

Prophet's Column

"Grace In The Fall"

As the four seasons come and go, each testifies of the grace of God. Also the passing of the seasons reminds us of the faithfulness of God.

At this time our subject is "Grace In The Fall." I have enjoyed this Fall more than perhaps any other Fall in my life. I am enjoying the Lord and what He has done for me in salvation, are you?

Fall testifies of the withering work of the Holy Spirit. I don't know if you have ever seen it like that or not. Listen: "For all flesh is as grass, and all the GLORY OF MAN AS THE FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERETH, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you (1 Pet. 1:24-25);

The apostle Peter here compares man in proud and natural state to beautiful grass when it is in full growth and very pretty. When Fall comes, as we are having now, the cool blasts of air begin to wither the Summer grass. The pretty Summer grass is just for a season and cannot help but wither when a more powerful force blows upon it.

So it is in the grace of God under Holy Spirit Conviction. When the Holy Spirit comes upon a sinner, the sinner is proud and boastful of what he is by nature because he really does not know who he is by nature. But as the Holy Spirit blows upon, and reveals to him his old adamic nature, his corruption and vile and depraved condition, that sinner begins to wither.

"But the Word of the Lord endureth forever..." As the Gospel is preached to that sinner under Holy Spirit Conviction, he dies to his old life that he once gloried in. All the things you once gloried in begin to fade away, and the sinner himself dies to everything he ever loved. You boasted before of your profession, now as the Holy Spirit opens your heart more and more, you see you had profession without possession.

As the Word cuts deeper and deeper in your heart, you wither as the grass under the cool Fall blasts. In your heart you weep over your lost condition. You thought you were saved but now you see that you



J. M. Little

are not. All the glory of your church life dies. You too are dying, you must die, and you will die to everybody and everything before you can be resurrected to new life in Christ and know Him as your Lord and your Saviour.

Under the convictions of the Holy Spirit you lose sight of the things you used to love. No one around you understands what is happening to you but those who are saved. Seeing your lost condition you despair of ever getting to Christ. Once you thought you knew Christ, now you know that you don't, and your cry night and day is; oh that I knew Him! Where can I find Christ?

You read God's Word and pray, and you don't know what step may be your last. Your soul pants after Christ as the heart pants after the water brooks. I know it was so when the Lord was dealing with my heart for salvation. Day and night I longed to know Christ.

As the Lord dealt with my heart I died to everything I had ever cherished. I cannot explain this gracious work of the Holy Spirit in slaying a sinner in order that He may raise that sinner to new life in Christ. But I know it, I know what took place in my heart and life, much of it I don't understand. But there was a definite time when I stood in eternity as it was, knowing the reality of my lost condition as a lost sinner. And you did too if

and lifeless as an old dead dog. That's right. Our churches today have rejected the Holy Spirit, therefore you have no true spiritual light, you only have darkness. The world scene is growing worse and worse in the midst of more and more churches being built.

From here at my home and before I can drive to the I-85 bridge, I pass about a dozen churches. The truth is not preached in a single one of them! Now you can get mad at that statement all you want to and I know many of you will. There is coming a day when you are going to wish you had heeded the Word of the Lord. "And this is the Word which by the Gospel is preached unto you."

Listen to the Word of God: "Behind, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work and work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you." (Acts 13:41) That is what the Lord is doing here in these simple messages we are bringing from week to week. You are despising the truth as we set forth Christ, you are wondering and perishing. Some of you reason like this: "I wonder if all that Bro' Little is saying is true about our being lost, my pastor said Bro' Little was crazy, all these people can't be lost like that." Alright, just keep on sitting there wondering and you will wonder your way to Hell.

The greatest thing in all this world is just to know Christ. Do you know Christ? Now face eternal question fair and square: Do you know Christ? Then when the Holy Spirit brings you to know Christ, you can see the handiwork of the Lord in nature. You can see the nature and compare the drying of the leaves to the sinner drying up to the things he once loved. When the leaves are withered, they no longer have their beauty. How is it between you and the Lord? Do you see the beauty in Christ?

Man born by nature is a child of the Devil according to Jn. 8:44, and you are steeped in pride, the pride on your heart has deceived you. Every soul by nature is deceived!

You think you have some goodness in you that will make you acceptable before God. Therefore there has been taught the doctrine in our churches today; "there is some good in the worst of men." That's a lie out of Hell! God declares in His Word that there is no good in man, (Rom. 3:10) I'm going to let my Lord be true and let you be the liar. Many have said; "we are not hearing what Bro' Little is preaching in our churches." I realize you aren't. Our churches today are just as dead

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Plumbing Leak

Can Run Up

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The time may be gone when leaky plumbing fixtures are ignored. Water, long taken for granted because of its abundant supply, can be a costly item where it is wasted. Small leaks may not appear to be much to be concerned about until you consider the amount of water they can drain away in a short time.

A leak as small as a sixteenth of an inch can waste almost 1,000 gallons of water in a 24-hour period, according to N.C. Agricultural Extension Service housing specialists.

If you are paying \$2.50 per 1,000 gallons, as many Tar Heels are doing, the cost of the lost water would be \$17.50 a week.

A leak from a one-eighth-inch hole will waste 3,000 gallons of water in a 24-hour period, the NCSU extension specialists point out. Even a pinhole leak—one that oozes a drop per second—will waste 170 gallons a day.

One common source of lost water and one which isn't always easy to detect is the commode. You can lose as much as 500 gallons of water a day from a constantly leaking commode.

Just because you can't hear the water leaking doesn't mean it isn't leaking. If you want to check, pour a little food coloring into the commode tank. If the coloring gets into the commode itself without flushing it you have a leak.

The cost of fixing it probably will be less than the cost of paying for the water it is losing.

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**NOTICE
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARINGS
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**

Notice is hereby given of Public Hearings on Vocational Education by the State Board of Education on the following dates and locations: (all hearings will be from 4-6 and 7:30-9 p.m.)
Dec. 12 Asheville High School Media Center, Asheville
Dec. 13 Hickory High School Mall, Hickory
Dec. 14 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Education Center Board Room, Charlotte
Dec. 18 Rocky Mount High School Auditorium, Rocky Mount
Dec. 19 Alamance County Board of Education, Graham
Jan. 9 Northeast Regional Education Center, Williamstone
Jan. 10 Southwest High School Cafeteria, Jacksonville
Jan. 11 Seventy-First High School Auditorium, Fayetteville

The major purpose of the hearings is to provide the citizens of the state opportunity (1) to be involved in the decision-making process concerning vocational education; (2) to express views on the direction for secondary efforts at local, regional and state levels; and (3) to express views on federal and state purposes and funding of vocational education in North Carolina.

Any citizen desiring to be heard should file his/her request with Charles J. Law, Jr., Director, Division of Vocational Education, Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, no later than ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearing participant plans to attend. Five minutes for each presentation will be allowed. A typed copy of the remarks is to be submitted at the hearing.

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Teenage Pregnancies

Have Been Skyrocketing

by Susan Ellsworth
Post Staff Writer

While birth rates among American adults have been declining over the past few years because of the availability of information and services, teenage pregnancies and venereal disease have been skyrocketing.

"There are about 21 million 15-19 year olds in the United States. Eleven million are estimated to have had sexual intercourse. No more than 20 percent use contraceptives regularly," stated a report published by Planned Parenthood of Greater Charlotte.

Despite the increase in the availability of contraceptives to teens, many teenage girls still do not have access to birth control information, revealed a study conducted by the Allen Guttmacher Institute of the Planned Parenthood Federation.

In North Carolina, 22 percent of all births in 1976 occurred to females 12-19 years old, according to Planned Parenthood; 11, 824 of these births were to unmarried teens.

The problems caused by teenage pregnancies can ruin one or more lives. Babies born to teens are two to three times

more likely to die during their first year. The teen maternal death rate is 60 percent higher than for mothers in their 20s.

"The girl who has an out-of-wedlock child at 16 will probably drop out of school, not be able to find a job that pays enough to provide for herself and the child and she may feel compelled to marry someone she might otherwise not have chosen," emphasized researched studies.

Organizations such as Planned Parenthood of Greater Charlotte are expanding their programs to further assist parents, schools, church and youth groups. In 1977, Planned Parenthood increased its programs by ten percent, especially among low income families.

Equipped with a staff of 78 paid employees and about 60 volunteers, the Greater Charlotte Chapter offers contraception and pregnancy testing and diagnosis, venereal disease testing, pap smears, problem pregnancy testing, peer counseling, sterilization information and referral, community education, media resources, and education in human sexuality.

BY ALLEN THOMPSON
CBR-NCAR-NAR

Dear Mr. Thompson,
I hear a lot of people talking about equity in their home.
What is equity?
DGB, Charlotte, N.C.

Dear DGB,
Equity is the nicest part about owning your own home! Equity, generally speaking, is the difference between what you owe on your home and what it is worth. If, for example, you bought a home 5 years ago and you borrowed \$20,000 to buy it, by now the loan would be down to about \$19,000. However, that same home could now be worth \$27,000! The difference between \$27,000 and \$19,000 or \$8,000 is your equity figure.

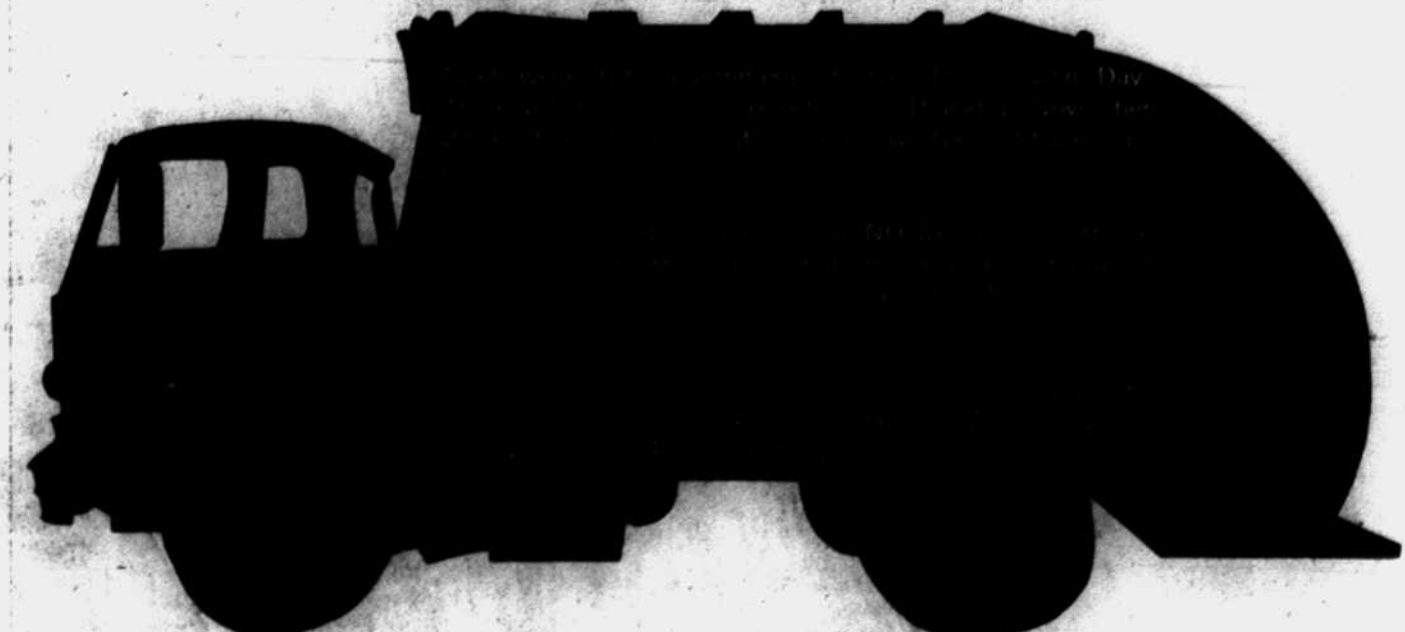
This called equity build up occurs two ways: (1) the selling price of homes goes up about 6 per cent per year which on a \$20,000 home would be \$1,200. So, every year your equity is increasing by approximately that much money and (2) each month when you make a payment on your home, a part of that payment goes to pay off the money you borrowed to buy the home. As you can see, the combination of these two factors gives the home owner an automatic savings account that after a number of years can build into a nice sum of money.

Another way to add equity to your home is by improving the property. By adding a carpet, central air conditioning, painting, and items of this kind you make your home worth more and an investment in this type of equity can be most satisfying.

Please send any of your questions you might have about real estate to:

Allon Thompson
1432 E 7th St.
Charlotte, N.C. 28204

No Curbside Next Week



Remember! No curbside trash collection Wednesday, November 22.