

## THE SALVATION ARMY

A group which is very noticeable at this time of the year is the Salvation Army. Some may not be aware of the fact that this group is a religious body. They are listed in *The World Almanac and Handbook of Denominations* by Frank S. Mead as being a religious body, along with many others.

The Salvation Army was founded by “William Booth, an ordained minister in the Methodist New Connexion body in England.” In 1861 he left the Methodists and by 1865 was working in the slums in London. He gave his life to helping the poor and needy. In order for his work to continue, he labored under the name of the *Christian Mission*. Then in 1878, the name was changed to the Salvation Army. (Mead, *Handbook of Denominations*, p. 230).

After the changing of the name, the organization was structured after the military. Thus, the mission stations became corps, members were called soldiers, and evangelists became officers. Their creed, or declaration of faith, was called “Articles of War.” Mead says that “converts who desire to become soldiers (members) are required to sign the Articles of War...” (P. 231).

According to the same source, “...the Army has a dual function of church and social agency,....” (P. 232). The services rendered by the Salvation Army are done so “without respect to race, color, creed, or condition; the whole work is financed largely through voluntary subscriptions, federal funds, and annual maintenance appeals from each service. (P. 232). They solicit contributions from any and all people.

In worship, the Salvation Army does not keep the Lord’s supper. They also use mechanical instruments of

music in worship. Also, according to *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*, repentance and faith are the only prerequisites of salvation. If one desires to be baptized, the Army will sprinkle, pour or immerse the subject.

With these thoughts in mind, I make the following brief objections to the Salvation Army:

**1. *They wear the wrong name.*** Where does the Bible speak of the Salvation Army? “The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.” (Acts 11:26). The New Testament says, “The churches of Christ salute you,” in Romans 16:16.

**2. *They were founded by the wrong one.*** My Bible says nothing about William Booth. Jesus said, “...upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” (Matt. 16:18). Jesus Christ established his church. He purchased it with his own blood. (Acts 20:28).

**3. *It began at the wrong time.*** The church the Bible speaks of began in Acts 2. The year 1878 is centuries too late.

**4. *They have a human creed.*** Where in the New Testament were men required to sign their names to a creed? The apostle Paul wrote, “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.” (Gal. 1:6-9).

**5. *Their teaching is in conflict with the Bible.*** According to their handbook (pp. 85, 86), the Salvation Army teaches hereditary depravity. In other words, they teach one is born a sinner, having inherited his sins from

his parents. But this is contrary to the Bible. (Ezek. 18:20). Their views concerning baptism are also wrong, according to the Bible. Baptism is a necessity, not a matter of choice. (Acts 2:38; 9:6; 22:16). Scriptural baptism is immersion in water and is not sprinkling or pouring. The candidate has no choice in the matter of “mode.” It is a burial and resurrection. (Rom. 6:3-4). It is a planting. (Rom. 6:5).

An objection might be raised by someone who says, “Well, they do some good work by bringing people out of the gutters and slums.” This is true. But as we go preaching the gospel, we are to remember the poor; that is, to care for them as we have opportunity (Gal. 2:9, 10; 6:10). The fact that one does good works and claims to do such in the name of the Lord is of no avail if one does not obey the Father in heaven. (Matt. 7:21-23). Those who work to build up the Salvation Army do so in vain. “Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it:...” (Psa. 127:1). Also, those who contribute (whether it be a dime or a dollar) to this unscriptural organization become partakers of their evil deeds. (2 John 9-11).

“Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.” (2 Cor. 6:17).

**Ben F. Vick, Jr. from *The Informer***

*“But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. – Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.”*

**Matthew 15:8; 14**

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Ted Thrasher, 11-30; Linda Thomas, 12-02.

## **ILL**

**Sunday:** Millie Robertson (PM); Debbie Schleif; Tom Tucker (PM).

Tom Tucker is being treated for an eye disorder. Barbara James is recovering from her surgery.

**Those battling cancer:** Ledgia Campbell, Betty James and Cleo Stone. Please remember these in your prayers.

## **HOME BOUND**

Kathleen Camp is in Room 101 at the Royal Terrace Nursing Home in Olathe. Marion Stone is at home. Barbara James' aunt, Evelyn Marquardt is at the Sweet Life of Rosehill in Shawnee. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

## **OUT OF TOWN**

The Brown's traveled to Texas on Wednesday to visit relatives. The Thomas' are in Branson, MO for a part of the weekend.

## **LADIES CLASS**

The Ladies Class will resume on Wednesday, December 3 at 10 AM. All ladies are encouraged to attend.

## **POT LUCK DINNER**

Our monthly Pot Luck Dinner will be held next Sunday, December 7, following our AM worship.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Sunday AM, 49; Sunday PM, 38; Wednesday PM, 26.

### **Gospel Meeting**

***"Questions We Need To Ask Ourselves"***

**December 7 – 10, 2008**

***Chipman Road Church of Christ  
Lee's Summit, Missouri***

## **Those To Serve**

**November 30, 2008**

**BUILDING AND COMMUNION..... Nemechek**

### **MORNING WORSHIP**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS..... George Thomas**  
**SONG LEADER..... Trent Thrasher**  
**OPENING PRAYER ..... Joel Nelson**  
**PRESIDE..... John Dodson**  
**ASSIST..... Chris Edwards**  
**ASSIST..... Dave Parish**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... Steve Brown**

### **EVENING WORSHIP**

**OPENING PRAYER ..... Jared Nelson**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... Jeff Nemechek**  
**LORD'S SUPPER..... John Dodson**

**WEDNESDAY Dec. 3rd**

**SONG LEADER..... Ted Thrasher**  
**INVITATION ..... George Thomas**

### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

#### **Sunday**

Bible Study ..... 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM

#### **Wednesday**

Ladies Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM  
Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

**Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher**

**Phone: (913) 764-2325**

**E-mail: olathecoc@sbcglobal.net**

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**515 WEST PARK**

**P.O. BOX 482**

**OLATHE, KANSAS 66051**

**[www.kc-cofc.org/olathe.htm](http://www.kc-cofc.org/olathe.htm)**

**[www.oabs.org/olathe.asp](http://www.oabs.org/olathe.asp)**