

# THE SEARCH LITE

CHRISTIANITY: What Is It?

Phillipians 3

We the church, have tried to hold up the Bible as our main guide in all ages, under all circumstances. We now wish to hold up Christianity in its divine beauty as illustrated in this chapter of the Bible.

Men fail in their theology, but the Bible and Christianity remain unshaken and unshakeable. In the third chapter of the Phillipians we can see the model of a true Canadian. The man referred to in this scripture could say by the Holy Ghost, "Brethren, be ye followers together of me". It is not as an apostle that he speaks to us, nor as one with extra-ordinary gifts. It is not to Paul, the apostle, nor Paul the gifted vessel that we listen in verse 17, but to Paul, the Christian. We can follow Paul in his Christian walk in this world, first by the Christian's standing, secondly by the Christian's object, and thirdly the Christian's hope.

The Christian Standing - no one could excel Saul of Tarsus. He was a Jew from birth and possessed zeal and devotedness. He was a persecuter of the Church. Judaism existed and maintained the middle wall of partition. Christianity has done away with that wall altogether. Therefore, Saul, as an earnest Jew could not but be a persecuter of the Church. It was part of his religion which he "excelled many of his peers" in his own nation. Whatever was to be had in the shape of religion Saul would have it. He would leave no stone unturned in order to build up his own righteousness-righteousness in the flesh, in the old creation.

No doubt Paul as a sinner needed like every other sinner, a righteousness in which to stand before God. Like Adam in the Garden of Eden, he was naked, and therefore made himself an apron, but it would have been a "loss" to him to keep the apron after the Lord God had made him a coat. It would surely be better to have a God-made coat than a man-made apron. So thought all the saints of God whose names are recorded upon the Lamb's book of Life. Therefore, we see that the standing of Christian is "in Christ". Christianity is to be "Found in Him". It is not being a member of this Church, that Church or the other Church. It is to be in Christ. This is the great foundation of true practical Christianity.

The Christian Object - "That I May Know Him" is the desire of the true Christian. If to be "found in Him" is the Christian's standing, then "to know Him" is the Christian's object. It matters not what the object is, if it is not Christ, it is not Christianity. The Christian does not belong to this world at all. He is in heaven and we should never be satisfied to lower ourselves to any other object than Christ. It is a man's object not his position, that gives him his character. It is true we fail sadly but let us always keep the true object before us.

The Christian's Hope is to be like Christ. "For our conversation is in Heaven, from whence also we look for the Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto Himself". Phil. 2:20, 21. Let us turn our eyes away from man altogether, and fix it intently upon Christ Himself, and find all our delight in Him as our righteousness, our object, and our hope.

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HORROR  
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## Neill House Christmas

By GLENN MOORE  
Neill House

On Thursday, December 1, the residents of Neill House accompanied by a few Special Education students, hosted a Christmas party for the students at the Murray F. Humes Memorial School for the mentally handicapped children. This is the third time the gentlemen of Neill have sponsored the party, the first time being in December 1980.

To begin the party, the students of both the school and the university introduced themselves to each other and paired up to share the afternoon together.

The ensuing two hours kept all participants pretty active. After the introductions, everybody made ornaments and completely covered the Christmas tree with decorations. (It should be noted that the university students might consider taking lessons, from our younger friends, in the fine art of making Christmas decorations.)

Each pair of students then took some time to play together, offering all a chance to get to know their new friends a little better. Everyone then sat down to relax and enjoy a couple of films. Actually the students at the school wore out the hosts of the party and it was the hosts who wanted the rest. A Christmas carol singalong followed in which everyone participated.

But what would a Christmas party be without an appearance from the old guy himself? Everyone's face lit up when Santa came into the room. Each of the children at the school then received a pre-Christmas surprise from Santa's toy bag.

The afternoon of events closed off with a lunch for the children.

You could see the happiness on each and every participant's face and it is known that the reward of being there was indescribable.

The hosts would also like to thank the staff at the Murray F. Humes School and the families of the children for allowing them to put on the party and share a couple of hours with some very special people.

## Political Perspectives

By R. HUTCHINS  
Brunswick Staff

Each year about this time societies spend-thrift masses mobilize themselves for the onslaught of Christmas and stockpile the necessary gifts and spirits for the festive season. This year, however, the spirit could be dampened due to the unprecedented ideological conflict at the North Pole!

It seems that Christmas has been infiltrated by a unionist plot to disrupt the supply of necessary toys and high technology knick-knacks from arriving in the homes of children world-wide.

Most of the elves as we know, are seasonally employed. Due to the modernization of machinery Santa was able to cut his labor time in half and thus only needed his elves for two months of intensive assembly line work.

In our society two months is not enough to be eligible for Unemployment Insurance Benefits and thus many of the elves ended up on welfare. The North Pole being a one industry town had seen its sole source of income depleted to starvation levels.

Many of the elves began to drink heavily and hang out at a local bar owned by one of Santa's former assembly line foremen who's name was Rudolph.

Anyhow Rudolph realized the situation was ripe for a takeover of Santa's monopoly in the Christmas toy market. Rudolph began to pass rumours that Santa was planning on computerizing the assembly line and making all the toys by the machine. The elves were now in an awful state of panic and called an emergency meeting at Rudolph's Bar and Grill. Rudolph with the help of 2 or 3 of the more radical workers was able to take over the meeting and get elected as spokesman for the elves.

The first thing he did was to form a union and called for a general strike. The elves although not unanimous were desperate and voted in favour of a walk-out. Santa was furious over this development and called the best labour negotiator available. This man was Brian Mulroney, a hard nosed veteran of labour politics. Mulroney called both parties to the negotiating table and tried to speed the process by noting that Christmas was only 27 days away and if a consensus was not reached many children would be devastated.

Rudolph said the elves would be back to work if Santa agreed to stop all mechanization and thus renew the month work period and eligibility for stamps. Santa was furious and explained how transportation costs and the high price of reindeer fuel forced him to mechanize in the first place to remain competitive with Japanese imitators who were slowly moving into the market. Rudolph however, would not budge!

Santa at this point, was desperate and needed some sort of propaganda expert to run a smear campaign against Rudolph and the Union Movement. He had heard of a farmer from Wisconsin who was an expert at de-legitimizing ideological movements, his name was Joe McCarthy. McCarthy arrived at the North Pole and immediately went to Rudolph's disguised as a toy manufacturer, he began to strike up conversation with some of the weaker elves and told them that he heard Rudolph was a communist infiltrator and had connections in Moscow and Peking. Of course, these rumours spread like wildfire and Rudolph came under fire from the right wing of the elf's union membership. A vote of non-confidence was put and Rudolph was banished to a straight membership role. At this point the union was split and could not come up with any type of concrete proposals. Their union strike funds had run out and they desperately needed money. Some of the older elves suggested they go back to work and negotiate again after Christmas. The rest of the elves agreed and decided to work overtime to meet the time lost during the strike.

Santa was pleased with the outcome and as a gesture of gratitude offered all of the elves (except Rudolph) one more month of work to allow them to be eligible for Unemployment Benefits once more. So for the time being the threat of a toy-less Christmas has been put out.

Rudolph, after becoming a social outcast, moved to New York and opened up a new bar, Mulroney became a national hero and was praised as the Saviour of Christmas and McCarthy went to El Salvador to faithfully up-root communists. As for the toys, they will arrive on time although due to the disruption they may be a bit more expensive this year!