

### IT IS LATER THAN YOU THINK

A Sermon by Rev. Esau A. Byrd, Pastor  
Saintly Saul's Church of Catfish Corner

This is a good season to look within us and about us; to seek out our sins of omission as well as commission. To scourge ourselves for what we have not done, as well as for the things we have done wrong.

For it is almost the end of the year, and the year being almost passed into history, it may not be too late to do some of the things we should do, and undo some of the things we have done. But my brethren, let me tell you: "It is later than you think!"

We go to the scripture for inspiration; for things to soothe our hearts when troubled, and for understanding. It is recommended that you study the tribulations of Job and from it there may be understanding such as never before.

When Christmas rolls around each year, we are usually caught by the lack of time to accomplish those things that we had planned to do. Oh, we say each Christ-

mas; we will start in time; we will prepare ourselves to give presents. We will set aside some money for this and other purposes. We think each following year we will do better than the year before; we say to ourselves we will give from the compassion of our hearts to help those who are more needy than ourselves.

Yet how unprepared we find ourselves again this season to do these same things. How much we have failed in preparing ourselves to make others happy. It is always "later than you think." We resolve each day to get up a little earlier each following morning, but we enjoy so much the luxury of lying in bed, that we have to rush to follow our daily routine on time. It is always "later than we think."

We can learn sometimes from the poorest and most uneducated men we know, and on the other hand fail to learn anything from the best educated. In Job 32:9 we learn "Great men are not always wise, neither do the aged understand judgment:

In these troubled times we need more of understanding. We should make a study of understanding. This Christmas season is a good time to take ourselves to task for our impatience with our fellows because of their frailties. There may be many reasons we cannot see that cause others to do the things we think they oughtn't do. We cannot always know the influence that have worked upon our fellowmen; we do not know their troubles, and their trials. If we only had understanding, we might see that most of us are most fortunate than our fellows: If we had understanding, we would express more graciously our gratitude to God for the blessings He has bestowed upon us. Not in loud words and long prayers which impress nobody; not in trifling deeds designed in vain-glory and proffered for personal profit. Understanding would urge us to bring courage, hope and laughter to lonely hearts; understanding would cause us to quietly comfort the needy, and set them forward on the road toward a small measure of happiness so many of us enjoy.

Prov. 2:2 So that thou incline thy ear unto wisdom, and thine heart to understanding.

Job 32:8 But there is a spirit in man and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.

A little uplift and comfort on our part will do so much at this season to help others find themselves. And perhaps when you have done this for the unfortunate, they may say with you, as the Psalmist said: Ps. 49:3: My mouth shall speak of wisdom and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

These are stirring times in our land—in the world. They are troublesome times. But there have been troublesome times in all ages, and in all lands; and among all peoples since the race of man began. We can see that most our troubles are because we have stopped doing the things we should have done. We have let it become later than we think. We can do little

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### BOYS SCAMPING OVER WRIGHT MEMORIAL HILL



A Coast Guard helicopter landing at the National Wright Memorial at Kill Devil Hill Monday as boys scamper over the slopes at exercises at the Wright Memorial pylon. At the foot of the hill are four buses belonging to the Elizabeth City High School Band. (Photo Courtesy Virginian-Pilot.)

### BEFORE WRIGHT MEMORIAL EXERCISES BEGIN



Majorettes of the Elizabeth City High School Band wending their way to the top of Kill Devil Hill Monday morning to take their place at exercises celebration the 48th anniversary of powered flight. The band braved the bitter, biting wind to play patriotic music and flourishes of honor to distinguished guests. (Photo Courtesy Virginian-Pilot.)

about the complex and perplexing things throughout the world; but we can do much toward making things better in the little orbit that is the world of some unfortunate neighbor or a friend.

Let us see brethren, if by forsaking the ways of the idle-and this means the idle thinker as well as any other kind of idler—let us see if by busying ourselves with doing thoughtful deeds, we will not soon cease to worry about the troubles of the world outside. Doesn't it seem that selfishness has become the besetting sin of the world? Everywhere is the mad race for gain, personal profit; advantages greater than our neighbors and old associates have enjoyed.

Brethren. The world has gotten away from Godliness. We have lost sight of ordinary morality. We have ceased to respect our obligations our word, our duty. We have shifted our responsibilities without reason or without justice. We have pushed upon others, wherever possible and without pay, hard tasks that are rightfully the burdens of our own making and should be borne upon our own backs.

We must find understanding, and we must yield to it. We must obey its injunctions and its demands if we should be happy. We have many debts to pay. We cannot begin too soon to get busy in this cause. For too many of us, we are used to say, "it is later than we think."

### HIGH TIDES ON FISHING GROUNDS

Low Tides Between Hours Shown Oregon Inlet for December

	A.M.	P.M.
Friday	21 0:22	12:31
Saturday	22 1:14	1:26
Sunday	23 2:10	2:23
Monday	24 3:08	3:23
Tuesday	25 4:05	4:22
Wednesday	26 5:03	5:20
Thursday	27 5:58	6:16
Friday	28 6:52	7:10
Saturday	29 7:45	8:05
Sunday	30 8:36	9:00
Monday	31 9:30	9:55

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING

### DARE FOREST RANGER TO VISIT SCHOOLS

Frank Hemilright of Manns Harbor Now Employed to Promote Interest in Fire Protection

Dare County Forest Ranger Frank T. Hemilright will be visiting all of the rural schools during the months of December and January for the purpose of distributing book covers and other forest fire prevention literature. Book covers will be given to all sixth graders and in some cases fifth and seventh graders.

Other fire prevention literature such as posters, booklets, wood utilization charts will be given out to be used in study classes on conservation.

County Ranger Hemilright reminds the children that what is being done to our woodlands today vitally concerns their future lives. The farms they live on today will probably be theirs in later years. Little trees make big ones just as children become adults. If the children of today are to have valuable woodland in the future they must work together with their parents to prevent forest fires and unwise cutting practices.

There are forestry films and other type of information available to school children concerning forestry conservation and forestry planting. Children interested should contact your County Forest Ranger, Frank T. Hemilright.

business can prosper without adding to the prosperity and welfare of our whole society."—Benjamin F. Fairless, president U.S. Steel Corp.

### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM TO BE PRESENTED MONDAY NIGHT

Manns Harbor.—The Sunday School Department of Mt. Carmel Methodist Church will present a Christmas Program Monday night at 7:30. This program will be in charge of the teachers; Mrs. Wilbur Pinner, Mrs. Pearl Daniels and Mrs. Frank Ambrose. Christmas music will be furnished by the Church Choir under the direction of Mrs. Preston Twiford, and Mrs. J. D. Creaf. On Saturday night December 15th, a Christmas party was given by the teachers at the Community Building for the Sunday School children. A tree was beautifully decorated for the occasion, with gifts for all. Refreshments of ice cream and cookies were served to more than 60 present.

### STOP FEDERAL WASTE

The recent session of Congress voted appropriations of \$97,730,541.716.

That about \$635 for every man, woman and child in the United States. It's \$2,540 for every family of four.

In fact, it's a lot more money than it was necessary to appropriate. Chairman Cannon of the House Appropriations Committee said recently that "never has there been such delay and confusion and attendant waste as there has been this year."

Let's all think of his words when paying taxes!

### COLORED NAVY MAN HOME FROM A YEAR IN KOREA

San Diego, Calif.—Aboard the aircraft carrier USS Bon Homme Richard this week when she arrived here after nearly a year in Korean waters, was Alvin D. Ballard, damage controlman, third class, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Ballard of Route 1, Box 208, Gates, N. C., and husband of the former Miss Wilsona Simons of Manteo, of a well-known colored family, her father being "I do not know how any honest

### THREE YOUTHS HURT AS CAR CRASHES

Gus Saunders, Jr., 18, suffered a broken collar bone and was taken to the Marine Hospital in Norfolk last Friday as a result of the overturning of his car on the beach highway near Nags Head. His

equisin, "Buck" Saunders, 16, and Ted Hayes, 18, of Wanchese suffered minor injuries.

### FAIRFIELD PERSONALS

Mrs. R. L. Mann spent several days last week as the guest of her sister, Mrs. F. C. Gill, and family in Wilson.

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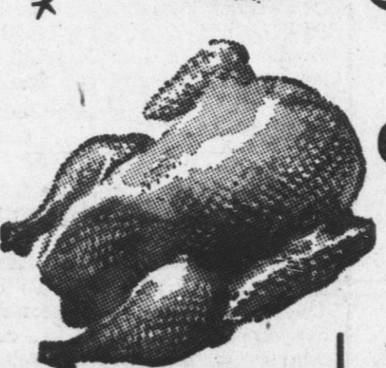
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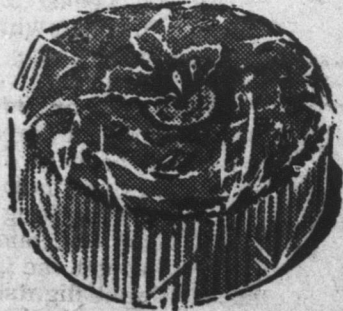


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