PREACH THE WORD

2 TIM. 4:2

LLOYD TREAT, EDITOR

Rt. 2, Box 135 Broken Bow, Okla.

GOOD PEOPLE

The most popular concept in the land is that all people are good people. In some respects this is so. Let us look at it this way, some are good but no good, they are people that are called criminals, they disobey the laws of the land, in such ways that they become no good, neither to themselves nor to the people around them, Rom. 13:1, they become indifferent to the people around them and their needs, they are self-centered, 2Tim. 3:5, having a form of Godliness but denying the power thereof, they expect to get by without making a contribution to society, they think the world owes them a living, 1 Thes. 4:11, 2 Thes. 3:10.

Some are good but good for what? They do no harm in a positive way, but if the Church had to depend on them it would not be long till there would be no Church, neither are they a blessing to the community in which they live, they will not visit the sick, nor aid the suffering, they live in a little world that revolves around them and their's, and they need to learn that life has positive duties as well as negative, Matt. 7:12 and 22:37-39. Phil. 2:4, we are not to look on the things of ourselves but on the things of others, the one talent man in Matt. 25:24-30 was held responsible for the things he did not do as was the five talent man for the things that he did do. The foolish virgins in another parable was condemned for what they did not do, Matt. 25:1-12. They could not enter because they had not made ready, the subject of doing for others will come up at the judgement, Matt. 25:41-46, Rom. 14:10, some are good to be seen of men, Matt. 6:1-16 and 23:5-14-27; they were condemned because they wanted to be seen of men, they wanted men to think that they were better than they were, they did not want to be like other men, they wanted to impress upon the mind of others that they were better than most men. These are men that are good in their own mind, Lk. 18:9-14, this attitude makes the person his own God with his or her own standard, Jer. 10:23, they think that they can direct their own way. Some are good morally, good neighbors, and good to the people around them and do many helpful things, but they have no hope of eternal life because they have not obeyed the Gospel, Rom. 1:16, have not obeyed Christ, Heb. 5:8-9, and are not in the one body, Eph.

5:16, 5:23, and some are good, for the cause of Christ, good to attend services, Acts 20:7, Heb. 10:25, good to work for the Lord, Phil. 2:12, Jam. 2:18, some are good to give for the cause of Christ, 1 Cor. 16:1-2, 2 Cor. 8:1-5, they are a good example in their living, 1 Cor. 11:1, they have good influence, Matt. 13:33, Rev. 14:13, therefore many people will be condemned, not because they were not good people,but for other reasons. Jesus taught this so plainly in many of the parables like the great supper, Lk. 14:16-25, they were condemned not because they were what we call bad people, but because they refused to come to the supper, and Jesus said, "and ye will not come to me that ye might live.", Jno. 5:40 and 14:6.

The two sons, Matt. 21:28-32, the boy was condemned because he said he would work, and did not. Good intentions will not supply our need, just like the Pharisees, Matt. 23:3. The sower, Matt. 13:18-23, sowed good seed but the wayside hearer allowed satan to snatch the word out of his heart. The stony ground hearer was offended by tribulation, could not stand the trying of his faith the thorney ground was deceived by the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches, they were condemned not because they were bad people but because they did not bring forth fruit, Matt. 3:8. The one talent man was condemned because he hid his talent, Matt. 25:14-30, the unjust steward wasted his master's goods, Lk. 16:1-12, the rich fool in laying up treasures for himself failed to make ready for the hereafter, Lk. 12:15-21, the pharesee was condemned because he was not humble, Lk. 18:9-14, the foolish virgins were condemned

because they did not make enough preparations, Matt. 25:1-3, this will condemn many at the judgement. We think we are doing all we can but then if we look at the things we do that are not necessary, neither to this life nor the life hereafter, then we will begin to see that we will come up short when we meet God.

THE EDITOR

CHURCH NEWS

We have received a letter from the brethern at Modesto, Calif. and they are doing very well. They have had a lot of sickness this year and so far they are the only ones that have sent in their support. We commend you on this. There are others that should help out but it looks like that the word of God has not taken effect, and all I can say to you now is that you will have to answer to God, not me, for the way you strive to keep the word of God alive in this wicked generation. So think on these things.

We have a letter from the brethern at Lorenzo, Texas, and the church there is about as usual. A couple moved there and started worshiping with them of which they are thankful. Anyone passing through stop over and meet with those fine people. They meet at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Lord's Day. Stop and visit with them in their home, the Church of Christ, Lorenzo, Texas.

The Church of Christ located on Idabel and West Third Streets in Broken Bow, Okla., extends a cordial welcome to all. Stop with us. Willie Doan and Lloyd Treat, alternate speakers.