IT IS WRITTEN

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EDITORS

COY GARRISON ..... 533 S. Center St., Grand Prairie, Texas
L. E. ATCHLEY ..... 625 Happy Valley, Carlsbad, New Mexico

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THE WILL OF OUR LORD

After our Savior had instituted his memorial and before he was betrayed into wicked hands, he went out to the Mt. of Olives, where in those agonizing moments he prayed, "FATHER, IF THOU BE WILLING REMOVE THIS CUP FROM ME: NEVERTHELESS NOT MY WILL, BUT THINE BE DONE." Luke 22:42. Those are words we should give serious thought to. We see in the pure and unselfish disposition of our Savior, who sought not glory for himself, but only to do the will of the FATHER who sent him. Jno. 6:38. Why is it that we cannot have the same unselfish mind, in our service to our Lord? In Matt. 7:21 we read, "Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day LORD, LORD, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils, and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, depart from me ye that work iniquity." Today, we have those conditions that were foretold by Jesus. On every hand, we hear people saying LORD, LORD, preaching loud and long in his name, and doing many wonderful works. But our Lord will say, depart from me for I have never known you. Who then will enter the kingdom of heaven? He that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. So we can see, that whatever we do, it must be in obedience to the Father's will. We should say as our Savior said, Father, not my will, but thine be done. WHAT IS THE FATHER'S WILL? Jno. 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." In Heb. 1:1,2, we learn that in these last days God speaks to us by his Son, whom he has appointed heir over all things. In Eph. 1:23 we find him set at the right hand of God, with all things put under his feet, and head over all things to the church, which is his body. In Matt.

28:18,20, "All power is given to me in heaven and earth, Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I command you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even to the end of the world." Thus we can see, God sent his Son to finish his work, appointed him heir of all things, gave him all authority; henceforth we must look to Christ, as the author and the finisher of our faith. Heb. 12:2.

Therefore we should learn all things commanded, and observe all things he commands. We learn to do so, by the study of his word, which was written by his Apostles. "God is long suffering to usward, not willing that any man should perish, but that all should come to repentance." II Pet. 3:9. In Romans 12:2, God's word and plan is spoken of as that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God. Nothing can be added to it nor taken away. It is much better to say Father, not my will, but thine be done. But we see folks in many ways, pretending to serve God after their own will. Many fail to be accepted as children of God, because they refuse Baptism for the remission of sins. Others become children of God, but do many things not authorized by our Lord. We see them using instruments of music to praise God, but Paul said, "Singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord," Eph. 5:19, and again I Cor. 14:15, "Sing with the spirit, and sing with the understanding." Then too, we find them dividing the assembly into classes, using women teachers. Paul said, I Cor. 14:31,34, "For ye may all prophesy one by one that all may learn, and all may be comforted, and let your women keep silence in the churches, for it is not permitted unto them to speak."

They add to the divine pattern shown by the Savior by placing a plurality of drinking vessels on the table, in their mock service to him. Others fail to follow the example by not breaking the bread, as our Savior did in preparing it to be his body, "which is broken for you." I Cor. 11:24. All thinking believers know the truth about this. Some go to the Law of Moses to contend for strong wine in the cup, but Christ said, "fruit of the vine." These and many other things are done in opposition to our Lord's will. But we are to observe all things, as Jesus commanded. May we keep in our minds the words of our Savior, "Father, not my will, but thine be done."

Submitted in the spirit of Love,

W. R. Farrar, Rt. 2, Carter, Okla.

The question has been asked me by the editor of The FOOT PRINTS OF TIME, If one breaks bread for all members, does it follow that he must break it in as many pieces as there are members to eat? So I would be glad to answer this question through *IT IS WRITTEN*, and say NO—Answer, The one at the table could break the bread once for all, once for each member, separately for

each one partaking. Heb. 10:10. CHRIST DIED FOR ALL, I Tim. 2; CHRIST GAVE HIMSELF A RANSOM FOR ALL, Rom. 1:8; PAUL THANKED GOD, THROUGH CHRIST FOR ALL. Seeing this Scripture is plain, WHY COULD NOT CHRIST HAVE BROKEN BREAD FOR ALL? Another Brother asks this question, How could it have been the Lord's supper if Christ did not partake of the bread and drink of the fruit of the vine? The answer: If I prepare a supper at my house, it is mine. I bought and furnished everything. Was it not mine if I did not eat? Did it not belong to me? Suppose I was intending to go away for a while and ask them to keep this in memory of me, was it not mine? Certainly it was mine. Christ instituted his supper. He prepared it in the way it pleased him. HE TOOK BREAD AND BLESSED IT AND BRAKE IT AND GAVE IT TO HIS DISCIPLES AND SAID, THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS BROKEN FOR YOU, do this in memory of me. We will say, I own a few houses, are they not mine if I should not live in one of them? Suppose I make a will to my family, would I have to make a separate will for each and every member of my family? Surely anyone can see I could make a will for each one of the family, or I could make a will for all members of the family. Would it not be right and equal? Brethren, Christ took the bread, and blessed it and brake it, and said, This is my body which is BROKEN for you. IT WAS NOT HIS BROKEN BODY UNTIL CHRIST BROKE IT, that made it his broken body and if you say it must be broken again, that makes his body broken twice, or if broken fifty times, then it is broken fifty times. Brethren, why not take the bread and do as Christ did. To do otherwise causes divisions, and God said that the man that causes divisions is abomination to God.

Written in love of the truth,

R. C. Clements, Box 721, Broken Bow, Okla.

TEACHING

Because of previous plans I have written concerning two items of the worship on Lord's day; prayer, and singing, of which were short articles, not to take too much space.

We now come to the teaching, of which there has been, and is yet much confusion as to who, where, and when the teaching is to be done. This question has caused much confusion, and many congregations have been divdied. The division has not been caused by what the Scriptures teach in regard to the subject, but by what it does not teach. Teaching is the one way that God has, in order that we may know the things we should do to INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE.

We find that there are three ways that we may teach. First by precept; second by example; third by inference. By precept, the word is spoken. By example, the things are done. By infer-

ence, a conclusion is reached. Inference should never be bound on the church, for in this the conclusion could be wrong. But things by precept and example should be done as the Word teaches, or the example demonstrates. There is teaching to be done by every member of the church, both by precept, and example. There are only two places for teaching. One public and the other private, as we know that these conditions differ one from the other.

We read in Matt. 28:18,20, after Jesus was raised from the dead, he gave the commission to the apostles. He said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost." That is the teaching to the alien sinner. Verse 20, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." We see there is a teaching to the church also. Now who should teach publicly? Christ selected the apostles to begin the preaching or teaching of the Gospel. They were all men, and we see on Pentecost, that the twelve were present and they all spoke the Gospel. This was public. We read all through the Acts of the Apostles, of the teaching of the apostles and some evangelists that had been instructed by the apostles. We also read in Acts 20:20 that Paul taught, "both publicly, and from house to house." But says one, the Scripture does not say how, and rely on Matt. 28:19, that it says go, but does not say how to go, and says teach and does not say how to teach. Neither does it say what to teach. So if we would just stop and think about it; by the reasoning of some, we could teach any thing we might desire. But say some, we are to teach the Gospel. It don't say in that passage what to teach. Oh, says one, in Mark 16:15, it says to preach the Gospel; now that is fine and right, but they forget that the same rule that permits us to find what to teach, also permits us to find how to teach. Let us see I Cor. 14:31. The teaching is to be done by one speaking at a time, and that, a prophet (a man). So we see how it is to be done. Paul told Timothy, "the things he had heard of him, to commit to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also". (II Tim. 2:2.) So we see that the public teaching belongs to man, and at any time and place where time and opportunity permits. See II Tim. 4:2. Oh, says one, what about the woman, is she not also commanded to teach? Yes, she is commanded to teach. She has a place to teach, and if she teaches the ones she is commanded to teach, she does a great work, and God will bless her. Paul, in exhorting the church at Corinth, commanded the woman to keep silence in the church. (The assembly) which is public. I Cor. 14:34; I Tim. 2:11,12. Since the woman is commanded to keep silent in the public teaching, she will do well to obey that command. But, say some, don't you believe that a sister could conduct the service on Lord's day, if no men were present? Let us reason this way, if the Lord's day service is the church, assembled, it is public, and she violates the law of God if she takes over the service. (I Cor. 14:34.) If it is not the church, God will not tolerate it, because it

is not the church. The reason I do not believe the woman can scripturally conduct the service, regardless if men are present or not present, is that "faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." I fail to find anywhere that such act is mentioned in the Word of God. Rom. 10:17; also Rom. 14:23, teaches, "that which is not of faith is sin." Since the word of God does not teach it, it could not be faith in God.

I shall close this article for the present. Much more could be said in regards to teaching. Submitted in love,

E. H. Cavin, 12560 E. Persing Dr., Whittier, Calif.

UNITY OF THE SPIRIT

There is much said about unity, but the majority of those who talk most of unity seem to miss the most vital point, and even teach and practice things that destroy unity. In Eph. 4:3 Paul said, to keep the unity of the spirit. We could have union and be far from unity of the spirit. In Jno. 6:63 Jesus said, "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." We cannot have unity of the spirit, unless we have unity of the word, and when we have unity of the word, we have unity of the spirit. Also, in Matt. 16:13,17, Jesus asked his disciples two questions. Number One: "Whom do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" The answer was, "Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets." That was man's wisdom or thoughts, and were divided; no unity of the spirit there. Question Number Two: "But whom say ye, (the disciples) that I am?" Answer by Peter, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." None of the other eleven disciples challenged Peter's statement, and by their silence, gave their approval to the statement; hence they had unity of spirit. But suppose we let Christ tell us why they had unity of the spirit. When Peter confessed, "Thou are the Christ, the Son of the living God," Jesus said, "Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee. But my Father which is in Heaven." The disciples accepted what was revealed from God, and thereby had unity of the spirit. Man accepted what was revealed from earthly wisdom, and was divided. We too, can have unity of the spirit, by accepting what God has revealed to us, NO MORE OR NO LESS.

Now let us notice a case of division among the Corinthian Brethren: I Cor. 1:12, they were saying, "I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ." In the last of verse 11, Paul told them there were contentions among them, and he rebuked them by way of the question, "Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?" So we see again the wisdom or thoughts of man causes division; and we cannot have unity of the spirit and be divided. Now one might say, How do you know that was man's wisdom? We will let Paul tell us. I Cor. 3:1,4, Paul said he couldn't speak unto them

as unto spiritual, that they were yet carnal and walked as men. Verse 4: "For while one sayeth, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?" That should be clear enough for everyone to see that man's wisdom or thoughts, is what destroys unity of the spirit.

Now let us see how God compares our ways and thoughts with his. Isaiah 55:8,9, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." That should be sufficient for every one to see that God's ways and thoughts are so much superior to that of man, that man's ways and thoughts could not be used and have unity of the spirit, except man gets his ways and thoughts from what God has revealed to him through his Holy Word. Amos 3:3, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" Since God's ways and thoughts are so superior to ours, we must agree with God if we walk with God. Then and not until then, will we have unity of the spirit.

Some of man's thoughts as they appear today are: Sunday school, women teachers, instrumental music in the worship, passing the bread of the communion out to the assembly without breaking it so that it appears broken, plurality of cups in the communion service. None of the above mentioned practices are authorized in God's word, and are man's ways and thoughts, which are destroying the unity of the spirit.

John 17:20,21, "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they may all be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." Let us lay aside every thought of man, and accept only what God has revealed to us, and then we will have the unity Jesus prayed for; and we will be doing our part in convincing the world that God sent His son.

May the Brethren come to the unity of John 17:20,21, is my prayer. Written in love of the truth.

Yours in Christ, W. E. Daniels, Ozone, Ark.

THINK IT OVER

Brother Francis came by to see me from his work with the faithful at Eugene, and of course we had a wonderful time. During our conversation he told me that he and Brother Spurlin were going to try to help the few faithful in Oklahoma City to get on a better working basis with a good old gospel meeting. Our boys here decided we wanted to have fellowship with these brethren in this noble effort. The thing now is, who else wants to help this noble effort go over as it should? And say, brethren, why not make these efforts a habit? Just keep on keeping on. I know of several places where there are isolated members that would be

a good starting place. Just the other day, wife and I got a letter from Sister Bradberry at Sacramento, Calif. She had been going ninety miles to church, and wanted to know of a closer place. Brethren, it is a shame if we do not heed such calls from people like this. Brother Francis has the ability to defend the truth anywhere and is ready and willing to go. Let's help him to go. We have other fine brethren who I believe would go; let's get behind them as fast as we can make the arrangements, and shake the forces of error from center to circumference. Let us not forget the great commission, and "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," by fellowshiping those noble souls who are ready to go with our finance, whether little or much.

Brethren, don't all wait for someone else to move; let's all move at once—"NOW." Souls are passing into eternity; and if today were the end of the world would we be satisfied with out present efforts? THINK IT OVER and may God bless us to do our duty as it is in his Holy Word, is my prayer. Yours for quick action to do our duty in this ministration.

J. S. Bedingfield, Rt. 1, Box 100, Cave Junction, Ore.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

DEPARTED THIS LIFE

A letter from Bro. Farrar about the first of April bringing the sad news of the passing from this life of Sister Hiatt of Reydon, Oklahoma. Sister Hiatt is the mother of Sister Spurlin. Having lived in the vicinity of Reydon, and attended services there, my wife and I learned to love Sister Hiatt, as well as Bro. and Sister Spurlin, because of their untiring effort in the Lord's work. Sister Hiatt has visited in our home many times and always enjoyed talking on the Bible and our duty as Christians. Our greatest sympathy goes to Bro. and Sister Spurlin and relatives in this time of sorrow. But now let us look to the brighter side. John said in Rev., "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord." L.E.A.

Dear. Brother Atchley:

Please find enclosed check for support of the paper. Brother G. Earl McCay held a two-week meeting for us the first of February. We found him to be a well posted preacher and enjoyed his well prepared sermons, as they were all true teachings of the New Testament. The results were one family saw the truth and came out from the Sunday School group. No doubt other good was accomplished that will show visible results in the future. We have fourteen members at present, meeting at Fifth and Grant

Streets in Sunnyside, Washington. Be glad to have you come worship with us on Lord's Day if you should be in this country. for us. Christian love.

Church of Christ, Eulon L. Taylor,
Rt. 1, Box 303, Sunnyside, Washington

Dear Brother Atchley:

Received your card and glad to hear that you are well. Thanks to the Lord we are well. I am very glad to see *IT IS WRITTEN* expanding, and the interest brethren are showing in it. I would like to have you write a lesson on unity.

Your bro. in Christ, Stanley Niemczyk,
737 Findlay Ave., Los Angeles 22, Calif.

Since receiving Bro. Niemczyk's letter an article came from Bro. Daniels on unity, so I'll not write on this at present.—L.E.A.

Bro. Stringham writes me that he has written and has on hand several tracts which he will gladly send to anyone who would like to have them. The only charge is the postage. He has two on the communion, one on baptism, and one on the law or the Gospel. Send your order and postage to F. H. Stringham, 213 N. McPherson, LaHabra, Calif.

Since our last report, we have received and are very thankful for the contributions supporting *IT IS WRITTEN* from the following Brethren and Churches: R. C. Clements, Broken Bow, Okla.; Albert L. Shaw, Indiana, Pa.; Mrs. Earl H. Williams, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Stanley Niemczyk, LaHabra, Calif.; the churches of Somerton, Ariz.; Sunnyside, Wash., and LaHabra, Calif.

Dear Brethren:

Received letters of encouragement from Brethren, Earl Williams of Oklahoma City, Bro. Clements of Broken Bow, Okla., also from Bro. W. R. Farrar of the Elk City, Okla. congregation, also from my very close friend of Elk City, Bro. A. H. Howell. Brethren, these are letters of which we are proud. We are thankful that the church has men who are able to stand against all error that is published, and is being taught. These men, with others I know, are men who are content with the Scriptures as is written. Thank you all for your word of encouragement, and for your help and support.

Yours in Christ, Coy Garrison