

From The Pulpit

by Rev Donald M. Clark

THE DIGNITY OF MAN

Text: "What is man that thou art mindful of him?" Ps. 8:4.

Irreligion causes the loss of human dignity. There are those "who are perplexed by the consequences of their own irreligion", who "have lost certainty that their lives are significant."

The Christian religion gives men dignity, worth, significance. Human dignity is at the very heart of the Gospel of Christ.

Man has the dignity given by God's hand. By God's hand we mean God's creative power. "God created man in His own image." This is man's basic and essential dignity. The nature of the creative process matters not. The intrinsic value of man, any man, is that he is made in the image of God. Intrinsic value is value determined by inherent nature.

"What is man?" cried the Psalmist, "thou has made him little less than God."

How wonderfully is he made! He has the dignity of erect stature. Born in a moment he can grow through a lifetime. Man can think, reason, imagine, plan, transcend himself, and share the thoughts of God.

He can love and receive love. His heart has no bounds, except by his own deciding. A man can love his brothers in the world. He can love God. The mind and the heart of man give him dignity.



REV. D. M. CLARK

MAN HAS THE dignity conferred by his place in the universe. The dominion which God gave him over his other creatures has been marvelously expanded in this day. Man splits the atom, travels beneath the Pole, places satellites in the skies. In physical size, he is infinitesimal; in spiritual stature, he is colossal. This is by the grace of God, by God's favor, by God's free gift.

Man has the dignity bestowed by God's grace. It is by God's grace that he is. It is by God's grace that he has dominion. The materials and forces in his hands are the gifts of God. That God should honor him with such gifts is marvelous.

It is by God's grace that he is redeemed. The extraordinary dignity conferred upon man by his creation and his gift of dominion emphasizes the distress resulting from his failures and sin. It is really a part of the wonder of man that he can "drag his glory in the dust." But having done so, (with all the tragic consequences, and with all his incompetence to redeem himself) how wonderful that the great God condescends to redeem him! What is the significance of this, if not, at least, to increase his stature? He is given such worth that God goes to the utmost limit to redeem him.

WHEN THE PRODIGAL RETURNS, the father does not permit his son to become a menial; he restores his sonship in his father's house.

By God's grace men have the dignity of being sons of God. Man has the dignity conferred by God's call. Each man can make his life an answer to a word spoken by God Himself. Each man is given his own talent or talents. Each man is called to invest them. Men who keep their spiritual natures sensitive hear the call of God.

Study such lives as Gideon, Samuel, David, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Peter, Paul, and many others who were vividly aware of God's call. There are myriads of others filling their own places in life faithfully and efficiently, (if not conspicuously) who feel a sense of dignity and worth because they are where God has placed them. They are men and women under orders with definite responsibilities. They have true worth because they belong to the Kingdom of God.

Man has the dignity bestowed by God's indwelling. "Know ye not that ye are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" Is there anything that could bring more dignit

Bethel Baptist Church Ends Financial Drive

The Bethel Baptist Church concluded its "States" Financial Drive with a closing program, Sunday, May 9. The Rev. I. W. Wilson, Church Pastor noted that the excellence of the Program was a fitting climax matching the wonderful success of the fund-raising drive.

Competition was keen among the States represented and the state of Mississippi emerged victorious as the leading fund-raising state. Miss Ernestine Champion was captain of the Mississippi team. Captained by Mrs. Creola Prudohom, Louisiana state finished with second place honors.

Rev. Wilson, Participant leaders, and the membership wish to express their gratitude to all those whose cooperation and enthusiasm made the Drive the success it was.

WORKERS FOR HEALTH PROGRAM SOUGHT

The Nevada Division of Health has been designated as the agency in Nevada to work with the Social Security Administration in the implementation of the Home Benefits portion of Title 18, Social Security Amendments of 1965.

The obligation of the State Health Division is to the identification of areas in the state where Home Health Services are unavailable or inadequate; to provide assistance to both existing agencies to upgrade services to meet certification requirements. To provide funds and other assistance to make Home Health Services available in areas where they are not now available, either by expanding existing agencies or assisting in the development of new organizations; and to provide funds to existing agencies to assist in meeting certification by hiring additional staff and to improve services by means of orientation and refresher courses.

There are three organized public health agencies in the state providing skilled nursing service. . . the City and County Health Department of Washoe County, the Clark County District Health Department, and the Section of Public Health Nursing in the State Division of Health, which provides public health nursing coverage for the 15 rural counties.

Today we are faced with a large and ever-growing number of persons of advanced age. In Nevada, there are approximately 31,275 persons over 65 years of age. Forty-two percent of these (13,275) are located in Clark County, thirty-two percent (10,136) are located in Washoe County, while the remaining 26% (7,864) are distributed throughout the state.

THE PURPOSE of the Home Health Nurses is to serve the chronically ill at home, who more often than not, fall into this age bracket. It is because of the increasing number of patients with chronic diseases (that the hospitals cannot take care of) that Home Nursing Care Programs are accepted as one of the most useful methods in the long medical management of the chronically ill. Many of these patients do not need or require the full range of hospital services.

There are approximately 1,500 professional nurses registered and living within the state, with about 30% currently unemployed. Since this group of unemployed nurses is in the 25-35 year age bracket, it is assumed that the majority of them are housewives raising families, and are not able to work full-time. We believe a sufficient number of these women plus Physical Therapists, Speech Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Social Workers, and Home Health Aides would like to work part-time in their local

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to a human being than such knowledge?

Man has the dignity bestowed by God's purpose for him. This is inspiringly stated in I John 3:1-3. Man is not a falling leaf; he is an eternal child of God.

Announcement

The marriage of John Coleman and Maggie Knight will take place Saturday at 5 p.m. at Mr. Coleman's home, 1802 W. McDonald St., North Las Vegas with the Rev. V.C.L. Coleman officiating.

It had been incorrectly announced, elsewhere, that the ceremony would be held at the Second Baptist Church.

Adults Complete Education Course

THE SECOND GROUP of students enrolled in Adult Basic Education Classes at Jo Mackey School will complete their 80 hour training program during completion exercise at the school on May 26, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. One hundred and forty-seven enrollees will receive completion certificates according to H. P. Fitzgerald, project coordinator.

The first group of ninety-seven students completed the first seventy-eight hour course on February 22; Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Social Studies and Science comprised the basic curriculum. Both projects were made possible through the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, Title II-B.

Funds for the fall project covering the same courses have been made available to Clark County, according to John Griffin, State Director of the Adult Education Department in Carson City, Nevada.

Workshop For Prospective Business Men

IF YOU ARE PLANNING to start and manage a small business of your own, here is an announcement which may be worth many thousands of dollars to you.

A free, one-day workshop will be conducted on Wednesday, May 25, for prospective small business owners by a group of management, legal and financial specialists provided by the Small Business Administration, an agency of the United States Government.

Morry Spencer, Representative-In-Charge of the local SBA office announced that this Pre-Business Workshop is "specifically designed for prospective business owners in the Southern Nevada area."

He said that the information presented will be of vital interest to all kinds of small business enterprises in this area, "whether it involves the purchase of an existing business or franchise, or the establishment of a new retail store, wholesale business, manufacturing concern or service business."

Eight business specialists will conduct the workshop panel and discussions during the one-day session which will be held at the El Cortez Hotel, 6th and Fremont Streets, Las Vegas, starting at 9 a.m.

Early registration is advised by telephoning the Small Business Administration at 384-3540 or writing to SBA at Box 640, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101.

community. Those interested are urged to contact Mrs. Thelen, 790 Sutro Street, Reno, Nevada.

All health resources in the community will have to be expanded, including the public health nursing staff to meet the need for services to citizens of the state available to them under the Social Security law.

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