SHOULD THE BIBLE BE INTERPRETED LITERALLY?

Scarcely a day goes by without hearing it said, I accept the Bible just as it is, I interpret the Bible literally. They tinker too much with the Bible, it is said, and one is reminded of the curse in Revelation 22, to any man who would add to or detract from the things written therein.

If the Bible is the world's greatest book, and all the clergy, church members, and theological students are constantly reading and studying the Book it is strange that the Bible is the Book that nobody knows. If the Bible had a literal interpretation as a text book then the difficulty would be removed. As it is, different schools interpret the Bible differently.

Put a Catholic, a Jew, and a Protestant scholar together, or a Lutheran, a Baptist and a Christian Scientist, and they, each being sincere, will wax warm in debate for their interpretation.

The fact is that many are proud to differ, they must feel there is something divine in contention. So, now, Should The Bible Be Interpreted Literally? My answer is, NO. I proceed then to point out a few of the simplest Scriptures that will throw light on the subject we study.

The Bible states, the very hairs of your head are all numbered, Matthew 10:30. Jesus in this statement surely did not mean that they keep a record in Heaven of the number of hairs that grow on every person's head since the world began. It is foolish and trifling to believe our Deity sought to convey such a thought. Who knows or cares how many hairs are on the head, what difference does it make in the salvation of the soul?

The Scripture is not to be interpreted literally. The Scripture means, however, that this is an orderly world, that we are God's creatures, that He knows all about us, that we are subjects of His care, that God exists and He is good, that the universe is God's expression of His interest in man.

Paul said, If meat makes my brother to offend I will eat no meat while the world standeth. I Cor. 8:13. This is not an admonition that one should refrain from eating meat. No, No. But it is a warning to so conduct the life that a weak brother will have no occasion to stumble over our careless and thoughtless life. A glass of wine, a cigaret, a game of cards may in themselves have no evil, but some weak brother may erish by them. You were strong, you indulged the weak patterned by your example, you stood, he fell. So who is responsible for the fallen soul?

Again in Matthew 5:29-30 we read, If thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, or if the right hand offend thee cut it off. Surely this Scripture has no literal interpretation. But it does mean that if something, dear as the eye or as desirable as the hand, be evil it must be cast from us if we are to be numbered with the redeemed. It does mean if one would enter into life he must forsake his pet sins.

The Bible says, Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work.
In Exodus chapter 20 we read, Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work, but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord. What heed do we pay to this Scripture? None, only the Seventh Day Adventists. And why? Well, because we do not interpret the Scripture literally. The resurrection of our Lord made obsolete and of no account the Jewish Sabbath.

The Scripture, James 5:15, reads, The prayer of faith shall save the sick. If this Scripture accepted at face value who then would die? Nevertheless, prayer is one of the potent factors of life, it does save multitudes of the sick. It is for us to pray, question not, results are with God. The prayer of faith holds us fast to divine laws of health and life.

GEO. M. HULME

Bible Study Lesson Jan. 26


Golden Text—The Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10.

The first half of the study of Luke pictured Jesus’ compassion and his regard for the physical welfare of man.

Now we go into the study which shows his yearning after their souls as set forth in the parable of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son.

Sheep are pathetically helpless; if lost they will run in a circle until exhausted and never get back to the flock. The shepherd will go along into the wilderness in dark and danger and find the weary animal and lay it across his shoulder. The shepherd values his sheep above anything he owns and will risk his very life for them.

“Our lost coin is out of right
relationship with life and those economic forces which give to coins their value. And there are men who are exactly coins out of circulation. They are making no contribution to life for they are out of true relationship with God and with his will for which they were created... Those of us who humbly believe that the spirit of Jesus has come in to possess us must go out to seek them and find them.” J. S. Holden.

The first two parables show the great urge of the Saviour to rescue men from the despair and hopelessness of sin. The last parable, involving the prodigal son who recklessly squandered his fortune, stresses the fact that man has the power to choose which way he shall go. Even though Christ died for us he cannot help us unless, like the prodigal son, we of our own volition, being sorry for our past, turn to Him for forgiveness and a new life.

Hazel Wheeler

TEXT—SERMON

For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first and also to the Greek. Romans 1:16.

In the text as quoted above the crux and the hub around which the sermon was built is the word “POWER”.

Jesus, the son of God, living as the greatest man of all ages had all power and demonstrated it in numerous ways. He had power to raise the dead, power to heal the sick, power to cast out demons, power to still the stormy waves and above all power to live the perfect life. To those who receive Him (Jesus), to those, he gives the POWER to become the sons of God (John 1:12)—and in Acts 1:7 we read—“Ye shall receive POWER, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you—” So, we can be like Him.

Rev. Hulme reminded us that such power as Jesus promised us is limited only by our service and devotion to Him. How much of this power we possess depends on how much of it we deserve and how much we can use.

For man, who by nature descends from a fallen race (Adam), it is desirable to be able to stand, that is, to keep from falling back into Sin. In this connection consider the Apostle Paul who had a great measure of this divine power. We are told that the preaching was NOT with enticing words of man’s wisdom, BUT in demonstration of the Spirit and of POWER: that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men—but in the POWER OF GOD. 1st Cor. 2:4-5.

In all kindness, Rev. Hulme pointed out that in the land of Stow there are an estimated five hundred spiritually dead Christ-
ians who have not experienced or do not now use the power of God in their lives.

What we need them as Christians, is this Power, which is the “Pow-
er of God unto Salvation” and must not be confused with the de-
mands of the dictators for Power. Such is dangerous. But the Power
of God is that which we may have from Him to overcome evil and be clean in that and deed. It is the power he gives the regenerated liar to be honest, the thief to stop stealing and it is the power we may have to build a church, meaning that kind of a church which money does not buy, that spiritual body, which one day is to become the bride of Christ.—H. J. S. Reporter.

PUBLIC SUPPER

Mrs. Roe’s group of famous cooks starting at 5:30 p.m. Thursday January 30th will serve a steak supper in the church basement.

MEMBERS RECEIVED

Last Sunday at the morning church service we were pleased to welcome into Christian Fellowship as members of Stow Community Church Mr. and Mrs. Lester Garver of West Arndale Road.

More or less as the minister expressed it we hope that they may here find joy, peace and love in the service of the Master, one, even Christ our Lord, and eventually when their hour arrives, meet with the saints in that “home over there”. Mr. and Mrs. Garver were received by letter from Grace Reform Church of Akron.

CHILI SUPPER

The Martha Circle, the Stow Church of Christ, are serving a chili supper in the church parlors Wednesday evening January 29th. The public is invited to attend.

When you think of Chicks—Think of feeding
FUL-O-PEP CHICK STARTER

Baughman’s Feed Store

OV-8413 STOW, O.
LADIES BIBLE CLASS TO MEET

Tuesday evening January 28th members of the Ladies Bible class of Stow Community church will meet for their regular monthly business meeting at the home of Mrs. R. K. Palmer on River Road. Mrs. Mocely will assist Mrs. Palmer as hostess.

OLD TOWN HALL BUILDING TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION

The old Stow Town Hall (building only) situated at the corner of Hudson and Kent Roads is being offered for sale at public auction Saturday, February 1st, 2:00 p.m. A number of persons are reported as being interested in bidding on this property.

UP AND COMING

The Young People's Bible Class under Teacher Hall are an up and coming group of young folks. Saturday night they held a business meeting at the home of Mary Jo Woodring, Sunday they won the banner at Bible School and on Monday evening—when the mercury in the thermometer was racing toward the zero mark, fifteen or twenty of these same young folks entertained themselves with a bob sled party somewhere in the neighborhood of Silver Lake. Next—a skating party.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

We wish to thank those who have recently paid their subscriptions. Since the first of the year a larger number of personally unsolicited payments on subscriptions and payments for new subscriptions have been received than in any previous similar length of

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time. These payments have helped financially in a time when advertising has not been so good.

However, regardless of the generosity of friends, this paper still labors under a sizeable deficit which if cleared up would make the running of the paper much easier. So—if you have it in mind to send in any money for subscriptions,—yours—or for gift subscriptions—don't hesitate. Any and all contributions gladly received. —H. J. S.

SCOUT TROOP 167 NOTES

Mrs. Stoll, Mrs. Mason, and Mrs. Cumpson, a committee of mothers of Scout Troop 167 gave a dinner party for the scouts and officers of the troop at their regular meeting at the Community Center last Thursday night. Besides generous helpings of delicious “eats” the boys were entertained by Neil Cumpson, accordionist, member Troop 167 and Bob Van Ness, magician, member of Troop 1-Akron.

At this meeting a tenderfoot badge was awarded to Tommy Holmes. It was also decided to change the regular meeting night from Thursdays to Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. Announcement was made regarding the next camping trip to Camp Manatoc. Scouts will leave on this trip from the Community Center Friday, 5:30 p.m., January 31st.

Officers and leaders of Troop 167 are as follows: Scoutmaster, Mr. Moseley; Asst. S. M., Mr. Slusser; Committeemen, Messrs. Tytle, Cumpson. Howard and Stockman. Junior assistant scoutmasters, Sam Mason and Marc Stockman. Senior patrol leader, John Byron Stockman; Patrol Leaders (1) Charles Clifford (2) Eugene Clifford (3) Neil Cumpson (4) Bill Platt; Assistant Patrol Leaders (1) Earl Griffith (2) Dale Cumpson (3) Chas. Taylor (4) Lorie Stoll; Scribe, Tom Holmes; Bugler, Dale Cumpson.

BADEN-POWELL, BOY SCOUTS

The Great Scout is dead. The Boy Scouts of the world are mourning. Lord Baden-Powell, the marvelous military genius, and the founder of the greatest of all peace organization of boys, closed his eventful and illustrious career in his beloved Africa on January 8, 1941, at the good age of 83 years. He came to fame in his defense of Mafeking during the Boer War. He was an organizer of forces of extraordinary ability. He retired from military service in 1910, and went back to England. Three years ago his heart became uncertain. He said, “I have had a long inning. I would rather die in Africa, where my heart is, than anywhere.” And he did, at Nairobi in Kenya, and there was he buried.

Lord Baden-Powell, general and gentleman, was more than a man; he was an institution. For thirty years he has been the inspiration of the Boy Scout Movement, and later of the Girl Scouts. There are nearly 1,500,000 Boy Scouts now in the United States, and millions more now in noble manhood all over the land. No finer group will be found than these. The scout oath of belief in God, of reverence for the Church and religion, of loyalty to the government and true citizenship, and respect for a service to the fellow man, has established high ideals in this great company of splendid
boys and young men. Great praise should go to that large number of business and professional men in our country who have carried forward this great scout organization. (Selected).

Native Hardwood Lumber. We specialize in Chestnut. A 2x6—10 ft. long costs 35c. Compare this with prices elsewhere. We also have dry cherry and walnut for finishing lumber. Clean dry oak. Joe Mitten, 142 Thorndale avenue, Stow, OV-8725. (Adv.)

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PERSONALS
Mrs. Harry Olson was absent last Sunday on account of illness. Mrs. L. G. Phelps is spending a two weeks vacation in Miami, Fla. Marshall Gillam was out from work last Monday with the flu (or bad cold).
Roy Olson was ill last week but was sufficiently recovered so as to attend church last Sunday.
Will take care of children. Call OV-8666. (Adv.)
On account of illness Mrs. Dunn was unable to teach the Ladies Bible class last Sunday.
He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city. Prov. 16:32.
In many respects "money is the acid test" of one's devotion; not the amount one brings, but the amount one brings in proportion to what he has.

—Contributed

Mr. Trego has been appointed new school bus driver. Substitute drivers are Bob Green and Elwood Shippy.

WANTED—Well rotted cow manure. Call HE-3323 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. (Adv.)

Mrs. Charles Gillam, on order of the doctor, has been confined to her bed for the past ten days.

On Thursday of this week the River Road Club met at the home of Mrs. Don Phillips.

Gail Speelman of Oak Road has recovered from his recent illness and returned to work on Monday.

Ralph Pickens and W. T. Byers were recent weekend guests of the Mineards on River Road.

Birthdays celebrated at Bible School last Sunday were those of Mr. George W. Mineard and Paul Lockwood.

It will pay you to shop for your meat and groceries at the Kent-Stow Market, J. B. Weldon, Prop. Top of Hill on East Kent Rd. (Rt. 5) fourth of mile past Fish Creek. (Adv.)

Mr. Hoffman, 218 North Sanford, spent the last weekend at the furniture market in Chicago, Ill.

"Bob" Weyrick missed school last Thursday and Friday, also Bible School on Sunday on account of illness.

For sewing at reasonable prices, see or call Mrs. Hargrove, 260 Ritchie Rd., phone OV-8628. (ad)

Through the revealing ministry and sacrificial life of Jesus, God daily is trying to turn on the light of heaven through you and thus make you the "light" of the world.

—Contributed

CAPONS. Now and thru Easter prices are reduced to 32c per lb. Damons, East Graham Road, OV-8781. (adv.)

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. D. Conley and daughter Phyllis spent last Sunday afternoon visiting Mrs. Conley's brother Clarence Hackathorn and family of Akron.

The flu will get you if you don't watch out. It is reported that over ten per cent of our children were absent from school last week on account of illness.

A large variety of choice lunch meats are always on hand at the Kent-Stow Market, J. B. Weldon, Prop. Top of Hill on East Kent Rd. (Rt. 5) fourth of mile past Fish Creek. (Adv.)

Now if the Deacons don't "deac" as they orter you will know who to blame. H. J. Stockman was elected chief last Sunday with Mr. Davis and Mr. Weyrick as assistants. It is expected that the assistants will really be the ones to function.

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Fresh Home Dressed Meats

RITCHIES MEAT MARKET

N. L. Ritchie, Prop. 407 Ritchie Rd.

Telephone OV-8966
Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people. Prov. 14:34.

For Sale: Baled hay and straw, sixty cents per hundred. A. B. Cox, North River Road, Munroe Falls. (Adv.)

George Dike spent the past week at the home of his parents on King Drive. Because of an epidemic of flu, the Newton Falls High School where he teaches, was closed.

When you think of breakfast remember to buy Baughman's Pure Buckwheat flour and Favorite Wheat Hearts. (Adv.)

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hemming of Chicago, Ill., are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bishop, Hiwood Ave. Mrs. Hemming is the former Marjorie Bishop.

FOR SALE — Size ten, girl's three piece outfit, coat, hat and muff. Coat, rust color with brown fur collar, like new. Bargain. Call WA-9644. (Adv.)

Mrs. Daisy Philpot of Summerfield, Ohio, was a visitor over the last weekend at the home of her nephew Mr. Wm. Large on King Drive. Mrs. Philpot was also a visitor at the Ladies' Bible Class Sunday morning.

Drive in. Let us service your car for winter driving. Parsons and Henry Shell Gas Station, Stow. (Adv.)

Dr. Owen, resident surgeon of South and North Hospital in Youngstown, and Dr. Kent also of Youngstown, were Sunday dinner guests and spent the evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman, North Sanford Ave. Dr. Owen is Mrs. Hoffman's brother.

Grocery Prices are going up, but we are still able to offer all Grocery items at Lower Prices—Drive out and see for yourself. Kent-Stow Market, J. B. Weldon, Prop.—Top of Hill on East Kent Rd. (Rt. 5) fourth of mile past Fish Creek. (Adv.)

The annual meeting of the Workers' Conference of the Sunday School of the Stow Church of Christ was held on Wednesday evening of this week. After a very fine banquet, Dr. Heer of Kent State University addressed the audience. Annual reports were presented and election of officers held.

If you live in the suburbs have a suburban plumber with eighteen years suburban experience do your work. E. F. Kastens, 116 East Graham Road, Stow, Ohio. OV-8926.—(adv.)

Absent Minded Champion. Eddie Ruggles taking advantage of the usual Wednesday afternoon business men's holiday, last week left at noon for Massillon in such haste that he forgot to turn off the lights or lock the front door of his grocery store. After several would-be customers came in and waited around in vain for a salesman to appear some kind friend decided to lock up for him.

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LITE READING

SCANDAL — TEACHER HALL ADMITS BRIBE TO FORMER CLASS MEMBER TO WIN BANNER — RECOUNT DEMANDED.

With a reported attendance of ninety four percent Teacher Hall's class was read off as the banner winner last Sunday morning at Bible School. Figuring percentage attendance according to the ancient and time honored method, where visitors count an additional 10% and new members (those visitors who have been present three successive Sundays) count 20%, that class which was listed as third with a reported attendance of 77% should have been given credit for one new member and two visitors making a total of 98%. While it is true that even 98% is not a very high grade, in view of the fact that Secretary H. Robinson is a former member of Teacher Hall's class and inasmuch as Teacher Hall admitted bribery and inasmuch as 77% is not the correct figure at least, according to the ancient and honorable rules governing such things, therefore for Bible Class No. 6 we demand Justice—Justice—Justice and 98%

MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION ELECT OFFICERS

On Monday evening of this week the Stow Merchants Association met for dinner in the basement of the Community church. After listening to a splendid lecture by Prof. Hantelman of Akron, in which he stressed the value of unselfish service and the importance of new ideas in business, officers were elected for the year of 1941.
WEST VIRGINIA LUMP .................................................. $6.15
One of the best from Northern West Virginia

WITCH HAZEL BLOCK .................................................... $5.75
This is good coal in every way.

BLACK ACE LUMP ........................................................ $5.40
Good, clean burning, deep-mined—won't clinker.

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INDEPENDENT COAL DELIVERY AND HAULING
Munroe Falls

These were Joe McGrail, President; Karl Henry, Vice President and Kurt Akers, Secretary-Treasurer.

RECENT NEW BOOKS AVAILABLE AT STOW PUBLIC LIBRARY

Fiction: Baldwin, Medical Center; Dell, Sown Among Thorns; Homes, Finders Keepers; Oppenheim, The Strangers' Gate; Parminter, As The Seed Is Sown; Rinehart, The Great Mistake; Roberts, Oliver Wiswell; Rorick, Mr. and Mrs. Cugat; Rumsey, When The Bough Breaks; Sabatini, Master-at-Arms; Savile, They Come and They Go; Shriber, The Dark Arbor; Stockwell, Candy Killings. Non-Fiction: Adamic, From Many Lands; Chase, Idle Money, Idle Men; Dempsey, Round by Round; Dies, The Trojan Horse in America; Fisher, The One Volume Nature Encyclopedia; Flynn, County Squire in the White House; Fuqua, Americans Wanted; Geist, Bicycling as a Hobby; Leighton, Country Mat-

A Willard Battery
COSTS LESS TO OWN—
—BECAUSE IT LASTS LONGER —
CRANKS FASTER — DON'T LET YOU DOWN

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GRAHAM ROAD NOTES

Attendance at Bible school was one hundred sixty-six, including twelve visitors. Eight of these visitors were there for the first time. The testament awarded each Sunday to the one bringing the most visitors went to Mrs. Cora Bryan. Birthdays celebrated were those of Mark Talbert and Mae Jean King.

On Friday evening of this week the Cottage Prayer Meeting will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rutter, Stow.

The Senior Girls Guild met on Tuesday of this week at the home of Doris Richards, Munroe Falls.

The Junior Division of the Church Guild, better known as the Elsie Kapen Guild held their regular meeting at the home of Miss Faye Douglas. Nineteen members answered the roll call by quoting a scripture verse. Two new girls, Norma and Eunice Acker, took the pledge and were admitted to membership. Following the business meeting each of the girls uttered a short prayer after which Vera Ocker, the devotional leader, recited an interesting Missionary story. Refreshments were served and an enjoyable evening was reported by all.

Mrs. Virginia Kincaid, Counselor of the Junior Guild, takes this opportunity to explain to the parents just what a Guild is and some of its functions.

The World Wide Guild is an organization binding together groups of Baptist young women and girls, who are willing to give time to a definite study of missions, and to make contributions of service and money for the coming of God's Kingdom in every land.

We have two chapters at the present time at the Graham Road Baptist Church. The senior group known as the "Ruth Guild" and the Junior group known as the "Elsie Kapen Guild."

In this World Wide Guild there are approximately 3,000 chapters having a total membership in excess of 50,000. At least 50 of these chapters are in the foreign fields, in addition to the ones among foreign languages in our own land.

The basic idea of the Guild is missionary education, which inevitably leads to loving and giving; tersely expressed as follows, "Study that you may know; know that you may love; love that you may give." Its vision is world wide and its purpose is to promote world fellowship, through the teaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Ohio State convention will be held in Akron this year. These conventions are financed by the various chapters according to their membership. The girls in the Elsie Kapen chapter feel rather proud to be able to announce that they will go over the top with their quota of $15.00.

A stork shower was held recently at the home of Mrs. A. L. Ashton, Brookside Drive, for Mrs. Melvin Ashton.

Recently Mr. L. A. Wagner acted as Bible School Superintendent and did such a fine job that we believe he will make a good superintendent next year.

The Graham Road Church expects to have a baptismal service soon, also revival services.