

Prophet's Column

An Open Letter To Mr. Jeffrey Couch

I was glad to receive the card inviting me to your school graduation. It seems only a short time ago that you, your older sister Anita, and Mike, were all small enough for me to carry you in my arms. But the seeming short time has slipped into years. We cannot go back and live any day or year over. The past three years are history. The Lord permits the rain and sunshine to fall on both the saved and the lost. The Lord has been merciful to you in letting you live to graduate from high school. Has it ever dawned upon you that you only live by the mercy of God? Many other young people your age are now in eternity.



J. M. Little

I am reminded of the time I was graduating from high school. I had many plans for my life. We looked forward to finishing school so we could get out on our own. Of all the years I spent in school, and coming down to finish, it never occurred to me that I should find out the will of God for my life. Not one time did I sit down and ask the Lord: Lord, what will you have me do? And there was no one whom I could go to of all the people advising me, who could point me to the Lord. So I am asking you to go to the Lord to find His will for your life. Education is all right in its place, but there is no salvation in education. One day you must part this world to never return. Where you shall spend eternity is all important.

If you were sick you'd go to a medical doctor seeking a cure for your medical infirmities. I am not a doctor of men's bodies, I am a doctor of men's souls. I point you to the Great Physician, the Lord Jesus Christ. All men by birth are sinners, whether you realize it or not. Christ and Christ alone can heal your sin-sick soul.

There are seven of us born to my parents. And only three of you born to your father and my late sister. I thank and praise the Lord He saved me out of this number. Why the

Lord singled me out for salvation in Christ, and not the others, I don't know. But throughout the ceaseless age of eternity, I'll always praise Him for so great salvation in Christ my Lord.

In life the world can give you something that may last for years. In salvation, God gives you something to last for all eternity - the revealed Christ as your Lord and Saviour. Looking back over my life, if I could live it over, what would I desire to be changed? If I had to live my life over, my one desire would be to be saved at the earliest age possible. If I had been saved back there in the early 50's when I made that profession of faith as little boy, there would be many mistakes I never would have made, if I had known the Lord then. So if I could live my life over, it would not be to have great wealth, and the honors that the world could give, but to have the greatest honor in all the universe, which is knowing the Lord Jesus Christ as my Lord and my Saviour.

It was a great day in my life when the Holy Spirit awakened me to my lost

condition, that I did not know the Lord. But it was the greatest day in my life when the Holy Spirit revealed Christ to my heart as my Lord and my Saviour. By the grace of God I can say with the apostle Paul, now; "I know Whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." (II Tim. 1:12)

When I was about to finish high school, I went to see my aunt Annie Bell Cason before school one morning. She was my grandmother's sister. I began to tell her about what I was planning to do. I had all my plans laid out, and when I began to tell her all about them she said yes almost before I could get them out of my mouth. I was going to build bridges and climb mountains as it were, I didn't know all the while I was a lost sinner and needed Christ. I didn't know that I'd have to burn all the blueprints for my life, and surrender to the Lord and His plans for my life. But I thank the Lord that the Holy Spirit arrested me and brought me under conviction and made me tear up all my plans I had made. At the time, I didn't know that when the Lord takes something away from you, He has something better for you. I'd rather have Christ than ten thousand worlds of gold and silver. Christ is eternal. I have something the world can't give me, I have Christ.

So, as the Lord, Jeff, has spared you to this point in your life, I exhort you to ask the Lord to break you at His feet and surrender to His will for your life. Everyone will fulfill the will of God for their life, but it is grace if the Lord has mercy on you and gives you grace to fulfill His will, willingly.

May my lord bring you to the knowledge of yourself through His Word, and the knowledge of Christ through His Word.

Jehovah's Witnesses Plan Conventions

The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York has revealed completion of plans for a series of 119 district conventions of Jehovah's Witnesses during the summer of 1984. Stanley Weigel, official spokesman, said 65 separate sites will be utilized for the annual meetings. A total of more than 1,150,000 persons are expected to attend the conventions in the United States.

Many delegates from this area will be attending various conventions in the United States. One of the 65 cities selected is Greensboro, N.C. where the Greensboro Coliseum will host delegates June 28-July 1.

The theme for the 1984 convention is "Kingdom Increase" and much of the program content will center on the growth of the religious movement in recent years.

"Jehovah's Witnesses are marking a centennial this year," one delegate said. "The modern-day movement started one hundred years ago with a handful of Bible students and today is conducting ministerial and preaching activity in 205 lands with 2,600,000 now associated worldwide."

He said two conventions are scheduled this year at the Greensboro Coliseum with a projected attendance of 21,000 persons expected.

"This is indicative of the tremendous growth in recent years," he concluded.

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