

# From The Pulpit

by Rev. Donald M. Clark

## A MAN CAN GROW

Text: And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. Psalm 1:3

The purpose of this sermon is to stimulate our aspirations for personal growth, growth in spiritual personality.

"Grow" is a magic word. By growth we have the beauty of a garden, the fruitfulness of an orchard, the recovery of a mountainside once devastated by fire, the achievement of fine human personality.

"Can" is a royal word. Thomas Carlyle discovered that "can" and "king come from the same root. The king is the man who is able, the man who can.

"Man" is a personal word. A man is a person --you--me. "Growth is a process always affecting individual units, that is, the cell grows, the planet grows, the boy grows, each grows as a separate and individual person," according to Carlyle.

What is the Secret of Growth? Hunger is the secret of growth. Every growing thing is a hungry thing. If you are not hungry, you will not eat--you will not grow.

Biological growth is involuntary. Spiritual growth is by free choice.

The growing edge or growing points of a plant are often to be found in the roots. Each plant grows as its hunger sends out roots to provide its nourishment. We can all see the analogy in this. Paul writes of being rooted and grounded in love.

Roots we must all have. Why not put the roots down into the best? Root the soul in love, in wisdom, in the character and love and grace of God as revealed in Christ. Become hungry for the best and let that hunger send out your growing edge for nourishment. You will grow.

What is the process of growth? Suppose that you plant an acorn with the expectation that it will germinate, sprout and grow into an oak. You become interested in the process and so every day you dig up the acorn to see how it is growing. Naturally, we know that is disastrous.

Toward the process of growth interference is often unwise; noninterference is wise.

The growth of an acorn into an oak is largely an unknown process. As mysterious as is the acorn itself in that it holds within itself a great oak tree.

If we are to grow, we must help others to grow. No man can grow by himself. The acorn that grew into a large oak did not grow by itself. If it were possible for the acorn to speak for itself, it would tell you that the wind, rain and sunshine all contributed to its growth.

The Results of Growth. I think that Jesus' life would be the best illustration for the results of growth.

His coming was a tiny event in a brawling world. His birth was all but overlooked in the noisy problems of the day. The people of Bethlehem worried about bigger things than the birth of a baby--the oppression of the government, the high taxes, the movements of the military, the condition of business, and the price of food. These were the big and important things. The people would have laughed at the idea that a babe in their midst was to become Saviour of the world. They would have sneered if someone had told them that the spiritual power he represented was more important and lasting than all their glittering civilization. Even as a carpenter and teacher Jesus was unknown and ignored by those in power. In the end he was ridiculed and crucified by them. Yet out from that obscure life has come an influence that has changed the face of the world. The least of the seeds has become the greatest of the herbs.



Rev. D.M. Clark

# GO to the CHURCH of YOUR CHOICE



## AT OUR CHURCHES

DEADline for church news and photographs is Friday noon preceding the next Thursday publication date at the Rev. Mr. Clark's home, 1676 N. 'E' St., telephone 642-1560. All items submitted must be accompanied by the sender's name, address and telephone number.

### USHER BOARD MEETS

The city-wide Usher Board will meet at the Macedonia Baptist Church, Four-Mile Park, at 3 p.m. on July 5. Dr. T.C. Cole will deliver the sermon.

### BAPTIST

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. M. Carroll  
712 W. Owens Ave., Las Vegas.

**ST. JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. J. L. Simmons, 382-2748  
311 Madison Ave., Las Vegas

**SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. V. C. L. Coleman, 384-3131  
1209 N. "E" St., Las Vegas

Daily Vacation Bible School continues through July 10 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

**PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. J. L. Kemp, 642-5708  
1189 Hassell St., Vegas Hts.

Monthly communion service will be conducted at 8 p.m., July 5.

**GREATER FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. P. S. Walker, 384-1248  
Balzar St., Vegas Hts.

Rev. Walker will preach a series of sermons on the theme, "Freedom Through Faith", at the 8 p.m. service on July 5.

**EVERGREEN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. A. B. Carr  
723 N. "B" St., Las Vegas

A program will be sponsored by the church Usher Board at the 8 p.m. service on July 5.

**GRACE EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. C.L. Alexander, 384-7413  
815 Bartlett, Vegas Hts.

Dynamic young evangelist Rev. Brutus Jackson, Tallulah, La., will preach his farewell sermon at 8 p.m. tomorrow, July 3.

**NEW JERUSALEM BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. F. N. Addison  
"D" & Jefferson Sts., Las Vegas

**PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. E. C. Kline, 382-7263  
101 N. "A" St., Las Vegas

**VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. A. J. Thompson, 642-4001  
1305 N. "E" St., Las Vegas

**BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. I. W. Wilson, 382-2632  
400 Adams Ave., Las Vegas

### METHODIST

**ZION METHODIST CHURCH**  
Rev. M. D. Bennett, 382-9900  
911 N. "G" St., Las Vegas

Rev. Bennett returns to his pulpit July 5, following his trip to Washington, D.C., for the national NAACP convention and a visit to his former home in North Carolina.

### SERVICES on RADIO

Third in a series of weekly radio services conducted by the Rev. I.W. Wilson is scheduled to be broadcast from Bethel Baptist Church, 400 West Adams at 'D' St., at 8:30 p.m., Sunday, July 5. The program is aired by KLAS Radio.

Church choirs under the direction of Mrs. Maggie Love and Douglas Dilligard sing at each service, accompanied at the organ or piano by Mrs. Glasgow. The live services in the Bethel auditorium are open to the public.

### CATHOLIC

**ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Msgr. W. J. Devlin, 382-9953  
"H" & Morgan Sts., Las Vegas

Msgr. Devlin again calls attention to the new schedule of services and confessionals as listed below.

Sunday Mass--11 a.m. and 5 p.m.  
Week Day Mass--7:30 p.m. each evening  
Confession--Saturday 4 and 7:30 p.m.

### CHURCH of GOD in CHRIST

**UPPER ROOM C. of G. in C.**  
Bishop C. C. Cox, 385-1541  
1117 N. "F" St., Las Vegas

The revival being conducted by Bishop Cox will continue through July 5.

**POWERHOUSE C. of G. in C.**  
Supt. J. W. Logan, 382-6187  
1216 Adams Ave., Las Vegas

The revival being conducted by Supt. Logan will continue through July 5.

**LIGHTHOUSE C. of G. in C.**  
Eld. Willie Rawls, 384-5539  
E. Sahara Ave., Fourmyle

**PRAYER HOUSE C. of G. in C.**  
Eld. W. M. Shaw, 382-1743  
Blankenship St., Vegas Hts.

**MOST HIGH C. of G. in C.**  
Eld. J. Washington, 642-5675  
Henderson

**PROGRESSIVE C. of G. in C.**  
Eld. Jos. Prudhomme, 642-5556  
1155 Lawry Ave., Vegas Hts.

(All Churches of God in Christ)

Tuesday 8 pm - - - - - Bible Band  
Wednesday 8 pm - - - - - \*Young People  
Friday 8 pm - - - - - Consecration  
Sunday 10 am - - - - - Sunday School  
Sunday 12 m - - - - - Morning Service  
Sunday 6:30 pm - - - - - YPW  
Sunday 8 pm - - - - - Evening Worship

\*Progressive - - - - - Inspirational

### BOOK of the WEEK

"YOUR GOD IS TOO SMALL", J. B. Phillips  
(Harper Brothers, New York, N.Y.)

An eloquent and inspirational examination of the inadequate and misleading current ideas about God. This book affords an enlarged concept of God stated in fresh and thoroughly understandable terms.

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