

The Baptist Examiner

The Paper With A National Circulation

Devoted To
Evangelism
And Missions

"Go Ye Into All
The World, And
Preach The Gospel."

"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)

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Heathenizing Our Churches At Christmas Time

In this article it is not our purpose to deal with prophecy as it relates to the future, but rather to bring into use the words and warnings of the prophets of God that ought to be of special significance to us at this particular time.

We often look back into the history of Israel and marvel that they so readily took unto themselves the practices. Things are carried on in our churches that have no Scripture warrant, and bear no Christian significance. Often the whole observance is utterly heathen in its symbolism and meaning. We cite an instance or two as cases in point.

Easter

An Easter observance has become almost universal among the churches. Yet it would be difficult for churches to participate in anything more heathenish than Easter. The very name is derived from a pagan goddess (Eostre). The symbols widely used — eggs and rabbits, are ancient sex symbols, having to do symbolically with fertility. The day set aside the Bible resurrection day — the first day of every week, thus cancelling 51 resurrection days a year in favor of one — and that one paganized! Strange that churches should so completely fall for simon-pure paganism.

Hallowe'en

A Tampa church held a Hallowe'en carnival" a few weeks ago,
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Morbus Sabbaticus

"Morbus Sabbaticus" (Sunday sickness) is a disease peculiar to church goers. The attack comes on suddenly every Sunday; no symptoms are felt on Saturday night; the patient sleeps well, eats a hearty breakfast, but about church time the attack comes on and continues till all services are over for the morning. Then the patient feels easy and eats a hearty dinner. In the afternoon he feels much better and is able to take a walk, or drive, or talk politics; but about church time he gets another attack and stays at home. He retires early, sleeps well, and
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LORD, SPEAK TO ME

Lord, speak to me, that I may speak
In living echoes of Thy tone;
As Thou hast sought, so let me seek
Thy erring children, lost and lone.

Oh, teach me, Lord, that I may teach
The precious things Thou dost impart;
And wing my words that they may reach
The hidden depths of many a heart.

Oh, give thine own sweet rest to me,
That I may speak with soothing power
A word in season, as from Thee,
To weary ones in needful hour.

Oh, use me Lord, use even me,
Just as Thou wilt, and when and where;
Until Thy blessed face I see,
Thy rest, Thy joy, Thy glory share.

—Havergal

TEN RULES FOR MAKING A GOOD MINISTER

1. The right kind of church member (a real Christian) will attend services regularly.
2. The right kind of a church member (a real Christian) will be reverent in God's house.
3. A good church member will join heartily in prayers, singing, and responsive reading.
4. A good church member will not be in a hurry to leave. He will welcome strangers and be friendly.
5. The Christian church member will tell others what a good minister he has (and only that).
6. A good member will give his pastor a word of encouragement whenever the opportunity affords itself.
7. The consecrated church member will speak only well of the sermon when he gets home.
8. The spiritually alive church member will always be working to win others to Christ and the church.
9. The loyal-to-Christ church member will support his pastor and his church financially, and consider it a God-given privilege so to do.
10. The Spirit-filled church member will pray for his own pastor every day, that God may make him a better minister.

—Selected and Adapted from C. E. World

The First Baptist Pulpit

"The Bread Of Life"

"I am that bread of life." (John 6:48)

When Marie Antionette went on her marriage journey through the city of Paris, all the poor and sick and infirm were kept out of the way that nothing unpleasant might mar that occasion. In contrast, when Jesus moved toward the cross during the three years of His ministry, all of the outcasts of Syria's peasantry gathered in the highways that they might get within reach of his loving heart.

Thus, this chapter from whence our text comes, tells us how the multitude thronged Him. When He was surrounded by them, in loving compassion, He fed five thousand men besides women and children, miraculously. Then, in order that He might get away from them for a season with the Father, he miraculously walked upon the water and crossed over the Sea of Galilee. When the people learned that He had gone to the other side of the sea, they follow-

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Story Of What Two Pennies Did In China

The dates and some of the names that I would like to call have gone from me. But while I am still on earth I want the following story to have a wider hearing, and to keep it going, perhaps, after I am gone.

It was about 1898 when Miss Julia McKinzie went from the First Church of Owensboro, Ky., as a missionary to China. Dr. Fred D. Hale was her pastor. His preaching, and especially his fight on the nefarious liquor business, had stirred all Owensboro. Many came to hear him out of curiosity. Among these curiosity-seekers was Miss Julia. Here is her story, as nearly as I can recall it, as she told it to me:

She went first out of curiosity, then out of a real interest in his message. After a short time she joined the First Church and became interested in the work there, especially in missions.

One Sunday morning as she was going to church she noticed that she had dropped one of her kid gloves. She turned back, but failed to find it. Then she soliloquized somewhat as follows: What was I doing with those gloves? My hands are not cold, neither soiled, since I work in an office? O yes, I know it is fashionable for young ladies of my class to wear them. I do not need them. Why not add the six dollars I usually pay yearly for three pairs to my offering for missions?

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Fair Weather Christians

Many Christians stay away from church because it rains or snows, because it is too warm or too cold. Is this the kind of Christians the Lord wants us to be?

Let me plant in your heart some searching questions on church attendance:

Does God's Word of command on church attendance change with the weather?

Does the need of your soul for spiritual food and fellowship change with the weather?

Does Satan stop his work of deceiving souls and crippling Christians every time the weather changes?

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