

# THE CHURCH OF GOD TENNESSEE

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2018



## FROM THE STATE OVERSEER'S DESK

Harvey Anders

### CONVENTION SEASON

We should all feel blessed to know that God is in control in all things. When we look back on our lives, they should be full of reminders of this fact. If not, then we probably need to cry out to God for that holy eye salve to give us a clear vision of His will and its benefits in our lives. If we truly see clearly, the trials we face will work His glory in our lives - if we will let them.

Deadlines for articles:

May 1st

August 1st

November 1st

February 1st

My email address is: [tcogtn@gmail.com](mailto:tcogtn@gmail.com).

Kryss Barick  
Tennessee  
State Paper

Greetings to all our people across the State of Tennessee in the wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ! On the weekend of January 27th & 28th we were privileged to be in District Convention in Portland for Middle Tennessee. What a blessing it was to be there with all our folks from the churches in that district. I'm so appreciative of our District Overseer, Brother Jeff Yohe, for his inspiration that he sought from the Lord for the theme of the convention. It was "I must be about my Father's Business" with the Scripture found in Luke 2:49: "*he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?*" Surely, Jesus came to this world to do His Heavenly Father's will!

In John chapter four, after Jesus had finished His discourse with the woman of Samaria who had come to

the well to draw water, the disciples had returned with food for the Lord.

John 4:31-34

*31 In the mean while his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eat.*

*32 But he said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of.*

*33 Therefore said the disciples one to another, Hath any man brought him ought to eat?*

*34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.*

The Lord Jesus was always about the business or the concerns of His Heavenly Father!

John 9:4

*I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.*

By this we are taught that no opportunity for doing good should be omitted.

DAY representing the opportunity:  
NIGHT, the loss of that opportunity.

Let me get back to our District Convention. There were wonderful boosts by our State Auxiliary Coordinators, Beautiful worship in song. The presence of the Lord was there! Brother Jimmy Frizzell ended our Saturday morning session with a dynamic message titled "The Business of Souls" and reminded us that we are still in the business of souls! I would like to say amen, for we, the Church, are still in the soul saving business!

Saturday Afternoon, the title I was given for my message was "The Business of Extending Grace and Mercy."

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men.

I am thankful for God's grace and mercy toward me, and I want to extend this to others. Freely I have received. I want to freely give!

Colossians 3:12-14

12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man

have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

Sunday Morning we were blessed again. Brother Jerry Campbell was given the title "The Business of Dying to Self" for his message. What a inspirational and anointed message! The thought of this is not our church, but this is The Church of God. From the foundation of the world, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost have placed in order the guidelines for His Church and its business. If we can surrender our wills to His, the work will get done much quicker!

This Convention has stirred me and made me excited about our other two District Conventions that are coming up. The Eastern district Convention has been rescheduled for March 3rd and will be at Zion Hill. The Western District Convention will be March the 10th at Twin Cities. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in these areas come and be with us in these conventions if possible.

In the mean while, let us be about our Father' Business!

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## ARISE & GO...

# THE WORK IS NOT YET FINISHED

*Tennessee WMB Coordinator — Missy Hawkins*

In the mid 1850's a troubled teenager from Northfield, Massachusetts moved to Boston to try to find work. He hadn't gone to school beyond the fifth grade; he couldn't spell, his

grammar was awful and his manners were brash and crude. Thankfully, an uncle took him on as a shoe salesman—on condition that he be obedient and that he attend church.

Thus far, the boy had a rough life. His father, a small-time farmer and stonemason, died at the age of 41, when he was only four years old. He had five older brothers and a younger sister, with an additional twin brother and sister born one month after his father's death. His mother struggled to support the family, but even with her best effort, some of her children had to be sent off to work for their room and board. The boy, too, was sent off. Where he went, he received cornmeal, porridge, and milk three times a day. He complained to his mother, but when she found out that he had all that he wanted to eat, she sent him back.

He had been raised in a Unitarian church which denied the full divinity of the Messiah and did not emphasize the basic human need for salvation from sins. At his uncle's church, he began learning about these things, but decided that he wanted to enjoy the pleasures of the world and wait until just before he died to give His life to the Lord. However, through the kindness and persistence of his Sunday School teacher, Edward Kimball, the rebellious teen was encouraged to continue coming to church and study the Bible regularly. Kimball said he had never seen anyone whose mind was as spiritually dark.

Kimball says, "I can truly say, and in saying it I magnify the infinite grace of God as bestowed upon him, that I have seen few persons whose minds were spiritually darker than was his when he came into my Sunday School class; and I think that the committee of

the Mount Vernon Church seldom met an applicant for membership more unlikely ever to become a Christian of clear and decided views of Gospel truth, still less to fill any extended sphere of public usefulness."

On April 21, 1855, Kimball decided to pay a special visit to the boy at his uncle's shoe store in order to ask if he would commit his life to the Lord. After praying about the matter, he arranged to visit him at the boot store. "I was determined to speak to him about Christ and about his soul, and started down to Holton's Boot Store. When I was nearly there, I began to wonder whether I ought to go in just then during business hours. I thought my call might embarrass the boy, and that when I went away, the other clerks would ask who I was, and taunt him with my efforts in trying to make him a good boy. In the meantime, I had passed the store, and, discovering this, I determined to make a dash for it, and have it over at once. I found him in the back part of the building wrapping up shoes. I went up to him at once, and putting my hand on his shoulder, I made what I felt afterwards was a very weak plea for Christ. I don't know just what words I used, nor could Mr. Moody tell you. I simply told him of Christ's love for him, and the love Christ wanted in return. That was all there was. It seemed the young man was just ready for the light that then broke upon him, and there in the back of that store in Boston, he gave himself and his life to Christ."

Immediately he began sharing his faith with others. Later, the young man moved to Chicago. He wandered the streets to find other young boys to bring to his church. He had a passion for saving souls and determined never to let a day pass without telling someone about the gospel. The boy's name was D. L. Moody....and he became a great man of faith.

Moody describes his conversion experience - "I remember the morning on which I came out of my room after I had first trusted Christ. I thought the sun shone a good deal brighter than it ever had before. I thought that it was just smiling upon me, and as I walked out upon Boston Common and heard the birds singing in the trees, I thought they were all singing a song to me. Do you know? I fell in love with the birds. I had never cared for them before. It seemed to me that I was in love with all creation. I had not a bitter feeling against any man and I was ready to take all men to my heart. If a man has not the love of God shed abroad in his heart he has not yet been regenerated."

A Mr. Reynolds tells of his first meeting with D. L. Moody - The first meeting I ever saw him at was in a little old shanty that had been abandoned by a saloon-keeper. Mr. Moody had got the place to hold the meeting in at night. I went there a little late: and the first thing I saw was a man standing up, with a few tallow candles around him, holding a young black boy, and trying to read to him the story of the Prodigal Son; and a great many of the

words he could not make out, and had to skip. I thought, *If the Lord can ever use such an instrument as that for his honor and glory, it will astonish me.* After that meeting was over, Mr. Moody said to me, "Reynolds, I have got only one talent: I have no education, but I love the Lord Jesus Christ, and I want to do something for Him: and I want you to pray for me."

Later in life, Moody relates his experience of sanctification - "Ah, what a day! I cannot describe it ... I can only say that God revealed Himself to me, and I had such an experience of His love that I had to ask Him to stay His hand.

Because of his tireless labor, within a year the average attendance at his school was 650, while 60 volunteers from various churches served as teachers. It became so well known that the just-elected President Lincoln visited and spoke at a Sunday School meeting on November 25, 1860, just five years after Moody's conversion.

Among his many achievements on either side of the Atlantic was the founding of Moody Bible Institute. In fact, to this day, Moody Bible Institute and the Moody Broadcasting Network continue to reach thousands of souls on a daily basis! It was estimated that before D. L. Moody passed away that as many as a million souls were brought to the Lord.

What a testimony Moody's is! But we overlook the fact that it was a faithful Sunday school teacher's obedience and persistence that changed the course of history! We

may think we are doing very little for the Lord...all of us do not have to be a D. L. Moody, and we are not called to be. But all of us are called to be an Edward Kimball—so reach out and touch someone today for Him—through one touch, you may be touching future millions.

It is not about our individual accomplishments. It is about advancing the kingdom of God--advancing God's program. Would you rather win ten thousand souls or one person who would win a million souls? If you had the choice, which would you pick?

*"He must increase, but I must decrease"* (John 3:30).

*"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.*

*For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And if they were all one member, where were the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary"* (1 Corinthians 12:13-22).

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## “DIVINE HEALING”

*Tennessee Sunday School Coordinator — Kris A. Newberry*

I believe healing, Divine healing, is still being experienced among the people of God in this world today! We have heard in time past, of great physical healings taking place--things that encourage our faith with testimonies relating to eyewitness accounts, and folks who have directly experienced the Lord's touch in their bodies. We serve a great God whose hand is not shortened, nor His power too weak in affecting our spiritual or physical needs. Thank the Lord!

In Matthew 8:14-17 we read, *"And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's*

*mother laid, and sick of a fever. And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them. When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses."*

In our Lord's sacrifice, His sufferings and death upon the Cross would provide not only what was needed spiritually for the sinful

condition of man, but also physically, for man's infirmities. As the Lord fulfilled His earthly ministry, we see that the miracles demonstrated were not limited to His time on earth only, but rather, recognized in Him as the source and substantiated forever in the sacrifice. Christ's atoning sacrifice on the Cross provides healing for the whole man, including his body. Psalms 103:2,3 states, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: 3) Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;" It is interesting and wonderful to me, to refer in prophecy to Isaiah 53:4, 5 reading, "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5) But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."

After the ascension of Jesus, it is understood clearly that our salvation, as well as our healing, was provided in Him, and so that all may be able to come unto Him and receive of Him. The term, receiving salvation or rather becoming a born-again believer is the act of God in creating new life in the heart of the believer through the Holy Ghost by faith. Sanctification also, a second definite instantaneous work of grace wrought in the regenerated heart. And then, subsequent to entire sanctification is the baptism of the Holy Ghost whose evidence is accompanied by speaking in other tongues. In divine healing, as also with salvation, both were provided for in the atonement, but by the Holy Ghost we are able to experience His provision; that in sickness we may be able to call upon the name of the Lord and by the Spirit of God be healed!

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## INTO HIS PRESENCE

*Tennessee BTI Coordinator — Jason Hill*

I would like to encourage you all to pray for the BTI department. If possible, please try to attend this year's school. The dates are May 27 – June 9. You may have to sacrifice to attend, but it will be well worth it.

Let's look closely at this year's theme: "Into His Presence"

What a wonderful place to be. What an honor that God would allow us to enter His Presence. We must first ask ourselves the question, "Who can enter His Presence"

or rather, "How can one enter His Presence?"

Psalms 24:3 asks this same question, "*Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?*"

The answer follows in verse 4, "*He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.*"

We must study God's Word for instructions on how to enter His Presence. We cannot simply "rush

in where angels fear to tread." Let's look to the wilderness tabernacle for some instruction. We see many things in the tabernacle that teach us about entering His Presence. In the tabernacle, or "the meeting place," the altar of sacrifice was one of the most visible features in the courtyard. It was situated between the entrance, or gate, to the courtyard and the door to the Holy Place. No one could enter the presence of God without encountering this sizeable altar. As one encountered the altar, they would see and smell the results of the sacrifices made. This gruesome sight of blood mixed with dirt and the stench so great that it no doubt would turn one's stomach could not simply be overlooked. This was symbolic of how God sees sin and how we should view sin. Sin always results in death. The priests could only enter God's Presence after a sacrifice was made and the blood was applied to their bodies and garments. This was the prescribed method that God ordered for them to enter His Presence. And so, it is today. We cannot enter his presence without an encounter at the altar. We must see ourselves in our filthy rags and view our sin as a stench in the nostrils of God. But, thank God, He has provided a Sacrifice for our sins. This Sacrifice shed His blood and applies it to our hearts, so that we, too, may enter the Holy of Holies, the Presence of God.

The tabernacle altar's atonement ritual originated at Mount Sanai. The top of the mountain, where God met with Moses alone and gave him the Ten Commandments, represents the Holy of Holies where

only the high priest could enter. The Holy of Holies contained the Ten Commandments inside the ark of the covenant. In Exodus 19:12, 13, God set bounds or a boundary that limited who could enter His Presence, as we see in the tabernacle. In Exodus 24:1, 9-11, God allowed more than just Moses to come and view from a distance. While their view was limited, they saw an extraordinary vision. This "side of the mountain view" represents the holy place where the priests would enter. In Exodus 24:4, 5, Moses built an altar on which a sacrifice was made for the sins of the people. This represents the altar in the courtyard where all the worshippers would gather.

We see the requirements and the importance in Mount Sinai and in the tabernacle for cleanliness and holiness. This was imperative. Otherwise, one could not enter His Presence.

So, I ask these questions: Do we want to just observe from the base of the mountain, the outer court? Or are we satisfied in seeing God from a distance, on the side of the mountain or in the Holy Place? Or do we desire to go to the top of the mountain and into the Holy of Holies? I want to go all the way to the top and into His Presence with Moses. I want to enter the Holy of Holies with the High Priest. But, we can only do this if we meet the requirements of being cleansed with the blood of Jesus. We must follow the directions as seen in Mount Sinai ("*Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord?*") and in the tabernacle ("*or who shall stand in his holy place?*")

# REVIVE TO EVANGELIZE

*Tennessee Evangelism Coordinator — Mary Shelton*

*"Lord, thou hast been favourable unto thy land: thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob... Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?" (Psa. 85:1, 6).*

*"Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the Lord thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee. Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near" (Isa. 55:5, 6).*

*"For thus saith the Lord, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. And I will be found of you, saith the Lord: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the Lord; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive" (Jer. 29:10-14).*

These verses of Scripture indicate there had been a time of scattering and desolation. They also indicate a time of being glorified. Matthew 22:32 records Jesus saying, *"God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."* *"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:5).*

"Revive" means to come back to life. Local churches in Tennessee, the time is now to be revived. Do what you must to achieve this goal. Schedule revival, daily pray and study the Word of God in order to achieve the status of "being instant" (2 Tim. 4:2). Instant is "that can be prepared quickly, as by adding water." God is ready to send His anointing to our state of preparedness in order to reach those outside the ark of safety, resulting in being revived to evangelize. *"Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost" (2 Cor. 4:1-3).*

# DIVINE REVELATION

*Kryss Barick — Assistant Editor*

In the Church, when we talk about divine revelation, we most often mean a divine revelation of the Church. This is certainly one example, but there is far more to it than that. That moment when we first realized that we were in need of a Saviour, that was divine revelation. We couldn't know it unless God had revealed it to us. Divine revelation is what causes us to continue to read God's Word.

Has anyone learned all that there is to know about the Bible? No? We are compelled to read it over and over because God has already revealed so much to us through His Word. And He still has far more to reveal than we could ever imagine.

God worked with men of the past who desired more than the status quo. They looked to the Lord, and He revealed His truth to common people, who had an uncommon desire for the things of God. Today, we stand on the firm foundation of the truths they discovered. But we do a disservice to ourselves, to those who have gone before us, and to God if we allow ourselves to be satisfied with what others have received from Him. I'm not talking about what some have called "new light," that changes or replaces established truth, I'm talking about true new light that clarifies and reveals more of what God has for His people.

If we don't hunger for more, we are liable to lose what we have. Consider this verse from the parable of the talents: "*Take therefore*

*the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents"* (Matt. 25:28).

Long before any of us were around, He revealed salvation by faith. The disciples were familiar with it, but through the years, this truth was covered over because of neglect. Just as the Pharisees of Jesus' day, people began to believe that they had a complete understanding of God's Word and no longer sought after the truth contained within its pages.

Jesus told the disciples, "*Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come"* (John 16:13).

There are so many people today who would consider themselves saved and satisfied. Sadly, they are probably not even saved, but just satisfied. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus tells us, "*Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled"* (Matt. 5:6). This is a promise. When Jesus speaks, there is certainty in what He says. There is assurance that His words will come to pass as He has said. But the opposite is also true; if there is no hunger, there will be no filling. If we don't desire more than we already have, then we surely will not receive any more. It has been said, "If you are looking for nothing, you will be sure to find it."

Consider the Pharisees. They had the Law and the Prophets, which went into great detail to describe the birth, life, works, death and resurrection of the Messiah, yet when He stood before them fulfilling every prophecy, they did not recognize Him. The divine revelation of the person of the Son of God in Jesus, the Messiah, was available for all who saw Him. We know this because some did recognize Him for who He was before His passion. The majority of the Jews were simply unwilling to accept anything beyond what they had already known. They had put God in a box, and Jesus did not fit into that box.

Nobody can hinder us if we seek a greater revelation of God's truth. No individual, no publisher, no corporation, and no country has the power to block the promises of the God we serve. Zondervan, the publisher of the NIV, is not bigger than my God. Here is just a simple passage of Scripture, made available for all to see.

First John 3:8-10 says, *"He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother."*

This is the King James Version, but other translations are just as

clear on this point. Now, I'm not suggesting that we should accept any or every translation of the Bible. But what I am saying is that there are thousands of people who are reading these other versions of the Bible. Those who say that you have to sin a little every day have these words before them, yet they remain ignorant of the truth, just as the majority of the Jews of Jesus' time. Divine revelation will do away with that, and every other confusion—but if there is no hunger for growth, stagnant so-called Christians will die of spiritual starvation with a plate full of wonderful food right in front of them.

If someone becomes hungry for the truth, God has made it clear that He will give it to them. When God truly opens our understanding to the revelation He has for us, we will be just as zealous to reach out to the lost as Paul was. Our hunger to see souls saved will be far greater than the hunger we once had to fulfill the will of the flesh. That change being seen in us by others will draw them to the light of God's truth for themselves. It will be a difference that people will recognize.

Divine Revelation is not a switch that God turns on all at once, and we know everything immediately. *"But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day"* (Prov. 4:18). That perfect day is awaiting in eternity for all who will continue to hunger and thirst for righteousness. There will never come a day, as long as we inhabit these earthly tabernacles, when we

can say, "I have enough, I know all that God has for me. I have perfect knowledge of all that God will ever reveal to His people." If we ever accept those thoughts as our own, we will have become like the Pharisees and Sadducees, who could not see the Son of God standing before them.

We may never see the fullness of God's perfect plan for our lives. God has called us to continue to desire more of the fullness of the divine revelation that He has for each of us. That is the only way we will ever hear, *"Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."*

**ATTENTION  
TENNESSEE MINISTERS!**

**Don't forget to send in  
your Assembly Expense Dollars!**

One Dollar per minister, for each Assembly year.  
Local Churches, Don't forget your Assembly Expense Dollars  
for Sunday School (\$2), WMB (\$2), and VLB (\$2).  
Please turn these in to the State Office:

**P.O. Box 500 Charleston TN, 37310**





# STATEWIDE CAMP MEETINGS

THEME: "FINDING GETHSEMANE" – LUKE 22:42

WEST TENNESSEE CAMP MEETING – MAY 3-5, 2018

LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

EAST TENNESSEE CAMP MEETING – MAY 7-12, 2018

MARION COUNTY PARK, 9696 HIGHWAY 41, JASPER (423) 942-6653

ARMY OF COMPASSION AUCTION ON SATURDAY

*ITEMS ARE NEEDED FOR AUCTION AND MAY BE BROUGHT ON DAY OF EVENT*