

The Baptist Examiner

A PAPER WITH A NATIONAL CIRCULATION

"To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isa. 8:20).

WHOLE NO. 82

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1939

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Alien Baptism Denounced By W. Va. Pastor

DR. WILLIAM L. PETTINGILL has been doing some great preaching and teaching at the Twentieth Street Baptist Church, Huntington. But like so many others in our day, he has gone off over the universal church idea with its attendant evils. He denounced Baptists for not receiving the immersions of others as valid baptism, and said we had no Scripture for such refusal.

COMMENT

A Campbellite preacher instructs a lost sinner to be immersed in order to be saved, and that lost sinner believes the preacher and acts upon it. He is immersed in order to be saved. Of what value is that immersion if it does not do for that sinner what it is recommended to do? Salvation was promised him in that immersion, and that is what he received it for and for nothing else.

Dr. Pettingill has a book on "BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH PLUS NOTHING," but here is a "plus," added by both the immersed and the immerser, and Dr. Pettingill condemns Baptists for not placing value upon this "plus" and receiving it as valid baptism. If the one receiving such immersion applies to a Baptist church for membership

Close Communion

That there are objections that appeal to the natural man we must admit, but we are exhorted: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding." His word is supreme; his way the best.

Now let us consider some of the arguments for open communion:

"Close communion is illiberal." Answer: But I have no right to be liberal with the things of another beyond his instructions. Such liberality would be a breach of trust.

"It is the Lord's table." Answer: Yes, that is right, and we should consult his word and will concerning it.

"Others think they are right." Answer: Yes, and so do the heathen. Paul thought himself right in persecuting the church, but afterwards he called himself chief of

(Continued on Page Four)

SOMEBODY CARES

"Somebody knows when your heart aches,
And everything seems to go wrong;
Somebody knows when the shadows
Need chasing away with a song;
Somebody knows when you're lonely,
Tired, discouraged and blue,
Somebody wants you to know Him,
And know that He dearly loves you.

"Somebody cares when you're tempted,
And the world grows dizzy and dim;
Somebody cares when you're weakest,
And farthest away from Him,
Somebody grieves when you've fallen,
Though you're not lost from His sight;
Somebody waits for your coming,
Taking the gloom from your night.

"Somebody loves you when weary;
Somebody loves you when strong:
Always is waiting to help you,
Watches you — one of the throng
Needing His friendship so holy,
Needing His watch-care so true.
His name? We call His name Jesus.
His people? Just I and Just You."

Author Unknown

BIBLE QUESTIONS

1. Who helped build a city with one hand while he carried a weapon in the other?
2. What prophet prophesied that Christ would come out of Egypt?
3. Who came to his death by crossing a brook?
4. In what passage is a prophet supposed to refer to the three days before the resurrection?
5. What was the story of the thistle and the cedar-tree, and who told it?
6. What king rent his clothes before his people so that they saw that he wore sackcloth next to his skin?
7. Who are mentioned as the five wisest men?
8. What four creatures are mentioned in the Bible as little but exceeding wise?
9. What is the Psalm of the Resurrection?
10. What four men received messages of doom from God without a murmur?
11. In what place could no man drink wine or strong drink under penalty of death?
12. What seven men gave dinners to each other every day of the week?

(See Answers on Page Two)

The First Baptist Pulpit

Are You A Christian?

"Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.

But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.

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Baptism Seen Thru A College Lad's Eyes

Baptism was in use by John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, and was used even before that in connection with Jewish rites. The Jewish Encyclopedia informs us that sprinkling of blood was always accompanied by immersion. But as an ordinance of the Baptist Church, baptism dates from the first church organized by our Lord Jesus Christ. The disciples certainly were baptized men and when Jesus gave the Great Commission "Go ye therefore and teach (or "make disciples or Christians of) all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." He included in it the command to baptize. Jesus, Himself, was baptized by John the Baptist and we are told in John 4:1-3 that Jesus' disciples baptized. On the day of Pentecost, Simon Peter, sometimes spoken of as the leader of the apostolic band, instructed the converts to be baptized (Acts 2:38). And in other instances—Lydia became a Christian and was baptised; Paul, after his conversion, was baptized; the Ethiopian eunuch was baptized—we get

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Where Is Happiness?

Not in unbelief.—Voltaire was an infidel of the most pronounced type. He wrote: "I wish I had never been born."

Not in pleasure. — Lord Byron lived a life of pleasure, if any one did. He wrote: "The worm, the canker, and the grief are mine alone."

Not in money. — Jay Gould, the American millionaire, had plenty of that. When dying, he said: "I suppose I am the most miserable man on earth."

Not in position and fame.—Lord Beaconsfield enjoyed more than his share of both. He wrote: "Youth is a mistake; manhood a struggle; old age a regret."

Not in military glory.—Alexander the Great conquered the known world in his day. Having done so, he wept in his tent, because, he said, "There are no more worlds to conquer."

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The Baptist Examiner

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THE DICKERSONS TO LEAVE

Our mission fund for Brazilian Missions has grown remarkably fast in view of the coal strike and other industrial phenomena. We are therefore designating July as "round-up" month that we shall get together all the money possible to finish the missionary offering so that Brother Dickerson and his family may be on their way by August 1. We lack approximately \$300, but we feel certain that this money will be provided, and therefore we are urging all our friends to send in a contribution now relative to the completion of this mission fund.

May each organized class, missionary society, and individual please take note that it is our expectancy that Brother Dickerson and family shall leave New York City by August 1. Therefore, make your offering as large as possible, and send it to us immediately.

DICKERSON FUND

Amt. previously reported	\$420.32
Mt. Calvary Missionary Circle, Charleston, W. Va.	1.00
Anonymously	4.00
Mrs. Henry Bolin, Clinton, Kentucky	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Smith, Russell, Ky.	2.00
Elder P. B. Dirks, Arlington, Washington	.50
Total	\$428.82

WILL JONES FUND

Amt. previously reported	\$47.00
Mrs. Chester Williams, Russell, Kentucky	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Smith, Russell, Kentucky	2.00
Total	\$54.00

TRACT FUND

Amt. previously reported	\$356.10
Mrs. Chester Williams, Russell, Kentucky	7.50
Total	\$363.60

RADIO FUND

Amt. previously reported	\$259.70
Mrs. Chester Williams, Russell, Kentucky	7.50
John Vanover, Rush, Kentucky	1.00
Anonymously	1.00
Mrs. E. E. Collins, Russell, Kentucky	1.25
Total	\$270.45

A WORD TO YOU DEAR READER

Are you a Christian? I do not mean, are you a church member, a moral character, or one that has been baptized? my question to you is, are you a Christian? TO SIMPLIFY the question, let me define a Christian.

A Christian, my friend is one who has been "born again" (Jn. 3:3-5), not of flesh and blood (Jn. 1:13), but of God—of God's Spirit (Jn. 3:6). He is one "quickened from the dead" (Eph. 2:1), "passed from death unto life" (Jn. 5:24), and possesses a divine nature (2 Pet. 1:4). In him resides the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19), by him the Lord is to be glorified (Eph. 2:7), and for him are pledged the Triune God. He is a "new creature" (2 Cor. 5:17), a child of God (1 Jn. 3:1,2), an heir of God (Gal. 4:7), and a joint-heir of Jesus Christ (Rom. 8:17). But best of all, he is securely saved, firmly established and wonderfully kept by the power of God (1 Pet. 1:5), unto the day of Redemption (Eph. 4:30).

Such my friend is a Christian. Now let me briefly point out some reasons why you ought to be a Christian:—

First, because it means the settlement of the Heaven and Hell question (Jn. 3:18,36; 14:1-3).

2. It means to have a Comforter and Teacher in the Holy Spirit (Jn. 14:16,26).

3. It means to have Fellowship with the Father through Prayer (Mt. 7:7-11; Acts 2:42).

4. It means to be at Peace with God (Rom. 5:1; Jn. 14:27).

5. It means to receive an Inheritance from God (Eph. 1:14; 1 Pet. 1:3,4).

Now, don't you want to be a Christian? If so, then repent of your sins (Luke 13:5), and accept Christ as your saviour. To repent of your sins means to forsake them. cf. Isaiah 55:7. To accept Christ as your Saviour means to come to Christ (Jn. 5:24; 6:28,29; Acts 16:30,31).

If you have "repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ", then upon the authority of God's Word, YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN.

—ROY HAMILTON

TEMPERANCE MEETING

The Boyd County Temperance League is announcing Sam Morris of Del Rio, Texas as a "dynamic lecturer, author, and editor of the 'National Voice,'" to speak on Sunday afternoon, July 23, at 2:45 o'clock at the First Methodist Church in Ashland. The address will also be broadcast over W. C. M. I. from three to four o'clock.

THE HEART OF THE ROSE

A few weeks ago the editor delivered a radio message one Sunday evening on "The Sin of Adultery", and printed it later in this paper. In connection with that message, we referred to the little book entitled THE HEART OF

THE ROSE, which we promised to send to each person who sent in a subscription (50c) for our paper. This we have been doing.

This is one of the finest little books ever published. It is a story that every growing boy and girl ought to read, in that it shows with beautiful simplicity the proper relationship which should exist between boys and girls.

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Answers to Bible Questions

1. Nehemiah and the men that rebuilt Jerusalem. (Neh.4:14)
2. Hosea. (Hos.11:1)
3. Shimei. (1 Kings 2:37,41-46)
4. Hosea, in the passage: "He hath smitten, and he will bind us up. After two days will he revive us. In the third day he will raise us up." (Hos.6:1,2)
5. Jehoash, king of Israel, when Amaziah, king of Judah, challenged him to battle, compared Amaziah to the thistle that sent to the cedar of Lebanon, saying, "Give thy daughter to my son to wife." (2 Kings 14:9,10)
6. King Jehoram of Israel, at the siege of Samaria. (2 Kings 6:30)
7. Solomon, Ethan, Heman, Calcol and Darda. (1 Kings 4:31)
8. The ants, the conies, the locust, and the spider. (Prov.30:24-28)
9. Psalm 16.
10. Aaron (Lev.10:3); Job (Job 1:21; 2:10); Hezekiah (Isa.39:8); Eli (1 Sam.3:18).
11. The tabernacle. (Lev.10:9)
12. The seven sons of Job. (Job 1:4)



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ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN?

(Continued from Page One)

And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." Luke 2:41-52.

"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith." 2 Cor. 13:5

This afternoon as I was contemplating my message ^{for the hour} of tonight, I was reminded that Gypsy Smith was one day holding a revival meeting in a certain town in one of the mid-central states, and a man who had been very prominent in all the meeting, who had made several of the arrangements relative to the meeting, and who had taken a very active part, having served on two or three committees relative to the meeting, came to Mr. Smith and asked him how that he might be saved. Gypsy Smith said that it was a distinct surprise and an absolute shock to him, for this man had been quite active in all the meeting, and it was now well long toward the end of the meeting. The man said, "Mr. Smith, my parents supposed that I was a christian and they urged me to join the church; my pastor supposed that I was a Christian and he asked me to become a deacon; and on the basis of these two suppositions, I am both a church member and a deacon, but in all these forty years of my life, there has never been a man yet who looked me squarely in the face and asked me if I were right with God." Beloved, I do not believe that this is an isolated case. It is said concerning the parents of Jesus that they supposed that he was in the company, and therefore went a day's journey without Him. They took for granted--they supposed that Jesus was with them. Just like this instance to which I have referred, the parents supposed the boy was saved and urged him to join the church, the pastor supposed he was saved and suggested that he become a deacon. I say beloved, I don't believe that this is an isolated case. I believe that it is a fair average of the majority of professing church members of all religious persuasions. In fact I wouldn't be a bit surprised but what it is above the average, and

that perhaps even more than half of the professing church members of the world joined the church because some one supposed they were right with the Lord Jesus Christ. In view of that fact, I offer to you this second text that I have read, "Examine yourselves and see if you be in the faith."

I

Now if you are going to examine yourselves, it is going to be necessary that you have some test questions put to you in order that you might conduct this examination. Now, let me be the teacher and let me ask you the questions, and in the light of the Scriptures you take an examination tonight and see whether or not your parents or your pastor may have merely supposed about your experience with the Lord, or whether you are actually a child of the living God.

The first test question I ask is, "Have you fully believed that the death of Jesus Christ at the cross was sufficient for all your sins?" In the Word of God we are told that Christ's death is abundantly sufficient to satisfy the demands of God relative to your soul. "He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." (Jn. 3:18) I read you a second Scripture that brings to us the same truth: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life." (Jn. 6:47) And listen to my old stand-by: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." (Jn. 5:24) Now, beloved, in the light of these three Scriptures from God's Word, I ask you, "Have you fully believed that the death of Jesus Christ is sufficient for all of your sins?" There is rarely a day goes by in which I make a call or a series of calls, but what I meet someone who tells me that he is depending partially upon what Jesus did at the cross, and partially upon his church membership, or his good life, or his baptism, or something else besides fully trusting Jesus Christ. Oh, I would ask you tonight, "Are you trusting Jesus only, or is it Jesus Plus something else?" That is the first test question I offer to you in an effort to help you to "examine yourselves to see whether you be in the faith."

There is a second test question that I offer beloved, namely? "Has your attitude toward this present evil world changed since you made a profession of faith in Christ Jesus, or do you have the same attitude toward the world that you had before you said you trusted Jesus as Saviour?" Do you still love the world with all of the lusts thereof in the same manner that you loved it before you said that Jesus Christ was your Saviour?" Listen: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (2 Cor. 5:17) The man that is saved is a new creation in God, and the old world and everything therein passes away and all things become new. New faith, new hope, a new

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ALIEN BAPTISM DENOUNCED BY W. VA. PASTOR

(Continued from page one)

and claims he is satisfied with his baptism, is it not a fact that he is still trusting that immersion for his salvation? If the Baptist church receives him, is it not a fact that that church puts its endorsement upon baptismal regeneration? Again do I ask: Is this Bible baptism? If so, what place does it have in the Christian system? It cannot be the burial of a dead man, for he has not yet died to sin. In fact, he is supposed to be killed in the act. It cannot be the immersion of a believer, for a believer has eternal life and would not need the baptism to save him. It cannot be the immersion of a saved man, for this immersion is supposed to save him. It cannot be the immersion of a Christian, for the preacher himself teaches that he is made a Christian in immersion. Both preacher and subject believe he is an "alien sinner" until he comes out of the water. If an "alien sinner" receives immersion in order to save him, a work that the blood of Christ alone can do, would not that baptism be an "alien baptism?" It would be alien to God's plan of salvation, and if the subject be a lost sinner, would not the whole transaction be alien?

How could Baptists receive this immersion as valid without believing the design of said immersion is Scriptural? I am told that Robert G. Ingersol immersed a man in the name of Trinity. What would be the difference in this immersion and that of a Campbellite preacher?

—A. N. Morris
Huntington, W. Va.

CLOSE COMMUNION

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sinners. See 1 Corinthians 15:9 and 1 Timothy 1:15.

"My mother is a better Christian than I, though she is not a Baptist and was only sprinkled." Answer: This is to honor Christ, not mothers. We honor mother most when true to him. See Matthew 10:37.

"Let character be the test." Answer: Yes, and let obedience be the test of character. John 15:14.

"It's only a small matter." Answer: Is his command and example a small matter to a loving disciple? He walked over 50 miles to be immersed in the Jordan. The one who loves God does not seek excuses for disobedience; nor does he want to substitute an easier way than his way.

—The Watchman-Examiner

ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN?

(Continued from Page Three)

outlook on life, new prospects, everything new now that one is in Christ? Has your attitude toward the world changed? I remember a man making a profession of faith many months ago, and after he went home, he said to his wife the next day, "I never saw the grass nor the trees nor the birds so beautiful as they are today." His wife said, "They are just the same today as they were yesterday; the change is not in these phenomena of nature, the change is in your-self." Has your attitude toward the world changed? Listen to the experience of the church at Thessalonica. "For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God." (1 Thess. 1:9) This church at Thessalonica was serving idols, and when Paul came and preached to them, they turned from their idols to serve the true and living God. Their attitude toward the world was completely changed, and beloved, if you are a child of God tonight, your attitude toward this world is completely changed to what it was before you professed faith in Jesus Christ. I am frank to say to you tonight if there is not a change in your attitude toward this world, you are still in your sins tonight. If you still love everything the world has to offer—dances and shows and card parties and everything this world offers -- if you love it like you did before you joined the church, it is the surest evidence in the world that yours is a false profession and that you know not Jesus Christ as a Saviour. The man that is saved has a changed attitude toward this world.

But I ask you another test question: "Do you love God's people now that you have professed faith in Jesus Christ?" "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren." (1 John 3:14) That doesn't mean that I have to have a sickly, silly, sentimental feeling toward everybody who claims to be a member of this church. It doesn't mean that I have to go around loving everybody that is a member of this church; but it does mean that if I am saved I will love to associate with and to have fellowship with those who are members of this church—those who love the Lord Jesus Christ. I ask you tonight, "Are you more at home in a card party than you are at a prayer meeting? Are you more at home in a moving picture show house than you are in the house of God? Do you find greater satisfaction by associating with the crowd that hangs around a pool room than you do by associating with those who are followers of the Lord Jesus Christ?" "We know that we have passed from death unto life because we love the brethren", and one of the best evidences in this world that a man can know that he is right with God is that he enjoys to associate with those who profess faith in Jesus Christ. Will you look about on Sunday and observe the folk who are members of this church? There are those individuals who come sometimes on Sunday morning and do not stay for Sunday School and the study of God's word. There are others who come on Sunday night, and that is the last you see of them until the next Sunday night. Thereafter still others who come to the services on Sunday morning and Sunday evening and we never see hide nor hair of them until the next Sunday. Beloved, I am asking you a question tonight, "Do you love to have fellowship with the people of God?" If you love God's people and if you get a joy out of fellowshiping with God's people, it is mighty good evidence that you know the Lord; and if you don't, it is the best evidence that you do not know Jesus Christ as your Saviour.

I would like to give you another test question: "Has the Holy Spirit borne witness in your heart that you are saved?" "The Spirit himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." (Rom. 8:16) Listen again: "He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see." (Jn. 9:25) This is the experience of that man who was born blind when the enemies of Jesus said, "Why you haven't been healed by Jesus, he is a sinner." The man said, "I don't know whether he is a sinner or not, but I do know that whereas I was blind now I see." The man that is saved and is a child of God, knows that he is right with God, and the Holy Spirit has borne witness with his spirit that he is a child of God. I haven't any patience with that individual who says that a man can't know that he is right with God until he dies. If a man is right, he knows that he is right; if he is saved, he knows that

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ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN?

(Continued from Page Four)

is saved; and if he is not saved, he knows deep down in his heart that he is not saved.

I ask you another test question: "Are you at peace with God tonight, and do you feel perfectly satisfied and perfectly content and perfectly happy for that experience you have had? "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." (Rom. 5:1) Beloved, do you feel tonight that you are at peace with God? I talked to a man sometime ago, and he said, "I would give anything in this world if I could just feel that my sins were all blotted out and that I was at peace with God." I said to him, "That is only the normal experience of every child of God." There isn't a saved man in all the world but what can have this experience, and if he is saved, it is his experience—he is at peace with the Lord Jesus Christ.

But I would ask you another test question in order to help you whether you are a church member or whether you are really saved: Are you obedient to the Word of God? I do not mean are you living up to it wholly and perfectly, for if I were to ask you that and you would say that you were, I would know that you were lying, for the man doesn't live who is actually fulfilling this Bible to the letter, BUT is it the main tendency of your life to be obedient to the Word of God? "If ye love me, keep my commandments." (Jn. 14:15) Listen again: "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments." (I Jn. 2:3) Can a man know that he is right with God while he is yet in this flesh? Can he know that he is saved and going to Heaven when he dies? Yes, he can know it if he is keeping the commandments of God. "If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him." (I Jn. 2:29) Beloved, you can't do righteousness unless you are born of Him, and if you are born of Him, you are born to be a righteous doer. Therefore, I ask you this test question: "Are you obedient to His Word?" Are you observing His commands? Are you striving to let your life be an expression of the revealed will of God? Beloved, I fear that even in our radio audience tonight, there are those who may be church members, but are not saved; why may be professors of religion, but are not possessors of the Lord Jesus Christ.

II

How then, can one become a Christian? First of all, you have to be convicted of the fact that you are a sinner. You can't be saved until you realize that you are lost. You can't be a child of God until you know that you are a child of the Devil. You can't become a servant of Jesus Christ until you first realize that you are a servant of Satan. When the Apostle Paul would stand to make his defense as we find him in Acts 24 in the presence of Felix, the apostle preached to Felix of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, and the Word of God says that Felix trembled. Conviction took hold of him, and he was seized with the realization that he was a sinner and that he needed a Saviour. I tell you, before any man can ever be saved, he has to feel that he is a child of the Devil and that he is on his road to Hell. You have to be convicted of your sins.

If you would be a Christian tonight you not only have to be convicted of your sins, but you have to repent of your sins. What is the meaning of the word "repentance?" I preached a few Sundays ago on the subject of "repentance". What does the Word of God say? "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Lk. 13:5) Now if a man is to either repent or perish, I want to know what is repentance? The Lord Jesus tells us about two boys who one day were admonished of their father to go out into the field to work, and one said, "Father, I will go." As soon as the father's back was turned, he turned and went off in the other direction. The second son said to the father, "No, I will not go, I have something else to do today." After a while, we find the Scripture says that the second son said, "I had better do what father said for me to do. I will go work in the field." Jesus said this man changed his mind, and in the same Scripture, the Son of God said he repented. What then is repentance? Simply, it is a change of a man's mind. This young man changed his mind about his father, he changed his mind about his work, he changed his mind about himself, and he went off to work. The man that repents changes his mind about himself, he changes his mind about what he

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BAPTISM SEEN THRU A COLLEGE LAD'S EYES

(Continued from Page One)

a glimpse of those early Christians carrying out the marching orders of the Master by baptizing those who were saved.

What is this that we call Baptist baptism? In all the practices that are called "baptism" what is the right way? Which really is Baptism? Certainly Jesus did not leave this first (at least in order of occurrence) of the two ordinances of His Church to be decided by the opinion of man. What did He mean when He said to "baptize"? The word translated "baptize" comes from a Greek word meaning to dip. James Strong in his "Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible" tells us that the Greek word "Baptizo" means "to makewhelmed (ie. fully wet)" and in "Smith's Bible Dictionary" we are told that "baptisma" properly and literally means immersion."

What has been the practice of the churches? There are folk who believe in modes other than the only true mode — immersion. For instance some believe it is all right to practice affusion or pouring. What about it? C. C. Morrison, writing in the Christian Century of October 28, 1936, says, "we do not have to do everything that Jesus did" and that "To be baptized is a Christian obligation, but there is no obligation to be immersed" and, that "it is ethically monstrous to think that God, or Jesus Christ, or the Bible, or the Great Commission, would make a particular physical act, no matter what "symbolism" the Apostle Paul or we ourselves may read into it, obligatory upon any Christian." The practice of pouring gained in favor in the Roman Catholic Church on the grounds that it was convenient and that the church had authority to use this method, and it is recognized today on the basis that the method of administering it is indifferent. Some believe in sprinkling and according to The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia, sprinkling in the early centuries was used exclusively for persons who were so sick and infirm that they were too weak to be immersed and there is evidence to show that people who received this rite in the form of sprinkling were somewhat despised for nicknames were given them by their neighbors. James M. Frost tells, in "The Moral Dignity of Baptism" of the late Dean Stanley, an Episcopalian of the Church of England, who, in speaking of the change in the form of baptism from immersion to sprinkling said, "By the general sentiment of Christian liberty this great change was effected" and gives as reason for this change, "the practice of

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ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN?

(Continued from Page Five)

has been doing, he changes his mind about God — there is a complete change of mind when a man repents; he no longer sees himself as a pretty good sort of fellow. He no longer sees his sins to be lenient with them, but he sees them now to hate them and to turn his back upon them. He no longer thinks of God as an angry tyrant, but he sees God as a loving, merciful, Heavenly Father.

If you would be a Christian you not only have to be convicted of your sins and then repent before you can ever be saved, but there is going to have to be some faith exercised in the Lord Jesus Christ before you can be saved. Long years ago, a man cried out in the midnight and said, "What must I do to be saved?" (aloud, deeply under conviction) Paul and Silas said to him, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Believe what? Believe that there is a Christ? No, the Devils of Hell believe that. Believe that Christ came into this world and lived a good life? No, there isn't a Devil in Hell but what believes that. Believe that He died in the cross? No, that will not even save you. What are you to believe then? You have to believe that He died on the cross for you. Oh, I ask you tonight, "Are you a Christian?" If you aren't, then how can you become one? If you are to be a child of God, you have to be convicted of your sins, you have to repent of those sins, you have to believe on Jesus Christ, — that His death at the cross was sufficient for every one of those sins.

III.

Now there is a question that comes to your mind. Would you like to say to me tonight, "Now preacher, if I repent of my sins, and if I believe on Jesus Christ am I going to have a new nature?" Exactly so. Listen: "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (II Peter 1:4) The man that is saved partakes of the divine nature. The saved man has something of God inside him. The saved man has something of divinity on the inside — he is a partaker of the divine nature — nature of God.

But would you ask me another question? You say, "If I repent of my sins and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, I will have a new nature. All right, how about my old nature, will I still have it, will I still have a nature that will desire to do things that are wrong?" You certainly will. Listen: "For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not." (Rom. 7:18) I tell you tonight the man that has believed on Jesus Christ and has been saved, that man receives a new nature from God, but he will find that he still has the old fleshly nature which is ready to battle against him. I talked to a man a few days ago, and he said that the day Jesus Christ saved him, He took the old sinful nature out of him. I put my hands around on his back and began feeling, I thought probably I might have found an angel. But I did not find any angel wings sprouting, and I concluded at once that that man was mistaken and that he had lied, whether purposely or ignorantly I do not know. I am saying the man that is a Christian has received a new nature from God, but he does not get rid of the old nature.

But would you ask me another question? You say, "Preacher, when I become a Christian, if I sin after I am saved, what's going to happen?" Let me say first of all, you are going to sin. Every time you sin the Lord Jesus Christ is going to chasten you — He is going to whip you for your sins. Listen: "My Son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him." (Heb. 12:5) That is to say that He whips the man that is saved that sins. If you are a saved man tonight, you can't do like the world does and get by with it. Every time you sin the chastening hand of God rests upon you.

You ask me another question: "Preacher, If I become a new nature which fights against the new nature every day, and if I sin God will whip me, will I loose my salvation if I sin after I am saved?" Listen what the Apostle Paul said when he wrote to Young Timothy: "For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." (II Tim. 1:12) When I was saved, I did just what you did when you were saved, I committed my soul into the hands of the Lord Jesus Christ, and it isn't mine any more, it isn't in my possession any longer—I have made a trust—I have made a deposit—I have committed it to the Lord Jesus Christ and I have the assurance that "He is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." Listen: "And I give unto them eternal life: and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all: and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." (Jn. 10:28,29) How I thank God tonight for

(Continued on Page Seven)

WHERE IS HAPPINESS?

(Continued from Page one)

Where, then is happiness found?

The answer is simple, "In Christ alone." He said, "I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you."

—Clarence Edward Macartney

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BAPTISM SEEN THRU A
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(Continued on Page Five)

immersion, apostolic and primitive as it was, was peculiarly unsuitable to the tastes and conveniences and feelings of the people of the West in the seventeenth century. Dean Stanley also refers to the change as a striking example of the triumph of convenience and common sense over the bondage of form and custom. Certainly we have no right, whatever, to change any ordinance or teaching that has been given by our Lord Jesus Christ no matter how much easier or more convenient it may seem to do it some other way. Even if we had only the Bible, exclusive of all other books, we still, after careful and conscientious and prayerful reading, would believe baptism to be immersion. We are told in

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ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN?

(Continued from Page Six)

this truth, that the man that is saved is not only saved, but he is safe in the Lord Jesus Christ and there isn't a power in this world that can pluck him out of the hand of God.

I ask you a simple question, "Are you a Christian?" I have offered you some test questions tonight whereby you might test yourself to see if you are saved. Now, are you a Christian? If not, you can become a child of God by repenting of your sins and by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ who died for your sins on the cross of Calvary.

I was reading a book of Christian fiction a few days ago, and in the course of the story, read of the death of a man who had driven a stage coach all his life. As this stage coach driver came to the end of his way, in his drunkenness he said, "I am going down a heavy grade and I can't find the brake." Oh, brother, sister, do you feel tonight that you are going down a grade and you can't find the brake? I beg you then tonight to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and tonight become a child of God.

When Moody came to the end of the way, his son, Will, sat by his bedside and heard his father say, "Earth is receding, Heaven is opening; God is calling me." It is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ tonight that you will open your heart to Him and become a child of God, and when you come to the end of the way, you can know that Heaven is awaiting you. May God in mercy help you to repent of your sins, and may He give to you the gifts of repentance and faith that you may accept Him. If you are not a Christian, may God help you to become one tonight. God bless you.

John 3:23 that "John was also baptizing in Aenon near to Salim because there was much water there". Certainly he would not have needed to baptize at that "much water" there if he was pouring or sprinkling instead of immersing. Baptism is pictured in the Romans 6:3 and 4 as a burial and a resurrection and we know that to bury a person one does not sprinkle or pour a little dirt over the head of the deceased and call it a burial. Jesus was buried in a tomb and the tomb was sealed. The grave of Lazarus "was a cave and a stone lay upon it. Jesus said, Take ye away the stone" (John 11:38,39a). From the Encyclopedia Biblico we learn that "not to be buried was a terrible disgrace which one could hardly wish to ones greatest enemy" so it would not be likely that Paul, a Jew, would refer to being buried with Christ by baptism unless he meant a burial in which the body was hidden from view and covered up. Immersion is essential to baptism. To those who might argue that the Philippian jailor (Acts 16:33), or any other person mentioned in the New Testament as receiving in those households or that if Christian baptism, was not immersed because of lack of water, I would remind them that there were baths in the courts of private houses and The Popular and Critical Bible Encyclopedia tells of a castle which had a volume of water in its court and of a place with pools adjoining in which guests swam in hot weather, from noon till dark. In the case of the

Philippian jailor, he might have gone to the river (Acts 16:13).

There are some who believe in trine immersion—the immersion of the candidate in water three times. This belief is probably based on the phrase "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" as found in the Great Commission. Perhaps they immerse once for each of the three Persons of the Godhead instead of once for the Three. In an article in the May 15, 1935 issue of **The Christian Century** H. L. Willet says, in regard to baptism "it seems to have been a single act" and that the first notice of trine immersion was in the writings of Tertullian (160—230 A. D.). To go back to the matter of being "buried with Christ by baptism" we only bury a person once. Then there are some who believe in infant "baptism". This practice is unscriptural. In those Scriptures which speak of an individual and his household being baptized there is no mention of children as a part of the household and we believe in that there were either no infants the New Testament as receiving in those households or that if Christian baptism, was not immersed there where the Bible does not mean to include them in the statement for always believing in Christ comes before baptism. Dr. A. T. Bledsoe in the "Methodist Quarterly Review" is quoted by Wal- castle which had a volume of water in its court and of a place with pools adjoining in which guests swam in hot weather, from noon till dark. In the case of the

(Continued on Page Eight)

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(Continued From Page Seven)
pressed declaration or word in favor of infant baptism. We justify the rite, therefore, wholly on the ground of inference, and not on any expressed word of Christ and His apostles.—Hundreds of learned Pedobaptists have come to the same conclusion, especially since the New Testament has been subjected to a clearer, more conscientious and more candid exegesis than was formerly practised by controversialists."

Then, again, there are some who believe that one must be baptized in order to be saved, but this, also, is unscriptural. Mark 16:16 might be erroneously taken by some to have such a meaning but it was not meant to teach such. Other Scriptures teach otherwise and the Bible certainly does not contradict itself in any way. A careful study of Ephesians 2:8,9 and Matthew 28:18-20 will show us that baptism is not essential to salvation and comes only after one is saved. Look at Mark 16:16 itself. The word "believeth" comes before "baptized" and according to John 3:18,36 and 5:24 one is saved the very moment he "believes in." In answer to "What must I do to be saved?", the Philippian jailer

was told to "believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved and thy house."

Baptism is a church ordinance and is the immersion in water of a person who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ if such immersion is at the hands of a proper administrator. This beautiful and impressive ordinance pictures the change that God has wrought in the heart and life of the candidate through Jesus Christ who paid our debt of sin by his substitutionary death on the Cross and who rose from the dead for justification. For be it from us to rob this beautiful ordinance of its meaning; much less to disobey the command of our Lord Jesus Christ whose command still rings out to us: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name on the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

—Marion Parker, Berea, Ky.

This was a term paper by a young Baptist lad in Berea College this past year. We've never met him, but we are happy to commend this splendid article to our readers. May God bless the lad and God bless our readers.

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He was born on a farm in Greenup County and from there his father moved his family to Grayson, Ky., where R. M., at the age of 6 received his first experience in the business field, by selling newspapers.

Mr. Bagby later entered into commercial circles in Grayson by establishing a drug store and mercantile business. In 1920 he became interested in lumber and organized the Bagby Lumber Company. His commercial methods have always borne the closest investigation and scrutiny and his well formulated plans, his determination and courage have carried him steadily forward.

In addition, he is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Commercial Bank of Grayson. Publisher of the Sandy Valley Enquirer, and operates farms in Carter and Woodford Counties.

He is a high type Christian gentleman. Recently he was made Charter President of the Grayson

He is an ardent advocate and supporter of the Public School System having served as a member of the Grayson Board of Education for over 20 years and it was largely through his efforts as Chairman of that Board for 15 years that one of the best high school systems in the State was developed.

He is a man of exceptionally pleasing personality and of unusual business ability and he knows that every citizen is interested in clean politics and good government. And he favors legislation which is beneficial to those who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow.

Mr. Bagby when elected will use every effort to continue his outstanding career by giving to the people of Kentucky a successful administration.

Mr. Bagby addressed the voters of Kentucky, Friday, July 7, at 6:45 Central Time over WHAS.