

Seek The Old Paths

"Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths... and walk therein."
(Jeremiah 6:16)

Vol. 5, No. 3

March 1994

Scriptural Response to Liberalism

Walter W. Pigg

Some of our number within the church are not aware of the frightening state of things. Some may not want to know, and others may have simply failed to keep informed relative to this grave danger. And, there are some who just refuse to face reality. But in either case, such has helped to create the condition in which we find ourselves today relative to liberalism.

A "sickly" and "sleeping" brotherhood is being swept by a scourge of pernicious **LIBERALISM**, which is being encouraged by a growing number of influential and ultraliberal brethren among us! Outside the church, the most liberal agenda of the current dominate political power, the liberal bias of the news media and the entertainment industry are creating a climate which is very conducive to the furtherance of this evil. True hope for the well-being of the cause of Christ in the days ahead depends largely upon what is now "a remnant" of truly devoted, God-fearing brethren who are **unafraid to "contend for the faith"** as they become and persist as active participants in the **Scriptural Response to Liberalism**.

WHAT IS LIBERALISM?

This term is difficult to define, being subject to a wide variety of definitions, not all of which sug-

gest evil. Due to the complexity of the term we shall give our own definition, as it will be most often used in the following discussion, and as it is commonly used among those of us who recognize the evils of **Liberalism** and stand opposed to it. "**Liberalism involves an attitude which rejects God's word as the complete and absolute authority for belief and practice in the realm of spiritual things.**"

The **Liberalism** of which I speak is exemplified by quite a variety of things, things which are not authorized by God's word. A **Liberal**, therefore, may accept one or more of the following list, which is by no means exhaustive. The **Liberal** may believe:

1. Silence of the Scriptures is authority for a practice.
2. One's subjective feelings and desires justify actions.
3. All activities in worship and serving need not have Bible

authority.

4. There are few restrictions relative to Christian conduct in daily living.

5. Faith does not mean "Taking God at his word."

6. God's word may not mean what it clearly says, as we have learned from the current "New Hermeneutic."

7. The KJV and ASV are old and outdated and should be cast aside in favor of new and modern versions such as the NIV.

8. Preaching and teaching should always be Positive.

9. Our "five stepper," "Scripture quoting," "radical," "Church of Christ," preachers are unloving and out of date.

10. Salvation is by "grace alone" and/or "faith alone."

11. We should not speak against and/or criticize our denominational friends.

12. And many others.

One need not have all the above marks of Liberalism, or of

others that could be mentioned, to be a liberal. If God's word is knowingly and wilfully rejected as being authoritative in just one area, that constitutes liberalism. As noted above in our definition of liberalism, an attitude which rejects the authority of God's word is what we mean by the term. If God's word can be rejected as the complete authority in one area, so can it be in others as well. Therefore, if our objective is to please God by following his will, we must recognize the fact of liberalism and be prepared to face it as God's inspired word has instructed us so clearly.

FACING THE FACTS OF TODAY'S LIBERALISM

Some of our number within the church are not aware of the frightening state of things. Some may not want to know, and others may have simply failed to keep informed relative to this grave danger. And, there are some who just refuse to face reality. But in either case, such has helped to create the condition in which we find ourselves today relative to liberalism. No doubt but that some who read these very words will cry: "Alarmist," "negative minded," and "unloving." But facts are facts whether we accept them or not, and reality is reality, even if some live in a dream world of oblivion. There is nothing good to come from the liberalism of which we speak. As we pointed out in the Sept. 1993, issue of **Banner Of Truth**, even the religions which have gone all out for liberalism have experienced drastic decline. But untold harm has been and is being done to God's people through liberalism, and this can only be measured in the multitudes of lost souls!

In the following, we are setting forth a number of examples of the "Facts of liberalism" as seen today. Though many other examples could be given, we

trust these will suffice to awaken at least a few to the spiritual dangers now faced by those would-be servants of God and encourage them to become engaged in the **Scriptural Response to Liberalism**. There is no other God-appointed way to combat it! If we fall as a victim to this evil we will have no one to blame but ourselves.

THE EXTENT OF TODAY'S LIBERALISM

All across the country, faithful brethren are voicing their



The condition within the church today is so much like that which existed a century ago when liberalism held sway over the greater majority of church members and the authority of God's word was rejected as people opted for that which pleased themselves rather than God.



concern about the liberalism in their respective area. An elder in this area said to me recently, "Over half the congregations have already gone into apostasy." It has been stated recently that in the Nashville, Tenn. area (with some 130 or more congregations) only a very few congregations are sound. A preacher from Arkansas said that in a given area of, I believe 28 congregations, only two or three would be considered as sound. It is a matter of fact that in many cities or areas where several congregations are located, one would be hard pressed to find even one congregation which is truly **Con-**

tending for the faith and unwilling to compromise. Now if this is not something to **disturb** and **alarm** us, what would it take? Would anything? The condition within the church today is so much like that which existed a century ago when liberalism held sway over the greater majority of church members and the authority of God's word was rejected as people opted for that which pleased themselves rather than God. We know what the shameful results were. The **liberal** brethren took the church buildings in many instances and went their way of digression playing their pianos in worship and paying the Missionary Society to evangelize as they listened to the preaching of a diluted gospel where "silence was consent." Of this condition a knowledgeable, and well-read man on church history, Johnny Ramsey, had the following to say a few years ago, and present conditions are even more pronounced now than then.

"Any honest, careful student of church history knows we are living again the scenes of apostasy that shattered the restoration movement of the 19th century. Attitudes, and probably motives, are virtually parallel to the sad saga of digression that shattered the work of great servants of the Lord a century or more ago. The powerful emphasis of 'What does the Bible say?' is once again being replaced by 'Is this acceptable to the people 'round about us?' One can detect an almost worshipful atmosphere at the shrine of higher education on the part of brethren today. And any student of history can tell you the end results of **THIS** arrangement! Even from among those who

must know better comes an appeal for cheap grace, and not the deeply based teaching on the commands of Christ. It would appear that some are willfully ignorant (II Peter 3:5) as they *wrest the Scriptures* and go about *seeking their own righteousness* (Rom. 10:2; II Peter 3:15-16). While they often speak of liberty and freedom in Christ, they and their devotees become the abject slaves of error (II Peter 2:17-22)."

The above words of brother Ramsey cannot be successfully denied, and he could have pointed out many other things. One thing which should also be mentioned is that among the liberals of today, some are fellowshipping denominational men in preaching and in fellowship with the Christian Church. Yes, it is much later than many think!

LIBERALISM IN OUR SCHOOLS

There is not a single one of our sizeable brotherhood colleges or universities that I know about which has not already gone deeply into liberalism or is headed in that direction. The fact that some deny this is just more evidence that many people no longer recognize liberalism or for some reason will not admit it. This will simply encourage further inroads of liberalism. When schools become as they have with some, a "sacred cow," the influence of those schools, including that of liberalism, will be reflected in congregations where those people preach, teach or participate as members. Some powerful lessons in this connection can be learned from history by those who care to learn. In some instances schools have rendered great services, and I am personally thankful. But

when the "tail begins to wag the dog" things have gone too far!

TODAY'S RASH OF MODERN VERSIONS

There is absolutely no evidence, that I have seen, that today's modern versions in any way contribute to a greater respect for God's word as our sole authority in religious matters. But, to the contrary, where modern versions are used extensively, liberalism will generally be evident and respect for God's pure Word will be less. In view of this, it should be of great concern to those who love Truth that out-



There is not a single one of our sizeable brotherhood colleges or universities that I know about which has not already gone deeply into liberalism or is headed in that direction.



cries by faithful brethren concerning the proliferation of modern, unreliable versions of the Bible are being heard less and less. Though it should not be, time seems to be on the side of liberalism in that the faithful's resistance to error seems to wear down with time. But we must be aware of this and constantly renew our determination to stand and encourage others to do likewise.

As mentioned in the Oct. 1993, issue of **Banner Of Truth**, the "Campaign America" organization is pushing the use of the NIV through literature sent out to callers. And, they are critical of the KJV, making it appear that one would have a hard time learning the truth from it. The

Gospel Minutes, which now has a circulation of well over 100,000 weekly, is now recommending the use of the NIV, and is quoted by **David Thurman**. Many preachers, teachers and members across the country are now using a modern version in spite of the errors contained therein. Millions have learned the truth from the KJV or ASV in the past and people can do so today.

LIBERALISM THROUGH THE POWERFUL PRINTED PAGE

The widespread use of written material which promotes liberalism is increasing among preachers and members day by day. Not only is the material by our own liberal brethren being promoted and sold by brotherhood bookstores such as at F-HU and other places, this is also true of such men as: **Swindol, Schuler, Graham**, et al. Materials from these false teachers (liberals) are cropping up more often in the writings of our own liberal brethren and even sometimes in the writings of men who claim to be sound. Bible Class and VBS materials which have not been influenced by liberalism are becoming more scarce and difficult to find.

Liberalism brought in by the printed page is just as destructive as that delivered from the pulpit or the Bible teacher's lectern. But some seem to be unaware of this. Take for example a congregation which claims to stand for the truth but allows liberalism to come into the congregation by way of the printed page. **Liberalism** is truly one of the Devil's devices and he promotes it in many ways.

SILENT PREACHERS ENCOURAGE LIBERALISM

There are more preachers

now who, though they would not preach and teach a false doctrine, will not raise their voice against the error of liberalism. Such action as this is a rejection of God's authority which demands that truth be used in the battle against error. But **some still remain silent!** Just a few days ago a friend related to me how that he had heard a preacher recently, who through his teaching, had taught my friend out of the Masonic Lodge many years ago. My friend asked this well-known preacher, who left the church for many years but has supposedly been restored, if he was still teaching men out of the Masonic Lodge. The preacher's response was, "I don't preach anything but positive anymore."

More than 30 years ago I heard that same preacher preach a powerful sermon on **The Dangers of Liberalism**. But he couldn't do that now; it would involve the **negative**. Anyone who will not preach negatives as well as positives has rejected the authority of God's word, making him a **liberal**. **Liberals** do not like negatives, but when their error is shown up, they sometimes use them very freely in their opposition to lovers of Truth.

LIBERALS SUPPORTED BY CONGREGATIONS

For the most part, liberal preachers are supported in their liberalism by the congregations where they preach. But in some instances a liberal preacher may be supported by congregations which claim to stand for the truth. An example of this occurred in a "area-wide" meeting in Corinth, Miss., this past summer. Nine congregations were listed as "participating congregations." At least one of the congregations listed, and their preacher, would quickly affirm that they stand for the truth. But the preacher in that meeting, the

well known **Larry West**, is very liberal, as even affirmed by his heart-broken father in a public statement. Therefore, the nine congregations supported liberalism. Whether this was done deliberately or through ignorance does not change the fact.

This year's "**Jubilee**" in Nashville, TN, the very epitome of liberalism, was supported by a great many congregations in Middle Tennessee. Everyone of those supporting congregations were partakers in liberalism!



In more recent years, with quite a few congregations, it has become "out of bounds" to call attention to errors in our brotherhood schools, including that of liberalism as mentioned earlier. The liberal influence of a school upon the congregations in this area is unmistakable to any observing person, and few preachers dare mention it.



Twenty or thirty years ago most of those congregations would have been considered sound. If such actions as the above, and so many others, do not tell us something as to the state of the church, we simply do not want to be told or we don't care. In some instances it would be a matter of both.

THE PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD IS BEING RESTRICTED

Some 35 years or so ago, many preachers affirmed that they would preach God's word "without fear or favor of man,"

and they meant it and were not restricted in doing so. But it is different now! That expression is not being heard very often nowadays. Why so? More and more preachers are being restricted in what they can preach. Of course, some preachers don't mind being restricted since they don't want to preach the whole truth anyway. This is characteristic of liberals.

In this day of "divorce for every cause," the preaching of God's law on marriage and divorce (Matt. 19:9) simply would not be tolerated in a growing number of congregations where God's law is not respected. A preacher will not get very far in some congregations if he chooses to preach on the "**works of the flesh**," including such social sins as social drinking, dancing, mixed bathing, immodesty, etc. In fact, I had a letter from a good friend a couple of days ago, in which he said the following with reference to the elders of a congregation where he had worked less than a year before having to move on.

"In April this year they called me in and told me I could not preach on the works of the flesh, masonry, marriage, divorce, remarriage, denominationalism because the people did not want to hear about such. This was judging and the Bible condemns judging, according to Matt. 7, they said." ... "The oldest 'elder' told me I could not call names such as 'Baptist,' 'Methodist,' etc. because such was not in the Bible. This same man did not know the terms 'bishop' and 'pastor/shepherd' also pertained to an elder or how they applied. It is not difficult to see why the church is in trouble today."

This preacher has a good knowledge of God's word and believes it should be preached in its fullness and without compromise.

Yesterday I had a call from a young discouraged preacher who had to leave a congregation due to unfair treatment and restrictions on what he could preach. He was restricted to preaching only positives. Needless to say that submitting to such conditions would be compromising the Truth and make of one a liberal.

In more recent years, with quite a few congregations, it has become "out of bounds" to call attention to errors in our brotherhood schools, including that of liberalism as mentioned earlier. The liberal influence of a school upon the congregations in this area is unmistakable to any observing person, and few preachers dare mention it.

Calling attention to the dangers of modern, unreliable versions of the Bible is a "no, no" in some circles. It would hit a sensitive spot in many places since their use is upheld by the congregation, even by elders and teachers.

Though Christ spoke rather specifically with regard to the Pharisees, Sadducees and their error, speaking out on the errors of denominationalism will not be tolerated in an increasing number of places. And, when it comes to being specific, unless a preacher is ready to receive the flak,

even moving orders, he best not follow the example of Paul and call the names of rank false teachers as did Paul in his naming of **Hymenaeus** and **Alexander**, who "*concerning faith*" had "*made shipwreck*" (I Tim. 1:19-20), and **Hymenaeus** and **Philetus** who had erred concerning the truth, "*Saying that the resurrection is past already*," overthrowing "*the faith of some*" (II Tim. 2:17-18).

LIBERALISM RAGES OUTSIDE THE CHURCH

Never before in the history of our nation has there been a government in power which was actually determined to completely secularize our society and snuff out the "*righteousness*" which "*exalteth a nation*" and encourage the basest of "*sin*" which is "*a reproach to any people*" (Prov. 14:34). As this governmental influence gains greater control of the people in its effort to make of our country a "queer" and "perverted" nation, reminiscent of Sodom and Gomorrah, the spirit of multitudes will be broken and the quest for God slackened even further. This condition, which is the result of political liberalism, is one in which spiritual liberalism thrives. And, spiritual liberalism has not the power nor the will to impede the progress of ungodliness.

In addition to the governmental influence of liberalism, we may add the far-out news media,

the entertainment industry, and the abundance of pornographic material by way of the printed page. With the promotion of liberalism by all these sources, the harmful effects will be seen in a greater way within the church as liberalism grows.

Now that we have considered some of the facts and extent of liberalism, let us turn our attention to what our response should be if we would be victorious in the battle we face.

SCRIPTURAL RESPONSE TO LIBERALISM CONSIDERED

It may sound somewhat redundant to suggest that the only **Scriptural Response** is found in the **Scriptures**, but that is the case. Since the God-ordained response to liberalism is found only in the Scriptures, it is necessary to come to a knowledge of that response and then make the proper use of it if it is to be effective. Therefore, we shall, in the following, consider a number of factors which are pertinent.

We begin by suggesting:

GOD'S WORD MUST BE TAUGHT IN ITS PURITY AND SIMPLICITY

The God-approved saving faith comes from the hearing of God's Word (Rom. 10:17). This active faith resists and condemns liberalism and its disrespect for God's word. The essentiality of the true, unperverted gospel is pointed out in Gal. 1:7-9, as the only source of salvation. A curse rests upon those who would *preach any other gospel*. The absolute necessity of adhering to the teaching of Christ in order to have God's approval is spelled out by John when he wrote: "*Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both*

Seek The Old Paths Lectureship

July 24-28, 1994

Theme: **Immorality**

East Corinth Church of Christ

the Father and the Son" (II John 9). Peter declared, "*If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...*" (I Peter 4:11). When Jesus was tempted by the devil, the father of liberalism, in each of the three instances he used God's word in his defence by stating, "*It is written...*" (Matt. 4:1-11).

"Book, chapter and verse" preaching is desperately needed if liberalism is to be checked, because it exalts God's word and not the wishes and desires of men. This kind of preaching and teaching demands that we get **back to the Book** and rid ourselves of spiritual ignorance.

AN UNCOMPROMISING STAND FOR THE TRUTH

Once **Truth** is learned, it must be upheld in an **UNCOMPROMISING** manner. This rules out upholding, encouraging or supporting error to any degree. It forbids the "closing of our eyes" and "stopping our ears" with regard to that which is wrong. Paul would not give in for even "*an hour*" to those "*false brethren*" who would have brought him "*into bondage*" (Gal. 2:4-5).

Those who are willing to compromise God's Truth, even "in a small way," sadly often find no stopping place. But in the first place, we have no right to *sell* the truth in any amount, but rather should always be "*buying the truth*" (Prov. 23:23). **Standing for the truth** forbids fellowship error (Eph. 5:11).

FIGHT FOR THE TRUTH

If anything on this earth was ever worth fighting for, Truth is! And that is exactly the message in Jude 3 where the writer commands us to "*contend for the faith....*" The word "contend" means to "*contend as a combatant.*" In the first century, Truth was precious and brethren stood

by it, even in the face of severe persecution – even death! If we love God's Truth now, we can afford to do no less. We cannot remain silent and allow Truth to suffer at the hands of the liberals.

Enemies of Truth may use intimidation and accusations to try to dampen the spirit of the faithful. One who fights for the truth may well be labeled as a: troublemaker, nitpicker, or any number of other terms of ridicule. However, liberals remain enemies of Truth!



Those who are willing to compromise God's Truth, even "in a small way," sadly often find no stopping place.



Standing for the truth forbids fellowship error (Eph. 5:11).



MARK THOSE WHO TEACH FALSE DOCTRINE

To "*...mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them*" (Rom. 16:17), is another of God's ways of dealing with liberalism. Yet, few are they who are willing to accept God's way in this case. To "*mark*" the teachers of error is to direct attention to them. This cannot be done without making known who they are, and the best way to do this is to follow Paul's example and call their names (I Tim. 1:19-20; II Tim. 2:17-18). This is a **Scriptural response**.

APPOINT ONLY QUALIFIED ELDERS

Elders who are true elders according to the Book are: "*apt to teach,*" "*holding fast the faithful word*" and are "*able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers*" (I Tim. 3; Titus 1). Such men are hard to find, but God's word is compromised when brethren settle for less. Appointing men who are inept and unqualified is an affront to God and his instructions in this important matter.

Elders who don't know liberalism when it appears, due to their lack of knowledge of the Bible, are a great hurt to the church. Some don't keep abreast of what is going on within the church and are unable to safely guard the flock against deadly error. It is a sad fact that a great many so-called elders do not meet the Scriptural qualifications on a number of counts. They are often lacking in knowledge and remiss even in areas where their duties are easily understood. Some are not even trustworthy. And, in their lust for power, they may become "*lords over God's heritage*" (I Peter 5:3), rather than examples to the flock.

Truly qualified elders are one of the greatest safeguards against liberalism. Without such men to guard the flock, disaster is invited and often occurs. And, it is the fearsome responsibility of the congregation to appoint only such men to serve.

COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM

When liberalism gains control of a congregation and prospects for bringing about a change are hopeless, the faithful must **come out from among the liberals**, or else run the risk of actually aiding them and becoming partakers with them. It is sometimes necessary that divisions come, in order that Truth may be upheld. In I Cor. 11:19, Paul wrote: "*For there must be*

also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.” Division is not a bad thing when it results in the support of Truth rather than compromise with error. Sometimes some brethren have such a fear of “division” that they will remain in a situation where error rules, and eventually become contributors to that error. Who could deny that it would be far better for 15 faithful members to separate themselves from 50 members who are in error, and remain faithful, than to continue with the 50 members in error and all become partakers of wrong, whereby all are condemned?

BEGIN ANEW A QUEST FOR TRUTH

It is becoming more and more common to find areas where several congregations exist, and yet not a single one is seriously trying to walk in *“the old paths.”* In some of these congregations there are at least a few who love the truth. What options do they have? They can continue in a situation where the love of truth does not abide, running the risk of succumbing to the prevailing influence. In this case, if one continues to support the situation in a financial way, they become partakers of the evil. Another option is for those who love Truth and the right Way, to band together in a united effort to worship and serve God acceptably, preaching and teaching the true gospel and opposing every false way.

The latter option could mean a few people meeting in someone’s home, an abandoned store building, or some place “across the tracks,” as many brethren did when liberalism captured most of the brethren about the turn of the last century. It could mean the use of a “tent-making” preacher, at least for a time, until there was an increase in numbers.

[EDITOR’S NOTE:] It is always good to read and study sound Bible literature. For that reason, we will, from time to time, list good materials for our readers to acquire and study. The following books and booklets are from the pen of Wayne Coats. He has done extensive research and writing on several doctrinal errors and those propagating them. These materials should be ordered directly from him. The postage for the first pound is \$1.05 and varies for each additional pound. Please check with brother Coats on the appropriate postage.

Wayne Coats

705 Hillview / Mt. Juliet, TN 37122

- A Review of the Shelly-Harris Material on The Second Incarnation60¢
- Rubel’s Rubbish or The Mountain Sermon Mangled by Modernism\$1.00
- How Rubel’s Bloated Wineskins Burst.....75¢
- An Answer of Shelly’s Role on Women\$1.25
- An Answer to Shelly’s Sermon on Solos and Quartets and Choirs\$1.25
- Rubel’s Cube50¢
- Tip Toeing Through the Jubilee.....50¢
- What Did You Say Matthew 18:15-17 Teaches?.....75¢
- How Flatt Flattened the Master’s Mountain Sermon or Playing “Simon Sez” with Shelly\$1.00

If such as the above is not done, it is simply a matter of time until there are whole counties and cities wherein not a single loyal and faithful congregation can be found. Call this being an “alarmist” if you will, but that will not change the facts! There are areas today where liberalism took over a century ago and for the most part still prevails. I’m dead serious when I say the “Bible belt” is becoming a mission area where there is an urgent need for the preaching of the pure and unadulterated gospel.

WILLINGNESS TO SACRIFICE

In order to *“stand fast in the faith”* (I Cor. 16:13), it is sometimes necessary to sacrifice. But true and faithful Christians are sacrificial people. This is easily understood when we consider the fact that the Christian system was built upon the sacrifice of our Savior. The apostle Paul made a far-reaching demand of the Roman Christians when he said, *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a liv-*

ing sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service” (Rom. 12:1).

In the first century, faithful Christians sometimes made the ultimate sacrifice of life itself, as was commanded by our Lord of the church at Smyrna (Rev. 2:10). The likelihood that we will face a like situation today is remote, but if we would be true to the Lord we must be willing to make whatever sacrifice is necessary to

Contributors

- Verona Church of Christ\$100
- Mrs. A. H. Moore.....\$5
- G. K. Tanner.....\$10
- Edward White\$20
- Anonymous.....\$20
- Anonymous.....\$25
- Billy Jack Alexander\$5
- Douglas D. La Course.....\$8
- Seibles Rd. Church of Christ\$100
- Bob Erwin.....\$15
- Whitmore-Carol Lane Church of Christ\$10
- Larry D. Ausborne\$10

remain faithful. That could involve our friends, relatives, and weak and compromising brethren. There is no question but that we must be ready to sacrifice in the area of time, effort, and money. But that is not all, even our jobs, business and livelihood could be affected. The extent to which we are willing to sacrifice is a test of our loyalty to God and of our love for his Truth.

Liberalism has made inroads in many cases simply because brethren were not willing to sacrifice for the cause of Truth. In view of the sacrifices which faithful Christians may be called upon to make, perhaps it would be in order to pose the following question: "Do Christians who are unwilling to sacrifice, even to the fullest when necessary, have a Scriptural basis for entertaining a living hope of an eternal reward in heaven?"

CONCLUSION

We have set forth the foregoing in an effort to alert caring brethren as to the state of things relative to liberalism, and to offer some Scriptural ways of responding to the danger. We have done so with the realization that some may say we are just being **negative**, and **overreacting**. But the observations we have made are based upon valid evidence relating to the past 40 years. The New Testament is replete with warnings relative to the very conditions which exist within the church today. We would do well to heed those warnings, and take appropriate actions to guard against the dangers involved.

Let no one conclude that I believe every member of the church has become a liberal. Though it is a matter of fact that a great many have done so, let God be thanked for those brethren who still love the Truth and are striving with all their might to live by it. Upon these faithful brethren so much depends. In the years to come their influence can mean so much relative to the course which the church will take. But if that influence is to be fully felt for good, it will demand action in speaking out for Truth and opposing every false way. The all-sufficient inspired word of God will provide the faithful with all the needed instructions to "**Fight the good fight of faith**," which is necessary to "**lay hold on eternal life**" (I Tim. 6:12).

Rt. 2 Box 24A
Murray, KY 42071-9506

[**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Brother Pigg publishes a fine paper called **BANNER OF TRUTH**. It is printed once a month and the subscription is free. The article above was printed in the November, 1993, issue of that paper. If you would like to be added to his mailing list, please send your complete name and address to him in Murray, Kentucky.]



"Thank you for the wisdom and knowledge that I receive when I read your S.T.O.P. I read it as often as possible. We here in the Morgan City area that receive this paper are strengthened and aware of all the isms, false brethren and false practices that are

taking place in the Lord's church today. It is so rewarding to know that there are brethren that will stand up for the truth and not give in to error. I hope and pray that you continue to write articles that expose those in error. Keep up the good work. Our prayers are with you always. Thanks goes out to the elders who are doing a fine job in overseeing the work there" ...*Peterson, LA*. "Although I have never seen a copy of your paper, I have heard from a friend that you are putting out a fine paper in defense of the gospel of Christ. Please add me to your mailing list" ...*Red Oak, TX*. "We have read several issues of the paper and appreciate the stand for truth that you take" ...*Sheridan, WY*. "Enjoy the paper very much" ...*Baker, FL*. "Thank you very much for the fine work you do. God bless the elders and the church at East Corinth for the work they are doing" ...*Trezevant, TN*. "Enclosed is my personal check to help in the producing and mailing of S.T.O.P. I appreciate receiving it and want to see it continue. Your stand for the truth is so sorely needed in these troublesome times in the brotherhood. Keep up the good work" ...*Belton, SC*. "Keep up the outstanding job you're doing of calling on the mat those who see fit to preach error" ...*Franklinton, LA*. "Thank you so much for sending me S.T.O.P. I am thankful for the church there and for your love for truth. Keep up the good work" ...*Louisville, MS*. "I appreciate your obvious love for the truth and your concern for its defense! I am thankful to receive S.T.O.P.! It is always timely and well-done. Thanks for all you are doing" ...*Truman, AR*.

Seek The Old Paths is a monthly publication of the East Corinth Church of Christ and is under the oversight of its elders. It is mailed FREE upon request. Its primary purpose and goal in publication can be found in Jude 3; II Timothy 4:2; Titus 1:13; Titus 2:1; II Peter 1:12. All mail received may be published unless otherwise noted. Articles are also welcomed.

Editor: **Garland M. Robinson**
Associate Editor: **Jimmy Bates**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
P A I D
Permit No. 253
Corinth, MS

EAST CORINTH CHURCH OF CHRIST
1801 CRUISE ST.
CORINTH, MS 38834-5108

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

