

Sermons  
New Testament  
James  
1:16-25

Date written: March 19, 1949.

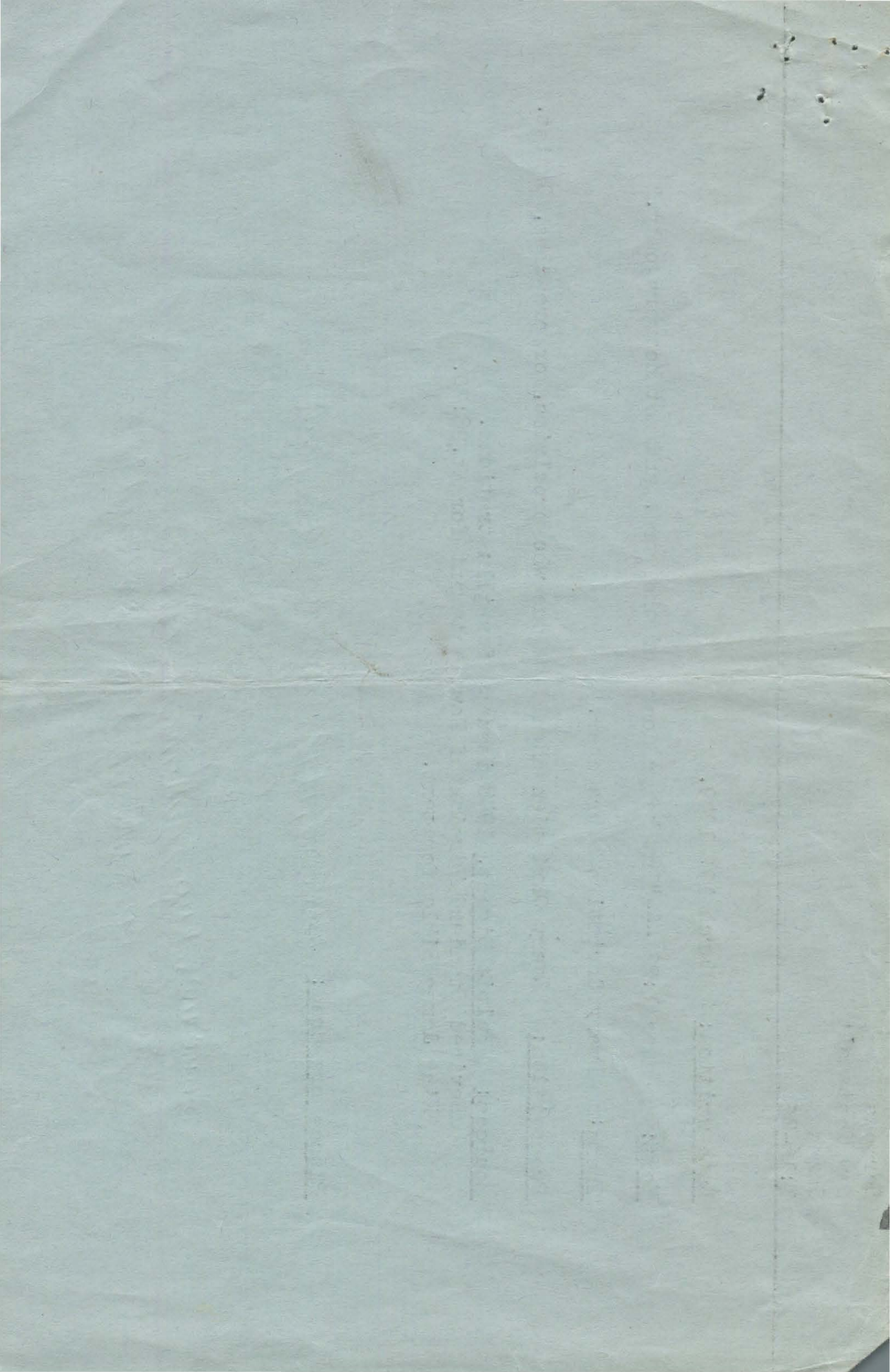
Text: James 1:22 --- "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only."

Theme: Every Christian a preacher.

Proposition: Every Christian should be one who proclaims, or preaches, Christ.

Sources: Pulpit Digest, 1948 issues, for illustrations.  
Revised Standard Version of New Testament for Mt.28:20.  
King James Bible for text.

Places preached: Mar. 20, 1949, Huntington, Ark.  
Camden, Wyo., P.M., July 17, 49  
Hemmer  
" " " " " " " "  
Sundance, Wyo., A.M., Feb. 28, 1950  
Chapel, Sp. Park, Ala., 3 May 1953  
Wheatland + Claude, Wyo., 1 May 1955





## Introduction:

1. In the course of the Armenian atrocities a young woman and her brother were pursued down the street by a Turkish soldier, cornered in an angle of the wall, and the brother was slain before his sister's eyes. She dodged down an alley, leaped a wall, and escaped. Later, being a nurse, she was forced by the Turkish authorities to work in the military hospital. Into her ward was brought, one day, the same Turkish soldier who had slain her brother. He was very ill. A slight inattention would insure his death. The young woman, now safe in America, confesses to the bitter struggle that took place in her mind. The old Adam cried Vengeance; the new Christ cried, Love. And, equally to the man's good and to her own, the better side of her conquered, and she nursed him as carefully as any other patient in the ward. The recognition had been mutual and one day, unable to restrain his curiosity, the Turk asked his nurse why she had not let him die, and when she replied, "I am a follower of him who said "Love your enemies and do them good," " he was silent for a long time. At last he spoke: "I never knew that there was such a religion. If that is your religion tell me more about it, for I want it."

2. Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 5th. edition, first defines the word "dedicate" thus: "to devote to the service or worship of a divine being, or to sacred uses."

Truly, this young woman had devoted herself fully to the service of Christ. She was not only a hearer of His word, but a doer of His Way. She was fully dedicated, devoted to the way of love and forgiveness. Her dedication to Christ won her enemy for her Lord; the enemy who had slain her own brother. In the truest sense, she was a Christian preacher.

3. In the words of James in our text, so should all Christians "be ye doers of the word and not hearers only." Every Christian should proclaim or preach Christ.

I. Each Christian should tell others about Christ.

1. A preacher in a church is expected to proclaim the beauty and the necessity of the gospel, publicly and often. That is considered his chief job.



The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by a valid receipt or invoice. The text also mentions the need for regular audits to ensure the integrity of the financial data. Furthermore, it highlights the role of the accounting department in providing timely and accurate information to management for decision-making purposes. The document concludes by stating that adherence to these principles is essential for the long-term success of the organization.

The second part of the document outlines the specific procedures for handling cash payments. It details the steps involved in issuing a check, from verifying the amount to the recipient's signature. It also discusses the process of depositing funds into the company's bank account and reconciling the bank statements. The text stresses the importance of maintaining a clear audit trail for all cash transactions to prevent any potential discrepancies or fraud. Finally, it notes that all cash receipts should be properly recorded and filed for future reference.

The third part of the document addresses the issue of budgeting and cost control. It explains how a well-defined budget can help the organization allocate resources effectively and identify areas where costs can be reduced. The text provides examples of various cost-cutting measures, such as negotiating better terms with suppliers or optimizing the use of office space. It also discusses the importance of monitoring actual spending against the budget and taking corrective action when necessary. The document concludes by encouraging all employees to be mindful of their spending and contribute to the overall financial health of the company.



3  
a. In the story of the forgiving young woman, she was presented as telling just the one soldier -- and the one who had greatly injured her -- about Christ. So should we tell individuals about us about Jesus, wherever and whenever the opportunity comes.

2. Rev. T. J. Carlisle of Delhi, N. Y., tells of a blotter which he once received. On it, he said, was pictured a group of four men. They were grouped about another man to whom they were obviously listening with great interest. Around the picture were these words: "Put the story into circulation." Below in smaller type this company urged the reader, as a previous customer, to recommend the firm to others, to put their story into circulation.

That is the vocation of Christians, to do the very same thing the blotter suggested: "Put the story into circulation." Tell people about Christ.

3. A minister in a parish is expected to visit in homes, offices, places of work, and to tell individuals about Christ on these visits. He is expected to be so convincing that he will win people to Christ. But this telling what Christ means is also the task of the individual Christian wherever he is.

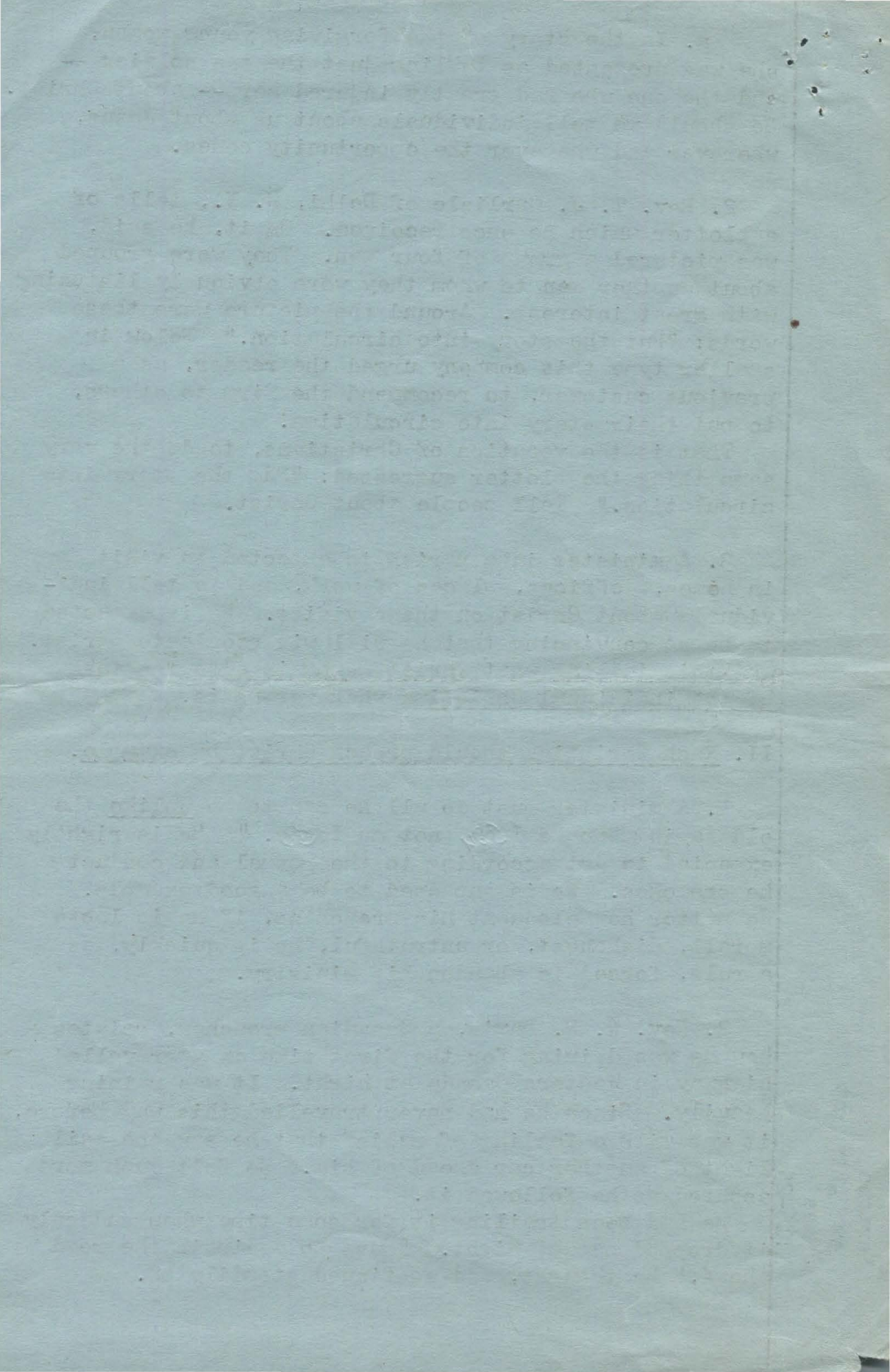
## II. Each Christian should preach Christ by example.

1. A minister must do all he can to be unlike the old saying "Do as I ~~say~~, not as I ~~do~~." He is rightly expected to act according to the gospel and conduct he preaches. He is supposed to be a good example. No matter how eloquent his preaching, if he is loose morall, dishonest, or untruthful, he is quickly, as a rule, forced to abandon his ministry.

2. Rev. W. H. Davis, a Canadian preacher, relates how he was driving for the first time on a gravelled highway in Western Canada at night. It was raining heavily. Since he had never travelled this way before, it was with a feeling of relief that he saw the tail light of another car ahead of him. He felt much more assured as he followed it.

He had been trailing it for some time when suddenly it dropped out of sight. "Must be a dip in the road ahead," he thought, and continued steadily on.







4  
Suddenly, too late, he saw that the road took a sharp curve around a lagoon. His car went straight over the side of the highway and down the embankment into the soft mud, right behind the car he had been following. When he climbed out of his car, to his surprise he found not one car ahead of him, but two. The driver he had been following was travelling the road for the first time also. And he had been following the car ahead of him.

This driver had missed the curve, and quite unaware that any others were depending on his leading, had drawn two other cars into the same predicament.

This is but one small example of the silent influence individuals have on the actions of others. You may think that you are travelling alone and unnoticed, but you can never even guess how many people are watching you and following where you lead.

3. Be careful to live as much like Christ as you possibly can. In so doing you may lead others to him. In so doing, you are truly preaching the gospel.

III. Each Christian should strive to help the gospel message be carried to all the world.

1. Just before His ascension to heaven, Jesus told the eleven disciples to go and make disciples of all nations (Mt.28:19).

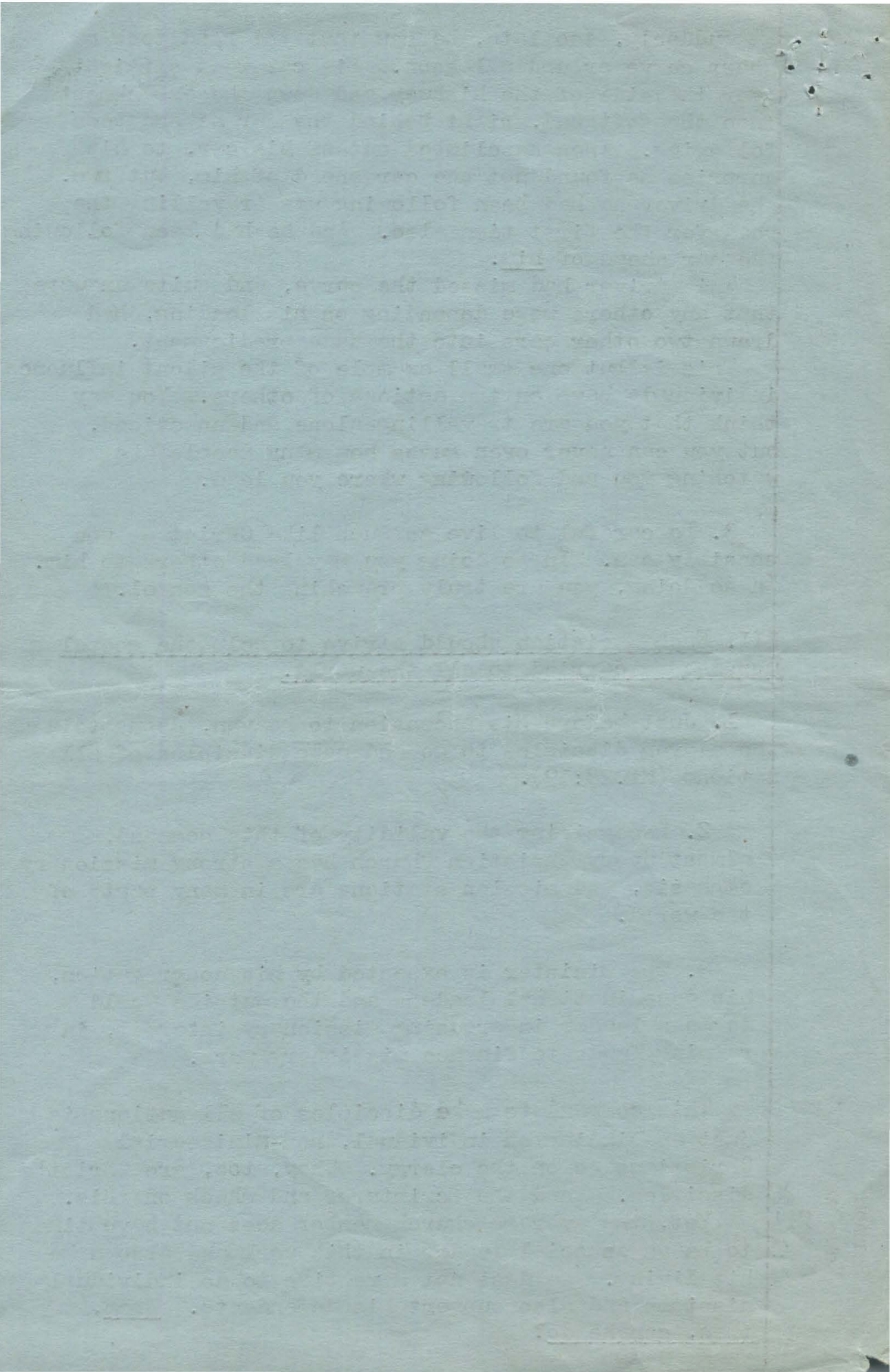
2. Recognizing the validity of this command, almost every Christian Church has a strong missionary emphasis, and mission stations are in many parts of the world.

3. The minister is expected by his congregation, his denominational leaders and the outside world to be a leader in arousing missionary interest, in raising funds to finance missionary work.

This command to make disciples of all nations is just as binding on individual, non-ministerial Christians as on the clergy. They, too, are Christ's disciples. Read the Scriptures and check on this.

Yet, the average church member does not have time to be an especial leader in this work and also make his living. He does not have time to do individual missions and also support his dependents. What, then, can he do?







Certainly he can share his material blessings, as represented by his money, to make missions possible.

5. Rev. Z.R. Carpenter of Alabama tells of a missionary story he once read. He said that a missionary in Africa planned a Christmas party for the children in his school. Each child was to bring a present for Jesus -- a vegetable, an old toy, or anything he could manage. The children were to pass before the manger, singing their Christmas songs and placing their gifts in the manger.

One little girl, dissatisfied with any gift she could obtain, went to a neighbor and sold her young life into slavery to him for a shining piece of silver worth about 75 cents in our money.

She came to the meeting with a happy face. As the other children placed their gifts in the manger, she held out the silver piece to the missionary, because she didn't want to put it in with the dirty vegetables and toys.

The missionary questioned her, thinking that she had stolen it, but proudly she related how she had gotten it.

Are we willing to give even a fair part of what we have to preach the word? We should want to do so. In doing so we aid in making disciples of all nations. In giving of our substance, we are bringing others to him.

We become doers of the word and not hearers only.

Conclusion: Every Christian should be one who proclaims, or preaches Christ.

He can do it through public and private telling, or verbal preaching; through example in Christian living; and through contribution to and support of the missionary enterprise.

May we here dedicate ourselves more fully to preaching the gospel of Christ in these three manners.

The question "Why in a spiritual movement and moment should an offering be received," becomes fully answered when we think of it as preaching about Christ, as is our duty. How can we love God and Christ without loving the needy world? What is dedication if it does not include all we can do? The world is in desperate need of the ministry of Christ. **Let us do all we can to provide it.**



