

*The Church of God*

*Great Lakes Mountaineer Region*



*Ohio*



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## Great Lakes Mountaineer Regional



*News*

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**James T. Smith—Regional Overseer**

**Walter Lofton—Editor**

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# Editorial

This issue of our regional paper will highlight themes for the *Thanksgiving* and *Christmas* holidays. We trust that each of you will have a joyous and happy holiday season. May your church services be blessed with the sweet spirit and presence of the Lord of Heaven as He hovers near in your worship and praise to Him.

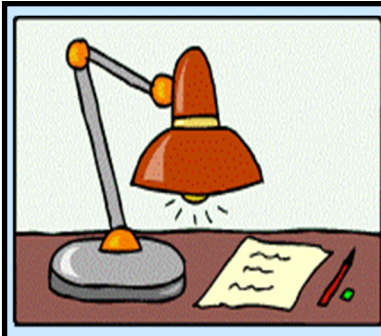
The Thanksgiving week has always held special significance for me over the years. There is such a good feeling of inward devotion to God as we reflect on this special time of the year. It reminds me to be thankful all the year through for truly our hearts of gratitude cannot express in just one day the appreciation to God for His bountiful blessings upon us.

Christmas is also very special as we reflect on the birth of Christ and the *Reason for the Season* as we often hear around this time of the year. Actually Christmas, which is God giving His Son for our salvation is an ongoing experience and not to be limited to a short season of celebration. We give gifts to others to remind us of the supreme gift He gave to the world which is reflected in the all-time favorite verse of Scripture in John 3:16.

Included in this issue of the paper is a Thanksgiving Editorial and a short Christmas story we trust you will enjoy.

May God bless you as we near the end of this calendar year and embrace a brand-new year before the next issue of the paper comes out.

—Your GLMR Editor



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



### **Why God's Great Shaking Is Coming**

The Lord laid this theme upon my heart for this year's (21-22) theme for our region. In this article I will share with you how the Lord led me to this theme. In coming articles, I hope to consider the various ways in which the Lord shall accomplish His shaking that is prophesied to come as we near the Lord's soon return for us.

This quarter in our Sunday School lessons, we are now studying the book of Revelations. Many Bible scholars have attributed the seven churches of Asia as typifying seven church periods, since in many ways the description of each church would seem to also describe a corresponding period in Church history.

This past Sunday the author of our lessons raised a question about the seventh church—that of the Laodiceans. How could the “lukewarm” church of Laodicea be representative of the last days church? Is not the Church supposed to become “*a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish*” (Ephesians 5:27)?

This is a question with which I have wrestled for some time (before this quarter's lessons also raised the question). After all, we must admit that the Church has not yet achieved that perfect state described in Ephesians, and indeed the Church specifically (as well as Christianity in general) now exhibit many “lukewarm” aspects:

Revelation 3:15-17 (15) *I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. (16) So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. (17) Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:*

The solution the Lord has prescribed to remedy this condition was also clearly stated in the angel's message to Laodicea: Revelation 3:18-19 (18) *I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. (19) As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.*”

First, the Lord provided “counsel” (verse 18) as to how we can overcome our “lukewarm” condition. He then follows with a statement (verse 19) regarding what

steps He would take: *“rebuke and chasten,”* and why: *“as many as I love”* to address our condition.

We already have experienced in our General Assemblies from the 1970’s into the 1990’s the Lord (through both anointed sermons and Holy Ghost messages and interpretations) His call to the Church to turn from its lukewarm condition and to repent. The question for us then is how will we choose to respond to the Lord’s chastening and rebuke? We would do well to heed to words of advice given to us by Solomon: Proverbs 3:11-12 (11) *My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: (12) For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.”*

In the coming days as we near the time of our Lord’s return, I believe that the Lord will confirm His warnings, and pleadings with action! We shall experience His rebuking and chastening on an ever-increasing scale—this I have here called **“God’s Great Shaking.”**

An overview of this “shaking” is given in Hebrews 12:18-29, which in turn builds upon Haggai 2:5-9. The writer of Hebrews has built upon this biblical principle of chastening and correction from Proverbs. In the preamble (first part) of chapter 12 it is used to set the stage for what later is presented in that chapter (as also the angel speaking to Laodicea previously quoted above): Hebrews 12:5-6 (5). *“And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: (6) For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.”*

We thus have three times (Proverbs, Hebrews, and Revelations) that we are warned to expect the Lord’s rebuke and chastening as He molds and shapes us into His perfect Church that He one day will gather away. The question then to be raised is in regards to how this rebuke and chastening would transpire. The remainder of Hebrews chapter 12 proceeds to describe a specific chastening to be expected before our Lord’s return. This is *“God’s Great Shaking.”*

In coming articles, I hope to consider how the Lord accomplished this in the past so as to understand how He will accomplish such in our day. Hebrews 12:18-21 describes the time when Israel experienced His shaking at Mount Sinai: Hebrews 12:18-21 (18) *“For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, (19) And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more: (20) (For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart: (21) And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:)”*

We are told that the Israelites did not endure their shaking, for they *“could not endure that which was commanded.”* So, will the Church be able to endure the shaking that is coming? Continuing, Hebrews 12:22-24 then prepares us to consider yet another shaking—that which the Lord shall use to refine His Church in these final days. Hebrews 12:22-24 (22) *“But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, (23) To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, (24) And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.”*

We are now warned that we refuse not to hear the words and to heed the actions of our Lord as he executes our chastening through the “shaking” that He will surely send upon us. Hebrews 12:25-26 (25) *“See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: (26) Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.”*

Throughout time, the Lord has shaken His people in a variety of ways. But there is yet one more great shaking that will result in the purging of all those who cannot or will not stand firm in the Lord, so that those who remain will be acceptable for His perfect bride: Hebrews 12:27-29 (27) *“And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. (28) Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: (29) For our God is a consuming fire.”*

These words of Hebrews reference the words of the prophet Haggai: Haggai 2:5-9 (5) *“According to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so my spirit remaineth among you: fear ye not. (6) For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; (7) And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts. (8) The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts. (9) The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.”*

We should all be fearful that we could be shaken from our walk with and stand for the Lord. We could be shaken in a number of ways: in what we believe (doctrine), in what we practice (how we live), in our discipleship (service to the Lord). We should check and recheck ourselves. Each of you should *“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?”* (2 Corinthians 13:5)

So, what is the expected result of God's great shaking? Everyone who can be shaken loose (because of some failure in their lives, etc.) will be shaken! *"He will thoroughly purge"* that which will not (refuses to) be tried and proven, so that those who remain are truly perfect in His eyes! My prayer is that all of us be found remaining.

For those who are shaken loose, their epitaph shall read: 1 John 2:19 *"They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us."*

Those who yet remain after God's great shaking will be deemed truly unshakable. They will have proven themselves *"...stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."* (1 Corinthians 15:58)

For those who can ensure the Lord's shaking (testing, trying) of our lives and our works, the glory that awaits us is almost indescribable. Haggai not only warns of the shaking of the Lord that is coming, he then also declares the results or benefits of that shaking. *"I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts. ... The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts."* Just look at what awaits those who victoriously come through the Lord's great shaking! *"And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."* (Daniel 12:3)

## **News and Updates from Regional Overseer**

During the last week-end of October I visited several areas of interest:

Visited with Gary Chapman in Dayton, Ohio.

Visited with a family originally from Egypt, who is interested in the Church and having an evangelistic effort among her people (Arabs, Egyptians, etc.).

Visited our Niles, MI local church. Found all in good spirits and full of zeal to work for the Lord.

Visited our members in the Port Clinton, Ohio area. They also are excited for the work of the Lord.

Fairmont, WV has been using ZOOM for several months to share our services with those unable to attend in person. For the past two Sundays my sister and a cousin who have been using ZOOM came to visit Nancy and I here in WV. They were able to be in our services in person. Everyone was thrilled to finally be able to meet one another in person.





## **Giving Thanks In Every Thing** (A Thanksgiving Editorial)

By Holy Ghost inspiration the Apostle Paul said in First Thessalonians 5:18 *"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."* Wait a minute. Did he really say *"in every thing?"* Some may think he never went through some of the things we go through today, but he did. In fact, he most likely suffered much more than most do today. Consider what he said in Second Corinthians 11:23-28. *"...I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. (24) Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. (25) Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; (26) In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; (27) In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. (28) Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches."* Dozens of times he suffered almost unbearable trials and persecutions. Yet in **every thing** he gave thanks. *(continued on next page)*

True thanksgiving is a condition of the heart. If a heart is set on spiritual things, it is always a thankful heart. As long as one may have a tinge of the world still lingering in his heart, he is that much less likely to be truly thankful. Notice, the Scripture says “*in every thing*,” not “for” every thing. There is a difference. We do not feel thankful if a loved one dies from Covid, for example, but we can be thankful that we were spared. Being thankful “*in every thing*” gives us one up on Satan and averts his plans to destroy us.

We naturally do not like trials and setbacks but we can be thankful that we serve a God that can help us through them. This is being thankful “*in every thing*.” I once heard of a wrinkled little old lady who had only two teeth. She did not complain about all her other missing teeth. She was just thankful that her two teeth met! She knew the secret of being thankful “*in every thing!*”

As already stated, thanksgiving is a condition of the heart. Paul said in another place: “*And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful*” (Col. 3:15). It seems that true thankfulness brings peace and if we have peace we will (or should) be thankful. Always feeling defeated, lonely, left out, short-changed, or overlooked is not the outcome of a trusting, thankful and peaceful heart. Being thankful makes us happy, even in the midst of our trials and disappointments.

Proverbs 17:22 says “*A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.*” A person cannot have a merry (or happy) heart and a dried up and broken (joyless and defeated) spirit at the same time. The Word of God tells us that the godly will suffer. “*Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution*” (2 Tim. 3:12). It is up to us how we take our suffering. We can rejoice in thanksgiving or we can complain in bitterness. Let me hasten to say that it is much better to have the oil of joy by being thankful “*in every thing*” than to be defeated and reap disappointment and despair in a faithless attitude. In fact, if we are to be pleasing to God we will and must cultivate a heart-felt thankfulness “*in every thing*.”





George Atha  
**REGIONAL BTI  
COORDINATOR**

BTI comes once each year and is very important for anyone who wants to learn about the Bible to help them live for God. So many people don't understand the difference between living under the Law (the Old Testament) and the Grace of God. We must teach others how to rightly divide the Word of God.

In the book of Luke, chapter 5 and verses 2-10, Simon Peter and James and John the sons of Zebedee gave up fishing and was washing their nets. The Lord said unto Simon, *"Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught"* (v. 4). Peter said unto the Lord, *"Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net"* (v. 5). The Master took them to school over 2,000 years ago and the BTI school is still good today. In Luke 5:10 Jesus said, *"Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men."* They changed from catching fish to catching the souls of men. The Lord sent the Holy Ghost to lead us and guide us. Keep praying for BTI

## **THINGS WE CANNOT DO**

We cannot sow bad habits and reap a good character.

We cannot sow jealousy and hatred and reap love and friendship.

We cannot sow wicked thoughts and reap a good life.

We cannot sow wrong deeds and live righteously.

We cannot sow crime and get away with it.

We cannot sow dishonesty and reap loyalty from others.

We cannot sow profane words and reap clean speech.

We cannot sow disrespect and reap respect.

We cannot sow deception and reap confidence.

We cannot sow untidiness and reap neatness.

We cannot sow intemperance and reap sobriety and temperance.

We cannot sow indifference and reap nature's rewards.

We cannot sow cruelty and reap kindness.

We cannot sow wastefulness and reap thriftiness.

We cannot sow cowardice and reap courage.

We cannot sow greed and envy and reap generosity.

We cannot sow neglect of the Bible and reap a well-guided life.

We cannot sow human thistles and reap human roses.



*Sue Hutton*

**REGIONAL WMB  
COORDINATOR  
SONLIGHT**

Let us pray and present the LOVE of the Lord like never before. Everyone likes to feel loved. Love was a part of our Lord and saviour's ministry while He walked upon this earth. Paul in 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13 presented unto them "The Will of God" regarding LOVE; *"And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, AND toward ALL MEN, even as we do toward you. To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all HIS SAINTS."*

Let us allow the SONLIGHT to increase and abound our love not only one toward another but toward all men. Let us not be found guilty of loving our own and not loving all men.

Share the Love of Jesus, let His love shine through, be a true reflection of the one who lives in you. You can make a difference if you open up your heart and share the love of Jesus.

God Bless You!

Regional WMB Sue Hutton

## **News From Chillicothe, Ohio Church**

We are alive and well here in Chillicothe. We are praising and thanking God for all the blessings and answering of prayers. We thank and praise God for the transferred member, Brother Gary Chapman. We are praising God for Sister Mary Mitchell coming into the church by covenant. We thank you Lord for all the congregation and members you have blessed us with!

We are having a special service "A Call To Give Thanks" the evening of November 7th at Chillicothe and another one in Port Clinton, Ohio on November 14th.

We desire your prayers. You all are in our prayers.

We love everyone and wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas!

It was such a blessing to have Brother Chapman, his Grandson Marcus and his family with us for Sunday School and morning worship.



**Kandy Saunders  
Regional CPMA  
Coordinator**

I would like to recap the boost from the Ministers' Convention.

Please read Hebrews 10:19-39 with verse 39 as one of the theme Scriptures.

*“But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.”*

Included with these Scriptures I made reference to Revelation 3:5 with a thought and a question:

“So many have made it to the winning side of eternity and have gone on to their reward and there have been some that almost made it but lost out during their last mile of the way.”

What must we do to make it and not turn back?

Revelation 3:5 *“He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before His angels.”*

*“He that overcometh...He that watcheth...He that holds fast...He that defileth not his garments (He that keepeth his covenant) ...He that keepeth the Word and has not denied His Name... Hold fast which thou hast...Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer...Be thou faithful until death... To him that overcometh, will I give to eat of the hidden manna and will give him a white stone and in the stone a new name written which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.”*

Let's not lose out with the Lord in this late hour! Let's keep one another in prayer.

The new CPMA theme brings this song to mind:

I have decided to follow Jesus;

I have decided to follow Jesus;

I have decided to follow Jesus;

No turning back, no turning back.

*(continued on next page)*

Though none go with me, yet I will follow;  
Though none go with me, yet I will follow;  
Though none go with me, yet I will follow;  
No turning back, no turning back.

The cross before me, the world behind me;  
The cross before me, the world behind me;  
The cross before me, the world behind me;  
No turning back, no turning back.

Also, I'm glad to report we have 27 paid up memberships for 2021-2022.  
God Bless all the local Churches and all you for the Lord in this Ministry!



## Juanita Atha Regional ABM Coordinator

Love is an important part of The Church of God and of the Christian life. Compassion is also an important factor. These go hand in hand. Jesus gave all when He died on the cross so we could live for God by repenting of our sins. Being an Under-Shepherd or helper to the pastor is a good thing when working together in caring for the sheep, helping them wherever you can when they come to you for help, and praying and seeking God for and with them.

*“So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said.*

*25 And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.*

*26 And they judged the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.*

*27 And Moses let his father in law depart; and he went his way into his own land” (Exo. 18:24-27).*

We need to pray over any problem that befalls us and for problems which any member or non-member may bring before us. God has the answers for all. Sometimes we may be caught off guard, but God has all the answers.

# An Inspirational Mini Sermon

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



## Why A Stable?

The stable of Bethlehem may exemplify more than an humble shelter which welcomed the advent of God into this world in the Person of the Son. We attach a certain amount of endearment to this part of the story of Jesus' birth; but in the eye of God, just what was the real significance?

Some have observed that the stable, with all its animal filth, animal lack of intellect, its darkness and coldness, bespeaks the foul and dark place sinful men have made of the earth. Like brutes, they defile their abode, then wallow in the filth as if there were nowhere else to lie; or, worse yet, as if they preferred filth to cleanness.

What does the crowded inn (which had no room for Him) typify? If it was like many of today's inns, it was filthier than the stable—all their debauchery, immorality, wining and dining—some of it being done in the name of "Christmas"!

Knowing Jesus the Man, wouldn't you say that the stable was more appropriate than the inn as a birthplace for the Son of God? The Man Jesus had a revulsion to hypocrisy. The inn literally stinks with it—reserved for the upper class—brilliant lights indicating no shame for sin—or available lights purposely dimmed, to entice the man or woman who might be half-way decent—the stench of strong drink—the merriment which mocks the joy the angel spoke about.

But the stable—it was what it was. It was filthy and didn't try to hide it; its own darkness took care of that. But, thank God, it did have a manger of clean hay, like the remote corner of the "honest sinner's" heart that cries out for a better life! Here, in this unpretentious stable, exemplifying a world that God would save, the only begotten Son was laid in the only clean spot—the lowly manger.

Yes, we would have to say that the Saviour of the world was more in His commissioned realm there than He would have been in the finest room of the inn.





### **A Stranger In The House**

My dream of the perfect Christmas day had come true. A couple of inches of new snow were on top of the two feet that were already on the ground. Last night was beautiful, with the moon and stars shining so bright and the snow lightly falling. The family gathered around the tree in the evening and sang carols, and then passed out the gifts. It was a time of love because the family was all together.

But this morning was different. There was a strange feeling as the family quietly moved around the house. There was no usual hustle and bustle and shouts of Christmas cheer. It was all Father's idea to have that stranger upstairs in my room.

You see, after the gifts were opened, we left for midnight service at the church. We decided to walk the two blocks because of the splendor of the night. Drawing near the church, we could hear the bells ringing loud and clear, "*Joy to the world, the Lord is come.*"

Suddenly our attention was drawn to the bench a few feet from the side walk. There sat a young man looking cold and hungry. He was reading a scrap of a newspaper several days old. As our eyes met, the expression on his face was pleading for help.

Much to the family's dismay, Father opened his heart of love to this stranger. I consented when Dad invited him to go along with us to church, but when he asked him to share our pew, that was just going too far! Arriving home after service, I could not conceal my feelings when Dad told the "guest" to make himself comfortable in my room.

It seemed strange and unfair, to all except Father, to set an extra chair at the breakfast table. Just as we were bowing our heads for prayer, he walked in. Much to our surprise, he was clean, and really rather handsome in the suit Father had given him.



He seemed to wear a strange smile on his face as he stood in the doorway looking at Father. Recognizing the uncomfortable situation, Father showed him his place at the table. Struggling for words to express his appreciation, the young man shared with us his story.

“I was about ready to give up living last night. I had looked everywhere—drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, sex—and nowhere could I find peace or happiness. Even the papers are full of wars and famines. I could see no use for living; I was ready to end it all. I was even more determined to give up when you folks walked by. Why, I thought, do some people enjoy such happiness and others suffer such misery? But in church last night I discovered the reason for your joy. As you were singing those songs, I opened my heart and Christ came in. Now I have peace and happiness, too. I can never thank you enough for this opportunity to meet our Saviour.”

As the family gathered around the fireplace for devotions this Christmas morning, I felt so ashamed. I knelt with tears in my eyes, asking God’s forgiveness. We could then all rejoice because another person had found Christ. After all, the real meaning of Christmas is to share “God’s Son-shine.”

*A Christmas story from the December 9, 1972 WWM by Mavis Westberg*

I do not understand why people want to go back to the early Church with its persecutions, power, healings and demonstrations. I admit those were great days, and the early saints were truly wonderful, but look what we are and what is just ahead. To go back down the line would be like wrecking a building just as it was almost completed and dropping back to the bare foundation. The apostles and prophets were the foundation and we are the top of the building, with the whole structure almost finished. Why should we want to leave off building or finishing and go back to the foundation? O no, we have no time for this. We must move on up, put the roof on and paint and polish the entire structure. This is our time. This is our work. We are not the kind that draw back. We have no desire to take the place of the apostles. Our part of the drama is to perform now. And we are going on with God’s eternal program with no desire or expectation of dropping back to former acts and scenes. We may have some similar actions to those of the early Church since the same Holy Spirit that directed the work then is directing now.

*—Excerpts from Annual Address of A. J. Tomlinson, 21st General Assembly in 1926*



**Don Hutton**  
**Regional Sunday School**  
**Coordinator**  
**Treasuring The Truth**

**TREASURING THE TRUTH**

**MATTHEW 13: 44-52**

44 *Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.*

45 *Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls:*

46 *Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.*

47 *Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:*

48 *Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.*

49 *So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,*

50 *And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.*

51 *Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord.*

52 *Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.*

**MATTHEW 6: 19-21**

19 *Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:*

20 *But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:*

21 *For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

**WHERE IS OUR TREASURE, IN HEAVEN OR IN EARTH?**