

Is the Gospel of Christ Adequate?

By Forrest Cleburne Weir

CAN the message of Christ's gospel bear the load that modern religious leaders place upon it today? I am not referring to the traditional content of Christianity as set out in the creeds, but to what Jesus taught and lived, as we have it recorded in the writings of the evangelists.

Any careful study of the life and ministry of Jesus will show how strikingly dissimilar his experience was to ours. Whereas our moral problems arise out of the stress of family life, economic struggle, education, art, science, and citizenship, his experience hardly touched these areas. His manner of living and his lack of family responsibility made him independent of economic effort. He was never harassed by the complexities of modern knowledge. The burden of his message was not that of citizenship.

He so framed his teaching, moreover, that it applied to specific needs of those—both individuals and groups—to whom he spoke. We have no corresponding situations, so that we can not lift a statement bodily and apply it to a need in our life. Jesus had people of his time in mind when he spoke, not people of modern times. Like one in a row boat who rows all around an island before he decides where to land, Jesus rowed all about a man's moral life and made sure of the special need before he landed. The rich young man, he found, had placed his affections on wealth, while Nicodemus had allowed his religion to cluster into perfectly good tradition—he lacked spiritual insight. In each case Jesus directed his message to the specific need.

But if his messages, designed to meet specific needs, can not be lifted bodily out of their context and applied to present day situations, neither can his teaching be

taken as a set of rules and applied to contemporary ethical needs. As Dean Inge has so well phrased it, "The gospel is good news, not good advice." Instead of being a disadvantage, however, this situation works for our good, because we are so literal-minded that if Jesus had left specific instructions or made a set of rules, we should have so completely misunderstood them that



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we should have used them to wreck our religious life.

We do not even have a systematic statement of his philosophy. But we do have his way shown both in his life and teaching. From his recorded speeches we can outline the principles of that way. One of its principal features is his affirmation of the supreme worth of personality. Things had only an instrumental value for him. "What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" he asked. The soul is of the essence of eternity, while things of earth perish. Joined

closely with this principle is his emphasis upon love as the foundation for all good living. We are not only to love God but our neighbors as ourselves. If it is important to regard the eternal worth of one's own soul, it is equally important to regard the eternal worth of other men's souls, and so to act as never to make that worth secondary to any material advantage. In fact, according to Jesus, one who does not respect the eternal worth of persons can hardly sense the eternal nature of his own spirit. He talked of all goods in terms of service as opposed to profit. He insisted that life must be ordered from within. The mere adjusting of external behavior misses the point. If a man is good, he is good because he has acquired good motives. Jesus sought truth and was impatient with the reliance placed upon "the traditions of the elders." He deplored sham and demanded genuine sincerity. He taught that all achievement springs from sacrifice.

This is but a brief summary, but it contains enough to make the world over. Just what the application of these principles involves may be disputed, but that they underlie the Jesus way no one will deny.

These principles set up an ideal, but how shall we attain to the ideal? We can not set down a standard procedure, for it is not possible to describe a plan of conduct in advance that will exemplify Jesus' way. We are in the great moral struggle, and the deeper into it we get, the more luminous our insight becomes, the more sensitive we become to the spirit of God; the farther away the ideal seems.

But when we cease to think of the religion of Jesus in terms of

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HARVEST FESTIVAL

(From Orange and Black)

A Harvest Festival was held in the College dining hall, Friday evening, October 14. The room was beautifully decorated with bright autumn leaves, cornstalks, and orange lights. Heavily laden tables of canned fruits and vegetables and other edibles stood in all available corners and spaces of the room. The decorations were in charge of Mrs. John Kane. A splendid program had been arranged including:

Group singing, led by A.G. Kinzer.
Two readings-----Susie Hanxford
Two Whistling solos-----
 Vivian Whiteford
Two Readings-----J. W. Phelps.
Violin Solo-----Joe Montgomery
Two Readings-----Bernadine Bright
Instrumental Trio-----
 Violin--Irene Byrum
 Cello--Christine Drennen
 Piano--Virginia Collins.
Presentation of Gifts--Rev. Gray
Response-----Dean Russell Olt
Songs-----Jubilee Quartet
Prayer-----Amy K. Lopez

This year the various churches in Anderson and many surrounding towns met in a body and presented the school with a large supply of home and commercial canned goods and other winter provisions.

Approximately four hundred and fifty persons gathered at the school and were conducted by guides through the building. The annual open house for the students was celebrated at this time.

The school in past years has been greatly indebted to its friends for their many contributions of one kind and another, particularly for their generous offerings of food. It is hoped that such a feeling of wholesome fellowship and community spirit has been generated in those present on that occasion that the "Harvest Festival" may become a yearly gathering of all the nearby friends of the college.

BIRTHDAY OBSERVANCE IN COLLEGE DINING ROOM

Students eating in the College dining-room who have birthdays are honored each month by a special menu and program.

The first Friday evening in each month sees the dining-room transformed into a banquet hall when the monotony of the array of small tables with their usual quota of six is relieved by one long table at which everyone gathers. This undoubtedly helps in promoting the general air of fellowship and goodwill that pervades these gatherings. At the October celebration the table was daintily decorated with autumn leaves and candles. Simple place cards took care of the seating arrangements and birthday cards kept company with them where needed.

There was an informal program consisting of a few words in honor of the birthday owners, and group singing led by Max Gaulke.

Those honored were: Miss Marie Sperry, Miss Mary Renbock (guest), and Mr. Laude Hays for October, and Miss Bernadine Bright and Mr. George Montague whose birthdays come in July when the students would not be here.

The dining-room staff headed by Mrs. Rolla Shultz are largely responsible for these festal occasions.

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EDITORIAL
"CIRCULATING"

During the past few weeks I have been circulating among some of our alumni who are on the field. It is a source of no small inspiration to get around among our boys who are making good in the ministry.

It had been ten years since I gazed on the wonders of Niagara Falls. So when the young people of New York held their State Convention there and the host pastor, Marcel Desgalier, invited me to be the speaker, I could not find it in me to refuse. But when I got to Niagara I found the schedule so crowded that we had time for only a passing glance at the falls. More than one hundred delegates, fine, spiritual young people attended the convention.

Among those who attended the convention from outside the State was Virgil Johnson who went from the Seminary a little over a year ago to pastor the little church at Athens, Pa. Since I had planned to return home by way of eastern Pennsylvania I stopped off at Athens to preach for Brother Johnson. After a fine supper which Mrs. Johnson prepared, we went to church. A revival was in progress at a large Methodist church so Brother Johnson had made arrangements for me to preach there, he and his people coming over in a body.

Down in Harrisburg, I surprised the pastor, Rev. E. S. Alexander, by dropping in on him unannounced. Brother Alexander was one of our California students in '25 and '26. His entire ministry, since leaving here, has been in the Keystone State. It so happened that the night I was there was prayer-meeting night and I spoke to his church. Early the next morning Brother and Sister Alexander were to leave for the preachers' meeting at Allentown. I was headed toward Anderson. Being weary with long driving and long preachments, I did not want to get up so early; so they

slipped out and left me asleep. When I awoke I found a fine breakfast on the table which I supposed they intended for me to eat. Anyway, I ate it and came on towards Anderson.

When I got to Vandergrift, I inquired for the address of the Reverend John Tullas Lackey, pastor of the Church of God. I soon found the house but did not find Brother Lackey at home. Mrs. Lackey told me he was out visiting his folks. When the day was well spent, Brother Lackey came in to relate the experiences of a young pastor in his first charge. It was interesting. At the supper table John and Elsie asked more questions about things back at the school than a school boy could ask about a circus. Here, too, it was prayer meeting night and I spoke to a fine group of folks who had come out for the regular prayer service, not knowing that a visitor was to speak.

I had seen Rev. G. E. Sample at the Niagara Convention and he had invited me to stop at Distant and New Bethlehem where he is pastor. The prayer meeting that evening was at Distant and about two hundred people were out to hear me speak. I do not know how many were expecting me or whether they all just came out to prayer meeting. I spent the night in the home of Brother and Sister Sample and their fine family.

And from Sample's I drove straight and fast to Anderson. I arrived about ten o'clock at night, just in time to miss the great Harvest Festival which was held that evening in the college dining-hall. In a few minutes Mrs. Morrison came home from the Festival and told me of the fine, happy crowd, the splendid program and the big pile of eats. I said "Thank the Lord" and went to bed.

ALUMNI NEWS

THESE ALUMNI ARE WALKING THE HALLS OF LEARNING.

Someone has said that "to be educated means to know how to be wisely ignorant". If that is true a goodly number of the alumni are on the way to be wisely ignorant, for they are still seeking education in halls of learning. There is Rolla Shultz, for instance, who received the degree of Bachelor of Arts and the Degree of Bachelor of Divinity in Anderson College. Not content with his degrees he is now majoring in education at Ball State Teacher's College, Muncie, Ind.

Then there is Frederick Schminke '32. Frederick is of the opinion that a foreign university can give him what he wants; he is therefore studying at the University of Toulouse, France. He and Streeter Stuart are having many novel experiences in Toulouse.

Walter Haldeman '24; is another alumnus who is still pursuing a formal education. He is attending Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, where he is giving mind and soul to the study of religious education. He is working for the Ph.D. degree.

Carl Kardatzke, '24 and '27 is working on his Ph.D. degree at the Kentucky State University. He is working hard, too, as the following note shows:

"Dear Alumni Editor:

I'd like to say that I am busier than a bob-tailed calf in fly time, but that wouldn't be dignified enough, would it? Well, I am that busy, anyway. I spend practically all of my time in the library. The one class I take meets only once a week. My Chief Executive, Mrs. Kardatzke, informs me that she is "behind" me in everything I do. So you see I am still left to blaze the trail alone.

As we say down here, "Come to see us and stay all night and don't rush off". We'd like to see every one of our fellow Alumni".

Several of the alumni have chosen to return to Anderson College and Theological Seminary for further work. They are: Paul Froehlich, '32, Bert James, '31 and '32, George Jorgenson '32, Myrtle Brown '28, and Araxia Hartselle '27. The last two are doing most of their work in music.

Next month we shall hear about the alumni who are working in the ministry--providing they will write the editor about their work. Come on pastors and evangelists, tell us something about your work that will make our hearts glad.

The Sewing Circle of the Church of God at Lanett, Ala., where Rev. E. Y. Thompson '28 is pastor, sends two quilts for use in the dormitories.

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Miss Grace Rosenberger of the class of '31 sends greetings from Guernsey, Sask., Can.

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Rev. Henry Hartman '32 and wife drove down from Battle Creek, Mich., where he is pastor, and brought a load of eatables for our dining-hall. They remained for a couple of days' visit.

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Prof. Earl Martin has been supplying the pulpit at the Church of God in Alexandria, Ind., in the absence of the pastor, Rev. E. A. Fleenor.

Rev. O. E. Line and Rev. Warner Clayton are conducting a tabernacle meeting at Pendleton, Ind., a small town south-west of Anderson.

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ABOUT THE COLLEGE AND CAMPUS

Glen Beach, Paul Froehlich, and George Jorgenson took advantage of a recent excursion to Niagara Falls. Glen decided that Canada was more to be desired than the Falls, and so he had his folk meet him at Buffalo with a car and take him back to "mama".

Albert Duke, member of the Jubilee Quartet, is assisting Glen Marshall at Decatur, Indiana, in a three weeks' revival. Herman Smith has taken his place on the quartet a few times while the boys sang for the Park Place revival.

Wendell Byrd is becoming quite proficient as a cook. Don't rush, girls. His time is limited because of a heavy load in school and many other activities required to furnish necessary funds.

John Call is doing a lot of personal work at Wayside Cross Mission. He likes his work so well that most of his time is spent there.

Hubert Achor, Joyce Higgins, Herman Beyer, and Jewell Horne enjoy I.Q.'s to the extent that they have repeated the A test. In each case improvement was evident.

Byron Anger has good control of his temper even tho he does have to work on antique plumbing around the building.

Perseverance finally won for Charlie Kissell. He sang his old favorite, "I'm Going Higher Some Day", in chapel, assisted by Max Gaulke and Oral Clemens. Bro. Kissell has also sung some solos over the radio during the morning devotions which are conducted by the college students.

Dean Olt attended a recent educational conference at Indianapolis.

The noon prayer meetings conducted from 12:30 to 1 each day in class room 6 are well attended.

Mrs. Nora Hunter, President of the Women's National Missionary Organization and Mrs. John Daughtery of Pennsylvania, were recent and welcome visitors at the college.

Virgil Tucker and Arthur Kinzer have been chosen as the new members to the College Male Quartet. They made their first debut Tuesday night at the Park Place church. The quartet personell now is: Virgil Tucker, first tenor, Arthur Kinzer, second tenor, Max Gaulke, baritone, and Oral Clemens, bass.

Wilma Anthony got homesick and persuaded Everett Reeder and his wife to take her to Kalamazoo over a recent week-end.

Chris Bachman does not relish Indiana weather. He recently purchased an umbrella from Montgomery Ward and Company.

On October 9 at 3:30 p.m., at the Park Place Church of God, a beautiful wedding was solemnized. The bride and groom were Cleomae Line and Laude Hays. The bride's father, Rev. O. E. Line, read the ceremony. The couple were attended by Miss Opal Hays, sister of the groom, and Herbert Thompson. The newlyweds have an apartment in the Main building of the School. Mrl. Hays expects to graduate this year from the Ministerial Course. Students and friends wish them much happiness and success as they labor together for God.

Cecil Byrd is in training for the exalted position of human fly. He seems to be able to cling to the stucco walls of the publishing plant with much ease.

ATHLETICS

As basketball season draws near, the boys and girls are preparing for a successful season. Every one is on the job. The members of each squad are demonstrating real enthusiasm for a position on their team. We have enough candidates out for each team to create real competition for places.

There are three letter men from last year's team back as a nucleus around which to build a team. New men are showing ability, and we feel sure that a number of them will render valuable service to the team this year.

Our season opens Nov. 12 when we meet Indiana Central on the Gospel Trumpet Gym floor. We have seventeen games scheduled for the boys' team.

The girls' team is working under the very efficient leadership of Miss Barbara Jewitt of Anderson. They are showing a good spirit, and we are expecting them to have a good year.

Let's everyone boost the team.

--Geo. Montague, Coach.

Wilmer Thompson, a former student accompanied by his wife and sister-in-law, were recent visitors at the College.

Orrin Bailey will soon have his home in Achor Addition completed. He expects his family to move in about January 1.

Mazie DeArmond has had charge of the college devotional hour over station, WHBU during the past week.

The Browns delight in giving birthday parties. Oral Clemens and Marie Sperry were the most recent recipients in honor of Marie's 7th birthday. Marie's mother sent her a cake but we have been unable to find out the number of candles used thereon.

PERSONELL OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL

The following officers and representatives have been elected to the Student Council of Anderson College and Theological Seminary for the present year:

President,-----John H. Kane.

Vice-President---Laude Hays

Secretary Treasurer, pro tem.

Louis Turner.

Senator-at-Large,--Gabriel Dixon

Class Representatives:

Freshmen, Liberal Arts

Dan Martin

Freshmen, Seminary

Marie Sperry

Sophomore, Liberal Arts

Welcome Plough

Sophomore, Seminary

Albert Duke.

Junior, Liberal Arts

David Gaulke

Junior, Seminary

Elmer Yerden

Senior, Liberal Arts

Max Gaulke

Senior, Seminary

Mazie DeArmond.

Eugene and Lura Reynolds and Ralph and Ruth Benson were recent dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Kane. Mrs. Kane "knows her chop suey". Mr. Benson's 25th birthday was thus celebrated.

Elmer Bennett is back in school this year as chief fireman. His wife--formerly Erla Wills--is also taking some schoolwork.

Folk in North Carolina surely know how to make cookies and cake. Boyce Blackwelder knows how to get them here. The boys have had several treats lately from Boyce. Wonder if folk in other states are as good cooks as those in North Carolina.

President Morrison and Dr. Chas. E. Brown motored to the Ministerial Assembly at Farwell, Michigan.

EUSTACE JOHNSON GOES TO ST. JAMES, MISSOURI

Rev. Eustace Johnson, who for three years has been a student in the Seminary, will discontinue his school work in order to accept a call to the pastorate of the church at St. James, Mo. He and Mrs. Johnson will assume pastoral charge of the St. James church about the middle of November. They paid a week-end visit to the congregation recently and feel much encouraged with the prospects there. St. James is rather historic with regard to the Church of God work, being the first place west of the Mississippi to have the message preached. D.S. Warner and company visited this place in 1880 and started the work.

Brother and Sister Johnson have the prayers and best wishes of the students and faculty as they start on their new work.

ORANGE AND BLACK STAFF

Last year the publication of a campus paper known as "The Orange and Black" was started. The paper has as its purpose the publication of matters of special interest to students here in the School. It is issued weekly. The project met with general favor last year and thanks to the enterprising spirit of our students, it continues to be published this year, hard times notwithstanding.

The Staff members for the present year are as follows:

Editor, --Edgar Williams.

Associate Editors--

Lillian Blewitt

Herman Smith

Business Manager--

Melvin Miller

Circulation Manager--

Orrin Bailey

Exchange, --Mazie DeArmond

Society, --Lucille Fenton.

Art Editor, --Elmer Bennett.

Faculty Advisor--Miss Lopez.

Typists: Mary Husted, A. G. Kinzer,

Paul Froehlich, Louis Turner, Erla

Bennett, Wilma Anthony.

DEBATE

Plans for this year's debating program are getting well under way. Volunteers have responded to the call for both the men's and women's teams.

The question for debate this year is, "Resolved that at least one-half of all state and local revenues should be derived from sources other than the tax on tangible property". Try-outs for the debate will be held Tuesday evening November 1 in the chapel. Thirteen boys have signed up for the try-out. Those entering are: Elmer Bennett, Boyce Blackwelder, Dave Gaulke, Max Gaulke, Clyde Horton, John H. Kane, Dan Martin, Melvin Miller, Warner Monroe, Willis Patterson, Claire Shultz, Francis Shultz, and Herman Smith. Some of these candidates have figured prominently in debate here in the college in previous years and others are widely experienced in speaking before the public so the tryouts this year promise to be quite interesting.

Our women's team has a question of very different nature, but we believe, will prove no less interesting than the men's. It is, "Resolved that moving pictures on the general average are detrimental to the American public". (Not abolition, just an estimate.) This is a live question in the minds of many today and considerable material should be presented on the subject by the eight girls who will speak Thursday evening, November 3, in the try-outs for the girls debating team. They are: Joyce Higgins, Opal Hays, Virginia Howse, Bernadine Bright, Helen Martin, Welcome Plough, Ruth Sheefel, and Helen Wixon.

Rev. and Mrs. H. A. Sherwood of Logansport, Indiana, came down for a short visit a few days ago.

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definite goals to be check off one by one, and view it as a creative functioning, then we gain a lively sense of the timelessness of Jesus Gospel. "There is no absolute Christian ethic," said Froeltsch, "rather a continual remastering of the changing materials of the world's life". The life of Jesus has made us aware that our struggle is not a sham battle but a real and continuous remaking of life. We are left much to ourselves, however, to find by experimentation how to apply the timeless principles taught by our Lord to the moral perplexities of each age. Those who resist this process of experimentation, insisting upon traditional moral precepts alone, are comparable to the Scribes and Pharisees, against whom Jesus launched his most violent attacks.

In this process of trying to remake man and his world, we must not overlook the foundation upon which Jesus himself rested his principles. All his teaching sprung from his conception of God and his relation to the world. We have to remember that we should never have known the God of the New Testament had Jesus not revealed him. According to Jesus, God is Father. All men are potential sons. They are made in his spiritual image and may, if they will, enter into sonship by becoming his moral counterpart. To become the sons of God they must trust him implicitly. Anyone who did the will of his Father, was reborn, was his brother and a member of the divine family.

Thus Jesus gradually shows us that when we become sons of God we also become brothers, and ties and bonds result that come before any flesh and blood ties. The creation of a social order which fulfills the divine purpose is the objective of the entire process. In the family of faithful

sons is to be trained efficient members of a transformed society, entrance into which is the goal and reward of the individual's effort.

But where is the dynamic that enables us to become the sons of God? "I am the way, the truth, and the life", Jesus replies. "And as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God".

Is this gospel adequate? If we accept it and trust it as a way to fulfillment of life, yes. But if we try to reduce it to a static religious creed or moral code, we release ourselves from its power. "If Christianity was morals, then Socrates was the Savior;" if Christianity was a set of good rules, then Confucius was the Savior; if Christianity was good advice, then Seneca was the Savior; but if Christianity was a creative spirit, then Jesus was the Savior. For that reason "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation," both to the individual and also to the society.

Recent speakers in chapel were: Dr. Chas. E. Brown, Rev. W. B. McCreary, Judge L. V. Busby, Rev. Hockstetler, Rev. Henry Hartman, Also J. C. Wengatz, a former classmate of Brother Sherwood's. Rev. Wengatz has been a missionary in Africa for twenty years and gave a very inspiring and heart-searching talk to the students.

Miss Hazel Holton of Springfield, Ohio, a former student, writes that she still has hopes of continuing her studies here.

A college band is being organized under the supervision of Professor Hartselle. Ralph Coburn is the director.
