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The  
**CHRISTIAN**  
And  
**TOBACCO**

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**IS GOD PLEASED WITH TOBACCO?**

**IS TOBACCO IN THE BIBLE?**

**WOULD CHRIST SMOKE?**

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**E. A. Mills**

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by

E. A. Mills

**BSME University of Washington, 1947. Ex-  
Naval Line Officer: now ENS (P) Chaplain Corp.  
Senior, Asbury Theological Seminary.**



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E. A. MILLS

**God's Unchanging Word**

For feelings come and feelings go,  
And feelings are deceiving;  
My warrant is the word of God,  
Naught else is worth believing.

I'll trust in God's unchanging word  
Till soul and body sever:  
For, though all things shall pass away,  
His word shall stand forever.

—Martin Luther.

## PREFACE

Jesus said, "If any man is willing to do his (God's) will he shall know of the teaching whether it is of God" (John 7:17). It is the purpose of this booklet to bring before its readers what God's Word can be interpreted as saying, without doing any violence to the Scriptures, regarding tobacco. Although "tobacco" is a word which our Bible does not contain, it does fall in with a very general and inclusive term, namely uncleanness. Both the Old and New Testaments have considerable to say concerning uncleanness and filthiness of the flesh and spirit.

The fact that man is now in a dispensation of grace is used by some in an attempt to abolish God's demands, which have existed in every age. Paul, writing with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit upon him, says in I Tim. 1:8: "But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully." Jesus himself did not hold the law of God in light esteem, but gave it a high place in his thinking. He said, "Think not that I am come to abolish (make an end of, or to dissolve) the law and the prophets: I have not come to dissolve them, but to fulfill them" (Matt. 5:17). We can clearly see then that both the Old and New Testament are binding upon us as far as principles are concerned.

Where I have been offensive because of human infirmity I ask your forgiveness; where God's Word is offensive I can do nothing but pray for you. Please read the entire booklet thru before making your decision. Remember, you have God's promise. If you are willing to serve him, you will know of the teaching as to whether it is true or false.

Just be honest with yourself. A man can deceive his wife, family, friends and sometimes himself, but God always sees and knows his heart.

## INTRODUCTION

In as much as the earthly Church of Jesus Christ has taken in so many of the world's ways, (sometimes with the hope that people will get light on their uncleanness and sin, and leave it behind of their own accord, and other times because the standard is held lower than the Bible standard of Christianity), it has been on my heart to do what I can to cause people to rethink what it means to deny self and follow Christ.

In this, the heart of the tobacco country, the average church has taken its tobacco users and growers for granted: tobacco has been here so long that people simply accept it as a necessity of life, which is here to stay. The Bible has been ignored where it comes in contact with habits and businesses, which are close to our daily lives, and contrary to its teachings.

God is not pleased with any church or preacher that fails to condemn sin in any of its forms. He has prepared a Holy Place for Holy People, which is entered by a Holy Way and tabernacled in by a Holy God. Isaiah 35:8 tells us that the **unclean** person shall not pass on the Holy Way, and Paul, in Ephesians 5:5, tells us that the unclean person has no inheritance in God's Kingdom. Uncleanness is the opposite of Holiness, which every man must have if he expects to see God (Heb 12:14).

Of this I am sure! Heaven will be free from ash trays and spittoons for its people will have all been obedient to God's Word and have cleansed themselves "from **all filthiness of the flesh** and Spirit and have perfected holiness in the fear of God" (2 Cor. 7:1).

He breaks the power of canceled sin  
He sets the prisoner free  
His blood can make the foulest clean  
His blood availed for me

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## USERS OF AND GAINERS FROM TOBACCO

There are two reasons which will cause the average man or woman to deal with tobacco:

1. Because he has created an unnatural appetite, and either can't or won't give up the momentary release it seems to bring from life.

2. Because coming in contact with it by selling it in a grocery store, owning land that it is grown on, working in it, or any one of many other related jobs constitutes his livelihood.

I have nothing but the deepest sympathy for both classes. The person who has used it for years has a real problem. Thousands of people have tried time and again to quit, but find that the little innocent habit has grown into a full grown monster, that now has them. Only the all-conquering Christ can bring deliverance! I can hear the question, "How can Christ help me to quit smoking, chewing, snuffing, etc?"

**First** you must realize that Romans 14:23 means what it says: "Whatever is not of faith is Sin". The Expositor's Greek Testament says of this, "Everything a Christian man does that cannot justify itself to him on the ground of his relation to Christ is sin. All a man cannot do remembering that he is Christ's — all he cannot do with the judgment seat, — and the cross and all their restraints and inspirations present to his mind — is sin."

When you realize that you would not want Christ to come with His holy angels, and find you with an unclean cigarette or cigar or chew in your mouth, then you see that a Christian can do nothing at anytime that Christ would disapprove of, for

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Christ sees us as clearly now as he ever will; it is only our human eyes that fail to see His glory.

When you see it as SIN, and not as some little habit, or weakness or small thing that makes no difference, then Christ can give deliverance, for his Word says, "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body" (Romans 6:12) (This is the body we now have.) Does God's Word command us to do something which is impossible? No! God forbid. Verse 13 goes on and tells us not to yield ourselves unto unrighteousness, but to yield ourselves unto God; then verse 14 says - "For sin shall not have dominion over you." We have **God's command, His instructions, and His promise.** Oh that your heart may reach up to him now in faith, and plead for deliverance. We serve a great God! The God that lead 2,000,000 Hebrew children out from the land of bondage is able to give you deliverance if you will meet his conditions. Oh hear His command, obey His voice, and trust His Word.

Now let us consider the gainer, or the person who deals in tobacco to make a living. My eyes are not closed to those folks who farm another man's land and must grow what he says or get out. How my heart grieves to think of those, who seemingly have no other means of making a living. If I had only myself to look to for the answer, I am sure that no answer could be found; but thank God we do not have to look to our own hands for deliverance; when life seems to show no way out, then our God comes to our aid.

The three Hebrew children would not have had "one like unto the Son of Man" walking by their side if they had bowed to the image as did the others. Daniel would not have found out that God

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could stop the lions' mouths as well as interpret dreams. Peter would never have learned that Jesus was master of all had he not followed Him after leaving all. The Bible is full of such instances where, when man reached the end of his way, God came along and made a way for him. Do you not believe that this same God lives today, to show Himself strong in behalf of those who trust in Him?

A word to you who do not choose your crops. If you are a user of tobacco, first obey God's Word. "Therefore come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch **nothing unclean**, and I will receive you" (2 Cor. 6:17). If you have failed God in your heart and lost the joy of your salvation, believe His promise in I John 1:9, "If we confess our sins He is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness," and confess and be forgiven and cleansed. Then after meeting God's conditions prevail in prayer for a way out believing that, "We shall have what we will" if we ask in faith for His Glory.

It has been preached that sanctification is what takes care of the unclean habits. People then excuse sin by saying, "I am not sanctified yet, only justified." A person who says this has never met Christ, for there is no difference in the outer life of the man who is justified and the man who is sanctified. Brethren, my Bible does not teach me that either justification or sanctification is something optional, that we can take or leave, depending on what we wish to do. Just how long a man can continue in the justified state, and not press on into the experience of perfect love, only our Father knows: but we do know this, that if we are to have fellowship with God, we must walk in the light. "If we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son

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cleanses us from all sin" (I John 1:7). It may be that in some people the cleansing power of the Holy Spirit is necessary for victory, but it is also true that "He that hath this hope purifieth himself, even as he is pure" (I John 3:3). **Some unsaved people have long ago given up many habits that people who claim to be sanctified still retain.** However, regardless of how clean your life may be outwardly, every man needs the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Fire, which not only cleanses our heart from all sin, but also empowers us with the greatest power this universe has felt, "The Holy Spirit of God". It is then, and only then that we can follow in our Lord's footsteps, and witness as we should, and live overcoming, victorious lives. (Luke 11 tells us how to receive the Holy Spirit.)

Now a word to those who own their own property or business, and can choose now as to whether they will or will not traffic in tobacco. Many people in this class are not the one-talent men, but the three-talent and five-talent men: those who God has intrusted with more ability and goods than the average person. In this class are the men who own their own land, stores, trucking agencies, warehouses and so on. Those whom we call independent people. What is their relationship to tobacco in the light of God's Word?

In I Cor. 10 Paul has been discussing the use of meat, which has been offered to idols. After giving a detailed discussion of the problem, he comes up with this final statement, "Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or **whatsoever** you do, do all to the glory of God" (I Cor. 10:31). Paul's final reasoning is this; Regardless of whatever you do BE SURE that it is to the glory of God! This becomes especially important when we see that Paul is addressing his Corinthian Christians, who had had, and still had

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gross sin in their midst. So this applies not only to the meat question, but to the problem of fornication and **acts of uncleanness**, which could not be done to the glory of God.

This same message is directed to each Christian today. **We must do all that we do for God's Glory.** "Let your light so shine before men that they may see **your good works** and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 5:16). Let us consider a few things that we can do in everyday life to His glory. We can even drink a glass of water, and eat a temperate meal to God's glory, for in doing so we keep in good condition our body, which is a temple of the Holy Spirit. We can spend days at hard labor to provide for our loved ones; we can marry and raise children in the ways of the Lord for His glory. In short, the natural laws of life can be followed, and our heart will not trouble us. It is only when we begin to spend our labor for those things that God has forbidden, that we fail to glorify God and begin to glorify Satan. God has commanded us to forsake all uncleanness and filthiness and perfect holiness. He has also commanded us to love our neighbor. How can you men and women claim to love God and desire to keep His commandments, when you supply or sell people tobacco? It takes money from those who need it for food! It is in no case helpful, and in many cases harmful to the bodies of God's children. It causes them to be condemned, for God has no part with uncleanness. A sinner is not expected to care who he harms or what he does, for he is still in darkness; but those who have been born of the Spirit of God are expected to have the loving Spirit of Christ in their lives. **"If any man have not the spirit of Christ he is none of his"** (Romans 8:9). This simply means if you care more for your money and security than for the spiritual state of your bro-

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ther, you do not have His Spirit, and are not acquainted with Jesus Christ as Savior.

Jesus said, "If ye love me keep my commandments (John 14:15), and "A New Commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34). He did not say love as the Pharisees love, or church members love, or so called Christians love, but **He did say "love as I have loved you."** He loved us so much that God's presence with all of its glory was left to take on a body like unto ours, and even give His life on a cross. This is love divine! **This is the kind of love we must have!** An unselfish love that asks only one question, "What is thy will, Father"?

Some of you may say, "If I don't grow it or sell it, someone else will." Jesus had something to about temptations, "Woe to the world for temptation to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the man by whom the temptation comes" (Matt 18:7).

You cannot force a man or woman to use tobacco, and most of you would not want to, but Jesus pronounced a woe upon the person, **who even tempted one of his little ones to sin.** In 1949 an estimated 800,000 new smokers were taken from the ranks of non-smokers. Someone supplied the temptation. Was it your tobacco or your store?

Could you convince the drunkard that you are concerned with his soul and still supply him liquor? No you cannot! Can you then supply the chain smoker cigarettes, and be concerned with his soul? No you cannot! **We cannot tempt men into uncleanness, and into possibly destroying the temple of God, to the Glory of God.** God is not divided! Either you are 100 per cent for him, or 100 per cent against him. There is no such thing as a half-way Christian.

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You either love God or you don't! You either love your neighbor or you don't! Paul said that if his eating meat caused one of his brothers to sin "I will eat no flesh while the world standeth" (I Cor 8:13), for "when ye sin so against the brethren, YE SIN against Christ" (I Cor. 8:12). Paul had the Spirit of Christ! He was willing to never again eat meat, if eating would damn his brother. If he was so concerned over so little a thing as eating meat, where should the Christians come in who are harming their brethren? **Do you mean business with God to the place that you are willing, like Paul, to cease anything that could in any way be proven wrong?** You must if you will see God! God will not let you in when you help damn others for whom Christ died. God help you to see what you are doing, and flee now from harming your brother and begin with your whole heart to pray for His salvation. The Father of Methodism, John Wesley, said in his sermon, "The Use of Money," **"neither may we gain by hurting our neighbor in his body. Therefore we must not sell anything, which tends to impair health."** This gets close to where we live. Is it more important to live by harming others, than to die? (If we think it is we will save our life here, but lose it at the judgment. If you really desire to have God's blessing upon your life, then throw off the sin and uncleanness that binds your life, and become alive unto God. Charles Finney, that great evangelist of a century ago, said, "Revival is a new beginning in obedience to God." If we will only obey, God's people will have revival, and your sons and daughters, and fathers and mothers will be brought to the Lord.

## UNCLEANNES AND TOBACCO

Under the old covenant God had called some things clean and others unclean (see Leviticus 11 & 13.) These things were not called unclean to give extra laws and commandments, but to protect the people from disease and injury, which would have come their way had they not been instructed by God. God has always supplied the good things for this world, and is doing all that he can to cause man's physical, mental, and spiritual nature to follow the paths for which they were designed.

The leper (Lev 13:45) was compelled to cry, "unclean, unclean," that others could know of his condition and presence. Long before man learned of "Trichina", which is carried by hogs and other animals, God had instructed his people not to eat of such animals. In those days man did not have the scientific advantages that we do today, and God in his love provided that man could escape their effects if he would only obey Him. **God's laws and commandments cannot be broken without our suffering the effects of our disobedience.**

God's Word says, "If any man destroy the temple of God, him shall God destroy, for the temple of God is HOLY, which temple YE ARE" (I Cor. 3:17). The original Greek word for destroy has these other meanings, corrupt, ruin, waste and spoil, so we see that a person, who willfully corrupts or spoils or ruins his body, in God's sight is just as guilty as if he destroys it. How many men and women have you known who died of cancer of the throat, mouth, or lungs? Now think! How many of these folks used tobacco? How many didn't? The magazine, "Selected", recently carried the news of a Dallas, Texas doctor, who is an ear, nose, and throat specialist, reporting having treated 150 patients for cancer of the mouth, throat, and vocal cords. Of these 150

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people 149 used tobacco. **Think of it only ONE person out of 150 had cancer, without using tobacco, while the 149 had cancer and used tobacco.** Were it not for the millions of dollars used each year to advertize tobacco, which our newspapers feel they must have, I'm sure that doctors, who are not afraid of losing patients because of their stand, would provide many similiar examples. God give us men and women who have had their life transformed by grace divine and fear God more than man.

How many people do you know, whom doctors have instructed to use no more tobacco, because of lung trouble, T. B., lack of weight, stomach trouble and other disorders? How many of these do you know that **cannot quit**, even though they know it is shortening their lives? Just the other day a report came to me of a man who is dying day by day, bedfast, convicted by God of his habit, and yet bound to his tobacco with chains of iron. Those people, who have never been bound by a tobacco habit, cannot realize what it comes to mean to a person after 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, yes, even 80 years. God has provided some men and women with strong bodies, which have withstood tobacco for a long life time, and have not been outwardly affected. I don't say that everyone who uses tobacco will get cancer, T. B. and other diseases, but I do believe that there must be something wrong with anything that thousands of people have been denied by their doctors. Certainly no man would be fool enough to say that it will do a person any good while hundreds, if not thousands, will rise to say that it is wrecking men and women and innocent boys and girls by the millions.

Our country has seen the day when a respectable women would not be seen smoking at home, much less on the street; yet today no one so much as gives a woman smoking on the street a second glance, for it is so common. When men smoked more than wom-

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en, more cases of cancer appeared among men than women, but now that men and women smokers are about equal, the women's cancer rate has risen, so that there are as many cases in women, percentage wise, as in men. This is a striking example that tobacco and cancer are related, in some cases.

Motherhood is one of woman's highest priveleges, but it also carries with it certain obligations. Just as a woman must watch herself lest she fall, her diet lest she overeat, her work lest she suffer excess strain, so she must also watch her habits lest the precious little one be harmed by her actions. Cruel would be the mother who would wilfully harm her unborn child. The following quotation is taken word for word from a paper written by William James Robinson, A.M., D.D., a Baptist preacher.

"In this essay I mean to present to cigarette-smoking mothers facts revealed by distinguished investigators that should impress them profoundly. Many such mothers are, at heart, God-fearing mothers and mean to be God-honoring mothers, but they are seriously, woefully and horribly misguided. I am writing for no other purpose than to warn mothers and to better humanity.

Dr. D. H. Kress, a noted neurologist, says: "It is not the women themselves so much as in their children the baleful effect of using tobacco is seen. The woman who expects to become a mother and who smokes, stamps the fateful brand of cigarettes deep in the mind and body of her child". These words by a God-fearing physician, of international fame, should cause every smoking mother to do some serious thinking.

Dr. Kress quotes with approval in his book, "The Cigarette as a Physican Sees It", Dr. Chauncy L. Barber who said, "A baby born of a smoking mother is poisoned and may die in two weeks of birth.

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The postmortem shows degeneration of the liver, heart and other organs, Sixty percent of all babies born of mothers who are habitual cigarette smokers die before they are two years old."

Those who live will likely develop organic diseases that will either kill them prematurely or disqualify them to withstand any disease they may contract. Just as the moth deposits eggs in the bloom that produces weevils in the mature pea, so the smokers children inherit conditions that cause them to succumb readily to various diseases they may contract.

Dr. J. H. Kellogg quotes in his book "Tobaccoism", Dr. Kosti, physician to the royal tobacco factory of Iglad near Vienna: "He noted that the infants of women working in the factory were short-lived. One third of all the infants born dies within the first year. One-fifth of all the children showed evidence of poisoning of the brain and "dies" in convulsions. He observed that the milk of these tobacco-saturated mothers smelled of nicotine, so that these unfortunate infants unquestionably suffered from nicotine poisoning." Dr. Kellogg adds, "These observations have been confirmed by other physicians."

"In the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established" (Matt. 18:16). So I will name some more witnesses by quoting from an address "Women's Non-Smoking Society" of England, she said: "We know of a woman, a life-long smoker, who passed away some years ago at a ripe old age. She probably inherited a good foundation (good constitution, W. J. R.) and had an exceptional liver which would help distoxicate nicotine and other poisons. Four of her children, however, died in infancy; the fifth always delicate, passed away

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in middle life. Though we have referred to a woman smoker who herself escaped the evil effects of nicotine, such is not the case with a good many others."

She evidently endowed her children with poor constitutions. The moth deposited eggs in the bloom that became weevils in their case and so it will be with many more smoking mothers. The same author quoted the magazine "Health For All", as saying "since women took to smoking, female deaths from heart disease have practically doubled in England and Wales". The same magazine says, "It appears to be almost impossible for a woman smoker to bring a healthy baby into the world. In a London maternity home, in one day five cigarette-smoking mothers each gave birth to a dead baby".

A young woman was looking forward to the time when she was to become a mother as she hoped of a superior baby. The hour arrived. The baby was born. But, alas, when she beheld it she almost collapsed. It was not the cherub she had anticipated, but "a degenerated, emaciated, unnatural little specimen of humanity. Gazing upon it she almost collapsed for she was rent asunder by bitter disappointment; she cried, "O doctor what is the matter with my baby?" He replied, "**I am sorry, but this the result of your cigarette smoking.**"

It is inexpressibly regrettable that such things occur, but they will keep on occurring so long as mothers smoke excessively and **every smoker is likely to become an excessive smoker.**

I will give one more quotation from Miss Reece-Jones. "Even more tragic was the following sad story - a young woman, married to a sailor, became an excessive cigarette smoker. When her first baby was born it was found to be degenerate and died

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soon after birth. The second arrival was a weakling, and shared the fate of the first. Two more babies were born, and these too, passed away. Finally a fifth child arrived, which lived for nine months and then passed away. Three months later the unfortunate mother developed cancer and died at the early age of twenty-nine."

Every woman smoker is likely to become an excessive smoker and add her name to this list of unfortunate. "A hint to the wise is sufficient." Remember that only "fools rush in where angels dare not tread."

These facts may come as a surprise to some of you women but these men are not alone in their statements and convictions.

In the light of these facts how can anyone who claims to know Christ, say that **he can use tobacco to the Glory of God or supply it to other folk to the Glory of God?**

Many preachers, today and in the past, have failed to open their mouth against this evil, and declare the full counsel of God. Some have not studied God's Word, in the light of all tobacco does; others have been afraid of what people will say of them and do to them. Still others have been bound by its power themselves, and a person does not preach against the things he allows himself. Never the less those preachers in the past who have declared the whole counsel of God are the ones whose fruit still remains.

The average church member would prefer that liquor, immoral movies, tobacco, immodest apparel and other such sins be side tracked, and claim that what a man does on the outside does not affect his inward state. Jesus said, ("Out of the abundance of the **heart**, the **mouth** speaketh" (Matt. 12:34.) In other words, what we are on the inside is shown by what we do in our outward actions.

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Ezekiel talks of preachers, who in his day said there was **no difference between the clean and unclean** (Ezekiel 22:26).

Zechariah points ahead to our day and said "There shall be a fountain open for **sin and uncleanness**" (Zech. 13:1).

Paul in writing to the Ephesian church said "No **unclean** person hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God" (Ephes. 5:5).

Paul wrote to his Roman Christians and told them, "Just as ye have yielded your members to **unclean-ness**, now yield your members servants to righteousness unto **HOLINESS.**" (Rom. 6:19).

Paul also had some people in Corinth who wanted to be in the church and still sin. The Spirit of the Lord rebuked them thru Paul saying, "Many which have sinned have not repented of their **uncleanness**" (2 Cor. 12:21).

Paul writing to the Colossians told them to "put to death **uncleanness**" (Col. 3:5).

Again, Paul writing to the Thessalonian church in his second letter said, "God has not called us into **uncleanness**, but unto holiness" (I Thess. 4:7).

Addressing his Galation Christians he was careful to point out that "**uncleanness** is a work of the flesh" and not the Spirit (Gal. 5:19).

We can see from these scriptures verses that Paul was not like many of those preachers (so called), who have followed him. This Jew had met Christ, and had been transformed, and was filled with the Holy Spirit. He blazed forth at all sin and uncleanness regardless of where it was found. The churches of Rome, Corinth, Thessalonica, Ephesus, Galatia, and Colossae were all instructed as to God's attitude toward uncleanness. Regardless of whether it was zealous Thessalonica, learned Ephesus or sinful Corinth, the Spirit's double-edge sword was at work doing as old Dr. W. B. Godby would say, "Either cutting

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the world out of you, or cutting you off from heaven." There is no choice.

Only one church received no word about uncleanness from Paul, and that was Philippi. Is it a coincidence that the church, which was always anxious to support Paul with their money, was not subject to any type of uncleanness? If more church members would obtain the New Birth from above that Jesus spoke of in John 3:7, then there would be money in the treasury for God's causes, people bodies would be recovering, and more treasures would be going to the other side, instead into the service and cause of destroying men's bodies and damning their souls.

God made a wonderful promise to Ezekiel. He said, "**I will also save you from all your uncleanness.**" Is God able to do this? Yes, thank God He is. Will you let Him is the question.

A noted Congregational minister and evangelist of yesteryear Rev. A. M. Hills made this statement in his book, "Holiness and Power" (p 241), "**I have never known a person to receive this blessing (Entire Sanctification E. A. M.) who used or sold tobacco. It is too vile to be tolerated by the Spirit in a body which He purposes to make a temple of the Holy Ghost! Whatever in habit or life the Holy Spirit condemns must be abandoned in the spirit of implicit obedience or it is useless to seek this sanctifying work of the Holy Ghost in the heart. No agony of prayer can reach it while the will is not joyfully obedient.**"

### THE CHURCH AND TOBACCO

The assembly of the ones who have answered Christ's call to come out from a world of sin and selfish desire and follow Him has come face to face with many problems in its life time. The earthly church has sometimes taken a compromising atti-

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tude and been lead captive by the forces of evil, but the heavenly church (**composed of those from all churches who serve God out of a pure heart with love unfeigned**) has never suffered one defeat, nor will She as long as Christ remains.

According to the latest figures over 50% (53.5%) of the people in these United States belong to some church. One out of two people claim to be serving God; and yet as far as the effect of these, "God's Children", we are in one of the most heart breaking periods of our history. Crime has never been more rampant, liquor consumption is growing each year, vice has an ever-growing hold on our country, and war clouds hang heavy over the whole world. These things become even more shocking, when we realize that the Church is at her highest peak of outward strength. Anyone can see that something is wrong, but what it it? We have forgotten that both history, and the Word of God teaches that the strength of the Church is not in her numerical strength, but in her vital, Spirit bound, connection with God!

The Church has taken in so much of the world and its ways that she has no testimony. Oh we have our Council of Churches and gatherings of leaders; and books full of words we don't understand are written, each claiming to have the way out; but the average man and woman on the street is untouched. The sad truth is that **the church is the same as the world today!** Not the uncouth gangster world, but the world of mutual respectability.

Where the liquor grapes are grown the preacher should preach on the evils of movie-going (if evils must be preached on); and where the tobacco is grown the preacher should preach on the horrors of the liquor traffic; and where the movies are made, if any Bible-preaching is done, it should be about **SOME ONE ELSE'S Sin—Not Ours.** The Church has

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no uniform standards as a whole regarding right and wrong. So strong is the human element over the Divine that unbelievable things have happened. During the Civil War period instead of binding the North and South together, she split and lost her power. **Liberalism** has lowered her heavy artillery on her foundation, and **unregenerated church members** have drug in all of their worldly filth until she is distressed without and within. The Bible seems to say nothing about their everyday lives. Is this a picture of a Church that God is pleased with? Can we look at our church today (yours and mine), and see the standards that the disciples, apostles and Jesus Christ were so jealous to guard? Most people will have to answer, No, my church is no relation to the New Testament church of Jesus Christ! "If any man love the world the love of the Father is not in him" (I John 2:15). Paul wrote to Timothy telling him of a day in which men shall "Have a form of religion, but deny the power of it" (2 Tim 3:5). Truly we have been in and are in those days now.

I wish I could say that all of the liquor and tobacco consumed in our country was by the Non-Church Going People, but this is not so. Let us consider a few of the excuses so called Christian people give for their love of the world and pleasing of the flesh.

1. Many people say my Grandfather, Mother, Father, Uncle or some relation was a Christian, and used tobacco, and if they can, so can I!

This is not a true statement for the following reasons:

(First): You do not know whether they were Christians or not! Their outward life may have been Christian, and a certain amount of apparently good fruit born, but **their heart could have been drawn away from God**. God's Word says that, He "The Lord knoweth them that are his" (2 Tim 2:19), and

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does not state that **we** can be absolutely certain regarding another's final salvation.

(Second) : They may have been walking in all the light they had, but never have had God's Word presented to them fully, which if it had been, would have no doubt changed their minds and lives. No one will be saved today who trusts in Moses' Law, wilfully turning away from Christ's grace which is God's way.

(Third) : There may be those folks who are so limited mentally, because of disease or other handicaps that they are unable to have any inkling that God's Word teaches against anything that will harm our bodies, but still realize they are a sinner and trust Christ for salvation. (These people I believe to be very, very few in number.)

Our salvation depends on our continued walking in light, it is not something we point back to, but that we now experience; if we see that we should make changes and don't, Christ is no longer ours. He says, "My righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him" (Heb. 10:38).

2. Other people say, "I know a preacher, bishop, elder, etc. who chewed, or smoked a big black cigar, and God blessed him, so it must be all right to use tobacco."

The fact that God blesses a man's ministry is not positive proof that the preacher is acceptable with God! One Sunday morning a pastor contacted a fellow clergyman, and prevailed upon him to preach. The man declined at first, and did not wish to preach, however, upon the insistence of the local pastor he did. After the service a man came to the altar and found Christ. **This preacher was at that time in a backslidden condition** and later got right with God, and related this incident. The man did not come forward because of the preacher, but be-

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cause he felt convicted by God's Word, and sought God directly in Faith. When preachers declare the Word of the Lord, then and only then will souls find Christ. "My word shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please" (Isaiah 55:11). Zech 4:6 declares that things will be accomplished, "**Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit saith the Lord of hosts.**" It is dangerous business to look upon anyone outside of Christ for an example! **God tells us to listen to his Son, not look at his representatives.**

3. A common reason is this, "I don't see anything wrong with it," People who say this usually have not looked very far or hard to find anything out about it. Assuming that tobacco is not harmful to the body, I would give these reasons for a Christian not using it.

(First) it is un-Christlike. I cannot in anyway picture the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, the Only Son of God, who is the brightness of God's Glory, and the "Express Image of His person" with a chew in his mouth, and a number 11 on his chin, or with a cigarette or cigar in the mouth of Him who is the purest that this world has seen or ever will see.

(Second) It is wasteful. How could I as a follower of Christ spend money foolishly, when it would help feed part of the earth's starving millions, or take the Gospel to them. You say, "I only spent a little". That may be true, but it was a lot of little bits that made up the \$4,160,000,000 spent on tobacco in 1948. **More than 3 times as much money was spent on tobacco in 1948 than all of the churches put together gave to God. Is that a small thing?** We are all God's stewards and must give an account one day of our handling of what God has given us.

(Third) It is the first step to deeper vice - the following article was printed in the "Word and Way".

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### **Marijuana**

"Practically unknown a decade ago marijuana, which grows wild in many parts of the country, has become a national menace. **Dope peddlers mix it with tobacco and introduce it to boys and girls who use cigarettes.** More than 80 per cent of the users began between fourteen and twenty-four. Its effects are unpredictable. One may become "a merry reveler, a calm philosopher, a cruel murderer, or a mad insensate." One young addict killed his whole family, yet did not know it. Any number of sex crimes have been caused by it. In one city seventeen out of thirty-seven murderers were marijuana smokers. From one high school seven boys were sent to the penitentiary, and two were electrocuted for crimes committed while under the influence of this drug. Comparatively few people are aware of the extent to which it is being spread by conscienceless peddlers. In some cities it is estimated that half of the violent crimes are caused by its use. It has become a major police problem."

How anyone could claim to love Christ and his neighbor, and yet grow or provide anything that could be used to cause and help boys and girls still in their teens to become murderers, thieves, prostitutes and enemies of society is amazing. **What will you say when these youth point their fingers at you before the judgment bar of God and say, "How do you expect to get thru into heaven when your hands, your lands and your efforts were used to help bring me into a life of hopeless despair."**

This article simply states more clearly what many national magazines have been saying. The youthful dope addicts first starts by drinking, then smoking marijuana, then goes on to snuffing heroin and on and on till his life is completely wrecked. They have just left out one step. What is that? **Smoking cigarettes!** The boy or girl learns to smoke at a school

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dance, out riding at night, a dare, as the smart thing to do, or at home before their parents, **then when the cigarette looses its lift, in comes liquor and eventually for many the marijuana cigarette;** which they have been perfectly prepared for **by your harmless cigarette** (so called). It is time that the Church of Jesus Christ rouses out of her sleep of death, and becomes alive and aware of the real problems of today! God help us to be faithful and true to his cause.

In view of Jesus' words, "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened round his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea" (Matt 18:6) is it worth the risk of having the displeasure of the Son of God, to simply satisfy a fleshly habit or make your living by helping to damn men and women? Jesus told us to "**fear not them which kill the body, but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell**" (Matt. 10:28).

This is not a pretty picture. Perhaps many of you have never seen tobacco as a first cousin to dope, but it is. May God give you faith to rise above the current indifference and uncleanness of our age and walk in holiness of life before your heavenly Father.

**When Jesus thought of the church he saw one that was pure, holy and blameless.** Why? (Jn 17:19) "And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth." Paul spoke of the church as, "A glorious church **without spot or wrinkle or any such thing**, but that it should **be holy and without blemish**" (Ephes 5:27). Do not set your sights upon the earthly church with her hypocrites, lukewarm Christians, and lifeless pastors, but lift up your eyes and behold the multitudes in the "Church of the First Born" who have **washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb**, and who shall reign with Christ into the ages.

## CHRIST AND TOBACCO

Christ had a two-fold ministry upon earth. The first phase is almost universally acknowledged by Christians, but the second is sometimes given an unimportant place. All Christians will agree that Christ died upon the cross, and in so doing purchased their salvation, but few realize the importance of his life as being the example for their daily lives.

This is the foundation of a Sunday religion, agreeing on Sunday that Christ can save us, yet living the other six days as if Christ had never existed.

**The six other days are what determine our relationship to God on Sunday.** A Sunday religion leads to one of formalism and ritual (a substitution of a large program for the vital spirit lead worship of obedient hearts). It was this type of worship that Jesus found as he walked with men in Jerusalem.

These professed followers of Moses had taken one commandment regarding the Sabbath, and magnified it until they even questioned the rightness of a person doing good on the Sabbath. God had given ten commandments, nine applying to the seven days, and one to the seventh. Notice which one they went to seed on. That's right, The one which gave them a Sunday religion and disregarded the true love and service of God. It is very seldom that you see people go "crazy" enough over religion to give 30, 40, 50, 60 % of their earnings to the Lord, but you can't count those who pick up some minor point, and make a major issue out of it.

When a lawyer came to Jesus asking him which was the great commandment in the law, Jesus said unto him, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind", and the second is like unto it, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" (Matt 22:36,40). Then

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Jesus quickly sums up the entire Old Testament by saying, "On these two commandments is suspended all the law and the Prophets." How simply, yet how thoroughly! Love God with all your being, and your neighbor as yourself.

No book anywhere in the world, fiction or true, can give an account of such a selfless life as that of Jesus Christ; yet no life can compare with the influence it has made upon this world. He was one who indeed fulfilled the law. He loved God with all his being. He certainly loved his neighbor more than himself. Find one act that he did to lessen his own load! Find one person he turned away who had come to him for help! Find one miracle which he performed to simply further his cause! Jesus denied himself even the basic comfort of a home, that none should be able to say they had less than he. Nowhere can we find Him doing the slightest thing which would displease his heavenly Father. In his dying hour He refused to drink of a cup which would have eased His pain. **It is from this life that we are to take our pattern and not some cigarette-smoking preacher or cigar-smoking bishop.** Hell will have its share of preachers and bishops, but heaven will find but one who will out shine the sun.

Let us consider what it means to love our neighbor as ourselves. Will a person who loves his neighbor as himself willfully cheat his friend or enemy? He will if he desires to be cheated! Will he sell liquor to his neighbor's son, and cause him to start toward a drunkard's grave? He will if he hates his own son! Will he seduce his neighbor's wife? He will if he cares not to whom his wife belongs! Will he sell books of murder and vice to his neighbor's children? He will if he care not for his own flesh and blood! Will he then enable and encourage his neighbor, black or white, rich or poor, to do something he will not do himself? He will not! A man

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who loves his neighbor will never put before him something that could in any way harm him, or which he withholds from his own household. Reader, you will agree with this, won't you? Then, if this is true, **how can people who claim to love God and their neighbor go on putting tobacco before their neighbors, when they will not use it themselves?** Maybe the doctor forbid it: Maybe they woke up to what they were doing to themselves: Maybe they began to see that Christ would not use it, and that His Word was against all uncleanness. Whatever the reason may have been, **if you have quit smoking because it was wrong for you, or harmed you, you cannot love your neighbor as Christ did and still supply it to others.**

When a man goes out and drives his car under the influence of alcohol and is killed in an accident, who is to blame? The man who grew the barley, the man who made the whiskey barrel, the man who drove the truck which brought it to the store, the man who sold it to him, or the man who voted it into the country? You know the answer as well as I do! They are all guilty before God! So it is with tobacco. The man who owns the land and says what is to be grown may never touch a hand of tobacco, yet the responsibility is just as much his, if not more, than the man or woman who sells it to the young girls and boys of our country, for he is the one who provided it.

What did the mothers and fathers think of those scrap dealers who sold scrap iron to Japan at high prices knowing it was going into war machinery, guns, and bullets; when a short time later at Pearl Harbor those guns were firing at their sons, and the War Dept was notifying them that their son had been killed with those bullets made of that same scrap? Words cannot express their feelings!

Neither can words express the feelings of a par-

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ent, when they find out that **their Mary or Jimmy has graduated from tobacco onto marijuana, and is now a dope addict.** You say this doesn't happen. Read your daily paper or weekly magazine and see.

Do not be surprised, parent, when you find out that the tobacco which you handle but won't use yourself, is being used by your own daughter. Young minds find many ways to do what they desire. Should you care though? If you supply it to other people's daughters, should not your own use it too?

I know full well that millions upon millions of cigarettes are craved after each day, and that this vice has a strong hold on our nation; but because the majority of people use it, it still does not make it right. A late estimate is that **two out of three use tobacco**, but just suppose every man, woman and child in the world use the filthy stuff except one, **God and that one still make a majority.** And should that one begin to use it, **Gods plan of holiness still stands!** "Let God be true, but every man a liar" (Romans 3:4).

Noah lived in an evil generation and stood alone; but when the storm clouds began to roll I believe Noah was glad that he had obeyed God and kept his word; and when the rain began to fall there was terror and fear on the outside, but Noah was at rest. God's pay-day had come! How will you feel, reader, when this verse of scripture is brought before you? **"Every man that has this hope** (of being like Christ) **purifieth himself even as Jesus Christ is pure"** (I John 3:3)? What will you answer the Lord Jesus when He asks you, as He did that lawyer, How do you read this? What does it mean? Can you tell him that the scripture is not clear to you? Here is a verse even more to the point, **"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all FILTHINESS of the FLESH AND**

**SPIRIT, perfecting HOLINESS in the fear of God"** (2 Cor 7:1). Again, "Follow peace with all men and **HOLINESS without which no man shall see the Lord**" (Hebrew 12:14).

You may say, "Preacher, I don't believe in that Holiness." Friend if you don't, you don't believe the Bible. **Holiness is referred to more than six times as much as water baptism, and more than eighteen times as much as speaking in tongues.** No other theme is held so much before us as is our personal need of Holiness, and the Holiness of God. Jesus said, "Be ye therefore perfect even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" (Matt 5:48). **This is no request; it is a command.** What are you doing about it? Does Jesus mean what he says? Can we be perfect and be unlike him?

Church Member, do you feel a deep need of more of the power of God in your life? Take the scripture and examine it yourself to see if you are in the faith as Jesus Christ taught it. Are you denying self, carrying your cross, and completely given over to God? If not you can be, and you can know that your life is acceptable with God. How? "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" (Romans 12:1). Look to God now, and ask him if you are displeasing him in anyway: He will hear and answer. Give yourself to God, and let Him make you what you ought to be.

No longer make your Christ one who has unclean habits. God's Word says that, "as he is, so are we in this present world" (I John 4:17). **This means that when you smoke or chew and claim to be like Christ you are saying that your Christ would smoke and chew.** You know He wouldn't! When you let the Holy Spirit of God come into your heart and life

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you will find that **His is the true consolation**, and unnatural means of stimulation will not be needed. "Faithful is he who that calleth you, who will also do it" (I Thess. 5:24).

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, **denying ungodliness and worldly lusts**, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, **that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.**" (Titus 2:11, 15).

"Herein is our love made perfect that we may **HAVE BOLDNESS** in the day of **JUDGMENT: because AS HE IS** (holy and pure in the Father's presence) **so ARE WE in this present world**" (I John 4:17).

What you think Christ would do or wouldn't do will determine whether you are for or against tobacco. Remember it is **His life, His teachings and His word that will judge us.**

Anything that we do that our heart condemns us for will certainly be condemned by an altogether Holy God. "For if our heart condemns us God is greater than our heart and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemns us **NOT**, then **HAVE WE CONFIDENCE TOWARD GOD**" (I John 3:20, 21).

If we have the slightest doubt that we can use or supply tobacco to others to the glory of God, it immediately becomes sin; and if we refuse to obey our own hearts and Gods Word we are then wilfully disobedient and walking in darkness.

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“To have light and refuse to walk in it is to walk in darkness, the end of which is eternal separation from God.”

**Disobedience is the father of all sin.**