

Methodist Home Hospital

ALMOST OR ALTOGETHER

Acts 26:28-29.

To day is Whitsunday or "The Day Of Pentecost" This is the birth day of the Christian Church. At the first it was the peoples church.

What is the Church?

1. The Church is a chosen people
- 2. The Church is a redeemed people
3. The church is an endowed people
4. The church is a distinctive people
5. " " " " *renewed people*

At a certain time in history the Peoples Church went in to obscurity. The cause of this going in to obscurity was that the claim of the metropolis and bishopric of Rome claimed that Rome was the supreme authority over all Christendom. The Pope church was born.

If you look for the Peoples Church you will find it in small groups gathered in obscure places for worship and fellowship. The Peoples Church, although obscure was the seed bed for the Reformation and Protestantism. These people had to be altogether Christians..not almost Christians.

It is easy for any body to understand that the human race is divided into two classes...Right and Wrong. Those found on the wrong side are servants of Satan, and are to receive his reward which is eternal death.

Those on the right side are in the realm of religion. There are many religions but we feel that although all religions have good in them the Christian religion is the rounded out religion and the ONE all people should make their own.

any one can see that ~~if~~ the race is divided into two parts or armies there will have to be a leader of each. Any one would know that there will be war, contests, between the two. No one can be effective in his camp if he is not altogether for his leader.

All of us know that those in the devil's camp should come over into the Lord's camp. To be able to bring them over we have to show real interest in our cause.

Paul, in the lesson today, told about his having been in another religion that had good points but that in that religion he practiced things that were not Christian and continued to do so until one day Jesus met him and changed him to the point that he became an altogether Christian. AND WHEN AGRIPPA SAW AN ALTOGETHER CHRISTIAN HE SAID? "YOU HAVE ALMOST PERSUADED ME TO BE A CHRISTIAN." This came you see after Paul had given a good old Methodist testimony

HOW WEAK SOME OF US ARE TODAY IN OUR TESTAMONY.

It is this ALMOST attitude that we are trying to think about to day. When Paul's vision came he did not say, "Lord you almost persuade me to follow you but he said in the most earnest spirit, "Lord what will you have me to do?"

Another verse of scripture reads like this, "One thing thou lackest" This was Jesus talking to the rich young man as you remember.

I use to see at state fairs and places of that nature an arrangement where you took a maul and hit a spring and that would send the ball up toward a bell. If you rang the bell you got a prize. I have seen lots of people hit the thing and the ball would go nearly to the bell but not quite and lose ther money. The bell did not ring. *Must have
too weak
Hit wrong*

Are you ringing the bell as you come over from satan to Christ? Or is there something or somethings that are between you and the bell? Do you have hate in your heart, jealousy envy, selfishness, or indifferent attitude to the church?

God loves altogether Christians. He likes completeness and if not complete an effort or tendency in that direction. Don't you dislike to see an incompleted bridge where the work has stopped, or a home that was begun and no sign of trying to finish it?

