

Help Us To Stay On The Air And Edit This Paper Until Jesus Comes

PREMILLENNIAL . . . BAPTISTIC . . . CALVINISTIC . . . BIBLICAL

Devoted to Evangelism, Missions, and Bible Doctrines.

The Baptist Examiner

The Paper With a National Circulation

"Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel."

Testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isa. 8:20)

VOL. 11 NO. 5

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1942

WHOLE NO. 214

From Darkness To Dawn Or The Salvation Of Seven Soviet Soldiers

A true story of how seven Reds went to Heaven during the late Finnish-Russian War

It shows how God can work in grace amidst the cruellest scenes of man's hatred. It is written by Nordenberg, an eminent engineer in Finland.

"I offered my services to the government, and was appointed an officer in General Mannerheim's Army. It was a terrible time; we besieged the town which had been taken by the Red Army and retook it. A number of Red prisoners were under my guard and seven of them were to be shot at dawn on Monday. I will never forget the preceding Sunday. The seven were kept in the basement of the Town Hall, and in the passage my men stood at attention with their rifles. The atmosphere was filled with hatred, my soldiers were drunk with success and taunted their prisoners who swore and beat on the walls with their bleeding fists. Others called for their wives and children who were far away. At dawn they were all to die.

"We had the victory, that was true enough, but the value of this seemed to diminish as the night advanced. Then something happened. One of the doomed men began to sing. He is mad' was everybody's first thought; but I had noticed this man, Koskinen, had not raved and cursed. Quietly he sat on his bench, a picture of utter despair. Nobody said anything to him; each carrying his burden in his own way. Koskinen sang, rather waveringly at first, then his voice grew stronger and became natural and free. All the prisoners turned and looked at him as he sang. 'Safe in the arms of Jesus, Safe on

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The Bible

"I entered through the portico of Genesis and walked down through the Old Testament art gallery where the pictures of Abraham, Moses, Joseph, Isaiah, David and Solomon hung on the walls. I passed into the music room of the Psalms and every reed of God's great organ responded to the tuneful harp of David. I entered the chamber of Ecclesiastes where the voice of the preacher was heard, and into the conservatory of Sharon and the Lily of the Valley's spices filled and perfumed my life. I entered the business office of the Pro-

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FAITH

I will not doubt, though all my ships at sea
Come drifting home with broken masts and sails;
I will believe the Hand which never fails,
From seemingly evil worketh good for me.
And though I weep because those sails are tattered,
Still will I cry, while my best hopes lie shattered:
"I trust in Thee."

I will not doubt, though all my prayers return
Unanswered from the still, white realm above;
I will believe it is an all-wise love
Which refused these things for which I yearn;
And though at times I cannot keep from grieving,
Yet the pure ardor of my fixed believing
Undimmed shall burn.

I will not doubt though sorrows fall like rain,
And troubles swarm like bees about a hive;
I will believe the heights for which I strive
Are only reached by anguish and by pain;
And though I groan and writhe beneath my crosses,
I yet shall see through my severest losses
The greater gain.

I will not doubt. Well anchored in this faith,
Like some staunch ship, my soul braves every gale;
So strong its courage that it will not quail
To brest the mighty unknown sea of death.
O, may I cry, though body parts with spirit,
"I do not doubt," so listening worlds may hear it,
With my last breath.

NOTICE!

On Saturday morning, March 7, at an early hour, the Sandy Valley Enquirer of Grayson, Kentucky, who prints THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, was burned, with quite a large loss to both the Sandy Valley Enquirer and THE BAPTIST EXAMINER . . .

A ton of paper to be used for the printing of tracts, over a hundred dollars worth of stereotype plates for the tracts, and approximately another hundred dollars worth of other cuts belonging to THE BAPTIST EXAMINER were destroyed.

In addition, the paper of March 7, (already printed), was burned, and the copy for March 14, was likewise destroyed. In the two issues of our paper which burned, we had some exceedingly fine articles which we hope we will be able to reproduce at a later date. A sermon by Brother Roy Beamon of Tampa, Florida, and another by Brother E. D. Davis of Stamping Ground, Kentucky, were burned. There was also a fine article by C. D. Cole on the "Divine Order

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"IF I HAD BUT ONE SERMON TO PREACH"

"THE BIBLE IN A NUTSHELL"

Eld. Roy Mason, Tampa, Florida

Text: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
—John 3:16.

If I had only one sermon to preach, I would take the greatest text in the Bible, John 3:16, and try to bring a message from that. Almost every person who has had any Bible instruction at all, can repeat this text from memory, but because of its very familiarity many persons never let the real meaning of it get down into their hearts. The best way to make this text personal and meaningful, is for you to take out the word "whosoever" and insert your own name instead.

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How God Effectually Calls Sinners To Himself and Salvation

The verb "call" is sometimes used in the Bible to express the act of naming, as, for instance, "Thou shalt call His name Jesus" (Matt. 1:21). At other times the word is employed to denote the act of inviting, as in (Lk. 14:13); "But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, —" In the latter use of the word we must distinguish between a call that is not heeded and one that is successful or effectual. The chief aim of the Gospel ministry is to call men to Jesus Christ for salvation and service. Now it is obvious that many such calls go unheeded and men remain lost notwithstanding plain preaching and urgent appeals. On the other hand we see the Gospel effective in many cases—we see lives transformed by it. We see a lost man reject the Gospel at one time, and then the next time or at a later time he is saved by it. What makes the difference? The preacher? No, for it may be the same preacher in both instances. Is the difference in the Gospel? No, for it is the same Gospel. The difference is made by the Holy Spirit. When the Gospel is preached without the quickening power of the Spirit, the sinner remains dead and will be either indifferent or antagonistic to the Gospel appeal.

The Nature Of The Effectual Call

1. It is subjective. There is an outward or objective call in which the Gospel is presented or offered to the sinner. The objective call is referred to in Prov. 1:24 where God says: "I have called and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded." The objective or outward call is also before us in the parable of the great supper. When the invited guests were called to supper,

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An Improvised Cork

There lives in the Republic of Guatemala, in Central America, a man named Pancho, who previously was a terrible drunkard. One day, being very drunk, he fell into a deep sleep, and on awakening grabbed his bottle again to take another drink, but was very disgusted to find it empty. As he replaced a cork he noticed it was only a piece of paper doubled up to serve as a stopper. He pulled it out again, and, unfolding it, found it was a page torn out of a book. He read it and found it contained words that consoled him greatly.

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The Baptist Examiner

JOHN R. GILPIN EDITOR

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

Editorial Department RUSSELL,
KENTUCKY, where communications
should be sent for publication.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE
Per Year in Advance 50c
(Domestic and Foreign)

Send Remittances to Russell, Ky.
Entered as second class matter
May 31, 1941, in the post office at
Russell, Kentucky, under the act of
March 3, 1879.

Paid circulation in about forty states
and four foreign countries.

Subscriptions are stopped at expir-
ation unless renewed or special ar-
rangements are made for their con-
tinuance.

AN IMPROVISED CORK ...

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It happened that the storekeeper from whom he had bought the drink had been using the pages of a New Testament to make stoppers for the bottles of liquor he sold. But, in spite of all, the words of Eternal Life so despised by the ungodly storekeeper and which came into Pancho's hands in such a strange way, became to him a message from God. He found something that calmed his soul, and took away the appetite for alcoholic liquors.

Very soon Pancho obtained a complete copy of the New Testament, and passed many pleasant hours reading this precious Book. And what a revelation it was to him. As he read the history of the marvelous birth of the Lord Jesus he seemed to see the humble shepherds worshipping the child in the arms of His mother Mary; as he continued his reading he accompanied the Lord from town to town and saw His powerful hands heal the sick. He listened to the loving voice announcing the words of Grace and the saving truths of the Gospel; and how he did rejoice to hear His words of peace and pardon. Later, on reading the story of His betrayal and following Him to the Judgment seat and the Cross, Pancho shed tears as he contemplated the unspeakable sufferings that came upon Him there, and was deeply moved as he realized that Christ had died for him, to atone for his iniquity and take away his sins. Pricked to the heart, he recognized the goodness and love of the Saviour, and could not do less than give himself to Him, body and soul. He trusted in Christ for his salvation, and since then, leaving behind the sinful life he had previously led and in which he had served the devil so well, he consecrated himself to the service of a new Master—one who is worthy to be served with all the energy and talents of a redeemed soul.—G. A. The Herald of Salvation, Great Britain.

FROM DARKNESS TO DAWN

His gentle breast
There by His love o'er shaded.
Sweetly my soul shall rest.
Hark 'tis the voice of angels, Borne
in a song to me,
Over the fields or jasper, Over the
crystal sea.

Over and over he sang that verse, and when he finished everyone was quiet for a few minutes, until a wild looking man broke out with 'where did you get that, you fool? Are you trying to make us religious?'

"Koskinen looked at his comrades with tear filled eyes as he quietly said, 'Comrades, will you listen to me for a minute? You ask me where I got this song; it was from the Salvation Army. I heard it three weeks ago; my mother sang about Jesus and prayed to Him.' He stopped a little while, as if to gather strength. Then he rose to his feet, being the soldier that he was, looked straight in front of him, and continued, 'It is cowardly to hide your beliefs: the God my mother believed in is now my God. I cannot tell how it happened. I lay awake last night, and suddenly saw mother's face before me, and it reminded me of the song that I had heard. I felt I had to find the Saviour and hide in Him. Then I prayed, like the thief on the cross, that Christ would forgive me and cleanse my sinful soul and make me ready to stand before Him Whom I would meet soon. It was a strange night, there were times when everything seemed to shine around me. Verses from the Bible and the Song Book came to my mind. They brought messages of the crucified Saviour and the Blood that cleanses from sin, and the Home He has prepared for us. I thanked Him, accepted Him, and since then this verse has been sounding inside me. It was God's answer to my prayer. I could no longer keep it to myself; within a few hours I shall be with the Lord, saved by grace.'

"Koskinen's face shone as if by an inward light. His comrades sat there quietly. He himself stood there transfixed. My soldiers were listening to what this Red Revolutionary had to say. 'You are right Koskinen,' said one of his comrades at last. 'If only I knew there was mercy for me, too, but these hands of mine have shed blood, and I have reviled God and trampled on all that is holy. Now I realize that there is a hell, and that it is the proper place for me.' He sank to the ground with despair on his face. 'Pray for me, Koskinen,' he groaned, 'tomorrow I shall die and my soul shall be in the hands of the Devil.' ... And these two soldiers went down on their knees and prayed for each other. It was no long prayer but it reached Heaven; and we who listened to it forgot our hatred; it melted in the light of Heaven; for here were two men who were soon to die—seeking reconciliation with their God. A door leading into the Invisible stood ajar and we were entranced by the sight. Let me tell you shortly that by the time it was four o'clock, all of Koskinen's comrades had followed his example and began to pray: the change in the atmosphere was indescribable. Some of them sat on the floor, some on the benches; some wept quietly, others talked of spiritual things. None of us had a Bible, but the Spirit of God spoke to us all. Then someone remembered those at home, and there followed an hour of intense letter writing. Confessions and tears were in those letters.

"The night had almost gone and

day was dawning. No one had had a moment of sleep. 'Sing the song once more for us Koskinen,' said one of them, and you should have heard them sing, not only that song, but verses and choruses long forgotten. The soldiers on guard united with them. The power of God had touched all. Everything had changed and the venerable Town Hall's basement resounded in that early morning hour with the songs of the Blood of the Lamb.

"The clock struck six. How I wished I could beg grace for these men, but I knew that it was impossible. Between two rows of soldiers they marched out to the place of execution. One of them asked to be allowed to sing Koskinen's song once again, and the permission was granted. Then they asked to be allowed to die with uncovered faces, and with hands to heaven they sang with might and main, 'Safe in the arms of Jesus.' When the last line had died out, the lieutenant gave the word 'Fire,' and the seven Red soldiers fought their last fight. We inclined our heads in silent prayer.

"What had happened in the hearts of the others I do not know, but as far as I was concerned, I was a new man from that hour. I had met Christ in one of His lowliest and youngest disciples, and I had seen enough to realize that I too could be His."

Reader, you were not there, but the same One Who was, Who made it possible for them to face death freed from the guilt of their sin and therefore having "peace with God," waits to make their experience yours.

"God commendeth His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us." "Christ hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God." "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.—Selected.

... THE EFFECTUAL CALL

(Continued from Page One)

they all began to make excuse. The mere outward invitation brought nobody to the feast.

The subjective or internal call is made within the sinner. Grace operates the mind and heart. The Spirit compels them to come in; not by forcing the will, but by changing the mind and heart so that they become willing.

2. It is a special call. There is a general call whenever and wherever the Gospel is preached. God is sincere in this call and the sinner is responsible to heed it, but the fact is he never does. The special call is made to those who are denominated sheep, elect, predestinated; and it is always effective. Christ said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish." (Jno. 10:27, 28). And speaking of the lost sheep among the Gentiles, He said, "And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice" (Jno. 10:16). Paul recognized the elect when the Gospel came not unto them in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit. (1 Thes. 1: 4, 5). And

in Rom. 8:30 he wrote that "whom God predestinated, them He also called."

Bunyan illustrates the difference between the general and the special call by the hen. She has a general cluck to which little attention is given, and she has a special cluck for her biddies when the hawk is about to swoop down upon them—the cluck that brings them flying to find protection under her wings. So God has a special call that brings his chosen to find shelter and safety beneath the spreading wings of Calvary.

Spurgeon finds an illustration of this special call in the resurrection of Lazarus. He says that if our Lord had not addressed Lazarus personally, saying, "Lazarus, come forth," that all dead would have lived at His command.

3. It is a successful call. It is a call that converts; a call that guarantees justification and glorification. In Rom. 8:30 we are told that the called are justified and glorified. In Rom. 8:28 we read that all things co-operate for good to the called. In 1 Cor. 1:26 Paul says that not many of the wise and great of Corinth had been called; that is, they had not been effectually or successfully called. Paul had doubtless preached to them, but they had not been called with that special and irresistible call of the light-giving and life-giving Spirit. When Peter admonishes us to make our calling and election sure, he means more than for us to make sure we have heard the Gospel with the physical organ.

The effectual call is a Divine call that startles the careless into concern, that enlightens the sin darkened understanding, and opens the sin-closed heart to receive Christ as Saviour. Apart from the work of the Spirit the word of the Spirit will be rejected. Unless the Spirit creates light within the soul, the light within the book will not be seen. The power of conversion is not in the inspiration of the preacher, but in the illumination and regeneration of the Spirit.

The Necessity of the Effectual Call

1. Human depravity makes a special and irresistible call necessary. Man by nature has an understanding darkened by sin, a heart that is hard, and a mind that hates God. If the sinner understood the Gospel and loved God, he would at once lovingly and gladly respond to the good news. But he must undergo a change of mind and heart before he will receive Christ. And this change of mind is not self-wrought, but God wrought. Paul told Timothy to preach in the hope that "God, peradventure, will give them repentance (change of mind) to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil who are taken captive by him at his will. (2 Tim. 2:24, 26) Paul says that the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation to all who believe, but nobody is naturally a believer, for "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit; for they are foolishness to him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." (1 Cor. 2:14).

2. The special and effectual call is necessary because the "word only"

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THE BIBLE IN A NUTSHELL

I read once of a preacher by the name of Holmes who was holding a meeting in a certain college.

In that school as a student was a young man by the name of Edward Nichols. He had lived a very wicked dissolute life, and he got under deep conviction because of his sins. He came to the room where the evangelist was staying, and he told him that he knew he was lost. He told of his gambling—told of his drinking—told of his dissipation, told of his wayward life, and in deep distress and almost despair he indicated that he feared that there was no salvation for him. The preacher tried to talk to him but to no avail. Finally he opened the Bible and turned to my text, John 3:16, and read it, but the young man seemed not to get the meaning of it at all. Finally the preacher said, "Read that verse and substitute your own name—for God so loved Edward Nichols...etc." A strange, comprehending look came over the face of the young man, and the preacher said, "let us get down here on our knees while I ask God to make this all clear to you." And he prayed that the Lord would open the mind and the heart of the young man and make him to see the way of life. He closed his prayer, and as he did so he heard the rustling of leaves, and through his half opened eyes he saw the young man turning the pages of the Bible. Finally he found John 3:16, and putting his finger on the verse, the young man prayed something like this, "Oh Lord you know what a wicked life I have been living—you know how miserable I feel, but right here under my finger it says in your word that you loved me enough that you gave your own Son to save me, if I would believe. And Lord I do believe—I do accept Him right now, and I claim your promise of everlasting life." I need not tell you that that young man arose from his feet a saved man. Yes—the way to make this text mean something to you is for you to substitute your own name. "God so loved YOU."

This text is often called "The Little Bible" for it is the Bible boiled down and summarized in just one verse. This text is full of the greatest things that the human mind can possibly consider. Let us think of some of these great things for a few minutes.

I—We have the GREATEST BEING IN THE UNIVERSE—GOD. God! Ah, at the name of God, we ought to stop in deepest reverence and adoration. The old Quakers got their name from their practice of quaking at the very name of God. Over in Germany at the name of Hitler the Germans snap to attention and yell, "heil." But who is Hitler? A fellow whose family name was formerly "Schickelgruber." A fellow with a little Charlie Chaplin mustache. A fellow who in a few years will be food for the worms. But God never had a beginning, and will never have an end. He always was, is now, and always will be. Moses wrote back there in the misty centuries of the past, these words, "Lord thou hast been our dwelling place in all

generations. Before the mountains were brought forth or ever thou hadst formed the earth or the world, even from everlasting to everlasting thou art God."

Behind The Door—God

A professor in college was showing his students something in the laboratory. He had some exhibits that showed a certain plant in different stages. There was the seed—then the plant—stalk, leaves, fruit. He said to them, "In this seed is a substance called protoplasm. It has the power to grow, to reproduce, to expand into great size. But back behind this growth and development is something we call 'life' about which there is complete mystery. Behind what we see is a closed door." There was silence for a minute in that class of students, then one of the students spoke up and said, "May I ask a question, please?" "Certainly." "Well professor, isn't God back behind that closed door?" It is true, my friends, that where men's knowledge ends, God's begins. Look at anything you please—pick up any object you please—and back behind it all as the ultimate explanation is GOD. Now is it not reasonable that if God is the giver of all life—if He is the Maker of all things—that it is to Him that are to give account? There is no answer save "yes." I ask you therefore are you ready to give account before God?

II—The second great thing mentioned in this text is Love. "God so Loved." Dwight L. Moody preached time and again on the wrath of God—and emphasized the wrath of God in the early part of his ministry, until a young man—Henry Moorehouse, came from England and held a meeting for him. Every night that young man got up and preached from John 3:16—preached with such power and demonstration of the Spirit of God, that a great revival broke out and multitudes were saved. That happening changed the whole trend and character of Moody's ministry. He had emblazoned in flaming letters behind his platform the words, "God is Love." Oh how much the love of some persons means to us—enough that often it is the case that when some persons lose the love of another, they are ready to die. But suppose that God hadn't loved us. We would every one of us perish. What little love we have as human beings, is derived from God, the author and source of all love.

A friend told me of this thing that happened in the state of Florida. There was a young man who was in love with a young woman, but they had a misunderstanding and quarrel over something. Before there was any reconciliation between this young man and the young woman to whom he was engaged, he was taken desperately sick. The family doctor was called and he worked with the young man through days and nights of sickness, until finally the crisis was over. But the young man didn't make the ready return to health that he should. He seemed listless and uncaring as to whether he got well or not. The old doctor knew what was the matter. He knew of the estrangement between this young man and his sweetheart, and he knew that that young

man was grieving himself to death. As he was walking down the street one day he met the girl and she inquired about the young man. The doctor said, "The crisis is past, and he should come right out of it, but he isn't going to do it." "I don't understand," said the young woman anxiously—"you say he is getting well, yet isn't going to get well. What is the matter?" "Do you want me to tell you?" "Yes." "Well it is this: my patient is dying of undying love for you." The girl hung her head for a moment, as she struggled with her pride—then her love conquered and she said, "Doctor you are on your way to see Jack now aren't you?" "Yes." "Well wait a minute." And the young lady stepped into a florist's shop nearby and bought a beautiful bouquet of flowers. She took a card and wrote these words, "With all the love of my heart," and signed her name. Then she gave the bunch of flowers to the doctor and asked him to take them with him to the home of the young man. The doctor went in to find his patient listless and brooding. He said, "Here Jack I have a bunch of flowers for you." But the young man had plenty of flowers around in the room and he wasn't interested. But the doctor said, "Look at them—read the card." And the young man read, "With all the love of my heart" and beneath his sweetheart's name. "Doctor did she send these of her own accord? You didn't ask her to do it did you?" "No my boy—that girl did that because she wanted to." It seemed as if new life entered into that young man and it was just a few days after that that the doctor stood there in the room and served as witness of a very happy marriage. Now if it is possible for human love to mean so much, what about the love of God? Oh the greatest thing we can ever know in this world is the love of God. Love it is that transcends all time and space—love that remains the same through all ages. Have you appreciated the love of God for your soul? Have you?

III—But now in the third place, we have THE GREATEST DEGREE of love — "So" "God so loved." A little girl climbed up into her mother's lap and said, "Mother I love you so much." That was her childish impulsive way of expressing her love. I read recently where a man told of being on a train. A little boy was crouched on a seat by the window across from where his mother was seated. As the mother sat there reading, the little boy who had been looking out at the window, called out to his mother— "Mother. Mother!" "What is it son?" "Mother, I love you!" And in that little fellow's eyes there was the most abject adoration. The man said that that little scene touched him most deeply. Oh, if we appreciate the love of a child—what about the love of God—so infinitely greater than all human love can possibly be! God loves members of a wicked race enough that He spares them, and gives them time to repent. That is exactly the reason why some of you haven't been cut off long ago. If it had not been for the mercy and love of God, some of you would be in torment this very minute.

BROKE HIS SWORD

There is a legend that tells of an infidel knight of the long ago. Loudly he had declared that there is no God. One day he drew his sword and brandished it towards heaven and said, "I defy God—if there is any God, and I dare him to strike me down." As he stood there a gust of wind blew a little scrap of paper in his direction. It came circling through the air and fell right there at his feet. The infidel stooped down and picked it up. It was a little fragment of a leaf from a Bible, and as he looked he read, "God is love." That infidel stood there looking as if someone had struck him a blow. It surged in upon him that his infidelity was a sham—that he knew in his heart that there is a God—that he had been fighting and blaspheming against One who loved him, and right there that infidel wilted. He took his sword which he had brandished in defiance toward heaven and broke the blade off of it and threw it down on the ground. Then he fell on his face and cried, "Oh God, thy love has conquered." And I want to tell you—the love of God ought to conquer every sinful heart. When you hold out against the God in heaven, and reject His Son and His salvation, you are resisting the deepest love that shall ever be extended in your direction.

IV—But in the fourth place, this love reaches to the GREATEST COMPANYTHE WORLD. "God so loved the world." That takes in people of every color; every nationality; every condition in life. John on Patmos was given a vision of heaven and of its inhabitants, and he saw there among the redeemed, people of every race and tribe and tongue. The sun shines on mountains and valleys and hills and prairies. It shines into the stagnant pond filled with filth and laden with disease, and it also shines into lovely flower gardens gorgeous with flowers of every variety and hue. So, with the love of God. Like the rays of sunlight it is available for all. Do you know why you are not saved? It is because you will not appreciate the love of God in Christ Jesus. Jesus said to a people long ago, "Ye will not come unto me that ye might have life." I think those are about the saddest words that ever fell from his lips—"ye will not—ye will not." Are you holding out? Is that will of yours set against Christ?

V—But I hurry on to call attention to the GREATEST GIFT.....the ONLY BEGOTTEN SON. "God so loved the world that he gave his only Begotten Son." I have been trying to illustrate these different points but how am I to illustrate this? This is simply beyond all human illustration. During my daughter, Joanna's long illness, we gave her a number of blood transfusions. I had my blood typed and it proved to be the right type, so I gave my own blood. One of the deepest joys I had was to give my blood for her, and I carefully weigh my words when I say that if it would have saved her life, I would have gladly laid down and let every drop of my blood have drained into her veins. But listen—there is a difference between this and the love of our Saviour. That daughter was sweet and loving and true, but the

Lord Jesus Christ gave His blood for us when we were sinners and enemies and hateful and unloving. That's the difference. "But God commendeth his love towards us, in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us."

VI—But now the sixth great thing of our text is MAN'S GREATEST OPPORTUNITY... "THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH." Here in this land of gospel privilege and opportunity, practically everybody knows about Christ and knows about His death and about the life that is offered in His name. We don't appreciate this like we should. What if we had been born in darkest Africa where the gospel has never penetrated? What if we had been born in some far off corner of the world among heathen where there is no Bible, no gospel, no hope? Oh, we ought to get on our knees and thank God that we live in a land where we have been privileged to hear the Word of God, and where we have come to know of the Christ who saves. Sinner friend, if you die and go to hell from this land of gospel privilege it is going to go a lot harder with you than with that poor African who died in his ignorance, for you shall have sinned against the light and the truth. Let me urge that you not shut your eyes to the light of God. Let me urge that you not shut your ears to the truth of God. Let me urge that you not shut your heart to the love of God.

FROM ALL INIQUITY

VII—Hurrying on, this text states the GREATEST CERTAINTY—"SHOULD NOT PERISH." This text says that any one who believes in Christ shall not perish. That means shall not perish in the hell to which the devil and all of his followers are to be consigned. Listen to this Scripture: (John 10:27-29) "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 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" Very often I see placards hung upon people's walls—beautiful mottoes that read, "Jesus Never Fails." Yet some of the very people who have that motto on their walls believe in falling from grace. "Jesus never fails." If any soul that ever trusts in him goes to hell then He certainly will fail. But I believe that motto with all my heart. "Jesus never fails" and because He never fails, our souls are safe and secure if we have placed them in His hands. No man can perish who trusts in Christ. Why? Because He pays for our sins past, present, and future. That is exactly what the Bible teaches. It says, "Our Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from ALL iniquity." How much iniquity? ALL iniquity. If He redeems from all iniquity then what is there left that He doesn't redeem us from? The greatest certainty that we can ever know in this life, is the certainty that we who trust in Christ for salvation shall never perish. He said it! And I believe it.

DON'T WANT A MERE MILLION

VIII—But now I come to the last point, and the last great thing mentioned in our text. What is it? IT IS THE GREATEST POSSESSION—ETERNAL LIFE. Let us go back now and get the whole text. Listen to it. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." "Might have everlasting life." Life that is as long as the stars. Life that is as long as the duration of the throne of God. The Greek expression so often used in this connection is "ton aion eon." That means "ages rolled upon the top of ages." God gave His Son, so that all who believe in Him might have the life of the ages. Suppose that some Being commissioned of heaven to make such an offer should stand before me today and should say, "If you will take it, I will give you a thousand years of life to live. And this life will be without pain or a trouble of any kind. But understand—when the thousand years are over, you are to be cast into hell." Would I be fool enough to take that offer? No—for that thousand years would be up someday, and I would have the prospect of a horrible eternity. Suppose that this offer should be extended until I was offered ten thousand years—yes a million years—would I take it? No—for those years would come to a close, and what of eternity? My friends, I don't want a thousand years, or ten thousand years or a million years—I want eternal life—life that never, never, never ends. And praise God for His matchless love, that is the kind of life that is mine, through Jesus Christ my Lord. When the stars have burned out - when the sun has grown cold—when eternity's clock has struck ten billion times, I shall still be living on and on, enjoying the life that is lived in the radiance of the eternal throne of God. That is what eternal life means. Do you have it? Do you have eternal life? It is offered you as freely today as the air you breathe or the sunlight you enjoy. It is offered to everyone who will believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Oh, will you receive him in order that life's greatest possession, eternal life, may be yours?

ETERNITY! ETERNITY

A lady came home from a gay party one night. It had been a thoughtless gathering, and the evening had been spent in light mirth. Her maid had waited up for her, and being a Christian girl, the maid was reading a religious book. The lady glanced at the book and noticed its religious title. She felt a sense of pity for the girl. When she was having such a gay time, what a pity that anyone should be bound by the restrictions of religion. But as she looked over the shoulder of the maid, one word on the page of the book caught her eye. That word was the word "eternity." After she had gone to bed the woman kept thinking of that word. "Eternity...eternity...eternity"—the word kept ringing in her head over and over and over. And she got to thinking, "This life isn't all—after this life,—eternity." Finally unable to sleep, she called the maid, and said "I saw a word in that book you were reading last night, the

word eternity, and I have been unable to sleep for thinking about it. Oh, that I were prepared for eternity." I want to stop and ask you that question, "ARE YOU prepared for it?" If you are not a Christian, you are not. And by being a Christian I mean if you have not personally accepted Him as your Saviour and committed the keeping of your soul into His hands. If you are not ready—not a Christian—not saved, won't you do that today? At the cost of His only begotten Son, God has provided a Saviour and a salvation for you. Will you accept it? God offers life—the devil offers eternal death. Which will you have? "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Will you take the gift of God now—today?

THE EFFECTUAL CALL

(Continued from Page Two)

is insufficient. Paul identified the elect when the Gospel came not to them in word only, but also is power, and in the Holy Spirit. (1 Thess. 1:5). The Gospel is suitable and sufficient as the means of conversion, but there must also be an agent. There must be the workman as well as the equipment. The word is a good sword, but there must also be a soldier. And the word is the sword of the Spirit. Paul said he preached the Gospel to both the Jew and the Greek. To the natural Jew it was a stumbling-block or a scandal, and to the natural Greek it was foolishness; but the called Jew and the called Greek had a different attitude; they saw in the Gospel the wisdom and the power of God in human salvation. In the call that goes unheeded, we have the Gospel and the preacher; in the effectual call we have the Gospel and the preacher plus the Holy Spirit. May His ministers give the Holy Spirit the glory and the credit for all their success.

APPRECIATED COMMENTS

Dear Brother Gilpin:

My brother, Charles E. Graves, had the paper sent to me, and I have enjoyed reading it so much, and it has helped me a great deal. It seems so wonderful in these times to know of those that are standing firm to the faith. May the Lord bless you in the fine work that you are carrying on.

Sincerely,
Clara L. Grover
12 Vermont Avenue
Portland, Maine

Thought I would let you know how much I do enjoy reading THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. It is one of the best Baptist papers I've ever subscribed to, and it gets better all the time. I am sending money order for fifty cents to renew my subscription, for I can't afford to miss getting it.
Mrs. Eva Thornton
Clearwater, Florida.

Dear Brother Gilpin:

I am sending you three dollars to be used as you see fit in your great mission work. It is a pleasure to give money when you can see the fruits of it. I am convinced that your

work with your paper and radio programs are producing splendid results. As a result of my association with you and your work, I have been greatly strengthened on many Bible doctrines.

Audra Lester
Fort Gay, West Va.

THE BIBLE

(Continued from Page One)

verbs, then into the observation room of the prophets, where I saw telescopes of various sizes, some pointing to far off events, but all concentrated upon the Bright Star which was to rise above the moonlit hills of Judea for our salvation. I entered the audience room of the King of Kings and passed into the correspondence rooms where sat Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Paul, Peter, James and Jude, penning their epistles. I stepped into the throne room of Revelation and got a vision of the King sitting upon His throne in all His glory, and I cried:

All hail the power of Jesus' Name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all.
—"Billy" Sunday.

NOTICE

(Continued from Page One)

Of The Sexes," and two more articles concerning the Seminary, one by Clarence Walker and the other by Gordon Hurlbutt. Then too, there was one of the tracts which Brother Dickerson has been printing and distributing in Brazil, on "A Woman's Place In The New Testament Church," which, to my mind, is the very best that this editor has ever read. We hope to be able to reproduce some of these at a later date. We are writing each of the contributors trusting that it may be possible for these articles to be prepared again.

Of course, we regret the loss of all of this, amounting to between four and five hundred dollars, but above all else, we regret the loss of the two issues of the paper (March 7th, and 14th), in view of the fact that our financial records were burned at that time, and we cannot reproduce these. It just means that in our records as to gifts for Brazilian missions, radio, and THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, that there will be a break since these records were destroyed.

We are writing this on Sunday, March 8, and hope to get this new issue of the paper out for the date of March 14, within a few days. We shall try not to have to miss but one issue, and we ask that you especially remember us in prayer.

We might say that we had no insurance on any of our paper or cuts, and for that reason we possibly may not be able to get out the new edition of tracts soon, which we were planning to print immediately. However, as we have promised, we shall have the tracts just as soon as we are able to recuperate from this loss and our printer is able to get back into business.

Above all else, remember us much in prayer!