

THE SPIRITUAL BANKRUPTCY OF THE WHITE CHURCH

The incident which occurred at the Oak Grove Baptist Church, near Wake Forest, two Sundays ago when a mild-mannered, aged Negro woman was practically thrown out of the church by some of its members is enough to shock the sensibilities of a gangster to say nothing of a Christian or a person who has been exposed to the principles of Democracy. It focuses the spotlight of the Sermon on the Mount and every other tenet of Christianity directly on the putrid condition of hypocrisy existing in the average southern White church today. It pin points the direct source from which springs all of the determination in the heart of Mr. Average White Citizen in the South to never accept the Negro as a brother.

On our knees we ask God again and again to forbid that any Negro church will ever sink so low in the depths of self-righteousness that it will close its doors to any one of God's children, whatever his race or however degenerate he may have become. We cry aloud to Negro churches everywhere to keep their doors forever open to all men. For who knows but what God in his all-wise judgement has not chosen you as a citadel, a bulwark and the one place in this race-hating and segrega-

tion-infested Southland to tear the cover off the rotten hypocrisy existing in the average Southern White Church today. Let there be no mistake about it, the Oak Grove Baptist Church is no isolated example of the spiritual bankruptcy of the White church in the South. There are thousands of them all over Dixie where the presence of a Negro at Sunday morning worship would have brought the same if not a worse reaction. Were this not true, segregation, which teaches one human being to look down on another because of the color of his skin, would never have survived as long as it has in the South.

We must not forget that Dr. Charles Jones of Chapel Hill and other honest white Christian ministers elsewhere have been ousted from their pulpits for daring to include Negroes in their preaching of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

Said one of the irate members of Oak Grove Baptist Church to the Negro woman on that fateful Sunday morning, "If you were a Christian you would not have come here." Maybe the man spoke more truth than he realized. For after all there are some places where a Christian ought not go unless he goes there for missionary pur-

poses — places like bawdy houses, speak-easies, dope dens and other such dives. Certainly no Christian ought to be caught in a church where the spirit of Christ has been chilled to such an extent that an aged, respected Negro woman, who had walked over three miles to inform its pastor that a sign had fallen down in her yard, would be thrown out.

It might be interesting to the pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church and his flock, who will be sent a marked copy of this issue of the *Carolina Times*, to know that at the very hour when they were demonstrating their lack of Christianity toward a Negro woman that a fine, cultured and Christian white man who was visiting a Negro church in Durham was kneeling at the altar with Negroes and taking the "Lord's Supper."

Well, we don't know what else God has in store to confound the wicked in the South, but what has happened at Georgia Tech., in Mississippi, and Texas and now at the Oak Grove Baptist Church in this state is enough to let us know that truth is on the march and will not be stopped. Truly these are stirring days. Stand still, you have only seen the beginning of the parade.

WORSE THAN AN INFIDEL

At the county courthouse in Halifax last Monday, December 5, Negro citizens of the county discovered to their dismay that all of the "Time Ain't Right" Negroes are not dead. The occasion was the appearance of representatives of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People before the Halifax County Board of Education to ask for an end to segregation in the county's schools by September, 1956.

Present at the meeting, as a member of the board's Advisory Committee, was the Rev. F. L. Bullock. Although we have been informed that the "F" in his name stands for Frank it could just as well stand for foolish, fickle, frustrated, fearful, furious, falty, fumbler, funny or fiddlesticks. We do know that the Rev. Bullock stood before that board and deliberately attempted to snatch the rug from under the feet of his own people who as members of

the four churches he pastors have helped him by their sweat and toil, to grow greasy, satisfied and content.

He told the Halifax County Board of Education that the two races should not be integrated in the schools without preparation. He stated further that if it is accomplished within the next 10 or 15 years it will be time enough. "I don't think it should be done hurriedly," he said, "I don't think the Supreme Court meant for it to be done hurriedly." That is what I am telling the 3,000 people who make up the congregation of my churches. We have since learned from a reliable source that Rev. Bullock has about 1,000 members in all four of the churches he pastors.

Apparently members of the Board of Education attached very little if any significance to this traitorous statement of Rev. Bullock. They seem to realize that in the end it

is going to be the Halifax County branch of the NAACP that will have the final word in what action Negroes will take to wipe out the shameful stigma of segregation which has victimized their children for approximately 60 years.

As we see it, Rev. Bullock has outlived his usefulness as a minister in and around Halifax County and should not only be repudiated as a leader but relieved of the pastorate of the four churches he now heads. The time has come for each and every Negro holding a position of leadership to stand up and be counted or stand aside.

Not only is segregation unlawful and undemocratic but above all it is unchristian and any minister of Jesus Christ who cannot take a stand for its abolishment against his own race "hath denied the faith and is worse than an infidel."

FEAR CAMPAIGNS BOOMERANG

Much to the consternation of those responsible for the reign of terror in Mississippi and less bloody efforts in other areas to frighten Negroes into accepting their, old, time-worn second class conditions just when it appears that the country, and especially the South, is about to admit them to the mainstream of its life, these pressures have so far failed to dint the courage of the race in pressing for the simple human rights which are the undeniable possession of all free men by gift from their Divine Creator.

Indeed, these pressures are having just the reverse effect. The more loudly they shout to the world, the nation and, most importantly, to that almost extinct breed of head scratching, Uncle Toms of the meanness, viciousness, depravity and downright barbarity of the system. The Till case, as unfortunate as it was, has probably won the NAACP more supporters

than a year of campaigning could. He has become a martyr. The fearless stands taken by such heroes as Gus Courts and the NAACP official in Elloree, S. C., who last week said that he would not run from the fight has put starch into the backbones of many other Negroes in the South who were often ready to run at the shaking of a bush or sight of a sheet. Petty acts of discrimination and prejudice which were tolerated even a year ago now call forth vigorous protests. Negroes have been shocked by the barbarous acts into seeing that the time is now, not next month or next year, for the accordance of the simple dignity which humanity requires.

It is hard for this newspaper to believe that the South is willing to have the blood of its ten million Negroes on its hands just to feed the ignorance, prejudice and bigotry of the still blinded few who have not been able to see that

they are really the scapegoats and are being used to perpetrate a system designed not only to keep Negroes down but also to keep them down too.

For, as this newspaper said thirteen years ago, the Negro wants nothing more from his country than to "fish in its streams, hunt in its forests, shout at its ball games, laugh and cry in its theaters, rear his children, nurture his old, enjoy the benefits of his labor as other free Americans, and look unafraid at the eventide of his life, when time shall wrap its mantle of old age around his shoulders and tuck him to sleep in the sacred sod of his native land."

"That is all the Negro has ever asked, that is all he asks now and that is all he will ever ask. Those who would deny him these rights are themselves unfit to enjoy the benefits of a democratic form of government."

Life Is Like That

By H. ALBERT SMITH

The Importance Of Godly Homes

There are millions of persons in this country who realize the great debt they owe to parents, both dead and living, for the place of decency and respectability they have achieved in life and for ideals and character in line with the destiny for which they were created. They know that had it not been for godly parents and the privilege of being reared in homes founded on religious principles and permeated by the spirit of the man from Galilee they might have become social outcasts and the victims of evil influences against which their parents were careful to guard them.

Parental Vision

This is true with regard to my own life. Like every boy, when I was growing up, I wanted to order my goings to and fro. There was the desire to stay out late at night, the hatred of a curfew hour. There was that universal juvenile inability to see why certain associations, places and books were bad for me and that access to them would, in the course of time, cripple my life and destroy every prospect of achieving worthwhile manhood. But a loving father and mother had the vision their son needed and hedged him round about with protecting disciplines.

In Disagreement

We spend much time today condemning our young people and drawing unfavorable contrasts between the young people of today and those of yesterday. The saying is often heard, "The Bible is fulfilling itself. The children of today are weaker and wiser." But, with this pronouncement, I am in total disagreement. There is no basic difference in children from one generation to another. Only their environment changes and, as well, the persons change who control their lives and shape their destiny. In this, lies the difference between the youth of today and the youth of yesterday.

Parents "Weaker"

If anybody is growing weaker and wiser, it is the parents of today. They have changed in their attitudes toward their children. They are neglecting to apply the disciplines of yesterday. They have taken away the moral and spiritual fences that held in check juvenile feet of past generations that were as prone to wander and go astray as are the juvenile feet of today. Then men stand aghast as they behold unrestrained and unrestrained youth today taking the liberties which they themselves would have taken and desired to take, if they had been permitted. So don't blame today's youth too much. The parents knocked the fences down; they didn't.

An Observation

An Englishman visiting this country a few years ago touch-

ed the core of the whole thing when he was asked what impressed him most about America. He replied, "The way parents obey their children." This was no shrewd observation, but it remarkably fits the facts.

Won't Depart

The Bible says that a child properly brought up will not depart from his training. It advises that application of the rod is better than spoiling the child. The late William McDougall years ago in his Social Psychology endorsed this biblical pronouncement.

Advice Of Solomon

Said Solomon, "Chasten thy son while there is yet hope. Withhold not correction from the child; for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die." He also wisely took note that "foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him."

Begin Early

Moses charged ancient Israel to teach religious precepts to its youth. And Isaiah advised moral and religious training from the time children "are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breast." And Paul called upon the parents of his day to "hold children in subjection with all gravity."

Fruit Of Neglect

If the parents of today had given more attention to these biblical admonitions, I believe the children of today would be less of a problem by far than they are and juvenile delinquency would not be the "head-ache" it now is.

A Solution

In a conversation with a prominent woman known as Madam Campan, Napoleon Bonaparte said, "The old systems of instruction seem to be worth nothing; what is wanting in order that people should be better educated?" Madam Campan replied quickly, "Mothers." So impressed was Napoleon that he said, "Yes, here is a system of education in one word."

Home First

Said Samuel Smiles, "Home is the first and most important school of character." And George Herbert gives us this; "Lord, with what care hast thou begirt us round! Parents first season us. Then school masters deliver us to laws. They send us bound to rules of reason."

Each Mindful

Each of these persons was mindful of the importance of a wholesome home influence in the life of the developing child. And that the most important source to which we may look for better children is homes built on religious principles and in which parents shall regain their rightful authority.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Editor:

We are seeing a lot in the papers nowadays about a purported "vision" which the pope is supposed to have had of Jesus. And we will probably see a lot more of it, — will continue to be deluged with maudlin news releases regarding it, for a long time.

Maybe we can rightly estimate as to how much credence should be put in these stories by considering what the Catholic Encyclopedia, vol. XII, page 275, says,—"The pious ingenuity of the faithful is fertile in new devices, and it is difficult to decide what degree of acceptance warrants in regarding a new devotion as legitimately established." Of course, in a case like this, involving the pope himself, none can doubt the truth of the story, and it is established ab initio, ipse facto.

There could not possibly be a better foundation laid for the future beautification of Pio Duodecimo, — yet he modestly "admitted" the truth of the story, after being "grieved" about its leaking out. I see that those who were cynical regarding the story were attacked by the Italian press, and I suppose that your humble reporter will be included in these attacks henceforth. But back to the story of the "vision," — and its

credibility. Credit qui vult, non ego.

Truly yours,
J. J. Walsh



This year millions of Americans of all faiths will join in daily Bible reading from Thanksgiving to Christmas in the twelfth annual observance of Worldwide Bible Reading, sponsored by the American Bible Society.

The program, which began when a U. S. marine on Guadalcanal wrote his mother asking that the family join him in reading the same passages of Scripture each day, has spread in scope to the people of more than forty nations. The readings are without note or comment, and one may use whatever version of the Bible he prefers.

Below are the readings for each day, in the theme of personal faith as selected by numerous people from many denominations.
December
18.....John 14:1-14
19.....John 14:15-31
20.....Romans 8:14-39
21.....Romans 12:1-21
22.....1 John 4:1-21
23.....Isaiah 9:2-7
24.....Isaiah 11:1-9
25.....Isaiah 58:1-12
26.....John 1:1-18
27.....Matthew 2:1-11

"Only Strong Measures By The Government Will Change This Picture."



Spiritual Insight

By REVEREND HAROLD ROLAND
Pastor, Mount Gilead Baptist Church
"ARISE, SHINE"

"Arise, shine for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is come upon thee." *Isaiah 60:1*

The Prophet in the most sublime vision of the ages sees One coming as the very embodiment of Divine light to banish darkness. He sees One coming as he looks down the line of time who will roll back the blanket of darkness. He sees One to banish the prevailing gross darkness of the individual, the nation and the world: He sees Him coming to bring in a reign of spiritual blessedness. He sees God, the Eternal source of light and life, moving into the stream of history to push back and rout the darkness. He sees the light in the fury of its holiness, burning away the shackles from the souls of men. He sees a world in gross darkness. And he sees God coming to set it free.

He sees a Savior coming to bring an everlasting Kingdom with its blessedness of righteousness and peace. So, we hear the prophet with a flash of holy insight and vision cry out... "Arise, shine for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." He sees a

Redeemer coming to be our salvation and our peace. He comes to usher in a reign of peace where it will really count; PEACE IN THE DEPRAVED AND RESTLESS HUMAN SOUL! He comes to work at the point of trouble and difficulty: Man's sinful soul. Man has a sinful soul and it needs REGENERATION! He comes as a purging and a healing light to do just that. He comes that the "OLD MAN MAY DIE AND THAT THE NEW MAN MAY BE BORN IN CHRIST JESUS."

The Light brings the dawn of a new day. In the realm of nature the Sun rises to push back the darkness and bring in the dawn of a new day with its upthrust hopes and possibilities for men. When the light comes the darkness must go. The darkness of a LIE cannot stand the light of the truth. The darkness of sin cannot stand the light of righteousness. Sickness must start moving out when health and healing move in. The darkness of ignorance must move out when the light of knowledge and learning come in. Yes, the light pushes back the darkness and ushers

in a new day... "ARISE, SHINE FOR THY LIGHT HAS COME."

The light comes from God to banish the darkness. The darkness of sin with its ugly fruits had covered the world. Truly the world was in darkness when He came. The darkness of tyranny, injustice and slavery prevailed everywhere. The prophet saw the light of God coming in Christ. The light came and rested as a little Babe in a manger. The LIGHT has come! It shines on you! It shines in you. This light gets in you and your life takes on a new and a holy glow. Touched by the light of His Holy Love our lives glow with holy splendor. Do you have his light? Then, "RISE AND SHINE..." The light has dawned in your soul then let it shine. Shine, rise and shine!

Do you have this light? Then God wants you to shine. He wants you to shine amid the shadows, the clouds and the darkness around you. Rise, Shine, Shine! You may be a bulb or a candle or just a little lamp but he wants you to shine. The call comes to each one who knows Christ... "Arise, shine thy light has come..."

Capital Close-Up

D. C. Citizens Register
Hopeful Eye Primaries
Civic conscious and politically hopeful citizens converged on the District Building, last week, as registration opened for the National Capital's first citywide election in 82 years, scheduled for May 1.

Washingtonians, with nothing more than straw balloting behind them by way of experience, will use the partial franchise granted them by the 84th Congress, to vote for national committeemen, delegates to the Presidential conventions, and local party officers. Hopefuls whose names are already "up" include Barrington Parker, attorney and civic leader, on the Republican side. The names of no Negroes have come, so far, from Democratic sources. (Democrats also failed to nominate a Negro for the Elections Board. Republicans named Member West Hamilton.)

Drum-beating is expected to occupy much of the time between now and elections, with serious citizens determined that no candidates be hustled through without inspection. Government, Labor, Business, Hear Granger on Jobs

Urban League Director Lester Granger bore down on Government employment, in an address here, last week, at the 25th Annual Award Night of the Federation of Civic Associations, at the Mayflower Hotel. Granger referred to Negro employees as "low man (in Go-

vernment) on the income totem pole," and made it clear that more points of contacts between groups must be developed, and that discrimination-free employment was the real basis for all other integration. Among the dinner audience of 600 were representatives of business, labor, and civic groups—all interested in how far private employment would be forced into action by Government pattern-setting, and most of them definitely "from Missouri" on the matter.

Presidents of the NAACP, Urban League, Merchants and Manufacturers, Board of Trade, Industrial Union officers, District Commissioners and other city officials, utilities heads and insurance executives, dined, listened and talked with officers and members of the 49-year-old Federation, which was organized as a voice for disfranchised citizens, under the discriminatory pressures of the Woodrow Wilson Administration. The 25th Award Night marked the first time in FCA history that non-member groups were included in participation and for honors.

Honored for community advancement through integration, were Dr. Margaret Just Butcher of Howard, Member of the Board of Education, Pres. Walter Hager of the merged D. C. Teachers' College, and Dr. A. Powell Davies, Unitarian leader. George O. Butler is the new-

ly reelected president of the Federation, with Barrington Parker first vice-pres., Leslie Perry, corresponding secretary, and Chas. Norris, treasurer.

Merger and Miners
The naming of A. Phillip Randolph, Sleeping Car Porters head, and Willard Townsend of Transport Workers, to membership on the Executive Council of the CIO-AFL merger, doubtless influenced by the recent corporation executives meeting of the Government Contracts Committee, has been making press headlines, here. Apparently the stiff-necked AF of L, and the John L. Lewis-fashioned CIO took over industrial organization, Lewis commented—"You can't have white labor and black labor and Irish labor and Italian labor—and still have labor. You have unity, or you have nothing!"

The Mine Workers, organized in 1890, as a merger of the National Progressive Union and the National Trades Assembly, found a thousand Negro members already in NTA. UMW wrote into its constitution its aim "to unite (miners) in one organization, regardless of creed, color or nationality." In 1920, 25 thousand Negro members were reported in UMW.

When the Mine Workers met in Washington, 16 years later, at the convention which broke with the AF of L, one-fourth of the miners in the soft-coal fields were Negro. That convention passed, without fanfare, no less than 26 anti-discrimination resolutions from as many locals. We talked with Negro officials of predominantly white unions—in Alabama. Those fa-

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