



CHURCH of GOD

News

Chicago - Midwest Edition

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October, 1963

Jekyll Island Yields a Huge Spiritual Harvest

by James Howell

Members of God's Church from the eastern parts of the United States and Canada gathered at Jekyll Island, Georgia, for the first Feast to be held in that location. In the midst of the physical beauty of the island, those in attendance at the services heard some of the most powerful sermons delivered in the modern era of the true church.

On Wednesday evening, October 2nd, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong opened the 1963 Feast of Tabernacles in the U.S. After the opening introductions, he briefly enumerated the many problems we now have in this world and the solution of these problems through the second coming of Jesus Christ. The following morning, Mr. Armstrong impressed on us that we came for a purpose. "People don't want to die—but they just pass time away until they do," he said. People will even reject and resist Christ at His second coming. In the afternoon service, Mr. Bill McDowell gave several suggestions for taking notes before Mr. Raymond Cole launched into his sermon. God wanted a family relationship—God is love. To fulfill His desire, He thought out a master plan before any action was taken. Christ's death was a part of His plan from the beginning.

The following morning, Mr. Ben Chapman exhorted us to appreciate our physical blessings, and give thanks for them. Mr. Armstrong then showed us the real meaning of each of God's annual Sabbaths. We are constantly reminded of God's plan by observing these days. But this nation is headed for destruction because its sins are increased. At the evening service, Mr. Carn Catherwood asked the startling question, "What if Christ would suddenly appear?" Our attitudes toward Christ would be determined by our attitudes toward our

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On the Way to Jekyll Island

by Hazel Schlitt

The biggest cave in the United States is Mammoth Cave. There are blind fish and bats in the cave. At one point there

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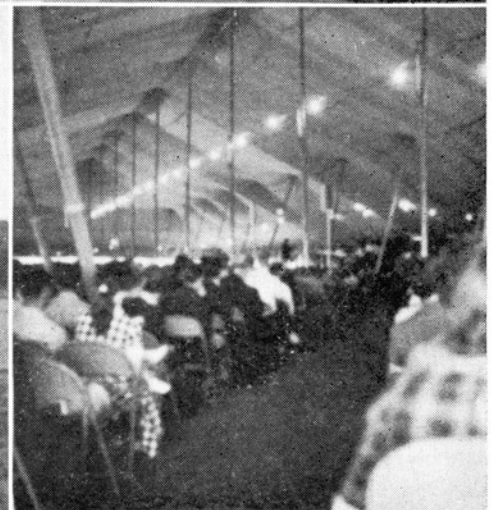
Feast of Tabernacles In Big Sandy

by Elisha Crim

Seven thousand of God's chosen people kept the Feast of Tabernacles in Big Sandy, Texas. Of that number, over 850 were Colored brethren from all parts of the U. S. This Feast was considered by many to be the greatest ever held in Texas.

Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong opened the Festival. Later, he announced that a special preaching service for the colored

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EDITORIAL

by Allen Manteufel

Recently, at the combined **Visiting Team** meeting for this area, Mr. Dean Blackwell, Pastor in charge of the Northern Mid-west district, read to us a **co-worker** letter written by Mr. Armstrong back in July 27, 1958.

The purpose for this particular letter was the shocking tragedy of the head-on automobile collision resulting in the death of Richard Armstrong, Mr. Herbert Armstrong's eldest son. Many of you may remember receiving this fateful letter and the anxiety and helplessness you felt as you read it.

In this letter Mr. Armstrong described details surrounding the accident, the human effort to save Dick Armstrong's life and the **reason** and the **purpose** as to why God allowed such a tragedy to happen.

God Almighty and Jesus Christ, your King, guided Mr. Armstrong in all circumstances involved in the accident. God Himself inspired His apostle for this age in revealing the purpose as to why such an accident occurred.

Was it as a result of **carelessness**? Absolutely not! Was it as **punishment** on those involved? No!!

Brethren, Mr. Armstrong stated that that awful tragedy happened in order to **jolt** some of you and other co-workers out of your careless, indifferent, slack, lazy attitudes. It happened in order to **arouse** you to **action**! Many co-workers, Mr. Armstrong was inspired to reveal, had **bogged down**. The purpose was to **wake up** the careless and indifferent co-workers.

God allowed Satan to strike at one of the top servants in the work of God and one of the most deeply loved. Mr. Dick Armstrong, as his last service to you brethren, gave his life, in order to **spur** you on to His work as Christians should.

Brethren, do we have the **backbone** to do all that we were exhorted to do at the Feast of Tabernacles—to pray, study, **give** of your time and energy in the church, to shoulder your financial responsibilities in God's Work?

Will God once again have to **jolt** us to our senses through some heart-wrenching, sickening tragedy?

More than ever, brethren, we need to **get our minds on God's Work**. Time is short! About eight years remain, Mr. Blackwell warned!

It's time we heed Christ's exhortation in John. "My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me, and to **finish His Work**! Say not you, there are yet four months, and then cometh the harvest! Behold I say unto you, **lift up** your eyes and **look** on the fields, for they are white **already** to harvest," (4:34-35.).

Too many of us in this district are **bogged down** with the cares of this godless world—money, entertainments, vacations, new cars, inferiority, selfishness, family squabbles, relatives — everything that detracts us from God's work and real spiritual growth.

The Feast of Tabernacles for 1963 is now over. Most of us have made **proposals** and decisions to "**get on the ball**," to be more serious, to begin overcoming nagging problems, to **rally** to the need of God's work.

Let's make these resolutions last!

BLOOMINGTON NEWS

A baby boy weighing 7 lbs., 14 oz., Joshua Robert, was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Griffin of Jacksonville, on October 17th, at 3:45 p.m.

A family camp-out is being planned at the farm of Mr. Lyle Atteberry on Nov. 28th and 29th. Ladies, here is your chance to rough it, too!

Cheerio, Mr. Ecker!!

by Gene Madison

Mr. Don Ecker, Chicago and La Grange Chorale director, was overwhelmed when Mr. Blackwell called early Wednesday to inform him he was accepted at Ambassador College, Brickewood, London. Mr. Ecker will be a musical assistant, besides enrolling as a student.



Mrs. A. Hitch (left) and Mrs. Wakenight (center) present Mr. Donald Ecker with farewell cake. It read "Have A Safe, Happy Trip. Love, Chorale."

BIG SANDY (Cont'd)

brethren would be held the evening after the weekly Sabbath. This occasion offered an opportunity for hundreds of the Colored members to hear (some for the first time) Mr. Harold Jackson, the only Colored Preaching Elder in God's Church.

To many, the highlight of the Feast came on the Last Great Day when Mr. Herbert Armstrong made it known that nine men were being ordained to the rank of Local Elder. After six of them had been presented, Mr. Armstrong stated that the Colored brethren had a lot to be thankful for because God was giving them three new Elders. Mr. Jackson was called to present the three men: Mr. Clarence Bass, who has been working here in Chicago as Mr. Jackson's direct assistant; Mr. Edwin Marrs, who was ordained a deacon in the Chicago Church and was later sent South to assist Mr. Arthur Craig in serving the Colored brethren in the Meridian, Miss., area; and Mr. Rufus Turner, who had been put into the work full time to assist among the Negro brethren of the New York City area. Inspired by the ordination of these nine men into the work of God and the many other wonderful things God provided, many have purposed to really apply themselves to prove themselves profitable servants.

If you think hard
you can figure out
a way not
to do it.



Saga of Morgan the Pilot

by Charles Morgan

Jekyll Island, here we come! 41 members on route 41—ranging from those in their 70's to little ones of four months! A bus trip which provided trying situations and circumstances that arose which only drew us into a closer concern and consideration for each other.

For example, a young driver—very nice lad, but he had problems! Very aware of the 41 lives in his hands, he hadn't driven much mountain stuff, and only got sleepy when passengers got bedded down and the bus was dark in back of him. So—just go back, put on your shoes, forget that shut-eye business and go up there and hold his hand. I mean stay awake with him into Chattanooga and keep a midnight rendezvous with a new driver, a snack and a comfort station.

New driver—an old hand (63 to be exact), a real pro, really could wheel those mountains, but through some mis-cue had only some two to three hours rest, and now faced 407 miles and 14 hours of driving ahead, which brought

more comfort stops, a long search for a suitable restaurant, plus a mechanical breakdown.

212 miles on our way found us lost in a residential section looking for breakfast, and from the stares, oh boy, we were glad we didn't get grabbed as freedom riders!

Let's sing! Who said it? A song book? No. But, yes! One only, and loose leaf, hand-written. 40 pieces of luggage under the bus. All set—we got it, here we go. Who said we couldn't smile and sing—fired up you can even laugh and sing. Oh! Oh! Driver missed a sign, he was pretty tired. Let's see—where do we go? Oh, well, 341 is a bigger number than No. 41—maybe a better road—let's try it. We can sing between towns and signs and still help the driver. Did you say harmony? Real barber shop? "Moonlight Bay," "In the Evening," "Sweet Adeline." You wouldn't guess who. Oh, oh, comfort stop. Bus won't start. Oh, well . . . the biggest ice cream cone you ever saw, only 15c. Away we go!—Rejoice, I say, rejoice! Jekyll Island, here we come, fired up for the greatest feast God's Church has ever held—and IT WAS THE GREATEST for me!

MEET MR. REDUS

Mr. James D. Redus, 21, a senior at Ambassador College, is the new assistant to Mr. Frank McCrady in the Elk-hart-Grand Rapids church areas. This is Mr. Redus' first assignment in the field and present plans call for him to remain in this area until September, 1964.



He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin A. Redus, Kingsville, Texas, and has three brothers and two sisters, all of whom attend the Corpus Christi church!

ON THE WAY (Cont'd)

is a tunnel about a block long called "fat man's misery." It is only about two feet wide and is really a squeeze for heavy people. The tour was two hours long and well worth the time.

It has winding passages and stairways and much of it reminded us of the time we used to enjoy going through an abandoned or "haunted" house. At times we felt a touch of claustrophobia in narrow passages with low ceilings deep underground, but all of that disappeared as we neared the entrance and again saw the light.

We also were delighted to go through one of the most beautiful mountain ranges in the U.S.—the Smokies. The scenery is beautiful and along the way we could hear the rumbling of water and in some places, see waterfalls.

At one spot we saw about 20 cars parked along the side of the road so we stopped to see what was going on. Up a tree we saw a big black bear eating berries. As we stood watching, we couldn't help but wonder who would be first to their car if the bear suddenly decided to come down.

When we arrived in Brunswick, Ga., it became very cloudy and dark and started to rain. For two days it rained on and off and looked quite miserable for the campers and all the people assembling together for the Feast. Then it began to clear and was warm and sunny for the rest of the Feast.

God couldn't have picked a better place east of the Mississippi for beauty and convenience. Nature lovers couldn't have had it better. We saw many deer and many of us spent hours enjoying the ocean and gathering beautiful shells, starfish and crabs.

We certainly had an educational trip.

Jekyll Island (Cont'd)

brethren. (Matt. 25:40). Attitude is **very important**. Mr. Dean Blackwell gave a very thorough and enlightening sermon on God's attitude toward dancing, drinking, and music. Many scriptures on these subjects were called to the attention of the congregation. A person who is worldly clings to ideas not proved in or by the Bible.

The next day Mr. Frank McCrady showed us how and why people become



Combined Chicago-La Grange Chorale singing praises to God under The Big Tent.

offended. We were told to have an open and teachable mind and keep it that way. Mr. Herbert Armstrong then preached his final sermon before leaving for Texas. He stated that God looks on the heart or the intention. Sin is against God—not against other humans. The Laodiceans in God's Church must face the tribulation.

On October 6th, Mr. George Meeker reminded us that God's Holy Days seem strange to the world. "Learn not the way of the heathen," God says in Jeremiah 10:2. How can we really know God? The answer is found in I John 2:4. Mr. Dean Blackwell delivered an intensely interesting sermon on the origin of God's Holy Days. He illustrated how the world still keeps days and times **condemned in the Bible**. The way of the heathen is **always easy!**

Raymond Cole, one of God's Evangelists, took us "in word" on a journey through Europe and the Near East, correlating present conditions and Biblical prophecy. We, who know the truth, have a tremendous mission to fulfill yet.

On Monday morning, Mr. Les McCullough reminded us to remember our brethren meeting at other Feast locations around the world. Then we were privileged to hear from Mr. Roderick Meredith, one of God's Evangelists from head-

quarters. This world is in a horrible mess, but we look forward to the Kingdom of God. **However**, it is the overcomer who will receive rulership. Mr. Meredith reviewed the works of the flesh and the fruits of the Holy Spirit found in Galatians 5. Then he listed ten points to master self control and seven points to use in ruling the time available to us.

Tuesday morning, Mr. Robert Hoops wondered if we were really preparing for the kingdom. He warned us not to adopt the principles of government found in this world. Then Mr. Dean Blackwell warned us not to be deceived by false signs or to be drawn back into the world. This world **is ending**. Mr. Arthur Craig vividly portrayed how God works miracles today. Every little bit (of prayer or money) helps. Mr. Roderick Meredith listed ten compelling reasons why Christ must soon return.

On the Last Great Day, Mr. Richard Plache listed three steps for making this the best feast ever: 1. Analyze your character; 2. Attack your problems; 3. Always succeed. God will evaluate this feast for several months. It is the overcomer who receives power over the nations. Mr. Raymond Cole then enumerated ten ways to improve enjoyment at next year's Feast. He pointed out that God's character is constant but **we need to change ours!** Mr. Roderick Meredith concluded the feast on Thursday afternoon with a sermon outlining the true meaning of the Last Great Day. There is **more** than one day of salvation. God has deliberately allowed many people to be blinded. Finally, we were told judgment must begin at the house of God, and also to put the kingdom **first** in our lives.

This was almost a straight meat diet. We will be "chewing" on this strong food for many months to come. Will you?

SOUTH BEND NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur McSorley, Fort Wayne, Indiana, are the proud parents of a baby girl born October 9th. She weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces. This makes a total of 5 girls and 3 boys in their family.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stauffer of Centerville, Indiana, have a boy, William Joe, who was born on October 15—weight 7 pounds and 10 ounces. At the last report: mother and son doing fine, the nervous father recovering.

"SHOOTING SEASON" IS HERE

by David Shell

After a good hard softball season, it is once again time to hang up the glove and see how well you can catch without one. Some of the Chicago and La Grange men were doing just that Thursday, October 18, when the Basketball Season got under way. Though some men were not there due to a late return from the Feast of Tabernacles, there was a warm-up game which Chicago won 36 to 32. In the second warm-up game, played October 24, La Grange won 40 to 38.

Chicago dominated the games last year against La Grange, but may be facing trouble this year. Mr. Manteufel, who led the Chicago team last year, will be playing against them this year, as will Mr. Wilbur Ball. However, Mr. Dick Marshall, who wasn't here last year, will be added to the roster in hopes of alleviating the loss.

Provisions are being made so no one will be left out of the game. You don't have to be a basketball player to come out to see what's going on. There is a lot in store for everyone. So, don't hibernate this winter. That's for the bears!

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