

Man Still Sinful, Evangelist Says

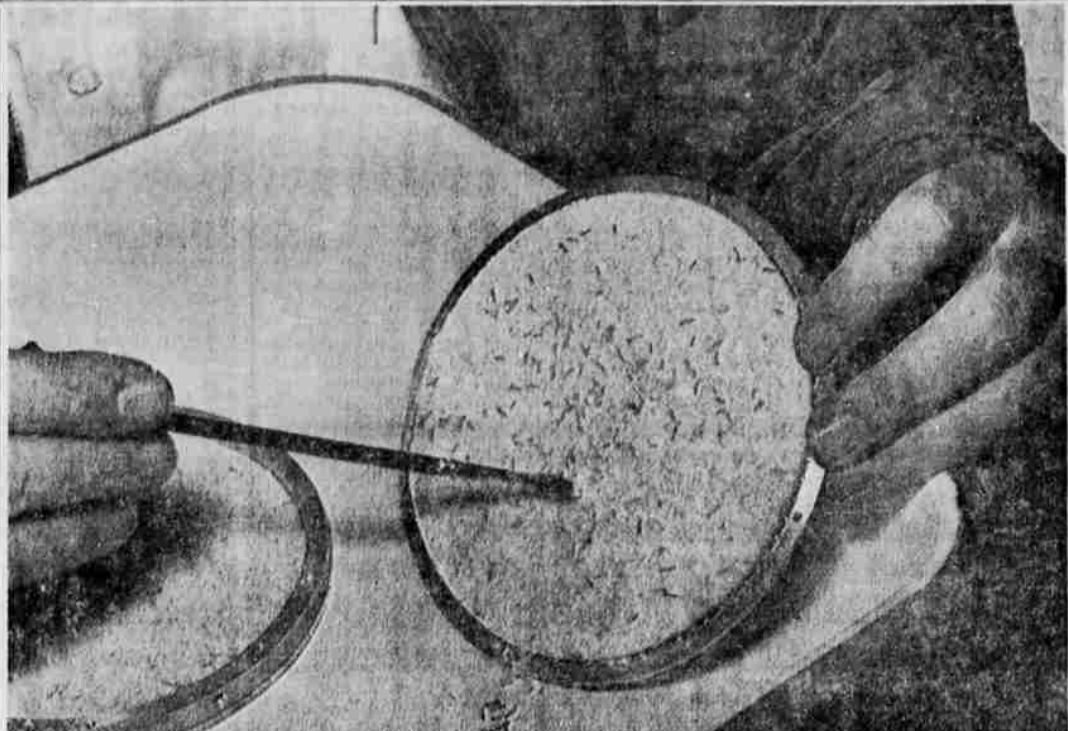
Fresno, Calif. — (AP) — Evangelist Billy Graham told a crowd of 17,100 Wednesday night that man is as sinful today as he was 2,000 years ago when Jesus Christ died on the cross.

The North Carolina minister said the idea of the world being saved by the crucifixion of Christ was considered foolishness in Christ's day — and is still foolish today to the average person.

Graham, who begins the second half of his eight-day Fresno Crusade tonight with a sermon on "Problems of the Home," warned that sin "never improves any more than a cancerous condition improves without medical aid."

"The gospel of Christ crucified is still foolishness to millions who are perishing all over the world today," he said. "Too few people recognize that the answer to all the world's problems lies at the foot of the cross."

Graham's assistants said 75,000 persons have attended the first half of the crusade here. A total of 2,735 have made "decisions for Christ," they said.



BEETLES SURVIVE—The Berkeley beetles that flew across Canada in a balloon capsule have survived the hazards of their 25-mile-high voyage. The 2,000 insects were flown back to the University of California's Space Sciences laboratory at Berkeley, Calif., where scientists will nurture them carefully and observe their growth to see if cosmic rays encountered on their trip altered their development. Photo shows the beetles after their return, still packed in the flour which held them inside the capsule. (UPI)

Missionary to Speak At Valley View Church

Ray Comstock, Seventh-day Adventist missionary, and director of a medical-educational mission station in the state of Chiapas, Mexico, will speak at 8 o'clock tonight at the Valley View Seventh-day Adventist church, South Stage rd.

With Mr. Comstock will be Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Diaz, Chamula Indians, who also will speak.

The three have been visiting the Seventh-day Adventist annual camp meeting at Gladstone, Ore., and are en route to attend the quadrennial World conference of Adventists in San Francisco beginning July 26.

Churchill Soon To Leave Hospital

London — (AP) — Sir Winston Churchill, 87, has sufficiently recovered from his broken thigh bone to leave the hospital within four or five days, it was announced today.

The former prime minister will be discharged from Middlesex hospital Monday or Tuesday, a spokesman said. Sir Winston broke the bone three weeks ago at the start of a Monte Carlo vacation.

He "was grumbling like fury this morning," the spokesman said. Grumbling is considered a Churchillian sign of health and underlines the doughty statesman's apparently dramatic recovery.

Religion in America

Government Encouragement in Belief in God Said Real Issue

By LOUIS CASSELS UPI Correspondent

Does the Constitution forbid agencies of government to express or encourage belief in God? That is the real issue in the national controversy stirred up by the Supreme Court's recent ruling on prayer in public schools. To some Americans, the first amendment means that government must maintain an absolute neutrality in religious matters: That it may not even favor belief in God over unbelief.

Others believe that this is an extreme interpretation, which goes far beyond the intention of the founding fathers.

At the root of the controversy are 16 words whose ambiguity is attested by the fact that they have meant different things to different people for nearly 175 years.

The First Amendment says: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

States Established Churches At the time of its adoption, nine of the 13 states had established churches. Some legislators voted for the amendment in the belief that it would prevent the new federal government from interfering with these state "establishments of religion." Others had precisely the opposite intent. Thomas Jefferson, in a private letter, construed the amendment as erecting "a wall of separation between church and state." Many, then as now, took it to mean

what James Madison said in his first draft?

"The civil rights of none shall be abridged on account of religious beliefs or worship, nor shall any national religion be established."

The idea that the First Amendment forbids the government to acknowledge God or to encourage religious faith would have been profoundly shocking to many of the founding fathers. Supreme Court Justice Joseph Story, writing in 1833, said that at the time the Constitution was written, "the general if not the universal sentiment was that Christianity ought to receive encouragement from the state, so far as it was not incompatible with private rights of conscience and the freedom of worship."

Story added that statesmen of the 18th Century would have greeted with "indignation" any attempt "to make it a matter of state policy to hold all religions in utter indifference."

Upheld By State Court This view of the founding fathers' intent is still held by many jurists. The highest court of New York state, in upholding the "regents' prayer" which the U.S. Supreme Court later found unconstitutional, said:

"When the Founding Fathers prohibited an 'establishment of religion,' they were referring to an official adoption of, or favor to one or more sects. They could not have meant to prohibit mere professions of belief in God, for if they did so, they themselves, in many ways, were violating their rule when and after they adopted it."

Throughout its history, the United States has in fact given official encouragement to religious belief in many ways. It has, for example, granted tax exemptions to churches and permitted individuals to deduct religious contributions from their income taxes. It has provided chaplains for the armed forces and both houses of Congress. It has proclaimed trust in God on its currency, in its pledge of allegiance, in its national anthem, and in such national holidays as Thanksgiving Day.

It is small wonder that many Americans who have grown up amidst these traditions are shocked when it is suggested that the Constitution forbids the government to profess or encourage belief in God.

That, however, is what the Supreme Court has seemed to say, not only in the prayer ruling, but in a number of other decisions of recent years.

Black Expressed View Speaking for the court in the Everson school bus case of 1947, Justice Hugo L. Black laid down a view of the First Amendment which the court has subsequently repeated, word for word, in three other opinions, including two major church-state rulings last year.

Black said: "The establishment of religion" clause of the First Amendment means at least this: Neither can pass laws which aid one religion, aid all religions, or prefer one religion over another; no tax in any amount large or small can be levied to support any religious activities or institutions, whatever they may be called, or whatever form they may adopt to teach or practice religion.

In last month's prayer ruling, with Black again speaking for the majority, the court held that a 22-word non-sectarian prayer approved by the New York state Board of Regents for use in public schools was "wholly inconsistent with the First Amendment" because it "establishes the religious beliefs embodied in the regents' prayer."

Implied Neutrality The only religious belief embodied in the prayer is an affirmation of God's existence and sovereignty. Thus the court seemed to be saying that agencies of government must be neutral on that point.

If this constitutional philosophy is carried to its logical conclusion, as Justice William O. Douglas and Potter Stewart said in their opinions in the prayer case, it would seem to prohibit tax exemptions to churches and many other long-established government practices.

It is by no means certain, however, that the court will carry the doctrine to its logical conclusion. Past experience points to a contrary possibility. In 1948, the court held, in the McCollum case, that it was unconstitutional for public schools to cooperate with churches in "released time" programs of religious education held on the public school property. The ruling provoked a national furor comparable to that over the prayer decision. Four years later, in the 1952 Zorach case, the court said that released time programs are all right provided they aren't held on public property.

Gets Some Approval The recent prayer ruling has not been greeted with universal disapproval among religious Americans. Most Jews and many Protestants share the court's stated belief that true religion is more likely to flourish in America without any form of government support, and agree with the court that the only safe place to draw the line against official encroachments on religious freedom is at the extreme threshold.

But it seems obvious from the public reaction that they are substantially outnumbered by Americans who believe that the government should lend all the encouragement to religion that it can, without discriminating among the various faiths. Whether this sentiment will be reflected in future court rulings, or whether it will express itself in a constitutional amendment, only time can tell.

4-H NEWS

C. P. Cud Chewers The July meeting of the C. P. Cud Chewers 4-H club was held at Mrs. Anhorn's home. We practiced a model meeting for taping for KWIN.

We heard three reports: Chevon sheep by Carol Foote, Romney sheep by James Shepherd and Holstein-Friesian cattle by Tim Higginbotham. We sang a song about our club and James Anhorn read a poem called "Teaching a Cat to Drink."

Refreshments were served by Mrs. Anhorn. After the meeting we went to the 4-H extension building to tape out model meeting.

James Anhorn, Reporter

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