

— Our Pastors Speak —



EVANGELISM, THE MIGHTY FORCE THAT PLEASES GOD

by Rev. W. C. Burbury*

One of the main concerns of my ministry today is Evangelism. It might be more correct to say it is the Main Concern.

At the outset I submit to you that if we only gain those new people to the Lord and our Church that are brought to our Church altars, we will sadly miss it. There are churches among us who do not gain one Soul during the year, or only a very small number. This is not to cast reflection on anyone. We must realize, though, that it is either evangelize or die. Somehow we must be stabbed awake to this truth. Along this line I would hazard this statement: that there are folk in our own movement who have been professing to be "Saved and Sanctified" for years and yet have never won one Soul to Jesus Christ. What the reason for this is I am not sure. Could it be that we have laid so much stress on the aspect of cleansing that we have minimized the power of the Spirit to make one a great witness?

Other groups who profess less about cleansing put us to shame with their zeal for Souls. Before you jump on me, now, I will suggest this: that we must, if we will be faithful to the scripture, place much more emphasis on the power of the Holy Ghost in every believer, that this power will not only cleanse, but equip the individual to take the initiative for God in actually winning people to the Lord. Dear reader, have you ever won a Soul to Christ? I am not talking about helping someone pray through at the altar, as important as this is, but the personal confronting of an individual apart from the church worship services. It seems to me that evangelism like this on the personal level is the turning point of success or failure.

Dr. Samuel Young, General Superintendent of the Nazarene Church, says: "The big issue that confronts our church today is Evangelism, we evangelize or die." So true! A Church is only a Church as long as it is alive and succeeds in helping men find life in Christ rather than death in Sin. The history of every spiritual movement bears this out. The ones who evangelized their own generations lived. If not, they died. If it was not an outright death, then it was in spirit, so that only a name was left to exist.

The finances of our work are encouraging. The sacrifice and devotion of many of our folk is commendable but we dare not content ourselves with this type of gain only. Souls being Saved and Sanctified is the one important object. If this is properly cared for, the other will fall in line and find its place.

Let us now look to the Early Church of Acts as our Pattern to Follow. They lacked about everything we think we must have to accomplish things for Christ. (A) They had no churches to begin their work. It was "Upper Rooms" and "House to House", "They went everywhere preaching the Gospel." (B) They did not have big numbers. (C) They had no transportation. (D) They had no modern methods and techniques. (E) They had no educa-

The King's Highway

CALAIS CHURCH CELEBRATES SIXTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

This year the Calais Reformed Baptist Church celebrates its 65th anniversary. In the spring of 1897, Rev. Z. B. Grass, Rev. T. W. Moses and Rev. H. H. Cosman held the first meeting in Calais in the name of the Reformed Baptist Church. On April 14th the church was organized in the United Freewill Baptist Church building on Union Street. Early the next year, the property at the present location was purchased and the church erected. Services were first held here in the winter of 1898.

Some of the pastors who have served the church are Rev. T. W. Moses, Rev. W. A. Blaisdell, Rev. W. H. Sherwood, Rev. H. A. Clark, Rev. L. J. Sears, Rev. R. H. Hagerman, Rev. H. L. Robertson, Rev. E. R. Bradley, Rev. H. S. Wilson, Rev. W. E. Smith, Rev. R. L. Sabine, Rev. E. R. Watson, Rev. R. H. Parks, and the present pastor, Rev. J. A. Moses., who has been here since 1956.

In commemoration of the anniversary, services were held November 27 through December 2, with Rev. L. K. Mullen of Woodstock, N. B. as evangelist. On Sunday, December 2, at 11 A. M. a special anniversary service was conducted. William LaPointe of Marysville, N. B., was guest soloist for the occasion.

The past two years have witnessed a steady growth in attendance and interest. Last year the interior of the church was redecorated. The present project is that of building pews for the church.

The Sunday School has shown a good growth. In the denominational contest just ended, the church set a new record and made 160% gain.

During the last few weeks there have been seekers in the regular Sunday evening services. A general feeling of revival prevails.

Please Pray the Lord to bless the church and its people who are laboring so faithfully for Him.

Rev. J. A. Moses
Pastor

tion, they were unlearned and ignorant men. (F) They had no wealth. To get started each had to bring his resources to a common pool in order to keep eating. But there was one thing they did have and that was an experience with Jesus that gave them a passion. This passion fanned a flame in their hearts to let men know about Jesus. I am alarmed that so few Holiness people have this burning passion that projects their witness out to suffering sinful souls.

The growth of the Early Church proves that they had something. One Historian reports by the end of the First Century the Church had grown from 120 to one half a million. This in 67 years. Our growth has not been as phenomenal. This Historian went on to say at the end of the Second Century there were two million, by the end of the Third Century, possibly five million. What witnessing! What power! We must try to recapture some of their passion and power.

Our working Pattern for Evangelism is the Church of Acts. Notice secondly, The Motivating Force for Evangelism. (A) It is rooted in Obedience to the Great Commission. Phillips translates The Great Commission, "You then, are to go and make disciples of all nations . . ." This impels us to "Go". (B) The need of the world should move us. All men must face Judgment. Paul said, "Knowing the terror of the Lord, we persuade men." Now this speaks more strongly than the casual conversation of much of our type of endeavor. The Bible declares that our generation must stand before God in Judgment. This

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