IT IS WRITTEN

EDITOR

COY GARRISON.....533 S. Center St., Grand Prairie, Texas

NOVEMBER, 1952

(Pressing Forward)

Phil. 3:12-14, "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus." Brethren, I count myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

It is a law of nature that no living thing ever is still. That is true in both the vegetable and the animal kingdom. When a tree ceases to grow, then it begins to deterioate. So in cutting timber for lumber they wish to get it when it is just prime. So also in the animal kingdom.

The rule holds true in religion. There is no standing still for a Christian. We will either, Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ," or we will start backward. When a man ceases to study he will begin to forget.

The word, "Press", carries the idea of extra energy put forth. If I am in a crowd and trying to reach a certain place, I may have to shove something aside to attain my end. When pressing toward the final goal I may have to push aside the"Cares of life, the deceitfulness of riches and the pleasures of the world."

Now what is the MARK toward which we are to press? It is the perfection Paul mentions in the first sentence which I quoted. "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in haaven is perfect." (Matt. 5:48).

As Christ was made perfect through suffering, we too will have to suffer to gain that perfection. The last suffering MAY be the "pangs of death". We do not know because we are not told.

In order to gain perfection we must be guided by perfection. "But who so looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." The New Testament is a perfect guide. But if we add to or take from

perfection, it ceases to be perfect. All Brethren know this.

Why then will they add to by doing what the new testament does not teach, or take from by failing to do what it does teach?

The promise of a blessing is to those who CONTINUE in the perfect law. The great majority of professed Christians are not continuing in that law but have made a law of MEN'S opinions. It is more popular to follow oppinions but when the final accounting is made we will forget about popularity and wish ONLY for the approval of the great Judge. We may have that approval, brethren, if we are faithful. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." (Rev. 2:10).

So let us continue to work and worship as we are taught in the Word and do as much as possible to lead others from error into the light of the Gospel.

G. Earl McCay, 743 G. St., Springfield, Ore.



(The Gospel of Christ)

"Only let your conversation be as it becometh the GOSPEL, of Christ". Phil. 1:27. The above Scripture is miserbly violated; Paul had a reason for giving that command, hear him, in the rest of the verse; That whether I come and see you or else be absent I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with ONE mind striving together for the faith of the gospel."

Who would dare to affirm those Scriptures were not disobeyed, when some have Sunday School which they can't read in the Gospel of Christ?

The plurality of cups in the communion service cannot be found in the Gospel of Christ. No where in the Gospel of Christ do we find authority for women teachers, nowhere in the Gospel of Christ do we find authority for instrumental music, in the service of our Lord, no where in the Gospel of Christ can we read where Christ broke off a piece of the Bread and ate it before passing it to the assembled Disciples when he instituted the Communion service.

With all those practices not in the Gospel of Christ, could anyone say HIS or THEIR conversation was only as becometh the Gospel of Christ? Can all of those different theories that are taught and practiced by different groups of people be of one mind? Is that striving together for the faith of the Gospel?

I say NO, it is preventing the Gospel of Christ, as in Gal. 1:7. We better be careful, Christ is coming one of these days and HE is coming to take vengence on those that obey not the Gospel of our Lord. 2 Thes. 1:8, "But my God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Phil. 4:19, "Where has God supplied, the Practices mentioned above, by Christ Jesus?" And since he hasn't supplied them by Christ Jesus we don't

need them.

Paul said he would not dare to speak of any of these things which Christ had not wrought by him, to make the gentiles obedient by word or deed, Rom. 15:18.

"Brethren let us be of one mind and strive together for the faith of the Gospel and not strive by dividing, and let our conversation be as only becometh the Gospel of Christ", Phil. 1:27.

Jesus in Mark. 3:24, said, "A kingdom divided against itself, cannot stand." A house divided against itself cannot stand. The above things mentioned are dividing the Church. Can it stand?

If we all strive together for the faith of the Gospel there will be no division, in the house of God.

Yours in Christ,
W. E. Daniels, Broken Bow, Oklahoma

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(Unity)

There is no unity as long as there is division in the Church, Who ever causes division is guilty of SIN, sin is A transgression of God's Law. There is no love in division, it is all sin.

Christ is not there in division. When the Church is divided, it is sinful. It has got to get right before God will bless it, no sin will ever enter heaven, sin will meet condemnation at the Judgment.

When man adds to the Church of Christ anything that he cannot read in God's word he has sinned, when man puts something in the Church of Christ it is no longer Christ's Church, but Man's Church, Man has defiled it.

Brethren why will some advocate things in the church that he cannot read, and has no authority for? Why will some take chances on losing our home in heaven?

2 Tim. 3:16-17, tells us that the scriptures furnish a man of God unto all good works. If it does, how can some claim that Music, Sunday School, women teachers, Cups, in the communion, and this teaching that Christ broke off a piece of bread and ate it, when he instituted the communion and strong drink in the communion, be of God?

When there is no such doctrine taught in the New Testament either by the Father or Christ or the Holy Spirit, nor the Apostles, why don't the Church lay such down, and speak where the Bible speaks, and keep silent where it is silent?

I can't see how any man can think that he speaks where the Bible speaks, and advocates such.

Brethren, why not quit such doctrine? Why will anyone add things of this kind to the Church, and divide it?

The scripture tells us to mark them that cause division, Rom. 16:17, and Prov. 6:19, "He that soweth discord among the brethren, is an abomin-

ation to God," and any Bible reader knows that those things mentioned above has been sown by man, NOT GOD, and has the stamp of condemnation on them.

They are not of God but man, I was asked out in West Texas a few days ago what to do in case that there is no Church to go to, should we go and partake with them? My answer, is No.

Why did I tell them that? Because God's word tells us that they have a form of Godliness, but denying the power thereof from such turn away, and that they are not of us, 1 John 2:19 and 2 Tim. 3:5.

Brethren, that is enough scripture to convince any child of God that you cannot partake with such Churches. It is a sin to take such chances. It is upholding division in the Churches of Christ.

These things are making Infidels of the people causing the Church to suffer persecutions, almost unbearable. It is discouraging brethren and sisters every where, and such will have to give an account in the day of Judgment.

Then why not all return to the one faith and all be one, and work for unity, and strive to that end? May God help us all to be more sincere, in the future than in the past.

In Love of the truth,

R. C. Clements, B. B., Okla. Bx 731

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(Who Received the Holy Spirit)

As we wrote on this subject before and didn't cover all there was to be said on it will try to finish it in this article. Now in Mark 16:17-18-19, we notice that there were somethings mentioned that someone was to do in the future because it said those signs shall follow them that believe.

But we have many good people that have been made to believe that Christ meant that all that believed even to us to-day should do those things. But we find in Acts 2, that it was the Apostles that spoke with tongues, also in Acts 1:4-14, that it was the Apostles that he told to wait for the promise of the father, also all those that spoke were from Galilee.

In the second chapter, also in the remainder of the Book of Acts, it was their word that was confirmed with those signs, and wonders. No where did God confirm anyone else's word. So how could it be that God will confirm our word to-day and wouldn't those of that day, except apostles? Do we need the word confirmed, to-day?

No, for we have the perfect law, of liberty, and if anything is perfect we need no further perfection, James 1:21. Well, some think that James 5:14-17, is an example of this power. Let us notice that for a few minutes.

We find there that "if any is merry, let him sing, if any is sick let him call for the elders of the Church and let them Pray over him, annointing

him with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith shall save the sick and GOD will raise him up and if he has committed sins they shall be forgiven him."

Now, friends, let us look at that again, and ask who is the Savior? For it said save the sick, not heal, the sick. So who came into the world to save sinners? Christ was the one that came to save, and if the sick is to be saved Christ will do the saving.

But the sick will have to do his will in order to be saved, for there is a difference between save, and heal. No where has Christ promised to us today to heal this fleshly body, but he has promised to save our soul if we obey him, Heb. 5:8-9.

The Spirit of man is all that is divine of man, and if there ever was any divine healing it would have to be the spirit of man that was healed, not the flesh. Now for the oil that was used to annoint them with, let us ask, what oil is it that keeps the child of God going? What oil is it that keeps him shining as a light to the world? Is it not the word of God?

And if it is then would not this, the word of God, have had to been used to save the sick, when it, the WORD, is the Power of God to salvation, and no other? Rom. 1:16-1, Cor. 15:1-2-3.

So hoping that this will help others to see the way, I remain a brother in Christ, and a friend to those in need of the truth.

—L. T.

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(The Destruction of the World)

(Continued from October Issue)

a new earth for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away, and there was no more sea. Now Rev. 20, and I saw a great white thorne and Him that sat on it from whose face the heavens and the earth fled away and there was found no place for them, the old heaven and earth will be burned up, where will be the new heaven and earth? Rev. 21-2-3, and I John saw the Holy City New Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven prepared as a bride adorned for her husband and I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them and they shall be his people, and God Himself shall dwell with them, and be their God. Now we were to meet the Lord in air and ever be with him, so the new heaven and earth must be in the air and not in Palistine, as some would have us think. It is up to us to prepare to meet the Lord, and God shall wipe away all tears from our eyes and there shall be no more death neither sorrow for the former things have passed away. Rev. 21-4, now these words are spirit and life, and the spirit and the bride say come and let him that heareth come, the Word said, He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved Mark 16-16. Acts

2-38, said be baptized for the remission of sins, not because your sins have been remitted but for, in order to have your sins remitted, Matt 11-28, Christ said COME unto me and I will give you rest, take my yoke upon you and learn of me. Now Christ wants us all to be saved the way of salvation is easy and his burdens is light. Now Christ stands at the door and knocks and is always ready to come into our hearts when we obey His voice. His plan of salvation Acts 22-16. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ has put on Chirst. Gal. 3-27, now we must live a good clean life and study God, a word rightly dividing the word of truth, and not forsake the assembly on the first day of the week, to break bread, and also to lay by in store as God has prospered us we should visit the sick and pray for those folks that despitefully use us. We should not be easy to get offended, and be longsuffering for the Cause of Christ. For it is God that setteth upon the circle of the earth.

Yours in Christ,

Willie Doan, Broken Bow, Okla,, Rt. 1, Box 51 A

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Myrtle Creek, Oregon
September 8, 1952

Dear Brother Garrison:

Enclosed, you find small donation to IT IS WRITTEN. Keep up the good work. We have a good old Brother here preaching for us from Oklahoma in the home of Bro. Willard Step's house at Riddle, Ore., which is but 10 miles from Myrtle Creek. Bro. Buckner is doing his best here. All who might be passing through Mrytle Creek and will are welcome to hear the Gospel preached. We certainly would welcome you. Written in love of the truth from the small church at Myrtle Creek and Riddle. We thank you for the paper.

Bro. Odis Stepp and the brethren and Bro. Buckner

Thank you Bro. Stepp for the contribution, and we hope the church there will continue to grow, and that the Lord may bless every effort for good.

—C. G.

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Albuquerque, New Mexico
September 16, 1952

Dear Brethren:

For sometime I have been getting IT IS WRITTEN. Would you kindly

send it to me at my new address 404 47 St. Albuquerque, New, Mexico.

Thank you very much,
F. W. Landes.

Mr. Landes, we are glad to send you the paper and if you can distribute it to others, we shall be happy to mail you several. Thank you for your good card.

—C. G.

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Riddle, Oregon
Rt. 1, Box 9a
September 6, 1952

Dear Brother Garrison:

I have written a tract in a few words, will you publish it in IT IS WRITTEN? Enclosed you will find one dollar for the paper.

Taylor H. Buckner

Thank you Bro. Buckner. Yes we will be glad to print your good article and we thank you very much for the donation.

—C. G.

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Kerby, Oregon
September 15, 1952

Dear Brother Garrison:

Have enjoyed the many good articles in IT IS WRITTEN which we receive through Bro. Bedingfield. Enclosed you will find check for the paper from the Church of Christ, Cave Junction, Ore. We hope to send this much regularly.

Yours in Christ,

H. L. Brown, Kerby, Ore.

Bro. Brown, we thank you a lot for the contribution, and we hope that the paper shall continue by the help of the brethren everywhere. Tell Bro. Bedingfield we would like to have an article from him sometime.

—C. G.

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Received a check from the church at Carlsbad, New Mexico. We would appreciate hearing from the church there at any time. Thanks.

—C. G.

Dear Brethren in Christ:

I will write a few lines to IT IS WRITTEN. The doctor released me from the hospital, Septmber 3rd. I am improved but not healed. But will have to wait and see what progress I have made. I have lost out on the paper as I thought it had been dropped, but come home and found it was still in circulation. The Church at Lahabra is doing fine. I approve of Bro. Atchleys statement that all places of worship should be reported at least every sixty days, that members passing through could have a place to stop and worship. I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone that helped in a financial way while I was in the hospital it sure lifted a great burden may God bless all for their help in time of need.

Yours in Christ

E. H. Cavin, 6036 McNess, Ave.,

Whittier, Calif.

Thank you Bro. Cavin and may you be restored to health soon.
—L. T.

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The Church at Stillwell, Okla., located near the Honey Hill school house out in the country from Stillwell sends in support for the paper.

Thanks to all for their support so we can keep up the good work.
—L. T.

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The church at Broken Bow and also Bro. Nelson at Somerton, gave their support to the paper. May we say thanks to them and all that helps in this work.

—L. T.