

What does it mean to be loyal to Christ and His Church? Does it mean to simply be a follower? Is there a set of certain rules which we must pursue before it can be said that we are loyal to Jesus Christ? No, it is not simply following, but we must allow Him to lead us and have full control of our lives. There is no guide book except the Bible and in Psalms 119:105 it says that it is to be a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our paths. Before we look further, let us define the meaning of loyalty. When we look at Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary we find that it is the "quality or state of being loyal". To be loyal merely means that we are being faithful or devoted to someone, to a cause, or to an ideal. Indeed, we who are being loyal to Jesus Christ and His church are not only being faithful to a cause or to an ideal, but to Someone who is the very Son of God! Let us look into the various aspects of how we can prove our loyalty to Christ and His church.

To illustrate one point of what loyalty means, let us take ourselves and our closest friends. What do they mean to us? Are they those with whom we can share our closest confidences? Are they comrades who understand us and our personal problems and give that extra little push when it is needed? Certainly, if we have friends with these qualities then we do not want to lose that friendship, but we will cherish it as something precious. We will stand up for our friends when others point their fingers - so it should be with our Lord and Saviour! Why do we fail to stand up for Christ when others tear Him down? Is He not more precious than a friend? This is one way we could show our loyalty to Christ. We should dare to be different and not follow the crowd. We should dare to be an individual, but we should be a Christian individual.

There are people in the world today going around preaching one standard but practicing another. Some of these call themselves Christians, but the life which they live speaks louder than the words which they say. This is what hurts the cause of Christ and we should remember this little poem and let it bear some meaning upon our own lives.

You are writing a gospel
A chapter each day
By deeds that you do
And by words that you say
Say, what is the gospel according to you?

Perhaps we can go so far as to say, there is nothing the world hates more than a hypocrite. We want the real thing veiled by no mask. We should "practice what we preach" and our lives should be examples of the gospel which we preach. We should be a stepping stone and not a stumbling block! Here is a quote from the Free Will Baptist paper which we should keep in mind, "Could Christians be what they claim when they assume the name of Christ and do less to prove to a lost world their identity with Christ?"

If we are to be loyal to Christ then we must be loyal to His Word. We are told in II Timothy 3:16, 17, that "all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works". We must believe it to be true and that it is the inspired Word of God. We must accept its teachings and discipline our lives accordingly because it is God's letter to us.

Another way we can prove our loyalty to Christ and His church is by being faithful in our own church. The church is part of the body of Christ and when we are faithful to it, we are being loyal to Jesus Christ. In being faithful to our church we should be there whenever the church doors are open and we should take advantage of every opportunity of being in church services. It is a necessity because we are being fed and it is through these services that we are made to grow spiritually. We realize, also, that we must be fed from the Word of God and then the church permits Christian fellowship. We should support our church not only in attendance, but financially and prayerfully. We should stand behind it in any way we can and prayer is just as important, if not more, than finances. Money is an important factor in the growth of any church, but the church cannot survive on material things alone. We must spend much time in prayer and we must earnestly ask God's blessings upon the church and His people. Without God's blessings there will be no prosperity. The church, also, needs workers and these workers must be dedicated, consecrated, and totally yielded to God. Good workers must be loyal to God, to His Word, to the church, and to the ministry which he is called.

Yes, the Lord has called each of us to a ministry and we find His command in John

3:17 when Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him. Each time Peter would answer, "Yea, Lord, thou knowest I love thee." Jesus said unto Peter, "Feed my sheep." This is what Jesus wants us to do. Jesus tells us not to spend our time saying how much we love Him nor to claim some wonderful experiences or revelations we have had, but to feed His sheep. Jesus has different types of sheep, too - some have gone astray, some are stubborn, some are dirty, and some are rebellious. If we love our Lord we have no business of letting personal feelings stand in the way, but we must feed His sheep. There is no choice of service, only absolute loyalty to our Lord's command; loyalty to what we perceive when we are in close contact with Christ.

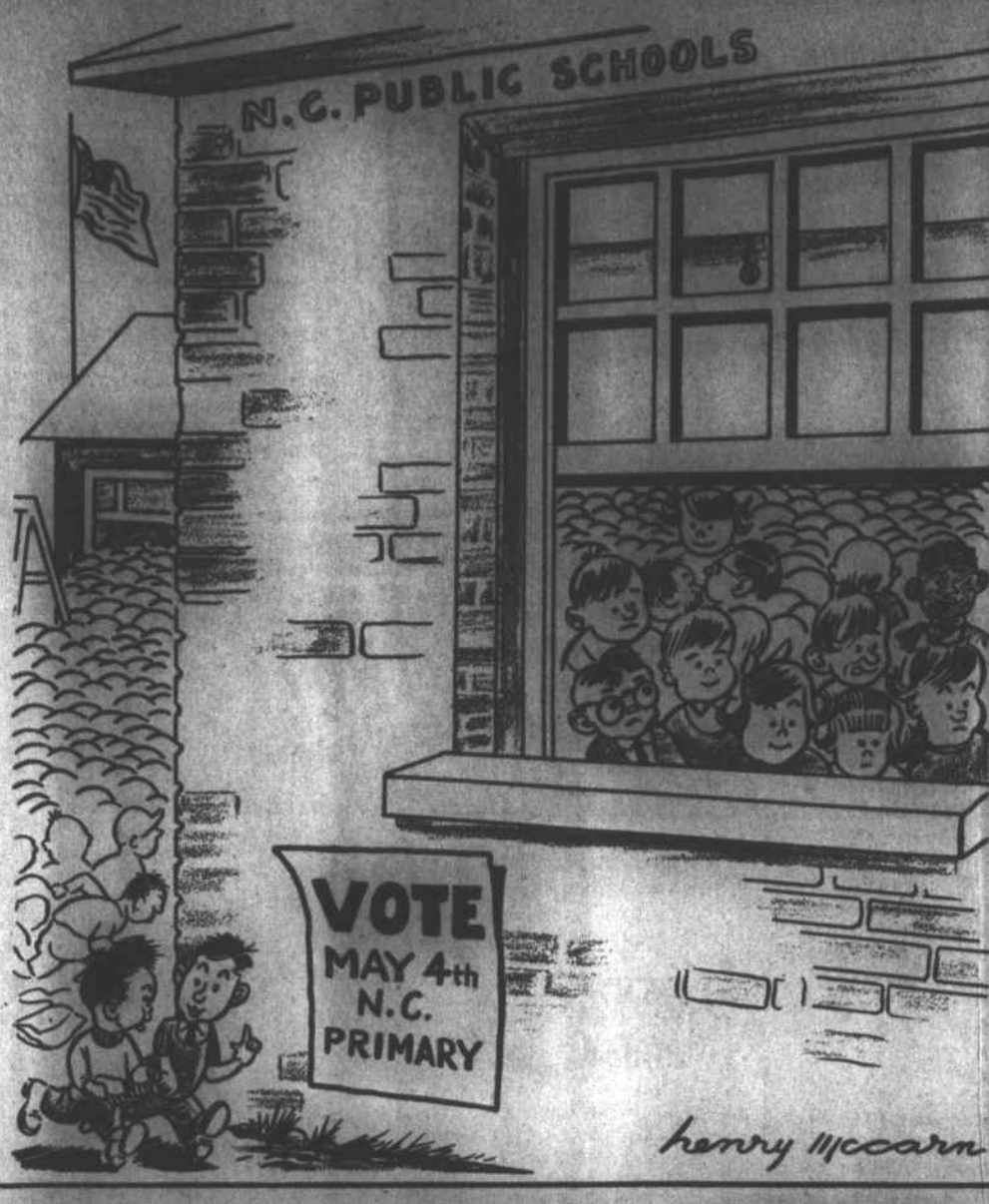
If we are loyal to Jesus Christ then we must obey Him. Sometimes we may not understand what Christ says, but it is dangerous to say that He was mistaken in what He said. We must be willing to follow at any cost and to step out on faith as Peter did when he walked on the water. Many of us are loyal to our notions of Jesus Christ, but how many of us are loyal to the Master?

Oswald Chambers wrote "loyalty to Jesus Christ is the thing that we 'stick at' today." It seems today that we will be loyal to the world, to work, to service, to the crowd, but do not ask us to be loyal to Jesus Christ. Some Christians dislike talking about being loyal to the Master and would rather talk of things of the world. Christ is dethroned more emphatically by people who profess to be Christians than by the world. Many times God is made a machine for blessing men, and Jesus Christ is made a Worker among workers.

The idea is not the work we do for God, but that we are wholly surrendered and we prove our loyalty to Him so that He can do His work through us. God wants to use us as He used His own Son.

Personally, I feel that a person has to be wholly committed to God before he can even begin to be loyal to Him. If we would only permit our will to be His will then all of these things will fall into place and we can know the joy and peace of what it really means to be loyal to Christ and His church!

PAULETTE GRIFFIN
YFA, Age 18
Sandy Plain F. W. B. Church



WASHINGTON -- Without dispute, the greatest domestic problem now confronting the country is the soaring crime rate. Responsible citizens recognize that immediate action is required to control or prevent behavior that threatens the public order and security of this Nation.

Consider that in 1967 there was a forcible rape every 23 minutes, a robbery every 4 1/2 minutes, an assault every 2 1/2 minutes, a car theft every minute, a burglary every 27 seconds. The resulting monetary loss is authoritatively estimated to be at least \$27 billion. The pain, misery, fear, and suffering inflicted upon crime victims is immeasurable. Congress, aware of the terrible toll being extracted from society, is considering bills to aid in such critical areas as narcotics and drug abuse, police organization, judicial administration, State detention and correctional agencies, organized crime, research in the prevention and control of crime, and firearms control. This column is devoted to legislative remedies under consideration and firearms control in particular.

During recent years, the increasing crime rate, the assassination of a President, and the rioting in our cities have caused the Congress to take another look at the possession and use of firearms to determine if increased regulation would be in the national interest. Legislation proposed on this subject falls into two legislative patterns: First, the highly restrictive type such as S. 1 and HR 5384; and, second, the moderate approach embodied in the Hruska measure, S. 1853 and S. 1854.

S. 1 as amended and HR 5384 provide express restrictions on the shipment of any firearms, including shotguns and rifles, interstate commerce. They prohibit the interstate mail-order sale, except between federally licensed dealers, of all firearms including handguns, shotguns, and rifles, and military surplus weapons. They prohibit over-the-counter sales of handguns to nonresidents. These bills contain elaborate licensing procedures and increased fees for firearms dealers, manufacturers, and importers.

The Hruska approach, S. 1853 and S. 1854, aims its more moderate provisions at control of the sale of handguns and destructive devices such as bazookas, mortars, bombs, grenades, rockets, and field ordnance. S. 1853 provides for an affidavit procedure for mail-order and nonresident over-the-counter sale of handguns, because handguns are the principal tools of criminals. It exempts rifles and shotguns, because by custom and heritage, they are the firearms of the sportsman. Admittedly, both weapons can be used to kill human beings as well as game animals, but handguns, by reason of their concealability are the weapons most often used by the criminal element. S. 1853 contains an

absolute prohibition of the sale of handguns to those under 21 years. This measure has received the full support of a substantial part of the American public, including the approval of major gun and wildlife organizations.

S. 1854 would amend the National Firearms Act to strictly regulate the making or transfer of bazookas and similar destructive devices under the same restrictions that apply to machineguns and sawed-off shotguns. After careful consideration of the various gun control bills, I have concluded that S. 1853 and S. 1854 provide a workable, positive approach without unnecessary restrictions upon individual rights or needless infringement upon the traditional police powers granted to the States.

Crime control is immensely complex, but I trust that the Senate will enact these measures at this session as needed legislation in the war on crime.

WASHINGTON -- Without dispute, the greatest domestic problem now confronting the country is the soaring crime rate. Responsible citizens recognize that immediate action is required to control or prevent behavior that threatens the public order and security of this Nation.

WASHINGTON -- Without dispute, the greatest domestic problem now confronting the country is the soaring crime rate. Responsible citizens recognize that immediate action is required to control or prevent behavior that threatens the public order and security of this Nation.

WASHINGTON -- Without dispute, the greatest domestic problem now confronting the country is the soaring crime rate. Responsible citizens recognize that immediate action is required to control or prevent behavior that threatens the public order and security of this Nation.

WASHINGTON -- Without dispute, the greatest domestic problem now confronting the country is the soaring crime rate. Responsible citizens recognize that immediate action is required to control or prevent behavior that threatens the public order and security of this Nation.

WASHINGTON -- Without dispute, the greatest domestic problem now confronting the country is the soaring crime rate. Responsible citizens recognize that immediate action is required to control or prevent behavior that threatens the public order and security of this Nation.

WASHINGTON -- Without dispute, the greatest domestic problem now confronting the country is the soaring crime rate. Responsible citizens recognize that immediate action is required to control or prevent behavior that threatens the public order and security of this Nation.

WASHINGTON -- Without dispute, the greatest domestic problem now confronting the country is the soaring crime rate. Responsible citizens recognize that immediate action is required to control or prevent behavior that threatens the public order and security of this Nation.

WASHINGTON -- Without dispute, the greatest domestic problem now confronting the country is the soaring crime rate. Responsible citizens recognize that immediate action is required to control or prevent behavior that threatens the public order and security of this Nation.

Ed Doolittle told the fellers at the country store Saturday night he was aiming real soon to go to the city and see one of them wrestling matches. He said he was reading where one wrestler defeated another wrestler by breaking a chair over his head and knocking him out. He figured this was a real clean sport after reading for months about riots and demonstrations. For instant, he said he had read where it cost the taxpayers \$3,000 to paint over and get rid of the "Peace" signs at that demonstration they had at Northwestern University.

Incidental, Mister Editor, all the fellers at the store was strong agin these demonstrations, protests, marches and things that was going on today agin about everthing. All the fellers was gitting along in years and they wasn't raised up in that kind of goings-on. Maybe they was just old fashioned and has-beens, and again maybe this country was built and growed great on their brand of philosophy. I reckon future history will have to decide that question.

Zeke Grubb said he was reading where some college boy broke his arm trying to hang some kind of sign on a monument in Boston. Zeke said in his day most of the young generation that got a broke arm was from trying to crank them automobiles that come out for the first 10 year with a crank under the radiator store self-starters was ever invented.

Josh Clodhopper said, speaking of broke arms, he could recollect about 60 year ago when the feller that run the bank bought himself one of them Overland six automobiles, which was about as fancy as a feller could git in them days. Josh said it was the talk of the community and everybody was shaking their head about the powerful six-cylinder 45-horsepower motor this car had. A heap of folks, said Josh, didn't believe a feller could keep a car with that much horsepower in the road and everybody was predicting he'd git killed in the thing. The only thing that happened to the feller, said Josh, was he got his arm broke one cold morning trying to crank it up.

Today a 45-horsepower motor ain't hardly enough for a 18-foot boat, and I reckon this just about tells the story between today and when us fellers at the store was in our teens. I reckon all of us was out of date and don't believe in all these peace demonstrations, protests, riots and things that was going on today.

But the storekeeper told us one thing we understood. He said a history teacher at Gloversville, N. Y. told his class the national debt was \$352,546,363,116.57 exact. The students took up a collection and sent the Government a check for 57 cent to bring it to round numbers.

Yours truly
Uncle Pete

the Minister's Desk

D. E. Parkerson; Carrboro, N. C.

The records of an old church in Ohio reveal that in the matter of worship the responsibility did not all rest on the minister. The congregation had to be alert and helpful. To insure this, the church appointed two officers -- "Mr. Pointer" and "Mr. Beener."

The duty of Mr. Pointer was to stand near the minister during the preaching of the sermon. As the preacher made a certain point in his sermon that was especially pertinent for a particular individual in the congregation, Mr. Pointer would point and cry out, "YOU THERE, JOHN DOE, THAT APPLIES TO YOU."

Mr. Beener was given a chair in a prominent place in the choir. From this favored place, he surveyed with hawk-like eyes the congregation. If he saw a head beginning to sway and gently bob from lack of attention and drowsiness, he would raise his shooter to his lips--he was always a crack shot--and zing, the sleeping individual was reinstated to the ranks of attention. Mr. Beener probably got lots of shooting practice.

If the church in Ohio had not kept good records and if people today did not study old records we might not have learned about Mr. Pointer and Mr. Beener. The whole idea is very intriguing, to say the least. It has its possibilities for today. But it also has its drawbacks.

There are still a lot of people in the pews who are

saying to themselves as every point is made in the sermon, "He isn't talking about me," or "I wish so and so were here to hear this." A Mr. Pointer could say, "That Means You--You People Who Are Thinking Of The Sins Of Others While Ignoring Your Own Sins." But the danger of having a Mr. Pointer is that he would become so interested in pointing out the sins of others that he would soon forget that he has spiritual needs within his own heart. From this standpoint we already have several Mr. Pointers in our churches. They are not elected to their position. They point their fingers at others not so much to call their attention to their needs as to make others around them aware. Another word for this kind of person is "gossiper." They always excel in moral indignation. And moral indignation is often nothing more than jealousy with a halo.

If we had a Mr. Beener in our churches this might help, too. A few nod their heads and go to sleep, but multitudes are asleep on the inside--asleep to the spiritual decadence, social injustice, and moral indifference in our nation. The church needs to wake up.

We who serve in the capacity of Minister must share the blame for this slumbering state. It could be that we are like the minister who dreamed he was preaching and then woke up--and he was! No wonder, then, that his congregation was asleep--and silent--and satisfied with the status quo.

The church of the twentieth century must be silent no more. 'Tis said that silence is golden--but sometimes it's just yellow.

USE WANT AD PAGE

Crossword Puzzle

1. Concealed	12. Flower	23. Agony	34. Ome	45. Equitable
4. Cut off	14. Dimmer	24. Animal	35. Insect	46. Transmitted
7. Slumbered	15. Contended	25. Pronoun	36. Bitter vetch	47. Musical syllable
10. Flower	16. Conscious	26. Fish	37. Ruminates	
13. State:	17. State:	27. Fabulous bird	38. Concepts	
abbr.	abbr.	40. Fish	49. Median	
18. Chemical compound	20. Bond	41. Fabulous bird	50. Renounces	
21. Uncivil	22. Mutineers	42. Cycles of changes		
24. Animal	25. Poems	43. Sun god		
26. Barter	27. Bees			
28. Spreads	29. Owns			
30. Summit	31. Slip away			
32. Fly aloft	33. Fly aloft			
34. Fish	35. Fly aloft			
36. Fabulous bird	37. Bees			
38. Concepts	39. Concepts			
49. Median	50. Renounces			
51. Insect	52. Bitter vetch			
53. Musical syllable				

Answer Block Appears Among Advertisements

1. Owns
2. Trepanned
3. Mocked
4. Affection
5. Singlet
6. Contended
7. Exemplified
8. Statute
9. Eleventh
10. Harward
11. Woody plants
12. Musical syllable
13. Owns
14. Trepanned
15. Mocked
16. Affection
17. Singlet
18. Contended
19. Exemplified
20. Statute
21. Eleventh
22. Harward
23. Woody plants
24. Musical syllable
25. Owns
26. Trepanned
27. Mocked
28. Affection
29. Singlet
30. Contended
31. Exemplified
32. Statute
33. Eleventh
34. Harward
35. Woody plants
36. Musical syllable

Elect as ONE of Your 4th District Judges

Paul Manly Crumpler

Let him bring his record of efficient legal and judicial experience and his reputation for honesty and fairness from the Sampson County Court -- described as "one of the most honorable and efficient in North Carolina" -- to the new 4th District.



Paul Manly Crumpler
16 years experience as Judge of Sampson County Court
His Record Speaks For Itself!

PAUL MANLY CRUMPLER

—Elected in 1952 to Judge Sampson County Court and reelected each succeeding term by wide majority. Has made many improvements, including reduction in operating expenses and increased efficiency in handling court business. Won praise and esteem of attorneys, court officials, and general public for fair and impartial conduct of the court.

—Attended Wake Forest University, National University Law School, and Washington College of Law.

—Member State and County Bar Associations. Past President Sampson County Bar, American Judicature Society.

—Member First Baptist Church, Deacon and Teacher of men's class.

—Veteran of World War II with 3 years overseas. Past Commander Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7547. Past Commander, American Legion Post 22.

—Mason, 32nd Degree -- Shriner.

—Member Clinton Rotary Club, Past President.

—Youth Service: Past President P. T. A.; has served on Council of Boy Scouts, Recreation Commission, Clinton Athletic Council, and various other church and civic organizations dedicated to the spiritual, mental and physical development of our young people.