## Seek The Old Paths

"Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths...and walk therein" (Jeremiah 6:16)

Vol. 2 No. 10 July 1991

#### SUN OR SON WORSHIPER?

David McCain

America is often referred to as a nation of sunworshipers. When you consider how much money Americans spend every summer on "fun in the sun," you'll have to agree that we've earned that reputation. Certainly, God made the world for man's enjoyment, and there's nothing wrong with getting outdoors to enjoy the beauty of God's creation. However, those who wear the name of Christ, must remember that our fun in the sun must meet with the approval of the only Son of God, Jesus our Lord.

Since school has closed, our thoughts have turned towards vacation time and summer activities. Perhaps we would all do well to remember a few Biblical principles that find their application in keeping our vacation and our summer of fun in the sun acceptable to the Son, and pleasing to God.

First, be careful of what you wear this summer (I Tim. 2:9-10; Titus 2:4-5). Just because it's summer time does not mean it is OK to undress and run around half naked. And brethren, why is it that so many "Christians" think God's laws on modesty are suspended during June, July, and August, or are only in force at the church building and not at the beach or the lake? Would you answer the doorbell at home wearing only your underwear (if so, remind me not to visit you, because it would embarrass me, if not you)? But, if you wouldn't feel good about that, why do you feel good about walking down the beach or riding around in a boat in clothing that covers no more, and sometimes even less flesh than decent underwear? I have never been able to figure out the "spiritual logic" that some of my brethren use to

justify their immodest apparel.

If you would be embarrassed for the Lord to call you to the judgement wearing what you wear in public, or if you'd have to ask to be excused to go put something decent on, then your lack of modest apparel is obviously not pleasing to God. How many of our brethren will lose their souls at the day of judgement because they refused to heed God's admonitions about modest dress? Brethren, rebellion in this area of life is just as soul-damning as rebellion against baptism, or against scripturally authorized worship, or against God's laws on drunkenness, lying, or sexual immorality (see James 2:8-11). How sad it is that many "Christians" today are no longer embarrassed to wear immodest and seductive clothing. Remember though, that when Adam and Eve discovered their nakedness, they were both ashamed and hid themselves from God's sight (Gen. 3:7-10). Far more need to recognize the shame of being unclothed in public. If so, husbands and fathers would exercise their authority and insist that their wives and daughters, and ves. even themselves and their sons dress modestly!

Second, be careful of where you go in the summer. Again, if you would be embarrassed for Jesus to be with you at your vacation spot, then you shouldn't be there! Never go to a place that would cause you to forget Christ, or where you would be ashamed to have him come along as your traveling companion. Remember, God and Christ see everything you do, and no matter where you go, you cannot hide from the all-seeing eyes of Jehovah (Heb. 4:13).

(See WORSHIPER, page 7)

#### Editorial ....

# IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!

Garland M. Robinson

It never seems to fail, when warm weather starts coming on, people's clothes start coming off!

Sad to say, many Christians are also among this number. There is simply no reason for going out in public not decently (modestly, adequately) dressed, but every excuse is offered to justify it. Some say it's too hot and they must stripdown to keep cool. I don't believe it. It's just an excuse! Drive by the city park and you can see people dressed very scantily in 40° weather. Don't tell me it's for comfort! It's for "show" as much as anything.

I Timothy 2:9 speaks of modesty: "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety...." "Modest" is defined as: "orderly, well-arranged, decent." This principle applies not only to women and girls, but also to men and boys. It not only speaks

of one's outward attire but their inward adorning also. Jesus said, "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies..." (Matt. 15:19). When a person is not modestly dressed it simply reflects their attitude and disposition of heart. They care less about holiness and more about sensual pleasure.

A Christian must not so dress as to cause anyone to lust. For one to say, "I'll wear what I want to wear and let everyone keep their eyes to themselves" is displaying a sinful attitude. The one who causes someone to lust is equally to blame as the one who does lust. God lays the

blame at both of their feet. "But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matt. 5:28). "Then said he unto the disciples, It is impossible but that offences will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come! It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones" (Luke 17:1-2). "Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his

brother's way" (Rom. 14:13). "Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification. For even Christ pleased not himself..." (Rom. 15:2-3).

Scantily dressed women excite and invite lustful desires and could very well end in being molested. To deny it is to contradict the truth. A few years ago a ship was high-jacked and the captain immediately told all the women to put away their swim suits and wear modest clothes for fear of the captors. People understand what immodesty does! You don't have to tell a woman to cover-up in such situations! No one has a right to lead others into sin.

Colossians 3:2 says, "set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." To parade before the public eye in scanty attire is seeking to please

one's self and not God. Everyone will give an account of such deeds (Rom. 14:12). I Peter 4:3-5 describes well such people who live the way of the world. "For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you: Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead."

How do you dress? Do you consider how you are viewed through others eyes? Are you mindful

of following God's way? \*



# Sixth Annual Mississippi Lectureship July 28 — Aug. 1, 1991 "Great Lessons From The Judges"

#### East Corinth Church of Christ, Corinth, MS

SUNDAY, JULY 28	
9:45	Judges In The Hall Of Faith (Heb. 11:32ff) James Segars
	Eli And Parental Failure (I Sam. 2) Fred Davis
	No King But God (Judge 8:23; 10:10-16) Charles Blair
	The Cycle In Judges (Judges 2:16-19) James Boyd
MONDAY, JULY 29	
	Israel Prior To The Judges David Bass
	Gideon - His Growth And Leadership Linden Ferguson
	(Ladies Class) Using What You Have Tanya Bruce
	The Providence Of God Jim Bryant
	The Noblest Service (I Sam. 12:23) Wade Webster
	Abimelech - Leader And Usurper (Jud. 9) Terry Joe Kee
	Questions & Answers Virgil Hale
	When The New Generation Comes (Jud. 2:10) Jimmy Bates
	Friends With God's Enemies (Jud. 14:3) Virgil Hale
TUESDA	Y, JULY 30
	Y, JULY 30 Jepthah's Vow (Jud. 11:31ff)
9:00	Jepthah's Vow (Jud. 11:31ff) Wayne Smith
9:00 10:00	Jepthah's Vow (Jud. 11:31ff)
9:00 10:00	Jepthah's Vow (Jud. 11:31ff) Wayne Smith
9:00 10:00 10:00	Jepthah's Vow (Jud. 11:31ff)
9:00 10:00 10:00 11:00	Jepthah's Vow (Jud. 11:31ff)
9:00 10:00 10:00 11:00	Jepthah's Vow (Jud. 11:31ff)
9:00 10:00 10:00 11:00 1:30 2:30	Jepthah's Vow (Jud. 11:31ff)
9:00 10:00 10:00 11:00 1:30 2:30 3:30	Jepthah's Vow (Jud. 11:31ff) Wayne Smith Sin — Punishment Tim Wilkes (Ladies Class) Entreat Me Not To Leave Thee (Ruth 1:16ff) Peggy Leonard Repentance — Mercy Harold Gray Shibboleth — Sibboleth Wayne Coats Israel's Failure To Drive Them Out Ken Burleson
9:00 10:00 10:00 11:00 1:30 2:30 3:30 7:00	Jepthah's Vow (Jud. 11:31ff) Wayne Smith Sin — Punishment Tim Wilkes (Ladies Class) Entreat Me Not To Leave Thee (Ruth 1:16ff) Peggy Leonard Repentance — Mercy Harold Gray Shibboleth — Sibboleth Wayne Coats Israel's Failure To Drive Them Out Ken Burleson Questions & Answers Charles Pledge
9:00 10:00 10:00 11:00 1:30 2:30 3:30 7:00 7:45	Jepthah's Vow (Jud. 11:31ff) Wayne Smith Sin — Punishment Tim Wilkes (Ladies Class) Entreat Me Not To Leave Thee (Ruth 1:16ff) Peggy Leonard Repentance — Mercy Harold Gray Shibboleth — Sibboleth Wayne Coats Israel's Failure To Drive Them Out Ken Burleson Questions & Answers Charles Pledge Respect For Things Holy Garland Robinson
9:00 10:00 10:00 11:00 1:30 2:30 3:30 7:00 7:45	Jepthah's Vow (Jud. 11:31ff) Wayne Smith Sin — Punishment Tim Wilkes (Ladies Class) Entreat Me Not To Leave Thee (Ruth 1:16ff) Peggy Leonard Repentance — Mercy Harold Gray Shibboleth — Sibboleth Wayne Coats Israel's Failure To Drive Them Out Ken Burleson Questions & Answers Charles Pledge Respect For Things Holy Garland Robinson What Is Real Strength Charles Pledge

10:00	(Ladies Class) Noblest Motherhood (Hanna) Maggie Colley
11:00	Curse Ye Meroz (Jud. 5:23) Gary Colley
	Intermarriage - Barriers Of Peculiar People Broken (Jud. 3:6)
	Terry Cole
2:30	Gratitude (Jud. 5) Roger Hamlet
3:30	Questions & Answers Charles Leonard
7:00	Every Man Stood In His Place (Jud. 7:21) Edward White
7:45	By Many Or By Few (Jud. 7) Charles Leonard
THURSDAY, AUGUST 1	
9:00	The Faithfulness Of God (Jud. 6:36ff) David Jones
10:00	No Place For The Fearful (Jud. 7:3) Chris Whitaker
	(Ladies Class) Deborah - The Time Of The Prophetess
	Irene Taylor
11:00	Speak Lord, Thy Servant Heareth (I Sam. 3:9) Robert Taylor
	Forgetting God (Jud. 8:34) Lance Foster
2:30	Confusion In Religious, Moral and Political Life (Jud. 17-21)
	Wayne West
3:30	Questions & Answers Virgil Hale
	Like Other Nations (I Sam. 8:5) Sidney White

#### **AML HOUSING**

We recommend those staying in a motel stay at **Econo Lodge** (601) 286-4421 — toll free (800) 446-6900. Other motels include: **The Crossroads Inn**, 287-8051. RV units may park on our property with water and electrical hookups provided. We prefer that you let us know in advance of your plans to bring your RV. Call 286-6575 or 286-2040. You may write us at: East Corinth C/C, 1801 Cruise St., Corinth, MS 38834.

#### AML EXHIBITS

Exhibit space will be available subject to the approval of the East Corinth elders. Please reserve exhibit space in advance of the lectureship.

#### AML AUDIO & VIDEO TAPES

All lessons will be available on audio tapes and may be purchased during the lectureship or by mail. All lessons will also be available on video tapes. Purchasing information will be available at the lectureship or by mail.

#### **AML BOOKS**

The lectureship book, "LESSONS FROM THE TIME OF THE JUDGES," will consist of full-content outlines of the lessons and will be available during the lectureship and by mail. The cost will be \$3.00 (plus \$1 postage on mail orders).

#### Don't "Run From God" During Summer Vacation

Howell Ferguson

"But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord" (Jonah 1:3). It appears to be a "seasonal" trend for some in the Lord's church to escape their obligations to God during vacation time. The attitude seems to exist which reasons: "I have worked hard at my job, and I have 'held up the hands' of my brethren too long. I need a break both from my job and the church." No one questions the need for some time off from secular labor to relax, yet where do we find this idea for the need of a "break" from God?

Man's obligation to God is continuous. He requires us to remember who we are (Christians), to whom we belong (Christ), why we are here (to give honor and glory to God and to teach the salvation of man through Jesus Christ our Lord). Luke records, "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:42). Christian living is a way of life. It permeates every aspect of the Christian's life — religious, domestic, business, social and recreation. It is a walk of faithful holy obedience to God's will (Eph. 5:1-33). David, centuries ago declared, "Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord" (Psalm 25:15).

Jonah attempted to take a "vacation" from an

obligation he received from God to make a prophetic declaration to the inhabitants of the city of Nineveh. Although he did get to "take a plunge into the pool," the accommodations of his "swimming companion" did not meet his fancy too well. Jonah learned an unforgettable lesson that not a few would do well to learn today: Do not attempt to run from God! The Christian has obligations to God "in season, out of season" (II Tim. 4:2).

When you plan your vacation:

- Do not leave **God** out of your plans. He has not left you out of his!
- Do not leave the Bible out of your suitcase. God's word is your daily roadmap.
- Do not leave worship out of your schedule. Sunday is a world-wide day.
- Do not leave your modest apparel at home. Heat does not mean "streak."
- Do not forget to leave your **contribution**. The work of your "home" congregation need not suffer because of vacations.
- Do not forget that you are a **Christian**. You are to be Christ-like.
- Do not forget to **pray**. "Do not leave home without it."
- Do not forget to send a **postcard**. Have an enjoyable and safe vacation!

#### THE BODY IS NOT FOR FORNICATION

Charles Riley

Today, in our so-called "New Generation," young people as well as older people think they can commit this transgression in life and expect God to overlook it as one of the modern innovations of our industrious society. However, man's opinion of carnal pleasures are not condoned by our Lord. His views are spiritual, and man will be judged by HIS law!

Throughout Paul's epistles to various congregations, he singled out or grouped this sin with others as a work of the flesh, and that they who committed such an immoral act would be con-

demned (Gal. 5:19,21; I Cor. 6:9-10). This is a terrible price for a man or woman to pay to enjoy a fleshly lust for a brief period of time! Paul said that the person who committed this sin also sins against the body, since it is used as the instrument of the sin. The body was not intended for this purpose; therefore, man who joins his body with that of a harlot strikes directly at the body's future state. This is contrary to the planned purpose of man's body from the creation of it by God (I Cor. 6:16-20).

Probably, fornication might be defined as

"unlawful sexual intercourse of an unwed person" (I Cor. 6:9,18). It was commonly associated with heathen worship in the days of the prophets (Jer. 2:20; 3:6), and it was used as a figure of disloyalty to God during the days of Ezekiel (Ezek. 16:3-22). Thus the sin was quite common and almost universal among the ancients.

As pertains to the above definition, usually the term signifies "any illicit intercourse," as defined by the Scriptures. Since Christians are to flee this sin, they are not to allow those who practice it in the Lord's church to be fellowshipped with the saints of God. Paul warned the church at Corinth that they should put away the fornicator from among them (I Cor. 5). Since the church is to be a light amidst a crooked generation, all Christians should see that their bodies are used as instruments of righteousness. In Colossians 3:5 Paul told the brethren: "mortify (put to death) your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry." The church, as a garment without spot or blemish, must keep out of the way of temptation to commit this sin against God.

It appears that many young people of our day do not know or else ignore what God has to say about this sin. They live together in an illegal state as man and wife without having been married and joined together by God in an honorable manner. Illegitimate births, even among women in the church, seems to be on the increase, as well as divorce and remarriage. All are indicators of the breakdown of the home and the gross neglect of God's moral laws. The church, especially the elders and ministers, in our modern society has a tremendous task before it to teach against such evils in the world and in the church. All Christians must stand foresquare against these evils.

Every person must do his part as a Christian to keep his body as pure in God's sight as God intended. We, as Christians, since we have been redeemed by Christ's blood, should glorify him and the church in our bodies. We must live such lives as will not distract or mar the beauty of the physical or the spiritual body. What a profanation it is when we take his body, which is the temple of the Holy Spirit, and engage in activities which defile the body and pollute the temple by such a sin as fornication!

In conclusion, God will judge us by the deeds done in the body. Let us so live that when we appear before the great white throne in Judgment, we may be found innocent of this sin as well as others. Let every man, boy or girl possess his own vessel in honor in order to hear the Master acclaim him as an heir of eternal life!

### The Humanist Version Of Heaven

Bill Brumit

"Each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God" (I Thess. 4:4,5).

A recent segment of ABC's "20/20" told us, and showed us, what it's like to be in Cancun, Mexico during spring break. The consensus among the revelers on camera was that Mexico, being further away from home than Florida, is a better place to party. One kid was perfectly frank about it, even though he knew his parents would be watching. We came down, he said, for sex and for drinking. He admitted that parents know why their offspring are there, but he said that they trust them to make their own decisions.

I doubt that the young gentleman was right. Many a parent, I suspect, was disturbed to see what kind of "fun" his or her money may have been buying. These moms and dads won't be able to look the other way so easily now.

The real story is not a week of frolicking in warm sand far from the watchful eyes of home. The story is that home itself, meaning our Western civilization, is, on the whole, morally sick and probably dying.

What is spring break but a concentrated version of what occupies the empty lives of increasing numbers of people in our society? Spring break in Cancun is the humanist version of heaven as seen through youthful eyes.

Our kids have too much money, too much freedom, and too much pressure to sin by those who stand to make a dollar. They have too little parental example, too little faith in God, and too little consciousness of how fragile and short life is. We are paying a high price for a worldly and compromising church.

But let's don't generalize. There are young people who go to Lauderdale or Cancun, or for that matter to a college in a different city from where they grew up, and who do not get drunk or fornicate. No doubt some who go are disturbed by the noise, the hooliganism, the vomit, and the threat of pregnancy and disease, and silently determine never to put themselves in that situation again.

They see that the devil's heaven, observed up close, looks a lot like hell.

#### INDECENT EXPOSURE

W. R. Jones

Why do people practice INDECENT EXPOSURE? What causes our mothers and daughters to take off 75% of their clothing and indecently expose their bodies to the gazing eyes of a predominantly lustful public? I am sure that a number of explanations could be made, none of which would make it right, but I believe much of the indecent exposure of our day can be attributed to the sin of "Lasciviousness" (Gal. 5:19-21). Lasciviousness will cause one to miss heaven and go to hell. What then is lasciviousness?

In a rather broad sense the word lascivious means: "wanton, lewd, lustful." But, there is far more to it than this. The word lasciviousness comes from the Greek word aselgeia which "indicates a love of sin so reckless and so audacious that a man has ceased to care what God or man thinks of his actions" (Flesh and Spirit, p.31). In lasciviousness we see a climax of evil in that the guilty party no longer cares what God thinks and no longer cares what effect his conduct has on others. A person with this attitude has lost what should be his or her greatest defense; the loss of self-respect and the loss of a sense of shame. Why do women (whose bodies have far more appeal than men's) disrobe themselves and indecently expose their bodies before the world? The answer is: they are given to lasciviousness, they have lost their sense of shame and self-respect. THEY NO LONGER CARE WHAT OTHERS THINK!

1. THEY NO LONGER CARE WHAT GOD THINKS! The Word of God says, "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works" (I Tim. 2:9-10). If women care about what God thinks they will never dress in

shorts and bathing suits and appear before the public.

- 2. THEY NO LONGER CARE ABOUT THEMSELVES! In the loss of self-respect, women ignore the fact that indecent exposure is likely to incite an attack from some "mentally unbalanced" male who is unable to control himself. Think of the mothers and fathers who allow their daughters to dress in such a way that they attract the attention of every "maniac" in sight. How foolish!
- 3. THEY NO LONGER CARE WHAT EFFECT THEY HAVE ON OTHERS! They do not care what effect their indent exposure has upon some youth who is blooming into manhood, but still lacks the maturity of self-control. Without regard for the "lust" it may create in the innocent, shameless women and girls continue to parade their indecent exposure. All such, God will judge. Ladies, now is a good time to take a careful look at your wardrobe to be worn before the public. BE SURE IT MEETS WITH GOD'S APPROVAL.

#### **WORLDLINESS**

W. N. Jackson

Some years ago, both the American and Canadian governments were concerned with the threatened destruction of some of the Great Lakes' fishing industry, due to a type eel found in some of those lakes. This eel would attach itself permanently to a fish, and then begin a slow but deadly sucking away of its life blood. This issue deals with some of the forms of worldliness which, in our own time, are surely attaching themselves to the saints of God and are slowly drawing off spiritually to the eternal doom of God's children.

As one can see the word, "worldliness" simply refers to "world-like-ness." That, in itself, is contradictory to what the church is to be. Rather than being LIKE the world, children of God are CALLED by Christ's gospel (II Thess. 2:14) and "CALLED OUT" of the darkness of sin and CALLED UNTO the marvelous light of God (I Peter 2:9)! Over and over again we are warned not to be conformed to the world (Rom. 12:2), not to love the world and its things (I John 2:15) and that we become spiritual adulterers if we do love

the world and thus become God's enemies (James 4:4).

The church has a worldliness problem. Some have forgotten that the church is a separated body of people (II Cor. 6:17), and that care must be taken that no fellowship, encouragement or agreement be given to sin and error. It is too obvious that some want the blessings of Christianity but without "paying the cost" - and our Lord DID teach us to "count the cost" (Luke 14:27-33)! The salvation of our souls depends on true conversion, putting God's kingdom and righteousness first in our lives (Matt. 6:33), and then seeking and setting our affections on heavenly things (Col. 3:1,2). No wonder the Lord refers to the worldly church member as one who has crucified Christ afresh, puts Christ to an open shame (Heb. 6:4-6), trodding Christ under foot, counting his blood as an unholy thing, and doing despite (insult) to God's grace (Heb. 10:29)! The failure of some saints, in this regard, is the greatest hindrance to God's Cause, and no wonder also that such are to be lost eternally!

We trust this issue will serve to warn brethren anew to the dangers, and that all of God's children who do care will fight all the harder against these evils.

#### (Continued from front page, WORSHIPER)

Third, be careful of how you act this summer. Some folks feel vacation time is the time to kick up their heels and forget all moral restraints. Others engage in sinful practices that they would not dare participate in back home. Brethren, this ought not to be so. Gambling, social drinking, dancing, sexual immorality, stealing, immodesty, and all other sins are just as sinful when practiced a thousand miles from home as they are in your own hometown. As Christians, we should always be aware of our example to others, and mindful of our personal responsibility to walk righteously before God every day that we live (Gen. 17:1; Eph. 5:15-18).

Finally, be careful to put the Lord first this summer (Matt. 6:33). Don't treat the Lord like a "work-in" patient at the doctor's office, giving him only a little time after you've done everything else that you've scheduled. When you're away on vacation this summer and the time rolls around for Sunday and Wednesday Bible study and worship, look up the brethren at your vacation spot and study and worship with them.

It will bless their assembly as well as your life. And don't forget to be faithful at home, too! The Lord's work goes on 365 days a year.

Also, remember that putting Christ first includes our financial responsibilities to Him, and to the work of our home congregation. If we can afford to go on vacation, then we can afford to keep our financial commitments to the Lord's work. Please do not let the work of the church suffer to pay for your summer fun. Be sure to leave your regular weekly contribution or make it up when you return.

May God bless all of you with a safe and enjoyable summer, as you remember that you are God's people, and that you owe complete allegiance to Him. Are you a "sun worshiper," or a "Son worshiper?" Think about it seriously as you enjoy your summer vacation!

#### (Continued from back page, SUMMER)

Many think summer is a time to take a vacation from the Lord, but such is not the case. The Lord still desires teachers, but many "Vacation for the summer" and do not teach. The Lord still desires visitation of the needy and downhearted, but many "rest for the summer." Many fail to loyally give to the Lord's work because they are on "vacation from the Lord." These things should illustrate the point. Teaching, visiting, giving, and all else that God expects cannot go undone even for the summer. Lack of loyalty needs to be repented of.

FAILURE TO WORSHIP GOD: When people leave home, for vacation, to go to the ball park, or just to go see mom and dad, they oftentimes will miss the worship of God. Why? Are we not to worship on the Lord's day when away from home? Some say, "But I went to church Sunday morning." But what about Sunday night? Sunday night is still a part of the Lord's day. Is Sunday morning worship more important than Sunday night? Also, it has been a practice of the Lord's church just about everywhere to have a Wednesday evening Bible study. Why do many, while away from home, fail in their love for God and his word to take the time to study those things of greatest importance. The willful forsaking of the assembly is sin (Heb. 10:25), and needs to be repented of.

These things certainly do not exhaust the list of summer sins, but they are constant temptations for brethren. When failing to do God's bidding, we ought to be ashamed and repent! \*

#### "Repenting of Summer Sins"

Gilbert Gough

It is fully realized that every season of the year people commit sin. However, summer is a time which has sins peculiar to it. These sins ought not to be a part of a Christians life; and if they are, they need to be repented of. What are some of these summer sins?

**IMMODESTY:** To the worldly thinking mind, summer is a time to take off one's clothes and run the streets half naked: or it is the wearing of clothes in public that reveals or emphasizes the sexual aspects of the body. Immodesty, and its cohort, nakedness, is an immoral matter. The Bible still reads the same. Women are to "adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety" (I Tim. 2:9). The word "adorn" means to "garnish, trim" or in other words, to put something on! Whether one is naked or partially naked, God frowns upon such a one. Even the mother of humanity, Eve, after eating the forbidden fruit recognized she was naked. (Gen. 3:7). It is too bad that some brethren cannot recognize what Eve recognized. Immodesty and nakedness must be repented of.

MIXED SWIMMING: When men and women in their immodest and naked apparel swim together, it is sin. Evidently, people of this type have lost their "shamefacedness" and "sobriety" as taught in I Tim. 2:9. Shamefacedness is a sense of shame. Sobriety is the use of sound judgment and self control. The naked conditions of mixed swimmers does not bother their consciences; hence, no shame or sound judgment! They care not for causing the thoughts of others to lust after them, and they certainly do not care for God's will. Everyone must know this sense of shame when being partially clad in public. Mixed swimming must be repented of.

LACK OF LOYALTY FOR HOME CONGRE-GATION: Summer is a time for vacationing, going to ball parks, and in general, outside fun. It is certainly no sin to take a vacation, or attend a ball game, or enjoy the summer weather. But when one neglects the work of the Lord, and loyalty to the Lord's church, it is another matter.

(Continued on page 7, SUMMER)

FROM OUR READERS

"Would you please add the following to Seek The Old Paths? I'm sure they will greatly appreciate this publication" ...Leakesville, MS. "I was given a copy of your paper "Did Christ Attend The Prom." I think you are doing a wonderful job teaching the truth in it. I would appreciate very much if I could receive a copy on a regular basis. Here is a small donation and keep up the good work and may God continually bless all of you to teach his word".... Center Hill, FL. "I wish to discontinue receiving Seek The Old Paths".... Tompkinsville, KY. "Please put me on your mailing list"....Florence, AL. "I have been given a few copies of Seek The Old Paths. I would like to be on your mailing list. Please send me a bill"....Florence, MS. (NOTE: we do not charge for Seek The Old Paths. It is a work of the East Corinth church of Christ. We are happy to receive contributions. Why not help us in this fruitful work.) "Please remove my name from your mailing list. I am a member of the United Methodist Church and do not wish to be included in the future mailings"... Tupelo, MS. "I am impressed with your articles and stand for Truth. Many congregations these days have become (or are becoming) apostate. Thanks, and keep up the good work"...Kyle, TX.

We appreciate your letters!

# Mississippi Lectureship July 28 — Aug. 1 Schedule on page 3

Seek The Old Paths is a publication of the East Corinth Church of Christ and is under the oversight of its elders. Its primary purpose and goal in publication can be found in: Jude 3; II Timothy 4:2; Titus 1:13; Titus 2:1; II Peter 1:12. Editor: Garland M. Robinson Associate editors: Sidney White, Jimmy Bates

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Permit #53 Corinth, MS

EAST CORINTH CHURCH OF CHRIST 1801 CRUISE ST. CORINTH, MS 38834-5108 FORWARDING & RETURN POSTAGE GRAUANTEED ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED