

I never cease to be amazed at the gimmicks being employed by some churches to lure people to their places of worship. I can remember when meeting houses were strictly places of spiritual enrichment, but of the late they have become centers of recreation and social activities.

Recently, in another county from Macon, I noticed this announcement on a church sign:

“FREE COMEDY CONERT”

“You will laugh all night”

Normally, Wednesday night is reserved for Bible Study, but his particular First Baptist Church decided to forgo Bible Study for a comedy concert. I’m not picking on any church, for the Church of Christ, of which I am a member, is using gimmicks in some of the congregation to draw people to their assemblies. And I deplore their efforts! God intended for every congregation to be spiritual, not secular. It is alright for religious groups to participate in a fellowship that is wholesome, but secular activities should not be used to attract people to the church building.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

Yes, Virginia, President Obama and his people are going to take from Medicare people-limiting their coverage, and give the savings to the 47 million who have no insurance coverage. I’m not the sharpest knife in the drawer, but that is socialism. Dear Reader, you had better call Bart Gordon, Lamar Alexander, and Bob Corky and call them now, for those who have worked hard to earn the blessings of social security are in danger of losing them. Take your country back, or turn it over to the socialists and let them give the fruits of you labors to those who chose not to do work as hard as you have or who bought a new car or truck instead of an insurance policy.

WASTING LIFE

There was something different about Morris Siegel, a street person in Los Angeles, California. On the surface he seemed like your average Los Angeles street person- roaming in dark alleys, sleeping out-of-doors, carrying everything he owned in an old shopping cart.

And he died the way one expects a street person to die; he was found in an alley, dead of natural causes, heart trouble perhaps.

Something about him was different, though. Maybe it was his three bank accounts containing a total of \$207, 421.

In 1979, Morris’ father died and left him the money. When Morris did not claim it, the Division of Unclaimed Property tracked him down, and his family forced him to accept it. He did not show up at the ceremony when the cash was awarded. He took enough of the money to buy an old car, where he slept in bad weather. Relatives rented him an apartment; he never went there. He dies December 14, 1989, with three dollars in his pocket and an untouched fortune in the bank. Sound Crazy? Well, figure this one out.

A couple of thousand years ago, our heavenly Father ratified His will and left all of His children eternal wealth- life, peace, victory. To this day, many have not claimed the windfall, and some have refused to spend any of it. Lost people shuffle down blind alleys of an empty existence, facing hell for eternity, and ignore the salvation promised in Christ. Many Christians are content to live isolated, unproductive lives on this earth, when they have the riches of heaven at their disposal (2 Corinthians 8:9). Trading eternal life for a perishing earth sounds as crazy as Morris (Matthew 16:26). - Arthur Unknown

GETTING MARRIED FIRST

About 10 million people live with an unmarried partner, about 8 percent of U.S. couples most of whom are in the 25 to 34 age group. Women view cohabitation as a commitment taken before marriage to that partner, while men see it as a step before an actual commitment. Living

together is illegal in Florida, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, North Dakota, Virginia, and West Virginia.

God's word says that commitment comes before marriage and marriage before sleeping together. "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge" (Hebrews 13:4). Think about it.

"From the beginning of the creation God made them male and female. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; and they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh." Mark 10:6-8.