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FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1963.

Use Your Time Wisely

There is one thing which everyone who reads this editorial will have less of tomorrow—and that is time. It is the only thing you cannot extend, with money, influence or other forms of power.

It is the element mankind has sought to conquer from the beginning. Ponce de Leon sought the fountain of youth and there were tales that he had found it. Women throughout the centuries have sought the mystic secret of prolonging their youth.

Einstein came close to finding the answer. He learned that speed made time relative, and that the speed of light could actually physically transform matter.

But can it really be? We don't know, yet. No one has proved it—and such miracles are certainly a long way off. As of right now, time is that priceless possession that none of us have more of. We cannot extend our time on this earth.

The one measurement which is so simple but so true, that it almost invariably provides the best yardstick is the question: "What are you doing to help your fellow man?" This is how Jesus used his time and it is the great lesson we left to all those who can read or write—regardless of their faith. And His time was limited, as is yours. Use it wisely while you have it.

BETHEL 4-H CLUB NEWS
 The Bethel 4-H Club has...

The theme, "If My People Pray" was used at the observance of Week of Prayer March 14-20, 1963. Mrs. Joseph Ayscue, program chairman, then presented a strengthening program for family worship in the home; some members giving their personal experience. The program ended with silent prayer, dismissed by Mrs. Sidney Copeland. The members repeated the Watchword in conclusion.

BURGESS WMU MEETS
 The Burgess WMU met Monday night, March 11, at the home of Mrs. William Lane. The meeting was opened by singing "We've A Story To Tell, To The Nation," followed by The Lord's Prayer. Minutes were read and approved and the roll called with 13 members and one visitor present.

Stuidell Funeral Home
 HERTFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

Dear friends,

We are not surprised when people express a lack of information about the funeral director's service. Need for a mortician comes to the average family only once in fourteen years.

When that need arises, the family faces a strange and distressing situation. Your funeral director realizes this and does his utmost to relieve the family of needless concern, and to provide reassurance.

Respectfully,
Manson Stuidell

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ROOK CLUB MEETS
 Mrs. Carlton Cannon was hostess to her rook club Thursday night at her home. Those playing were Mesdames J. E. Morris, C. T. Skinner, Julian White, G. R. Tucker, W. J. Davis, Harry Hollowell, Miss Mary Sumner and Miss Ruby White. The high score prize went to Mrs. Skinner and low was awarded Miss White. Refreshments were served by the hostess.

CARD OF THANKS
 I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the cards, flowers, gifts and all deeds of kindness.

Lesson
WHY MEN RESIST CHRIST
 International Sunday School
 Lesson for March 24, 1963.

Memory Selection: "For I have not spoken on my own authority; the Father who sent me has himself given me commandment what to say and what to speak."
 (John 12:45)

Lesson Text: Mark 12:13-44.

Today we will examine the nature of Jesus' teachings in order to learn why men reject him and his message.

In our study today we find the religious leaders of the Jews looking for accusations they could make in order to discredit Jesus. Nothing could be more damning than to have him express opposition to Rome—hence they questioned him about it being lawful for them to pay taxes to Caesar. When Jesus had a coin brought to him, which bore Caesar's likeness on it, and told them "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's," Jesus foiled their hypocrisy. He upheld the obligation of paying taxes, but he also, with greater seriousness, upheld men's spiritual obligations. For what man owes to God is infinitely more than what he owes to Caesar. Instead of falling into the cunning trap laid for him, Jesus had forcefully stated the principle underlying the whole problem. Likewise, Jesus answered further questions (on the resurrection and the law) in such a manner that his antagonists could not establish a direct charge against him.

The topic of our lesson points to a serious question, "Why do men resist Christ?" For an answer, let us look first at the New Testament people—then at ourselves—to attempt to answer this question. Men oppose Jesus for many reasons, of course, but some factors are basic to this opposition. The first and most fundamental answer is that men oppose Jesus because of their sin. Sin is not necessarily an act. It is a state of being, a condition of life. The condition of life that the Bible calls "sin" or "unrighteousness" is that of living in separation from God. Man refuses to worship God. He creates his own gods—especially himself—and loves these false gods far too much. Thus sin can be called the condition of life in which man is alienated from God. From this basic condition of separation or alienation come acts that are called "sins." Sins are expressions of a wrongly oriented life. They are the symptoms of a basic disorder in man's life. Sin is like a sickness. It expresses itself in certain symptoms. But one does not cure sickness by working only with the symptoms. One must cure the cause of the symptoms. So it is with sin.

When man is focused upon himself, when he is disobedient to God or refuses to worship God, he reacts negatively to every act of God. For by God's action man's condition is brought under judgment. Man's wrongness is made evident. For man would rather indulge himself than be obedient to God. He can control his small world and give himself the veneer of righteousness. He cannot tolerate the claim of God upon him. When man is encountered by the true God his temptation is always to run . . . to evade . . . to escape. If he cannot escape God in any other way, he may turn back on God and accuse him of being at fault.

In the final analysis, then, the problem is not even a moral problem. It is a spiritual condition. For the real issue is—man's will or God's will. And our love of self is often stronger than our love of God.

There are four stages in love, regarding the love of God. First, we love ourselves. Second, we love God for what he can do for us. Third, we love him for his own sake. Fourth, we wholly forget ourselves and become one in spirit with him. When we have accomplished the third and fourth of these stages, we can claim true Christian belief. But how many of us, alas, fail to get past the second stage, frail mortals that we are!

Jesus says clearly that no number of acts can fulfill God's requirements. God asks the giving of the whole personality, the

KEEP OUT NO TRESPASSING

DEAD END

DANGER

NO PLACE TO GO

All dressed up, the expression goes, and no place to go. These boys are hardly "dressed up." But the rest of the description fits them perfectly.

They are two of the millions of American children who are growing up WITHOUT A CHURCH. Boys with the God-given right to grow up in faith . . . with the American right to worship God freely according to the dictates of their own conscience. But someone hasn't understood their rights.

Parents who make no provision for their children's religious education are, in effect, robbing these children of the most precious heritage of every American. Grownups who, by the tell-tale example of indifference, encourage boys and girls to emulate the Godlessness that the Iron Curtain seeks to foster are undermining the spiritual substance of our nation.

No more serious problem faces America today than the children who on Sunday morning in a land of churches have no place to go.

Honestly, now, are you creating the problem—or helping to conquer it?

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Sunday Psalms 33:13-22	Monday Proverbs 21:11-17	Tuesday Isaiah 47:10-15	Wednesday Jeremiah 14:10-16	Thursday Daniel 1:8-19	Friday Ephesians 2:13-22	Saturday Ephesians 3:7-13
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