to others and being unselfish. A christian certainly must add virtue to his life to be of service to the Lord.

Next we see that knowledge is very important, The Bible says, Study to show yourselves approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed. God never places a premium on ignorance, we need to know what we believe and why we believe it. We must hide the word of God in our heart that we might not sin. A person with very little knowledge can be a christian, but a person with much knowledge of the word of God can be a much more effective witness for the Lord.

Add to knowledge temperance. It takes our will to be temperant in all things. This means the proper and limited use of all earthly enjoyments, we should not be extravagent in the use of our mony. It is always good to ask ourselves the question, will what I am about to do be for the glory of God or is it for self alone, the use of our time. We should think about how much of our time is spent for Jesus and how much is spent just for our own selfish interests. I had a real good revolver once when I was in my last year of Highschool, or maybe it was my first year of college. God convicted me about it and I traded it for a Bible. There are so many choices we all must make when it comes to the possession of earthly things, no one can make these choices for us but I we yeild ourselves to God He will show us what things He wants us to have for His glory, Mony,time, pleasures, dress, modesty must all be taken into account if we are going to be an effective witness for God.

Patience is next in V.6. The Bible says tribulation worketh patience. God does not hand us patience on a silver plater but we obtain patience through tribulation, hard knokes, and hard times, Paul said, "I have learned in what soever state I am therewith to be content. It is hard for a young mother to be paitient when her child does so many things that she is constantly having to correct and run after it. She may be tempted to think, Oh why do I have to be tied down like this and never get to rest and do the things I used to ##### but if this mother will take the right attitude she will learn paintiente. In our work for Lord we are often tempted by Saton to think our work is in vain, but God has told us not to be weary in well doing for in due season we shall reap is we faint not, and God has never told a lie yet.

Peter next instructs us to add to patience Godliness, which means a character that reveals God to others. Jesus is our great example here, He had real compassion. He saw the needs of others and helped them with there need s, The shortedt verse of the Bible "Jesus wept" ##### reveals to us so much about the charatter of Jesus. When He saw the people weeping He wept also. Im glad He is touched with feeling for our infermities, When He was hanging on the cross He was thinking of the other theives with His and had compassion on the one who truly repented

Concerning the soldiers Christian Graces

and believed on Him. Then too he said, Father forgive them, for they know not what they do.

We as Christians, must be like Christ, full of godliness if we want to be of service for Him.

Now we see brotherly kindness is in this list, What does this mean? I am thinking of the true story which took place at Boys Town Nebraska, The boys in this orphans home were coming in for the night, The Father noticed that one of the boys was carraying his little brother on his back, the little brother was almost as big as he was so the Father said, Isn't he too heavey for you. But the older boy replied, He ain't heavy Father, he's my brother. "
We as Christians need to think of each as brothers and sisters in the Lord, When our brother is tird and having a hard time we need to hold ~~them~~ him up with our love and incouragement. There may be a time to laugh and joke but there comes a time when we cant laugh and the jokes are not funney and we yearn for someone who will share in our burden and help us in the way that we need help. I like this definition of a friend: "A friend is one who comes in, when all the world has gone out." Sometimes only a word of incouragement is all we need, In the book of Proverbs it says, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." I believe we are too careless with our words and need to use our voice more to help others.

The last one to be mentioned is the greatest of the Christian graces, Love, When Jesus was aske about the greatest commandment, He said Love for God and our fellowman was the chief, Paul said, Love never failth, We may not know as much as others or be as witty as others , or as popular as others, but if we have love we will never fail God or others and will have a rich reward in heaven, but if we lack love we will fail know matter what else we have. The only way we can have this love is by staying close to the Lord. God is the essence of love and like the rich perfume of the rose we can only get the benefit of it if we get close to the rose itself. We need to spend time in prayer and meditation with the Lord in order to have His love and Grace.

V.8 says if these things be in you, and abound, faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity, meaning love, you shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. but v.9 says if we lack these things we are blind.

V 10 concludes by saying if ye do thses things, ye shall never fall. Many people do not attend to the means of grace and fall by the wayside, this is not necessary and not the will of God so you can see how important it is to follow God's instructions for a successful christian life.

Heavenly Father we thankyou for the clear teachings of thy word about the way to live for you Bless each one who might be listening today and may they walk close to you and listen to your voice, in Jesus name we peay, Amen

Closing song
His Grace is sufficient for me.

WLBQ May 14,1981 5-29-85 Holiness the Standard of Christian living Wed

aug 18,1982

This is Pastor Ramsom Gibbs of the Morgantown Wesleyan Church coming to you through the Butler County Ministerial association and the courtesy of station W L B Q.

I am going to read a standard of Christ that will take us to Heaven and keep us in victory down here. I am reading the 15th Psalm.

I read a question. "Who shall abide in thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in thy holy hill?" Now this doesn't just simply mean a tabernacle made out of wood or stone. It goes beyond that. It would not be improper to say, "Wheo shall abide in the church and who shall dwell in the hill of the Lord eternally?" Who is ready for Heaven? What's the standard?
Here is the answer: "He that walketh upri htly, and worketh righteoisness, and speaketh the truth in his heart." The old world's looking for somebody that has salvation and is honest and speaks the truth in his heart. The courts of this country say this: if you can break a witness down once, if he tells an untruth in one thing, you can make up your mind the whole story he has told may be a whole lie, A man can live a lie and yet never tell a lie. To my face they would say I was right in my preaching and my attitude, but when they come to the enemies of the church. perhaps a backslider, perhaps kin of themselves, they wouldn't tell the truth. Half the truth is a whole lie. There is a life we must live and a position we must take, and God help us to take it. He never lets us down, if we stand by His truth and have a righteous heart, we'll speak the truth.
Who is going to Heaven, anyhow? "He that speaketh the truth in his heart and worketh righteousness and backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbor."

There are a lot of folks who have lived a crooked life. It is hard for them to start telling the truth. If your past life has been crooked, there are a lot of folks that have never forgiven you, but God will forgive you and bless you and will help you to begin telling the truth as you should. and walk uprightly, and establish your goings and a lot of people will have faith in you. The whole question of our acceptance with God, and heirship of immortality, turn on character, Holiness is the grand requirement. "Without holiness no man shall see the Lord." The righteousness required by God is "He that walketh uprightly "One who walks upright one who makes uprightness his way, his mode of action." The law of God requires perfection of spirit and life. God says to us all, as to Abram, "Walk thou before me, and be thou perfect." "Worketh righteousness." The Church has always been infested with a sort of people whose religion is all expended on the first table of the laws; who, along with a great show of contrition, and faith, and spiritual joy, and delight in God's worship, are illnatured in the daily life, censorious and unfriendly neighbours, unsafe men to deal with in business. What a fine portrait this 15th Psalm, for example, draws of the godly man! He loves God's tabernacle and holy hill; his heart is there. And when he goes out into the world, he does not leave his religion behind. He shows the influence of the fear of God in all he does. His tongue utters no malice. He is a man of his word. He will not make gain of his neighbours's necessity; nor will he, for any consideration, oppose the cause of one whom he knows to be innocent. These are the true fruits of faith unfeighned. He that doeth these things shall never be moved. Thus, in heart, in tongue, in actions, in his conduct as a member of society he is alike free from reproach.

Again I notice we are not to take up a reproach against our neighbor. The easiest thing in the world to do is to find fault with our neighbor. The Devil does everything to try to get us to find fault and critizise our neighbor so that we will have no influence on him. We should always breath a prayer when we are tempted to critize and ask God to guard our tongue so that we will not say anything that would cause our brother to be affended or to lose confidence in us because our failure may cause him to be lost. Always ask yourself, which is the most important, my neighbors soul or my own selfish interests. Your neighbor may need a friend very badly and you may be the only one he has confidence in. Here are some difinitions of a friend:

"A friend is a balancing pole," said an athlete, "without which it is impossible to walk safely the tightrope of life."

"A friend is a jewel," said a girl, "that shines brightest in the darkness of misfortune."

"A friend is a volume," said a journalist, "A volume of sympathy, bound in cloth, as a rule, though in rare cases the binding may be silken."

"A friend is a gold link," mused a jeweler, "in the chain of life."

"He is a plaster," said the physican, "for the cuts of misfortune."

"Like ivy," said the botonist, "the greater the ruin, the closer he clings."

"A friend," said a sad looking woman, "is the first person who comes in when the whole world has gone out."

And "there is a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother." Prov. 18:24.

Holiness, the Standard of Christian Living

Henry Ward Beecher said, "If you want your neighbor to see ~~that~~ what christ's spirit will do for him, let him see what it has done for you."

Little self-denials, little honesties, little passing words of sympathy, little nameless acts of kindness, little silent victories over favorite temptations these are the select threads of Gold which, when woven together, gleam out so brightly in the pattern that God approves.

Lakehmiah was a Christian from one of the primitive jungle tribes of India, but he learned that Christianity was to be lived. He had a bit of land on which he raised rice. One year, he raised enough to keep his family from hunger for eight months, and he was very grateful to the Giver. But one night, just before harvest, a neighbor drove his cattle in Lakshmiah's field and they grazed until the beautiful crop was only stubble! At dawn Lakshmiah heard the tragic news. Eight months' food gone! He came to work as usual, and continued faithfully all day without saying a word of his loss. At evening he quietly told his story, ending: "What ought I to do? My friends tell me to hand him over ### to the police, to mete out vengeance, to force restitution, to assert my rights. What do you say? " The missionary replied, "What does God say? Go home and pray. Listen to what he tells you to do. We, too, will pray and listen." Next morning he said: "God said that Jesus would not force restitution, but would for give him, and so should I." Lakshmiah did, and thus made a friend of his enemy.

Jesus said, "Ye are the light of the World." As lights we are to be different than the darkness of this selfish world. We need to speak the truth in love, work the works of righteousness, and practice the golden rule. Let us pray, Dear Lord Bless each one who is listening today, may they follow you in the way of truth and righteousness and may they listen to the Holy Spirit and yield to Him. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

W L B Q Aug. 9,1982 Feb. 16, 1984 The Church

This is Pastor R.V. Gibbs of the Morgantown Wesleyan Church. It is a ~~great~~ real privilage to be coming to you this week by means of radio W L B Q. Thanks to this station for providing this time for the ministerial association of Butler County.

I would like to speak to you this morning about the Church. ~~I am sure you all have heard about the Church.~~ There are many ideas about what the church is, What its purpose is, How it should opperate, what our relationship to it should be, and just how important it is in our sociaty.

The New Testament has much to say about the Church. the opostle Paul mentioned it in Col. 1:24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that whaich is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the Church. Here Paul speaks of the church as the body of Christ. From this we see that the church is made up of all true believers in Christ. At the last supper Jesus took bread and broke it and gave to His decipless and said, this is my body which was broken for you. then He took the cup and said this is my blood which is shed for you. This symbolizes that we as believers are part of the body of Christ. Jesus suffered for the Church as we read in Ep. 5:25-27 "Husbands love your wives even as Christ also loved the Church, and gave himself for it, that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. That he might present it to himself a glorious church not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing: but that it should be holy and without blemish."

We should never think of the church lightly, I visited an man one time who professed to be a Christian and invited him to come to church. He said he didn't believe in the Church and that he got his instructions straight from Jesus. I couldn't agree with him because I remembered that Jesus loved the Church and that He died for it.

Paul believed in the church so strongly ~~that~~ in ~~that~~ the scripture I just read in Col. he said he was rejoicing in his sufferings for the church at colosia that he might help to carry on the ~~the~~ work of Christ for the Church.

I want to say this, the church is not just a club or another social organization, or just a show or a play house. The work of the church is serious business and should not be taken lightly. The church has the business of preparing people to live successfully in this life and for a place of everlasting joy with God.after this life is over. The church has the business of rescuing men, women, boys and girls from the fires of hell. I think that is realy important business, don't you.

Each congregation is only a small part of the great body of Christ. But your local chursh and mine is a very important part of this great body and we are expected to be faithful. If our church is not what it ought to be we need to make it better, not forsake it. To forsake the church is to forsake Christ. You cannot separate Christ and the Church.

Paul made many missionary journeys ~~in or~~ to establish new churches, he saw the great importance of each one and wept and cried over some of them because he had them on his heart because he had the concern and love like Christ. Let me ask this question, Do you and I weep over the church as much as we should or do we run when the way is hard. there are many people in communist countries that are ready to suffer and if need be to die for their Church. They have to meet in secret and often are sujected to m uch crualty but they hold fast in their faith.

Some people treat their job in the church very lightly but our work for the church is the most important job we will ever have . Our work for the church is not confined to four walls. one person asked a pastor where his church was. the pastor replied, that depends on what day of the week it is. On Sunday the church is inside a certain building, during the week it is scattered in factories stores homes and other places. I thought that was a good answer, because the body of christ cannot be confined to just the four walls of a building all the time.

Whether the local church is big or small it ~~sis~~ is very important to the Lord. Jesus said in Luke 12:32, "Fear not little flock for it is your fathers good pleasure to give you the kingdom". He also said, where 2 or 3 are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst." Jesus believes our gathering together is so important that if only 2 or 3 are present He will be there. Jesus is concerened and does not let us down we can always depend on Him, Praise His wonderful name. I have heard the expression,"the unseen guest", Well is He a guest? No He is the most faithful member of all, as the song says,"Jesus is always there" I'm so glad for that, arn't you?

Now let's notice what Christ Wants to do for the Church. Ep. ~~8~~ 5:26 27 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. That he might present it to himself a glorious church not having spot, ~~w~~or wrinkle or any such thing: but that it should be holy and without blemish." Christ wants the church to be holy. Ps.93:5 says, "Holiness becometh thine house ~~of~~ O LOrd forever." Heb. 12:14 says, For without holiness no man shall see the Lord." Jesus was very displesed when He went to the temple in Jeruselm, They were buying and selling and exchanging money there. He took a whip and drove them out and said My house shall be called a house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of theives. We ned to beware lest our church become something other than what it ought to be.

I thank God for the church and what it has ment to me. Most people find God in the church The word of God is taught by faithful teachers and preachers and many other kinds of faithful workers. We are all a part of this glorious church that shall meet around the throne some day and sing the songs of zion like we have never sung them before. I have been privelaged to here some great singing but this will be a chrous of ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands ~~of thousands of thousands.~~ How many is that? You and I are at our out posts now. so lets be faithful until Jesus comes.

~~Dear Lord as we come to the close of this service we p~~

Pathways

Come to me
9-24-89 5-6 AM

"The pathway of the just is as a shining light that shineth more and more until the perfect day."

"The way of the wicked is as darkness, they know not at what they stumble."

Wicked ~~Paths~~.

Drugs. alcohol, bad friends, immorality, Dishonesty, evil speaking

"Pride cometh before distruction and an haughty spirit before a fall."

Jealusy.

Righteous Paths

The way Jesus Took. He said follow me"

Honesty, Truth, loyalty, kindness, mercy, Purity, Holiness "a pathway shall be there and a way and it shall be called the way of Holiness"

a Path is something you choose to stay on or get off of daily. which way will you take.

WLBQ July 3,1981

This is Pastor Ransom Gibbs again this 3rd day of July. Tomorrow is the 4th, a day that always brings happy memories of the good times I had on the 4th as a boy. My brothers and I saved all the money we could so we could buy all the fireworks we could to have a big celebratio The 4th and Christmas were the two holidays I looked foreword to most. Since then I have learned more about what Independance Day realy means.

In 1943 I sailed out passed the statue of liberty in New York harbor with other men in the army to go abroad to help keep America free. After being gone for nearly three years I learned first hand what it is like to live in other lands. I remember hearing for the first time The wonderful song "God Bless America," It was written by Irving Berlin During World War I, He had kept it tucked away in a trunk where it stayed for 22 years. Tehn, in 1939, he passed it along to Kate Smith, feeling that she might want to sing it on a special broadcast. It became an instqant hit and has been called America's "second national anthem." Irving Berlin declared that the song belonged to the nation and pledged all of its royalties to the Boy and Girl Scouts of America.

I love America and pray that God will coantinue to bless her. The French stateman, Alexis de Tocqueville (1805-1859), studied the workings of edmocracy in the early part of the 19th century in order to understand America's success. He then wrote:
"I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodius harbors and her ample rivers, and it was not there.
"I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her fertile fields and boundless forests and it was not there.
"I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her rich mines and her vast world commerce, and it was not there.
"I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her bublic school system and her institutions of learning, and it was not there.
"I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her democratic congrews and her matchless constitution, and it was not there. ##
"Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power.
"America is great because America is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."

Insert 2nd page.

I am thinking of several scriptures concerning what makes a nation great: Psalm 33:12 says "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord," Proverbs 14:34 "Righteousness exalteth a nation: But sin is a reproach to any people". and II Chronicals 7:14 We read, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and preay, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Clarence Flynn once wrote:
I know three things must always be
To keep a nation strong and free.
One is a hearthstone bright and dear,
With busy, happy loved ones near;
One is a ready heart and hand
To love and serve and keep the land;
One is a worn and beaten way
To whare the people go to pray.
So long as these are kept alive
Nation and people will survive.
Go, keep them always, everywhere,
The hearth, the flag, the place of prayer.

In redent months we have been urged to stand for moral issues facing us. I thank God for those men and women like prophets of old who are willing to stand and point out our countries sins. We have all been urged to stand up for what is right and go to the polls and vote.
I was just reading an article by I.D.E. Thomas Titled## THE POWER OF ONE VOTE
Remember that it was one vote that gave Oliver Cromwell coantrol of England in 1656.
It was one vote that gave America the English instead of the German language in 1776.
It was one vote that changed France from a Monarchy into a Republic in 1875.
It was one vote that gave the presidency of the United States to Rutherford B.. Hayes in 1876.
And it was one vote that gave Adolf Hitler the leadership of the Nazi Party in Germany in 1933.
Never underestimate the power of one vote or of one witness.

1933

AMERICAS TRUE GREATNESS

A man walked down through the narrow canyon of New York's financial district. As he contemplated the great buildings and saw the names of famous financial houses, he said to himself, "Here is the power and greatness of America." A short time afterward he was in Washington and visited the Capitol. As he walked under the great dome and viewed the statues of celebrated statesmen and presidents, he said to himself, "Here is the greatness of America."

But sometime later he was a guest at an old-fashioned farm in southern Ohio. When the time came for the noonday meal, the bell on the post back of the house was rung, and presently the hired men who had been working in the fields appeared for their dinner. They washed their faces in a tin basin on a bench near the punp and then filed into the dining room, taking their places at the tqable. The farmer and his wife were seated at either end of the table, which groaned with plenty. The farmer took up a Bible and read in solemn and revent accent the noble sentences of the Ninetieth Psalm. Then, with every head bowed, he led in prayer and thanked God for his goodness. When he left this home with that scene fresh in his mind, the visitor concluded that he had discovered the real greatness of America.

The brave men who signed the Declaration of Independance did so at grea t personal loss but they were willing to make the sacrifice in order that we might have a free nation. we must be willing to make whatever sacrifice is needed to keep it free, not only from outside foes but those from within that would sell us down the road to the Devil and hell. We must never forget the inscription on our coins, "In God We Trust". We must never forget our pledge to the flag that we are are one nation under God.

An unknown Author wrote: Four things in any land must dwell,
If it endures and prospers well:
One is manhood true and good;
One is noble womanhood;
One is child life, clean and bright;
And one an altar kept alight.

Dr. WLL. Watkinson, of England, when in this country in the 1920's intimated that he considered the the outstanding feature of American life ~~outstanding~~ to be the presence of school children laden down with their books. Said he: "Your flag is always flying form the school buildings and your national anthem is constantly on the children's lips. You have made a religion of your patriotism and hence you have built the nation starong. The parents have come from every land, but the children seem conscious of being Americans."

We have a great heritage as citizens of the United States of America, we have a great responsibility to keep her strong and good so that people of this world will continue to find help and blessing from us. Let us pray. O God of our Fathers we pray that we might be worthy of thy blessing, may we humbly seek thy face that we might be strong not in our own weak strength but in the power of thy might. Lead us we pray in the pathes of rightesness and peace. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Now let us listen to the song America

W L B Q Dec. 25,1984

God's Supreme Gift.

This is Christmas day and I am thinking that many of you have already opened your gifts, and are enjoying your famiiy. I like the new song about Christmas "Christmas is a time to Love." Without love this world would be like hell. Love comes from God for God is love. When we give good gifts to our children and loved ones we are expressing our love for them.

Did you ever stop to think that God was the first one to give good gifts to His children. When God created man He placed him in a beautiful garden and told him it was his to enjoy. Adam saw and enjoyed the many different animals and named them. But God saw that he lacked something, so God created a women to be a companion to him. This was just the beginning of the many great gifts God gave to mankind.

For our enjoyment He has richly given the sun to greet us, the light to brighten our pathway, the laughter of life, the blessed companionship of friends and loved ones, in addition to all the beauties of nature. All these are the gifts of God. Every green blade of every budding flower, the changing beauty of the hills, all contribute to the welfare and happiness of man.

But did you ever pause to realize that God has a choice gift ... a supreme gift as revealed in His Word?" What is this supreme gift? It is the Lord Jesus Christ!

Let us consider first of all the necessity of God's supreme Gift. He came into the world at a time when the mantle of darkness had covered the earth. And darker still was the midnight that reigned in the hearts of men. And still denser and darker. "The blackness of darkness forever and ever." was the place toward which men were hastening. For the Word of God plainly declares, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4). But the Eternal One became the Incarnate One, and in Him God found a ransom for many (Mark 10:45; I Tim. 2:6).

And so in the impending silence of Judea's plain that night, God was able to give His sppreme Gift. Suddenly the darkness was pierced by a halo of glory, followed by Heaven's own choir giving thanks to the highest: "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

Now look at the excellency of God's supreme Gift. In 11 Cor. 9:15 it is termed an "Unspeakable gift" - too great for works to utter! You have watched a little child open a special gift. The little mind is so engrossed and captivated by what it has received that words fail - it is "an unspeakable gift!" Much more is the supreme Gift of the great God of the universe.

And when one receives the Lord Jesus Christ it is "joy unspeakable and full of glory" (1 Peter 1:8). When one possesses Christ, he possesses more than the wealth of a thousand worlds. Every blessing heaped together cannot compare with God's greatest and best.

This leaves a great responcibility to you concerning God's supreme Gift at the door of your heart. You must either accept of reject God's supreme Gift. For some years the Chicago Daily News printed on its front page each Christmas Eve a cartoon by the Nobel prize winner Vaughn Shoemaker. It showed beneath a beautifully decorated Christmas tree an unopened package which was labled "Eternal Life." The title of the cartoon was "The Untaken Gift." John 3:16 was quoted in the cartoon. Jesus is God's gift to bring salvation to us if we don't accept Him we insult God. May your attitude be that of the wise men who followed the star, who when they saw God's supreme Gift "fell down and worshipped Him" (Matt 2:11).

So, put out the hand of faith, and take Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour. He is heaven's choicet Gift. Then with adoring heart say, "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable Gift.

I think the words of the poem written by Rufus Jones expresses so deeply our great responsibility toward God's greatest gift.

Is christ crowded out of your busy life
With the toiling that each day brings?
With the strain and stress of the cares that press
You've no time for the King of kings.

"No room in the inn" for the Christ Child blest,
"In a manger so low He lay";
In the hearts of men o'er and o'er again,
There's no room for Him still today.

"The foxes have holes and the birds have nests
But nowhere for His head divine
Could the Son of man," should He come again
Find a place in your heart and mine.

The hearts of the ones whom He died to save
Are the home which He seeks today;
By His life bought, yet He is crowded out,
And "away with Him," still they say.

There's coming a day in the great sometime
If for Christ you have never room,
You will knock and wait at the pearly gate,
Crowded out there will be your doom.

Dear listening frind what are you doing about Jesus, Gods unspeakable gift? are you accepting Him or are you foolishly casting Him aside? Its your choice but why not let the blessed Saviour be the Lord and light of your life today. Let us pray, Dear loving Heavenly Father we come to you today with humble hearts, realizing that you have given your only begotten son for us. We owe everything to thee and we are nothing without thee. We pray that you wikl Help each one listening today that needs you to take you as their personal Saviour ~~today~~. For it is in Jesus name I pray, Amen.

7.00