

The Stanly Baptist.

Volume 1.

BIG LICK, N. C., JULY, 1914.

Number 10.



The above is a cut of the West-Albemarle Baptist Baraca Class. This is one of the best classes we ever saw. We could not get all of the boys present, but have enough of them to make a fair showing of the class. There were about twenty-five absent when this was made. Brother O. D. Caudle is president and A. L. Burleyson is their enthusiastic leader.

OUR BASIS OF APPEAL.

By Rev. J. J. Beach.

"But first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God." (II Cor. 8:5).

Motive is everything with God. Put yourself into the plate first. I think there is such a thing as serving the Lord by proxy with your money, but you can not serve him with your money when your heart is far from Him. Your gift is of no value until you give Him yourself. You can not atone for a lack of love by an increase of gifts. This is an age of money giving. Men are pouring out their money by the thousands into every kind of charity that can make any excuse at all for an appeal. They will have their secretary write a check while they go on making the money the check represents. Do these heartless gifts count when it comes to the work of our Lord? The Lord has been saying to all the ages that a small gift with a heart behind it counts for more in His sight than all the treasures of the rich, heartlessly given, or put in that the donor may receive the plaudits of the public.

I fear that there is not much heart in a great deal of our giving, and hence no blessings of the Lord attend it. A dollar thoughtlessly given will surely buy food in the market to feed the poor, but will the money be blessed of the Lord to the salvation of the host? Does God make any distinction in gifts? Has motive anything to do with the efficiency of an offering? Does God count money like a church treasurer, in dollars and cents? No "To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me, saith the Lord." I wonder if we have come to the altar with our offering and found it could be received because we had come in a wrong spirit?

With Baptists growing richer as fast as we could old they are, why does the work of our Lord have to go begging? There must be something

wrong with the basis of our appeal. We have been asking for a dollar when we should have asked for a life. We have been getting our churches and Sunday schools on the honor roll, when we should have been asking for the consecration of the lives of them to the service of God. Brethren, God wants you, not yours, and your gift is only worth while, when it fitly represents the consecration of your life to Him and a liberal percent of your earnings. As suggested by this text, I want us to make three great offerings. 1. Give ourselves to the Lord; 2. Give ourselves to the leaders in the work by the will of God; 3. Make an offering that will do credit to such consecration.

If we offer ourselves to the Lord, the smaller matter of the money offering will take care of itself.

Gastonia, N. C.

A MESSAGE TO YOUNG MEN.

I wonder if we young men ever think of the way we are living in this world of sin? We just go along through the world never giving a single thought as to how we should live or of the all-wise God. In some cases we are just stumbling-blocks for others. We should watch and not be stumbling-blocks for the others. We should always be true to our God. Another thing which comes to my mind is that most of us do not honor our parents as we should. Nearly all of us do and say things that cause them sorrow. Now, my young friends, let's watch these little things and not hurt the feelings of the best friends we have on earth.

I will ask another question: Are we doing our duty toward God? I do say that most of us are not. We just stroll around and lock arms with everything that we should not. If it is the vilest kind of sin, we seem to draw nearer than we ought to.

I have heard of people saying that it was no harm to step behind the door and take a drink. It may not do you any harm at the present, but

the Bible says to shun the very appearance of evil.

Young men generally think more of worldly things than they do of spiritual things. I think we ought to think more and speak less, but always think of the right kind of things. I have seen boys recently who would take God's name in vain and do add say many more things they should not. They say that they cannot quit it. I say they can. A boy can do just what he wants to and be just what he wants to be. He can be a criminal or he can be a man. It is just as he chooses. I prefer to be a man. We have too many criminals now. If you will go to the main gang you will see the effects of sin. Boys, don't do anything that will put you there or in a criminal's cell. We all have temptations thrown around us, but we must not yield to them. We must flee from them. I would to God that every boy was a Christian. That would make it so much better. We then would not find stripes on so many young men. Just a few words

to those who are wasting their lives smoking poisonous cigarettes. Boys, do you know that they are the most degrading thing we have around us? If you could see the evil they have done, you surely would not smoke any more. They will destroy your physical body and make a wreck of your soul. I advise you to abstain from this dreadful monster.

May God guide and direct us through all our lives, is my humble petition.

BRADIE N. BURLEYSON.

Bloomington, N. C.

Our Meeting With the Chadwick Church at Charlotte.

On Monday after the first Sunday in June, we went to Charlotte to aid Bro. J. C. Gillespie in a meeting of days at the Chadwick church. I had been there before, so it was a great pleasure to return for I had many friends in mind that I wanted to see again. We began Monday night. The meeting was good from the beginning. We did not have such a stir as we sometimes see, but a genuine revival. The church seemed to begin fine shape for a meeting, and when we called upon it to do anything, it responded nobly. It was great to be in the preparatory prayer meetings. They were soul-inspiring. If they are kept up, the church may do. We held them in the little Sunday school rooms at the rear of the restroom. We would sometimes have the room full. The earnestness of the brethren was the greatest I ever saw. They prayed in the old time way. They simply talked to God. The pastor was very greatly hindered at the close of the meeting on account of being sick, and the feeble condition of his aged father. Bro. Gillespie is one of the most consecrated men we ever saw. No more congenial fellow can be found. He is one of the truest yoke fellows we have ever labored with. He helps in every way he can, and knows just how to make a fellow enjoy himself. We shall never forget our stay with the Chadwick folks.



The above is a cut of the West-Albemarle Baptist Philathea Class. This is one of the most enthusiastic classes we have ever seen. They are willing to do anything for the Master. There is more real consecration in this class than we have found in any other. Miss Cora Parker is president and Willie A. Greene is the teacher. They are the pastor's helpers.