

From The Pulpit

by Rev. Donald M. Clark

SIMPLICITY

Text: "I fear, lest by any means, your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." II Cor. 11:3.

SIMPLICITY DOES not mean that our lives shall be poor and bare, destitute of enjoyment and beauty. It does not mean that we should reject the bounties which our Father provides if they minister to our higher needs.

Anything that makes us better servants of Christ is to be accepted with thanksgiving. But the possessions or activities that capture the heart or the lures that lessen our simple and steadfast devotion to the cause of the Kingdom of God must go.

In the application of this principle, it is not the intention to lay down restrictions but to refer to certain points which we need to consider.

THUS WE cannot but see that dress has, in the minds of many, an importance that is not intrinsic. The "outward adorning" should be a reflection of the inward and spiritual grace a Christian should possess of "the meek and quiet spirit." Modesty and sobriety are marks of the humble-minded.

Sincerity of speech is closely allied to simplicity, and has its roots in the principle which we have been stressing, an emphasis on essentials and a suppression of the corrupt or false.

In the interest of simplicity in our homes, we might change some of our ordinary practices which make us busy to little real profit. LASTLY, THERE IS a cordiality of manner we need to cultivate. It springs from a heart not corrupted from "the simplicity that is in Christ." "Love one another from the heart fervently." Here is a simplicity that is fundamental.



REV. D. M. CLARK

AME BISHOP TO MAKE OFFICIAL VISIT HERE

Bishop H. Thomas Primm will make an official visit to Las Vegas Sunday, May 21, 1967 and will speak at First African Methodist Episcopal Church located at 101 Monroe Street at 5:30 p.m.

Among the Eighteen Episcopal Districts comprising the A.M.E. Church throughout the world, Bishop Primm is the presiding Bishop of the Fifth Episcopal District. He is also chairman of the General Board, which board under the direction of the General conference and with the council of Bishops directs the operation of the work of the denomination. Bishop Primm has been distinctively successful in inspiring great increases in conversions, church memberships, new churches, (First A.M.E., Las Vegas, being one of the many) new parsonages, ordinations to the ministry and trained lay workers.

THE BISHOP will be accompanied by his charming wife Mrs. Edythe Primm, the Supervisor of Missions in the fourteen states of the district, and Dr. and Mrs. Jesse Glover, who is the Presiding Elder of the Oakland-Sacramento District of the California annual conference.

Local ministers and dignitaries will welcome the Bishop at the airport May 21, 1967 at 2:15 p.m. The public is cordially invited to attend the services at 5:30 p.m. at the local church.



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WRITTEN BY 40 different authors, containing some 31,000 verses and translated into more than 1,200 languages, the world's all-time best seller, according to one author, is "The Book Nobody Knows."

In order to dispel the highly touted lack of knowledge about this famous book--the Bible--members of the Westside Seventh-day Adventist Church, at 1048 Lawry, are offering a free Bible course to any interested persons in the City of Las Vegas and its surrounding communities which is guaranteed to improve Bible knowledge.

Elder Isadore D. Evans, pastor of the local church, said the church is giving a 32-lesson Bible study course which can be done in a person's leisure time and at his own speed. When the course is half completed, a Bible with which he has been studying, becomes his own, free of charge. This may be completed in your own home.

EACH LESSON will be graded and if a person requires assistance in working his or her lesson, a qualified instructor is available. After completing the course a certificate of graduation will be issued.

Elder Evans invites anyone who might be interested in this series of lessons, in order to learn more of the Bible, are welcomed to partake of this free offering of spiritual food by coming by the church any Saturday morning at 9:30.

ALTAR CALL

By EMORY G. DAVIS, D. D.
NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

RELIGION: GUILTY AS CHARGED

Religion has been charged by the Rev. Malcolm Boyd, famous night club priest of Detroit, with failing the civil rights drive.

In an interview with one of Chicago's outstanding Negro news writers--Lillian Calhoun of the Chicago Daily News--this Episcopal priest says that the "civil rights movement has had it."

He adds that "the movement is shattered." Rev. Boyd blames labor, along with religion, for the lack of gains in apprenticeships, jobs and open housing for Negroes.

Another indication that the rights movement is shattered, Rev. Boyd says, is that after the use of the words "black power," "the war in Vietnam," the black man in the ghetto realizes his condition is worse.

The responsibility of religion in the area of civil rights has been the major focus of this column. If the assessment of this minister, who travels all over the country, is valid, it looks as though we will have to intensify this focus.

NEGRO RELIGION is not exempt from responsibility. It cannot point to "white" religion as the sole foot-dragger in the movement.

A recent experience of mine reveals one area where Negro religion could make a contribution:

A white teenager at a meeting in which I spoke on integration, asked why don't Negro youth respond to acts of sincere goodwill directed toward them by their fellow white high school classmates?

Immediately I thought of the many opportunities Negro religious leaders have to educate and train Negro youths to ACCEPT opportunities of integration afforded them.

To be sure, there are many whites of goodwill, particularly among youth who are weary of segregation. But, they need the complement of Negro youth to join hands with them, so that together the days of racism can be terminated.

IF NEGRO religious leaders would spend less time debating the pronouncements and positions of Dr. King, Stokely Carmichael, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, et al., and spend time holding workshops with their youth who are not ready to accept--mentally or emotionally--the integration that is now available, this would be a meaningful "civil rights movement."

There is an Altar of Real Integration inside the door that young white America is opening. Negro youth MUST walk through that door with heads up and a hand of friendship extended.

A CALL TO WORSHIP

Moral and spiritual values are basic in the development process. Other than the home, no other single institution is more interested in moral and spiritual development than the church. The church is dedicated to the teachings of brotherly love, compassion and understanding.

Zion Methodist Church encourages everyone to attend the church of his choice, and extends a personal invitation to all persons to visit our worship services and, if you desire, to become involved in our many church organizations for youths and adults. The church conducts two Sunday Morning Worship Services and two Sunday School Periods at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Child Care Facilities are available during each worship Service.

ON JUNE 4, 1967 at 3 p.m., we will observe the Formal Opening and Consecration of The New Zion Methodist Church. Mr. Herschel Hedgteth, Director of Church Extensions of the National Board of Missions of The Methodist Church will be Speaker.

Zion Methodist Church is located at 2108 No. Revere, North Las Vegas, Nevada. Rev. Marion D. Bennett is the minister.

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