

The Baptist Messenger

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REV. C. J. BLACK.

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ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WINGATE, AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

Rev. James I. Kendrick, agent for the Wake Forest Church Fund, was with us at Wingate the fourth Sunday at 11 o'clock, and at Macedonia at 2:30 o'clock. He made a splendid talk at Wingate and as a mark of appreciation the church voted him \$100, to be raised by December 1. We are glad to know that Meadow Branch is interested enough in the cause to do her part toward the Wake Forest church. There is not an institution in the State that means more for Baptists than this one. Through all the years since the founding of Wake Forest College, the boys have been called into the chapel for worship, but as any college man knows, there was not much worship about it. It was there he was told of his wrong doing; it was there the prank was played. Nothing serious could come into his mind. But now with a magnificent church house, splendid enough for any city, and a district church organization, we feel sure the boys will have entirely a different idea of the religious life of Wake Forest.

This issue is the beginning of Volume 3. We did not know what our little paper would result in when we started it two years ago, but we are glad to say that we are more than pleased with the encouragement we have received and the kindness that has been shown us, thus making it possible for us to keep going. As a new year now faces us, we hope to have your co-operation as we have had in the past. Our paper is run entirely for the Kingdom's sake. It is not a money-making enterprise. Will you not try to enlist some one as a subscriber. We want two thousand by Christmas. If we can get that many, we will have it on a paying basis. We earnestly request the pastors to aid us in this work. A great many are behind with their subscription. Please send us a remittance at once. We need it very much at present. It takes money to keep us going. We certainly will appreciate your sending in your renewal also. When you wish an announcement concerning any church work, let us have it. We will publish it free, and do it cheerfully. Be sure to send it in time to get it out in the next issue.

We are glad to have this word from Evangelist J. F. Black: "I have been supplying for the Roan Memorial Baptist church, Memphis, Tenn. I had a fine day last Sunday. Had two additions and baptized one at night. The Baptists are very weak in Memphis."

NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH.

(EVANGELIST T. T. MARTIN.)

Because Baptists churches are New Testament churches they are under the most solemn obligation to earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints.—Jude 3. The question arises, What should be the attitude of Baptist churches and Baptists toward other churches?

Let it be clearly understood that it should not be that of bitterness or harshness. There is a vast difference between earnestly contending and bitterly contending. While there has been great harm done by Baptists' compromising the truth, there probably has been as great or greater harm done by the bitter spirit in which some of us have contended for the faith. Not only should there be no bitterness, but there should be tender love of every one who is redeemed, whatever his religious errors may be; for "Everyone that loveth Him that begat loveth Him also that is begotten of Him."—I John 5:1.

Baptist churches and Baptists should rejoice in all the truth that any people hold. "And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in Thy name; and we forbade him, because he followed not with us. And Jesus said unto him, Forbid him not; for he that is not against us is for us."—Luke 9:49-50.

But the question arises, Baptist churches being New Testament churches, what should be the attitude of Baptists and Baptist churches toward the religious errors of other people? Let two principles be laid down: Whenever Baptists or Baptist churches make stronger efforts to reach other people in religious error than they make to reach outsiders, they are sectarians and bigots. Second, whenever they make less efforts to reach people in other religious bodies than they make to reach outsiders they are cowardly bowing to a maudlin sentiment and are betraying their trust in being unfaithful to their Lord. For instance, there are churches that do not teach the New Testament way of salvation through believing on Christ as complete, eternal Redeemer from all iniquity. Then whenever Baptist churches and Baptists make less efforts to lead these people to accept the New Testament way of salvation than they make to get the outside world to see it and accept it, it is from pure cowardice and a betrayal of their solemn trust. There are people who do not know the way of New Testament baptism. Whenever Baptists and Baptist churches fail to make the same effort to reach these people with this truth that they make toward the outside world, they are compromising and betraying their sacred trust. Whenever they make a greater effort to get them to accept this truth than they make to get the outside world to accept it it is from a party or sectarian spirit.

This runs across the popular conception of denominational courtesy and comity. But who gave any man or set of men authority to set us institutions or doctrines contrary to New Testament churches and doctrines and made it obligatory that New Testament churches should bow to those institutions and doctrines and not earnestly contend for the faith?

The closing of this article will have to do with the attitude of Baptist churches and Baptists toward other than the two essential doctrines of a New Testament church and Baptists holding some religious error.

Blue Mountain, Mississippi.

Brother J. A. Bivens reports that Bethel church, Union Association, is planning to put in a baptistry.

PRECIOUS BIBLE.

We are publishing two more poems from the pen of Bessie Carter. Her writings are very fine considering her educational advantages. Will not some big hearted Baptist help this girl to get an education? She will bring you the richest returns of any investment you can make. She is very anxious to enter school, and we mean for her to enter after Christmas, but we would like for some one to become interested in her enough to make it easier for her to go.

When we open the precious Bible,
And turn the printed leaves,
We find the words of Jesus
And how heartily he receives.

We can find it in Saint Mark,
The awful death he died;
He suffered death and agony,
For sinners far and wide.

He never sinned in all his life,
He lived a Holy One;
He preached the gospel far and wide,
Oh, praise God's Holy Son.

COME TO JESUS.

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
Come and at the altar fall;
Come to Jesus, precious Jesus,
And find in Him thine all in all.

He is waiting, he is pleading,
Calling now for thee;
In sweetest tones he's calling,
"Come, oh sinner, come to me."

If we come to him and trust him,
He will help us all along,
Gladden our poor saddened hearts,
And fill them with joyful song.

He will help us to overcome
All the temptations of this world,
Old Satan puts before us,
And the evil thoughts he hurls.

He will guide us in the path of life
And bless us day by day;
For Jesus is the Light, you know,
The Life, the Light, the Way.

Old Satan to us will come around
And try his best to pull us down;
He'll tell us, oh, so many lies,
As many as the stars in the skies.

But let us trust in Jesus,
He will help us in the fight;
He'll be with us through the day
Or through the darkest night.

Old Satan will be defeated,
Yes, we shall win the prize;
Then Jesus will take us to heaven,
To our home beyond the skies.

Pastor Gillespie writes that things are blooming on the Norwood field. The Sunday school at Norwood has gone from 80 to 190 in six months. Silver Springs is on a boom also. They now have over two hundred on roll in Sunday school. Good! Go right on. Silver Springs ought to have three hundred in Sunday school.

Mrs. R. C. Bivens had a thrilling experience the fourth Sunday evening. She and her baby were taking a ride in Brother Nathaniel Bivens' buggy, and the horse became frightened and ran away, throwing them out and demolishing the buggy. We are glad to state that they were not seriously injured.

Prof. H. J. Langston is our business manager now. Address all communications to him if it is along business lines. Send all matter for publication to the editor.