

# The Harvester



## Preparing Souls

## To Serve The Lord



Volume 38

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Number 5

## “I Am Mine No More”

By Brian R. Kenyon

The sentiments in the popular devotional song, “I Am Mine No More,” were recorded in Scripture long before R. E. VanDyke and Danny Gregg arranged the American folk song in 1996. One such place where the sentiment is found is Galatians 2:20, which itself has become a popular devotional song:

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. (KJV)

This verse is actually in a section of Galatians where Paul was defending his apostleship against the undermining tactics of Judaizers. Although his apostleship was “born out of due time” (1 Cor. 15:8), he was just as legitimate as the original twelve. He did not receive the Gospel from the other apostles (Gal. 2:1-5), yet his Gospel, as he would sometimes call it (Rom. 2:16; 16:25; 2 Tim. 2:8), was the same as that of the “pillar apostles” in Jerusalem (Gal. 2:6-10). Paul even had authority to rebuke the well known apostle Peter (Gal. 2:11-14)! Galatians 2:20 is in the immediate context of Paul’s stating he no longer adhered to the Law of Moses (Gal. 2:15-21). Truly following the Law would bring a person out of Judaism and into Christ (Gal. 2:19 cf. Gal. 3:24-25; Rom. 7:6). Although Paul used the verse to show why he was no longer under Moses, the principles of Galatians 2:20 also serve as a pattern for lives of God-pleasing service. To be Christians like Paul, church members today need to have the same self-denial and determination as these principles expressed in Galatians 2:20.

### Crucified with Christ

Crucifixion was a death sentence in the first century. Paul said, spiritually, “I am crucified with Christ” (Gal. 2:20a). Christians have taken on themselves a sentence of death to the world. Paul said he did not want to boast, except “in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world” (Gal. 6:14). This crucifixion “unto the world” takes place in baptism. A simple reading of Romans 6 reveals the undeniable connection of baptism and death to the world! The concept is explicit in several verses (cf. Rom. 6:2-13, 16, 21, 23) and tied into the whole. Those who have been baptized “have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts” (Gal. 5:24). Jesus said a self-executed death sentence to the world must be a way of life:

If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. (Mt. 16:24-25)

Are we crucified with Christ?

### Living with Christ

Though Paul was crucified, he acknowledged, “nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me”

**Lectureship Schedule .... Page 3**  
**Spring Semester Class**  
**Schedule ..... Page 4**

(Gal. 2:20b). Being crucified with Christ does not end physical life, but it does end life in the flesh as was formerly known. Again, the Christian has “crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts” (Gal. 5:24)! Those who have been baptized into Christ (i.e., crucified with Him) are new creations, “old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God” (2 Cor. 5:17-18). As such, the spiritually re-created “seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God,” and they set their “affection on things above, not on things on the earth” (Col. 3:1-2). Christians operate by a whole new perspective, as Paul wrote:

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup>And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. (Rom. 12:1-2)

The world is no longer the controlling entity when one has been crucified with Christ and has Christ living in him or her!


## Belonging to Christ

Paul was crucified, yet acknowledged that he was still alive, and then admitted, “the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me” (Gal. 2:20c). Christians no longer belong to themselves. Since they have been purchased by Deity, they are owned by Deity. Paul wrote to the worldly Corinthians:

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? <sup>20</sup>For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s. (1 Cor. 6:19-20)

Among other sins, the Corinthians were too comfortable with fornication, even to the point of arrogantly tolerating a man who had “his father’s wife” (1 Cor. 5:1-2). They needed to know how completely inconsistent it was for members of Christ’s body, the church, to be joined to prostitutes (1 Cor. 6:15-18). Paul emphasized one aspect of why it was wrong. It went against God’s will, and God owns those who have been bought with the price of Jesus’ blood! Since Jesus “died for all ... they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again” (2 Cor. 5:15). Since Christians belong to Christ, they must be guided by His will, living to the Spirit not to the flesh (Rom. 8:12-16; Gal. 5:16-24).

## Conclusion

Christians belong to God. They have voluntarily died with Christ, chosen to live with Christ, and now belong wholly to Christ. May each member of Christ’s body truly live as “I am mine no more.” 

### Works Cited

VanDyke, R. E. and Danny Gregg. “I Am Mine No More.” Praise for the Lord. Ed. John Wiegand. Nashville, TN: Mark M. McInteer, 1997. Song 924.

### Special Thanks To Our Generous Supporters In October 2017

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\*Our final deposit for the month is usually made on the last Wednesday of the month. All contributions received after that time are reported on the next month’s financial statement.

## The Harvester

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# Make Plans Now to Be with Us in January!

Monday is MLK, Jr. Day! Use the holiday for the Lord! The afternoon program has young people in mind!



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# Do You Understand



Bruce Harris



Jason Hendrix

# The Biblical View of the Home?

43rd Annual Lectureship

January 15-18, 2018

Brian R. Kenyon, Director



Hiram Kemp



John L. Lewis



Dean Miller



Troy Postlethwait

### Monday

9:00 Family Beginnings (Gen. 2:18-25) Stephen Atnip  
9:40 Blended Families: Different from the Start Jerry Martin  
10:20 BREAK  
10:50 Does OT Polygamy Justify Polygamy Today? Dan Stearsman  
11:30 LUNCH

### Forum: Young People and Family

1:30 A Christian in a Non-Christian Home Forest Antemasaris  
2:00 What to Look for in a Spouse Ty Rhymes  
2:30 Why Abimelech Could Not Have Her (Gen. 20) Hiram Kemp  
3:00 BREAK  
3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic  
4:30 DINNER  
6:30 Congregational Singing  
7:00 Biblical Role of Wives Troy Postlethwait  
7:45 Wives Married to Non-Christians (1 Pet. 3:1-6) B. J. Clarke

### Tuesday

9:00 Breakdown of the Home's Impact on Society Jason Hendrix  
9:40 Harmonizing the Home Bill Davis  
10:20 BREAK  
10:50 Dealing with Adultery Logan Summers  
11:30 LUNCH

### Forum: Extra Effort Families

1:30 Special Needs Children Cloyd B. Frock, Jr.  
2:00 Making Strides with "Steps" Teral Walker  
2:30 Rearing Children in Blended Families Elvis Galbreath  
3:00 BREAK  
3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic  
4:30 DINNER  
6:30 Congregational Singing  
7:00 Biblical Role of Husbands Bruce Harris  
7:45 Husbands Living with Their Wives (1 Pet. 3:7) Jimmy Clark

### Wednesday

9:00 Sustaining Faith Through Unexpected Death Rick Kenyon  
9:40 Reeling in Rebellion Bill Davis  
10:20 BREAK  
10:50 How the Love of Money Impacts the Home Jimmy Clark  
11:30 LUNCH

### Forum: Home Wreckers

1:30 Divorce David Stearsman  
2:00 Pornography Jack Wilkie  
2:30 Selfishness Chad Tagtow  
3:00 BREAK  
3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic  
4:30 DINNER  
6:30 Congregational Singing  
7:00 Traits of a Successful Father Christian Torres  
7:45 Why Some Fathers Fail Terrance Brownlow-Dindy, Sr.

### Thursday

9:00 Surviving Widowhood Dean Miller  
9:40 Turning Trials to Triumphs Bill Davis  
10:20 BREAK  
10:50 Biblical Principles on Training Children Melvin L. Otey  
11:30 LUNCH

### Forum: Challenged Families

1:30 Inner City Families Rico Brown  
2:00 Single Parent Homes John L. Lewis  
2:30 Culturally Mixed Marriages Philip Vanwinkle  
3:00 BREAK  
3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic  
4:30 DINNER  
6:30 Congregational Singing  
7:00 Is the Lord Building Your House? Hiram Kemp  
7:45 Christ: The Pattern for the Home Melvin L. Otey



Rick Kenyon



Jerry Martin



Melvin L. Otey



Ty Rhymes

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Register on-line, by calling the office, or by selecting classes from this form and mailing it to the office with your name, address, and phone number!

## Learn God's Word! No Tuition! No Excuses!

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Lakeland Classes</b>	<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Credit</b>
Monday	__ 8:30-12:00	Denominational Dogmas (131)	Bauer	3
	__ 1:00-4:15	Marriage and the Family (254)	Richardson	3
Tuesday	__ 8:30-12:00	Psalms (268)	Wheeler	3
	__ 1:00-4:15	Life of Christ (117)	Wheeler	3
Wednesday	__ 8:30-12:00	Personal Evangelism (120)	Patterson	3
	__ 1:00-4:15	English II - Composition (125)	Kenyon	3
Thursday	__ 8:30-12:00	Acts (118)	Atnip	3
	__ 1:00-4:15	Isaiah and Jeremiah (113)	B-Dindy	3
Friday	__ 8:30-12:00	Holy Spirit (250)	Kenyon	3
	__ 1:00-4:15	Pentateuch (164)	Kemp	3
<b>Extension Classes</b>				
Thursday	__ 6:00-8:30	Wisdom Literature (248) (Tenth Street church of Christ, Apopka)	Kenyon	2.5
	__ 6:00-8:30	First Corinthians (138) (Orange Street church of Christ, Auburndale)	Bauer	2.5
	__ 7:00-9:30	Daniel (113) (Wesconnett church of Christ, Jacksonville)	Dixon	2.5