

The Church of God

Great Lakes Mountaineer Region



Ohio



West Virginia



Michigan

Issue No. 18

May/June, 2021

Great Lakes Mountaineer Regional



News

Official Publication of

The Church of God

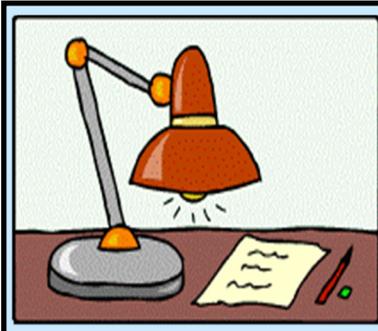
In

Michigan—Ohio—West Virginia

James T. Smith—Regional Overseer

Walter Lofton—Editor

www.tcog-glmr.org



From the desk of the Regional Overseer *James T. Smith*



The Great Awakening

The Great Awakening refers to a number of periods of religious revival in American Christian history. Historians and theologians identify three, or sometimes four, waves of increased religious enthusiasm between the early 18th century and the late 20th century. Each of these "Great Awakenings" was characterized by widespread revivals led by evangelical Protestant ministers, a sharp increase of interest in religion, a profound sense of conviction and redemption on the part of those affected, an increase in evangelical church membership, and the formation of new religious movements and denominations.

Great Awakening

First (c. 1730–1755)

Second (c. 1790–1840)

Third (c. 1855–1930)

Fourth (c. 1960–1980)

The following paragraphs are excerpted from the book *George Whitefield Man of Grace* by John Dunn, which can be downloaded as a PDF file at <https://www.newcreationlibrary.org.au/books/pdf/288—Whitefield.pdf>. [Only 24 pages in length and only 124KB in size.]

Almost without exception, the churches of the Establishment were dead and formal. From many pulpits a sermon would not be heard from one month's end to the next, and of the 10,000 clergy in the Church of England only a tiny handful struggled to maintain the Truth. The chapels of the Dissenters were, for the most part, deserted, but where sermons were from time to time preached, these were 'little better than miserable moral essays' devoid of anything to awaken souls. They were deadening to both preacher and hearer alike. The majority of the people had 'no more concern for true religion than had their cattle'. As far as the great truths for which Hopper and Latimer had gone to the stake 200 years before, and Baxter and scores of Puritans had been jailed the previous century, these seemed to have been entirely forgotten.

It's no wonder that 'infidelity and skepticism' were the order of the day.

Men and women had rejected entirely any belief in the Scriptures as such, and had therefore suppressed any serious thoughts of the God of the Bible, of holiness, of sin, of judgment, or of the need for personal salvation. The whole nation was on the slide. The spirit of slumber was over the land. In a religious and moral point of view, England was asleep.

It would be hard to imagine a day and age less conducive to the spread of the Gospel, nor a population less receptive to the hearing of it. But quite suddenly England was startled by the voice of a young preacher. His name was George Whitefield, a Church of England clergyman, 22 years old. As he began to preach in the pulpits of London with uncommon power and ability, the churches could not hold the crowds that began flocking to hear him. Within a year he was joined by others in England, such as John and Charles Wesley. In Wales, Daniel Rowlands and Howell Harris commenced an equally powerful ministry. Across the Atlantic, men such as Jonathan Edwards, David Brainard and the Tennent's were raised up by God to speak His word with power.

So began a mighty onslaught by the Gospel which continued through until the latter part of the century.

There was hardly a considerable town in England, Scotland or Wales that Whitefield did not visit as an evangelist. On his second visit to America, the Great Awakening spread along the whole eastern seaboard from Boston to Savannah, and in association with great men like Edwards, the Tennent's, and others, Whitefield's preaching left an indelible mark on the new colonies.

In his tireless travels he visited Ireland twice and Scotland fourteen times. In 34 years he preached more than 18,000 times, regularly averaging thirteen sermons a week and sometimes as many as twenty-three.

Whitefield's preaching was met with constant opposition and not a little danger. The secular press never ceased to caricature Whitefield in both words and cartoons. He was the constant brunt of scorn, and they never let up in their ridicule of his preaching, his methods and his doctrine.

Yet, in spite of all this, Whitefield took the Gospel to the people of England as no other man had taken it before. Fashionable sinners in the glittering drawing rooms of the aristocracy heard him and trembled, while at the other end of the social scale, criminals, whose end would otherwise have been to hang on Tyburn or Kennington gallows, looked to Christ and lived.

The effect of such preaching was widespread. The impact of

the message of Christ was so powerful under the influence of the Holy Spirit, that whole sections of society changed. In some towns and villages virtually the entire population was converted. The standards of morality on a national scale changed and were immeasurably raised. The influence of Christian morality and ethics permeated all levels of society. Politicians were changed! New laws were enacted. People began to think with a new perspective, with a new set of values. Open selfishness, greed, crime, immorality . . . all these and other vices diminished dramatically. Instead, 'Christ's Kingdom was earnestly and urgently desired, and the name of Christ was held in high esteem'.

There are accounts of pubs and theatres closing their doors for want of patrons. Instead, people were pressing to know Christ, and to be certain that they had a saving faith in Him. William Cooper of Boston said that more souls came to him in one week in deep concern, than in the whole twenty-four years of his preceding ministry.

So, we see the Great Awakening that ran from the mid 1730's to the late 1750's began with one man, George Whitefield. He preached an average of twenty-three times a week over his entire career. He preached morning, afternoon, and evening. Indeed, he preached a two-hour sermon the night before he died at the age of 56. He preached anywhere and everywhere (fields, courtyards, churches). He preached to anyone and everyone (the elite, wealthy, to criminals. To quote from above: "Fashionable sinners in the glittering drawing rooms of the aristocracy heard him and trembled, while at the other end of the social scale, criminals, whose end would otherwise have been to hang on Tyburn or Kennington gallows, looked to Christ and lived."

The period of time described above very much resembles our own time. Traditional Christian faith and worship is under assault and the moral decay continues to grow on all fronts. Into that moral decadence stepped a man moved by the Lord to attempt to make a difference. And what a difference he did make! I encourage you to download and read the booklet from which the above paragraphs were excerpted.

He was not the first such person to make a such difference. The Lord took a young man who so opposed Him that he made the persecution of the early Church his purpose in life. But, Oh, what a difference an encounter with the Lord on the road to Damascus made in his life. This one man singlehandedly could be said to have "turned the world upside down!"

I believe that there can be yet other individuals moved by the Lord as

was George Whitefield. Rather than wait for someone else to fill the gap, why not yield yourself into the battle to change the world. If the Lord could take a few good men (George Whitefield, Jonathan Edwards, John and Charles Wesley, etc.) then and repeat the evangelization of the world, as He previously had done with twelve other men (His Apostles), can he not do it again today? Oh that we could be a part of yet another Great Awakening. When it looks darkest, that is when the Lord's light shines brightest.



Sue Hutton
WMB REGIONAL COORDINATOR

WARNING! WARNING! WARNING! WARNIN! WARNING! WARNING

Warning is a cautioning against danger; admonishing; giving notice to.

In Matthew 24:3-5 Jesus disciples came unto him privately, saying (Jesus). *“Tell us, when shall these things be? And what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?”* “I like for us to take note of Jesus first answer. *“And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed (caution, care, notice) that no man deceive (means to mislead the mind; to cause to err, to cause to believe what is false or disbelieve what is true, to delude) you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ: and shall deceive many.”*

We are living in perilous (dangerous) times. 1 John 4:1 is a warning still to us today. *“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”*

Jesus gave much warning regarding these false prophets and false Christs. Jesus said in Matthew 24: 11 *“Many false prophets shall arise, and shall deceive many.”* Mark 13:22 *“For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.”* Luke 21:8 *“And he said, Take heed that ye be not deceived: for many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and the time draweth near: go ye not therefore after them.”*

Do we not see in the times we are living; Another Jesus, Another Gospel, Another Spirit being presented? Do we not see a spirit that invites to do everything but rely on Christ and Christ alone? A spirit that says we can rehabilitate, reform and manage sin ourselves.

Paul had this same encounter with the churches of Galatia. Galatians 1:6-9 *“I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert (to transform into something of an opposite character)*

the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."

Paul to the Corinthians' said in 2 Corinthians 11:3-4 *"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupt from the simplicity (plainness) that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit which we have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him."* What did Paul mean "ye might well bear with him?" Paul was saying here—you submit to it readily. The word bear here means to withstand against. Have not some today in the Christian realm so easily accepted another Jesus.—another Gospel—another Spirit ?

In ending today's lesson let us keep in mind the New Age Christ movements of today, in which their beliefs are: Everything is consciousness, Every person is a god, Consciousness can be harnessed to achieve perfection, Purpose is to overcome self and ideas is to heightened spiritual consciousness and international peace would bring an end to racism, poverty, sickness, hunger and war. They teach Christ is not a person but a principle of the conscious. They proclaim that the good in all people is actually their gods within them, lying dormant, awaiting a spiritual awakening. Jesus Christ of the Bible can save from our sin. No one can save themselves. God's word says in Ephesians. *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; it is the GIFT OF GOD: Not of works, lest any man should boast."*

Their goal is to awaken the god in them by reaching a new level of consciousness. There are many techniques used today promoting finding your peace, your harmony, yourself., in which leads to birth (awakening) the Christ in you.

They strive toward Utopian (everything is perfect) harmony by claiming that "all is one. Do we see where this type of movement is Antichrist? What is this scripture in 2 John 1:7 saying unto you? *"For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is COME IN THE FLESH. This is a deceiver and an antichrist."* How do you perceive the Antichrist in the times we live today?

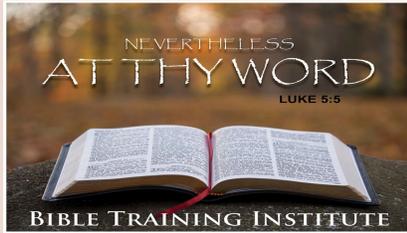
Sunday School Average Attendance for March

Castalia, OH—16
Chillicothe, OH—5
Niles, MI—5
Fairmont, WV—11
Page, WV—7
Seth, WV—11



Sunday School Average Attendance for April

Castalia, OH—12
Chillicothe, OH—4
Niles, MI—8
Fairmont, WV—9
Page, WV—12
Seth, WV—9



Don Bolyard
BTI REGIONAL COORDINATOR
Theme:
“Nevertheless At Thy Word”

East Coast English—May 30 – June 12, 2021

East Coast Spanish—June 5 – 12, 2021

COURAGE FOR THINGS AHEAD

(This is part of the message preached by General Overseer, Robert J. Pruitt, at the closing exercises of Bible Training Institute, June 3, 1994, at our new Headquarters Building in Cleveland, Tenn.)

This session of Bible Training Institute is a historic one for two reasons:

(1) It is the first session to be held after the reorganization of 1993, and (2) It, along with the rest of The Church of God, faces the challenges, the conquests, and the resultant conflicts of the finishing era of the Church in which it will be gathered together, perfected and be prepared for the Bridegroom to present to Himself as the Bride. There is a word associated with the terms, challenges, conquests, and conflicts. It is a necessary attribute of those who will dare to be involved in these things. That word is courage. In The Church of God we are facing a future which will require a quality of courage and commitment greater than that displayed by our predecessors in the faith. Bible history is replete with examples of those who followed and obeyed God with unfaltering faith and trust in Him alone: NOAH spent many years enduring the scorn and ridicule of wicked and violent people, building a structure (the ark) that had never been built before that depended on a flood that had never happened before. His was a unique message about a unique event that required a unique arrangement that only God could bring about. On Noah's part, that took courage! ABRAHAM, at God's command, left his home and family ties to go on a journey, the destination of which he did not know — just because God told him to go. After waiting until he was old and stricken in years he, without hesitation, offered back to God his promised heir and only son just because God told him to. That took courage! A. J. TOMLINSON stood against the tide of apostasy and liberalism in the Church, knowing that it could cost him everything he and others had worked for in the Church for twenty years, and it did. That took courage! We must be motivated by the same words with which the Lord motivated Joshua and the children of Israel as they

went into the promised land: *“Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whither so ever thou goest”* (Joshua 1:7). You will need courage because: (1) You will face the scorn and ridicule of those who refuse to accept the truth; (2). Some of you will be estranged from your families (companions, children, kindred). Many of you will see loved ones and friends turn against you because you are standing uncompromisingly and unapologetically for that you know God has revealed and made clear to you; (3). All of you will face the opposition of a religious world which will tell you that you have been deceived and led astray; and (4). All of you will come to know better what Jesus said about the nature of the times in which we live. Let us take courage and embrace the wonderful admonition of the apostle Paul to the Philippians: *“ Only let your conversation (your conduct) be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God. For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake; Having the same conflict which ye saw in me, and now hear to be in me”* (Philippians 1:27–30). Courage, my comrades! We will win the battle. The victory comes after the conflict, so let us go courageously on.



Juanita Atha
Regional ABM Coordinator

Do we have to love everyone? Yes, we do even though it is hard for some.

Jesus and the Father in Heaven loves us. Our family always told us, “You don’t love their sin, but you must love them.” Sometimes we even hurt for them. It is very important to tell each other this as we worship together year after year. We need to remember that God so loved the world, even with its sin, but He does not love the sin of he world. It is so good to see each other when we get the chance. Sometimes sheep scatter but one day that will never happen again. We look forward to that day!



Mary Had A Little Lamb

MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB
HIS FLEECE WAS WHITE AS SNOW
AND EVERYWHERE THAT MARY WENT
THE LAMB WAS SURE TO GO
HE FOLLOWED HER TO SCHOOL ONE DAY
T WASN'T EVEN IN THE RULE
HE MADE THE CHILDREN LAUGH AND PLAY
TO HAVE A LAMB AT SCHOOL
AND THEN THE RULES ALL CHANGED ONE DAY
ILLEGAL IT BECAME
TO BRING THE LAMB OF GOD TO SCHOOL
OR EVEN SPEAK HIS NAME
EVERY DAY GOT WORSE AND WORSE
AND DAYS TURNED INTO YEARS
INSTEAD OF HEARING CHILDREN LAUGH
WE HEARD GUN SHOTS AND TEARS
WHAT MUST WE DO TO STOP THE CRIME
THAT'S IN OUR SCHOOL TODAY?
LET'S LET THE LAMB COME BACK TO SCHOOL
AND TEACH THE KIDS TO PRAY



Kandy Saunders Regional CPMA Coordinator

We are standing as **The Church of God** displaying and waving the Church Flag because of the Truth, the Word of God.

Here are just two of many identifying marks/markers; both given to us of the Lord according to His Word:

1. The name, The Church of God
2. The All Nations Flag

Jesus praying for the Church of God. (John 17:8-11)

When: Shortly after the Last Supper. Where: Upper Room.

'For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.

And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.

And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. "

Here are some excerpts from the Evening Light (another marker) from March 1997 Vol 5 No. 5 by CPMA Coordinator, Bishop David F. Risch:

"A quote in part from the book "History & Polity" page 24:

When: June 13, 1903. Where: Burger Mountain. 'I said, 'Well, if you take the whole Bible rightly divided, that makes it the Church of God. ' (Brother A. J. Tomlinson).

"Various things have happened to the name down through the years, but we have not forgotten that wonderful historical meeting at the foot of Burger Mountain. "

When: July 24, 1993. Where: Solemn Assembly called by the Holy Ghost...The Church agreed to stand together as the true Church of God under the official name of The Church of God. It is amazing that no one down through the many years has applied for its registration and I personally feel the Lord reserved it for us." All of us that display the sticker, the church Flag is referenced in Psalm 60:4. *"Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah."*

The choruses we sing: Page 6, Banner Hymns, blue book; "Come under the ensign of God, Come now and unite in the fold; The standard , the great Church of God, the ensign will wave as we go."

Page 3, Banner Hymns -blue book; "Yes, we'll hoist the banner high, from the earth up to the sky, And we'll shout the praises to our blessed King; For the flag we understand, means the Church in ev'ry land, May we feel the Christ it honors as we sing."

Oh how I love to hear the testimonies about the Church Flag, the Witness Tree, the times destruction hit and all that remained was the Church Flag! Why???? All because of the Truth!

Surely with the Truth reigning in our lives, in our very being, we will STAND and NOT COMPROMISE in this late hour. Let's be faithful to The Church of God and display the All Nations Flag, that the lost may come to know who She is and want to join in with this heavenly band.

A closing comment: I know our Church properties really look nice and are well kept, but let's be mindful and do our best to adhere to Brother Horne's encouragement to all of us to plan a workday in June to do some upkeep and maintenance to our local churches. Keep Her Shining and Revival Ready— inside and out and the All Nations Flag waving!

An Inspirational Mini Sermon

From the book, MUSE WITH ME by R. O. Covey

The Silent Witness

In his book, "Notes and Quotes," Milburn H. Miller relates the following incident:

A man, sort of an infidel, gave credit to a timid neighbor for his conversion. When the neighbor told him that he couldn't remember saying much to him about becoming a Christian, the newly converted one said, "No, but you lived me to death. I could stand their preaching and upset their arguments, but I couldn't stand the way you lived."

All of us, as Christians, should live so that the devil can't stand us. It would surely save a lot of talk—trying to justify actions that can't be justified.

The unity of the Church is manifested in three basic areas. (1) The Church must be in unity in one body under one government. (2) It must have unity in doctrine. (3) It must have unity of purpose. The love of God working in our hearts will be the motivating force to bring the Church into this glorious state of unity.



Great Lakes Mountaineer Regional Church News

Chillicothe, Ohio News

We at Chillicothe are giving God the glory and praise for all He is doing. Our Pastor was invited to minister the Word of God at a Revival in our local park. We had a community "Snacks on us day." We passed out popcorn containers filled with snacks and many were touched by the Church thinking of them. We were blessed to have a couple of visitors to worship with us on a Sunday evening. We were blessed to have our oldest son with us on a Sunday evening. God has also blessed us with donations to purchase newer pew chairs and help the Church with expenses.

We are giving the praise and glory to God for the wonderful time in the Lord we had with our Brothers and Sisters in Port Clinton, Ohio. 4 Sisters and 1 Brother came into Chillicothe Church by covenant and we are expecting 4 transfers. God has blessed us with 5 Sisters and 4 Brothers. Continue to pray for us.

Below are some recent photos from the Chillicothe Church.



Castalia, Ohio News

Easter Sunday turned out to be a beautiful day. Our Pastor preached a wonderful message and after church we had an easter egg hunt for the children and of course Sister Linda made candy bags for the adults. I also handed out candy for everyone.

On Wednesday April 21, we surprised Sister Donielle with cards and gifts for her birthday. We love and appreciate her very much and we thank God for her.

May 1, we had our District Convention here at our local church. The theme was "Worship." We enjoyed having Brother and Sister Smith there with us as well as Brother James. Afterwards we enjoyed a nice lunch here at our church prepared by the ladies. We had a good time of food and fellowship.

Seth, WV News

God is blessing the Seth Church with His presence in our services. We have a good unity and the love of God among us. In April we hosted the Southern District Convention. We were blessed to have our Regional Overseer and his wife with us and folks from the Page church. We were especially blessed to have Regional Coordinators from the Chillicothe church who also blessed us with their music.

We have recently done some landscaping around the vicinity of our church to further beautify our church property in the spirit of the CPMA. On Sunday May, 16th the church hosted a birthday dinner in honor of the pastor's wife, Sister Susie who turned ?? on the 14th. She denies it, but she really is ?? years old!



Don Hutton

Regional Sunday School Coordinator

Theme: GATHER

GATHER, GATHERING AND TO BE GATHERED

Deuteronomy 4:10 *“Specially the day that thou stoodest before the LORD thy God in Horeb, when the LORD said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children.”*

When we look to the fields and see if the harvest is ready to be harvested, we must begin gathering them into sheaves. A sheave is a quality of the stalks of wheat, rye, oats or barley bound together, a bundle of stalks or straw. In this instance we will use wheat as the sheave. Sheaves must be gathered or they will dry up or rot away. So we must be vigilant in awareness of sheaves that are ready to be gathered into the Garner. A garner is a place to store up for preservation. See Psalm 144:11-15.



Featuring highlights from the ministry of

C. J. Cunningham

Former State Overseer in the
Church of God of Prophecy

LET THE GOLDEN RULE, RULE

Text: Luke 6:31: *“And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.”*

This is one among the shortest verses in the Bible, but when we analyze it and apply it to our own lives, it will be found of great value and will affect our whole outlook on things and especially so, when we are dealing with our fellowman. Just think what a different world this would be if there could be some way to get people to accept this as a guideline for their lives. I know this is very difficult; however, the members of the Church of God have already pledged ourselves to take this as our rule when we become members of the Church by taking the covenant. Let us notice, “Will you sincerely promise in the presence of God and these witnesses that you will accept this Bible (this includes the Golden Rule) as the Word of God, believe and practice (the Golden Rule) its teachings rightly divided, the New Testament is as your rule of faith and practice, government and discipline, and walk in the light to the best of your knowledge and ability?”

The most common way the Golden Rule of the New Testament is broken is by passing judgement upon another. The way this is done is by being critical of our brothers and sisters in the Lord. It has been said that any weak person can criticize, but it takes strong men and women for God to overlook faults with compassion. For us to be quick to pass judgement upon another, we are asking for the same judgement to be passed upon us. Matthew 7:1, 2, *“Judge not that ye be not judged. For with what judgement ye judge, ye shall be judged; and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.”*

Think on this, if we had the same things said about us that we say about others, just how would we take it? The same criticism that would hurt us could hurt others, So if we do not want people to be hateful with us, let us not be hateful with them. We should remember that hateful and harmful words work two ways. If we let the Golden Rule rule us, we will be careful what we say about others. Before we say or do anything against anyone, it would be well to apply the Golden Rule: *“And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.”*

—By Cecil J. Cunningham

Fanning the

Fires of



Evangelism

Walter Lofton, Regional Evangelism Director

The recent pandemic has slowed down our evangelistic efforts in the last several months to the peril of lost souls. As the country opens back up we need to turn up our efforts to promote revival and win souls from the eternal destructive wages of sin. When I first came to West Virginia God placed this Scripture on my heart and it has remained there to this day. *“Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?” Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward”* (Isa. 58:6-8). I have noticed that our General Evangelism Coordinator has been impressed with the same Scripture in promoting revivals throughout the Church.

I would like to encourage each member and minister in our Region to get in the spirit of soul winning and LET’S HAVE REVIVAL IN OUR REGION!

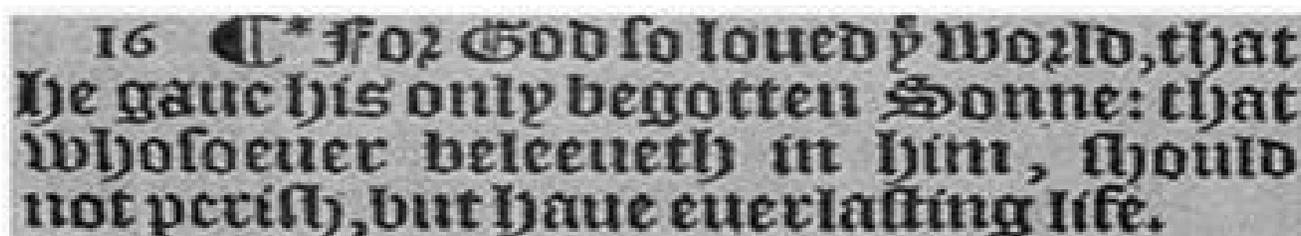
The wise men came to Jerusalem to find Jesus, but they had to go on down to the little town of Bethlehem before they found Him. Naaman, the leper, came to the king of Israel at his capital city of Samaria to get recovered from his leprosy, but he had to go aside to another place to find Elisha, the prophet, in Israel, to get his healing. Perhaps, then, it is not so contrary to reason after all that God would choose the little city of Cleveland, Tenn., U.S.A., to be the capital of the world for the Church of God in the latter days, and from thence stretch forth His strong and mighty arm to the nations. Efforts have been made at intervals for years to move our headquarters to some other city, but every effort failed, so for the last few years we have seemed to settle down and just conclude it may be the Lord’s plan and will for Cleveland to be regarded by us as the capital of the world for the Church of God.

—From A. J. Tomlinson’s annual address to the 30th Assembly

The King James Version of the Bible is special. It just feels right. It soothes one in a peaceful embrace when reading it. It gives a feeling of safety and contentment. If it was corrupt as the world wants us to believe, then where do these feelings come from? You can rest assured that you are in the will of God when you love and embrace this divinely inspired version of the Bible which God has allowed to be delivered to us.

Our modern edition is based on the 1769 edition. Below is a facsimile of different printings of the most famous verse of Scripture— John 3:16.

Example of 1611 first printing reproduction printed in Gothic type.



16 ¶ For God so loued y world, that he gaue his only begotten Sonne: that whosoever beleeueth in him, should not perish, but haue euerlasting life.

Example of 1617 edition printing reproduction in Roman type.

16 ¶ • For God so loued y world, that he gaue his only begotten Sonne: that whosoever beleeueth in him, should not perish, but haue euerlasting life.

Example of 1769 edition printing reproduction in Roman type.

16 ¶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

As you can see, the last example is exactly as we have it today.

Following are some examples of spelling differences from then to now along with double vowels and consonants changes and the long "s" letter made like the "f" letter. There was no letter "j" in the original King James Version. Instead, the letter "i" was used where we now have the letter "j".

Examples:

- U = V (Example: loued = loved; gaue = gave)
- V = U (Example: vnto = unto)
- VV = W (Example: svword = sword)
- I = J (Example: Iesus = Jesus)
- Long "s" letters look similar to "f" letters. Jesus was sometimes spelled: Iefus. Sonne=Son—mee=me—euill=evil—ftarres=stars—gofpel=gospel