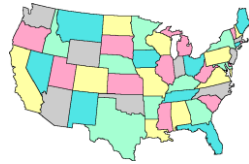




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**"For we are labourers together with God" (I Cor. 3:9)**



*Whither We Goest, Thou Goest: By Your Prayers And Financial Support*



**Greetings.** We hope all are well and things going fine with the church there. Sandy and I are both well except for some minor back pains. The gospel meeting ended on a good note. Some of the members who do not normally attend all services were present for the entire meeting. This was an encouragement to us.

I want to pass on some things to you all that I hope will **encourage you** – I think some things need to be mentioned from the pulpit and in greater detail than I do here. Following, I want to give some very brief **church insights:**

**Jesus is compassionate and set the example** for us while on earth. We need to be compassionate people. Yes I know, many will take advantage of our compassion, but that is their problem! It is our problem if we are not compassionate. After a great calamity is a special time to extend even greater compassion on people (by helping). It might help to try and put ourselves in their shoes. How would we like others to treat us in such cases? As Sandy and I went through the communities that were hit hard by the tornado we found very good attitudes. We told one young couple to be sure and go by the church building to get what they needed, but she replied that they would not feel right in doing so because many others may need it worse than them. They totally lost their house, etc.! I would like to say more, but I will end this by saying unfortunately some of the church were not very compassionate. Let us all ask: Are we truly Christian lights – reflectors of that glorious light? What image are we setting in the minds of the public of the church that Jesus built?

**Unfriendly “Christians:”** We visit quite a few congregations and sad to say, some congregations are not very friendly. If we were from their communities we would not visit again because of not being made welcome. Only eternity will tell how many have not returned to the church because of not feeling welcome. Let us all try a little harder in this area.

**Church division, and the power of a word:** As we traveled on northward we visited with a congregation of about 15 on a Sunday morning. After services, driving down the road (about a mile) we noticed a sign in front of a house stating the Church of Christ meets here, etc. So, we decided to visit there in the evening. After evening services I had the opportunity to address the whole congregation, I mentioned to them about unity and the seriousness of it because of their close proximity to the other congregation. It seemed obvious there had been a split. I told them they need to do all they can to work out the differences without compromising truth. Later I told Sandy I felt bad for saying anything, but the next day I got an email from one of the members there who said he was going to do all he could to restore the unity.

**We were “tarred and feathered,”** err rather tarred and graveled on our way north – thanks to our tax dollars! We ran into some road work and they had just put down hot tar and gravel. This cost us a whole day and a lot of elbow grease. We are thankful that we were able to get the tar off – *Rainex* bug/tar removal helped.

**Our camping conditions are not the best** and personally we hate being in campgrounds – especially some, but it goes with the work. Right now we are on “Beer Belly Lane,” a lane of the campground we are in. Even finding campgrounds near where we want to go can be difficult, let alone one suitable. It sure is a relief when we get to stay in the church’s lot when they have hook-ups, but not many do.

We received an email a few days ago from the elderly couple we helped after the tornado. It was good to hear from them and to know they have gotten moved out west safely.

**We are so thankful for your compassion and generous support of us and the work,** both financially and by prayers. You make a big difference.

In His Service,  
Perry & Sandy

{P.S. See note on back or below}



OUR GOSPEL MEETING IS ALMOST HISTORY

This year's gospel meeting is almost finished. It has been a productive meeting in many ways. Brother Sexton has done an outstanding job in presenting the gospel message. The old Jerusalem gospel still rings true. At the time of publication one precious soul has responded to the Lord's invitation. Sister Ruth Brown confessed negligence in attending the services of the church. We commend her for her determination to strive to do better. There are obviously others who need to make the same confession, repent of their negligence, and strive to make this a better and more productive congregation. There are some who need to be baptized for the remission of their sins.

Perry and Sandy have done a magnificent job during their stay in our midst. They have knocked on hundreds of doors to offer various means of Bible studies, talked to numerous people about salvation and the church, helped with passing out needed supplies to tornado victims, and helped with clean-up activities. They even cleaned up the preacher's yard and for that activity also the preacher is most thankful.

The Sextons will be leaving on Monday following the gospel meeting. We owe them a debt of gratitude for the work of love in which they have been engaged and wish and pray for them a most safe journey as they travel. We ask God to bless them in their future endeavor. The church needs many more such workers to reach out to the lost and dying multitudes of this earth.

The kind of preaching that brother Sexton does is often not appreciated, even by church members. Yet, soothing stories and lullabies that put people to sleep will not help change the world or save souls. The apostles preached a message that often enraged those who heard but from the midst of the angry rabble there were those who longed to obey the glorious message of the Son of God. Such attitudes are true in our day as well.

Gospel preachers of a generation ago were some of the most loved and some of the most hated individuals around. Brethren who loved the truth loved the messenger. Those who did not love the message could not tolerate the messenger. May God hasten the day when the people of the world will learn to love and tolerate the message of heaven.

---Kenneth Jarrett---