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Devoted to Evan-
gelism, Missions, and
Bible Doctrines.

The Baptist Examiner

The Paper With a National Circulation

"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).

WHOLE NO. 227

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 1942

VOL. II, No. 18

Penalties And Compensations Of An Independent Baptist Church

Independent Baptist churches are penalized

1. By many misrepresentations.
2. By being charged with assuming a better-than-thou attitude.
3. By Baptist preachers counseling their out-going members not to join independent Baptist churches.
4. By conspiracies among Baptist preachers to put independent Baptist churches out of business.

Independent Baptist churches are blessed

1. By being free to look to the Holy Spirit for enablement and guidance.
2. By being free to map out a church program without outside interference.
3. By being free to preach messages initiated by the Holy Spirit, rejecting all sermon suggestions coming from headquarters.

Independent Baptist churches are blessed

4. By being free to pray own way without outside interference.
5. By being free to look to the Lord for all things, not to man and his wisdom.

Independent Baptist churches are blessed

6. By being free to use the Bible as a text book without man-made suggestions.
7. By being free to invest mission funds where they will not have to share the infidelity and evolutionism of many agencies.

(Editor's Note) The above is from the pen of Elder W. Lee Rec-
tor pastor of the First Baptist
Church, Ardmore, Oklahoma. It
was the editor's happy privilege to
preach in his church several times
recently during a mission fellowship

(Continued on Page Two)

An Invariable Barometer

An artist was once asked to paint a picture of a dying church.

Instead of putting on the canvas a small, feeble, poor congregation, in an old building, he painted a stately modern edifice, through the open portals of which could be seen a richly carved pulpit, a magnificent organ, beautiful stained-glass windows, with frescoes and perfect seating.

Just within the entrance, and guarded on either side by a "Pillar"

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Man's Philosophy vs. Christ



On Devil's Island, French penal colony, according to "Life," some of the men tattoo their philosophy of life upon their bodies. One man had, "The past deceived me. The present torments me. The future terrifies me."

Here is a perfect description of the soul out of Christ. And there are millions of people who have these three sentences burned across their minds and branded upon their

souls. BUT CHRIST FREES THOSE WHO COME TO HIM. Paul had three sentences upon him. He who bore in his body the marks of the Lord Jesus (Gal. 6:17; Cor. 4:10) could say of the past, present and future: "Forgetting those things which are behind . . ." (Phil. 3:13); "For to me, to live is Christ . . . and to die is gain" (Phil. 1:21)

—Revelation

Read This And Take Courage

"My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities that the power of Christ may rest upon me." (2 Cor. 12:9)

Many of God's people throughout the world have known of the remarkable testimony of a godly woman in Australia, Miss M. R. Higgins, who calls her small home, "Thanksgiving Corner," because she learned many years ago of the all-sufficiency of God's grace even in the midst of most terrific sufferings.

Both are gone, Miss Higgins had

a device fitted to her shoulder and made to hold a pen in order that she might write letters of comfort to afflicted people throughout the earth. Every stroke of her pen requires the movement of her body, yet her penmanship is remarkably clear.

We marvel at the far-reaching testimony of this saint of God back in the days of our youth, but we learn through a dear friend, Mrs. Jessie Moser of Glendale, Calif., who has kept in touch with Miss Higgins, we are able to present some recent messages which we trust will come as a real

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THE FIRST BAPTIST PULPIT

"Now We See Through A Glass Darkly"

"And Jacob their father said unto them, Hear ye bereaved of my children: Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and ye will take Benjamin away! All these things are against me." — Genesis 42:36.

"For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man I put away childish things.

(Continued on Page Three)

For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face; now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known."

— I Corinthians 13:9-12.

Here are two remarkable texts taken from both the Old and New Testaments. One was the statement of Jacob; the other was the words of Paul. Each is closely associated with the other, although Paul goes far beyond Jacob in the truth which he presents.

Jacob's life was one filled with

Fifteen Reasons Why I Cannot Belong To A Secret Order

1. I am a Christian and it takes all my time, energy and abilities to discharge my Christian duties, obligations and vows. I have no time for lodges. All the good that can be done through a lodge can be done through my church, where it ought to be done and where it is my business to help it to be done. I have never yet lived up to all my church obligations, and until I do I will not obligate myself to any other institution.

2. Lodges are man-made institutions and will perish with the other things of this world, I John 2:16,17; while the church and the kingdom of God, to which I belong and owe all my allegiance, are divinely founded and will endure forever, Matt. 15:33.

3. Lodges are composed of both saved and unsaved, and most of their membership is of the worldly element. For the Christian to unnecessarily link himself with the worldly and unregenerate is an unholly and sinful alliance, 2 Cor. 6:14-18.

4. Lodges almost without exception encourage worldly practices, such as dances, card parties, carnivals, raffles, etc., and a Christian is forbidden by the Bible to indulge in such things, neither should he favor an institution that supports them, I John 2:15-17; Rom. 12:1,2.

5. The money spent for initiations, dues, special assessments, degrees, etc., in the lodge could be put to a more profitable and Godly use by supporting Christ's churches and His great Christian program.

6. The Christian will have no reward in Heaven for his good works done through a lodge or in the name of a lodge. Heavenly rewards are be-

(Continued on Page Four)

Pronounced Dead Too Soon

Recently in Birmingham, Ala., Ruth Ellison, age 20, was taken to a hospital, and at 1:45 p. m. she was pronounced dead. At 2 p. m. she was found to be alive. At 2:10 she again was pronounced dead. Five minutes later, an interne heard the girl's heart give a faint beat, and further efforts were made to revive her. Not till 2:30 was she finally pronounced dead. Sometimes we too soon give up people as spiritually dead.

—Christian Thinker.

The Baptist Examiner

JOHN R. GILPIN EDITOR

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THE PENALTIES AND THE
COMPENSATIONS OF AN IN-
DEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH

(Continued from Page One)

held there. I have never had the privilege of preaching in any church which was more independent of man, yet dependent upon God. God's blessings on this great church and pastor! I rejoice that I am also pastor of such an independent church organization. May God raise up many who shall throw off the blind bridles, the shackles, the martingales and the hobbles of modern institutionalized, conventionalized, programized, State Boardized churches, to form an independent local Baptist church where the Holy Spirit may have a chance to show His power.

AN INVARIABLE BAROMETER

(Continued from Page One)

of the church in spotless apparel, he painted a contribution plate of good-fashionable worshippers.

And right above the plate, suspended from a nail in the wall, there

hung "Collections for Foreign Missions," and over the slot through which the contributions should have gone he painted a huge cobweb.

—News and Truth.

READ THIS AND TAKE
COURAGE

(Continued from Page One)

inspiration to many of our readers sorely tired and afflicted in these days.

In July, 1935, she wrote: "I have been a sufferer nearly all my life, and now over 77 years old, and unable to walk at all for over forty-six and a half years, and confined to bed in this room for over thirty-seven years, and never free from pain for many more years. . . . But let us remember that 'the STOPS as well as the STEPS of God's children are ordered by the Lord.' He has need of those who are 'Shut In' to testify for Him by being brave and patient, as well as those who are in active service for Him."

"You can better understand what a miracle of grace this is," says Mrs. Moser, "when you recall some of her past experiences:

"In addition to the dread maladies called Whitlows and Raynaud's Disease, she, now and then, had erysipelas and neuralgia; she had all the fingernails extracted on the right hand, and two on the left hand; had the skin peeled off the right hand and arm, and a lotion applied after which her arm and shoulder broke out in a mass of sores. She then had to carry her arm in a sling for five years!

"She had spells when she could not speak or lie down because of asthma, stricture of throat and bronchitis. She had congestion of the brain; was

unconscious for months at a time lost her voice, but was so thankful that she could hear. She was blind for a time, and was especially thankful for that experience because, now, she can better understand how to sympathize with and help the blind.

"She suffered amputation after amputation, having both arms and her left leg removed, little by little, hoping thereby to save at least parts of them.

"And yet, instead of giving up in despair and thinking that she could never do anything, this woman has learned to write, and has written hundreds of letters, and has been used of God to bring many precious souls to Christ, and many professed Christians to a closer walk with God.

August 31, 1937, although over eighty years of age, she says: "Years roll by so quickly even with me. With all my constant pain and weariness, I get so little sleep, but prove my precious Bible, and my loving constantly that 'God IS love.'"

Sept. 13, 1937, she testifies: "I love Lord Jesus' comforting and cheering words do help me to realize He is speaking directly to me; and He helps me to pass them on to others; and sometimes I hear that if I had known of their special trials, I could not have sent a more helpful and comforting text. So this is another proof how our loving Lord Jesus answers prayer: weak and weary with constant pain He knows I love Him and His Word and I long for all to prove, as I do, what a wonderful Helper and Comforter He is."

April 25, 1938, she quotes from Geikie:—"The more trouble and care, the more precious the promises; for the gifts of God shine like jewels, brightest in the dark."

How many of us, who know so little of trial after all, spend our moments in a spirit of complaint, asking WHY God should permit us to be so sorely tested?

What an abundant entrance will those patient saints receive, who after years of excruciating pain, have continued to give their failing strength to constructive service, praising God for the privilege of knowing something of the "fellowship of His suffering!" Oh, may grace be given us to follow in their train!

—Prophecy

SOME RECENT WEDDINGS

1. Charles Howell, Filling station attendant, 22, and Jacalyn Lantz, 21, Sciotoville, Ohio.

2. John Thornberry, U. S. Army, 21, and Edna Boggs, 21, Sandy Hook, Ky.

3. Denzil L. Lane, U. S. Army, 21, and Revelle Butts, 21, Charleston, W. Va.

4. David Keplar, Assembler, 21, and Marian Hoffman, 21, Mansfield, Ohio.

5. Oswald Gwinn, Tool Maker, 27, and Alice Mae Schowen, 33, Columbus, Ohio.

6. Harold Raymond Myers, Butcher, 22, and Ida Alice Brown, 23, Jackson, Ohio.

7. Junior Clay Chapman, Tree Surgeon, 21, and Vivian Cooper, 19, Proctorville, Ohio.

8. Lawrence Ferris, Moulder, 21, and Rose Lee Brumfield, 21, Huntington, W. Va.

9. William Bernard Sweeney, Bus Driver, 27, and Frances Lee Douglas, 21, Ashland, Ky.

10. John Mark Geer, Machinist, 31, and Gertrude Ellen Saunders, 33, Columbus, Ohio.

They'll Do It Every Time!



(Reprinted through courtesy of KingFeatures Syndicate.)

NOW WE SEE THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY

(Continued from Page One)

trouble. Those troubles began when he lived in the home of his father and mother. It is true that many of those troubles he brought on himself. Yet, nevertheless, the troubles came. While his brother, Esau was profane, worldly, and irreligious, Jacob, in spite of his rascality, had a religious inclination. He had trouble with his brother, Esau, over the sale of the latter's birthright. Then through deception he secured the paternal blessing from Isaac which should have gone to Esau. All these things just meant that "Home sweet Home" wasn't very sweet to Jacob, and finally it became necessary that he leave home.

Even in a new land miles removed from his original home, troubles still followed him and so-journed with him. He had trouble with his father-in-law, Laban. First of all, his father-in-law deceived him and gave him Leah to become his wife instead of Rachel for whom he had bargained with Laban. Then he had trouble with Laban over his wages. When he separated from Laban, stealing away unawares, it was because trouble was brewing. The stormy meeting of Jacob and Laban, when the latter overtook Jacob at Mt. Gilead as he was seeking to flee with his family and possessions from Laban, merely indicated that wherever Jacob moved, trouble moved with him.

A little later, his only daughter, Dinah, fell into sin — the shameful sin of adultery. Then shortly afterward, Rachel, his beloved wife, died. Then Isaac, his old father, died. Trouble continued to arise between his sons, for they were becoming more and more quarrelsome all the time. Eventually Joseph disappeared, and Jacob mourned for him for years, thinking that he was dead — presuming him to have been killed by some beast of the forest. Finally, a famine came on in the land. When his boys went to Egypt to buy grain, his son, Simeon was held hostage. Now his sons tell him that the price of grain in Egypt has increased, and that there is no need for them to return to Egypt unless their youngest brother, Benjamin, accompanies them. This meant, of course, that old Jacob was now called upon to surrender his greatest treasure, namely, Benjamin, the son of his old age.

It is no wonder then that in view of these troubles which began in the home of his father and mother, and which followed him and continued with him throughout all the period of his earthly history — it is no wonder then that as he contemplated surrendering Benjamin to accompany the balance of his sons to Egypt — it is no wonder that he said, "All these things are against me."

I

This experience of Jacob, and also the statement of Paul in the New Testament, presents an age old problem. It is the problem of the tangled skein, the broken pillar, the contrar-

ities of life, and the problem of life's inverted order. It is an age old problem — just as old as society, and yet just as new as the present twentieth century for it still persists.

I remember some friends whom a few years ago during the depression, lost everything, and were brought from a position of considerable wealth to practically poverty. Everything was swept away as if by a cyclone. I remember one of these friends said, "I did not expect this. I can't understand it. Why has God permitted it? This is but the echo of Jacob's statement, 'All these things are against me.'"

Of recent date, a church burned, and on the other three corners of the street, beer-parlors and drinking places flourished. It wasn't just an ordinary church, but it was a church whose ministry and influence is felt throughout the North American continent. Yet, it burned while the houses of iniquity continued to prosper. It is impossible to understand. It is just an echo of the age old problem — the problem of the unsolved mysteries of human experience.

Or here's the war situation in Europe today, with helpless, defenseless, neutral nations over-run by powerful, military men of war. All this, of course, means that all mission work is practically paralyzed in Europe. Ever since the out-break of the war in China and Japan, all mission work there has been greatly handicapped and reduced. Even though rested that the lost there shall hear the gospel of Jesus Christ. All these things appear to be against us. It is just the age old problem confronting us — the problem of our troubles which we cannot solve.

During the month of May, I married thirty young couples. One of those couples, coming from Charleston, West Virginia, came to me because of another young girl whom I had married from Charleston about a year ago. In fact, she came along as a guide, bringing her friends to my house that I should perform the marriage ceremony. After I had married them, this young lady whom I had married a year ago, told me that her marriage had become an absolute failure. She said, "I married with the brightest hopes of any girl for the future. I did everything I could, humanly speaking, that our marriage might be a success. I can't understand it. Everything seems against me." She is just another who finds that the threads of life are often tangled. She is just meeting the same old problem of troubles which men and women have met through the ages.

I can imagine some one of our listeners now out of work. He has not the means of livelihood, nor the material necessities of existence. He is a good Christian man — he knows the Lord, and even though he is a child of God, now that he is unemployed, his bills and expenses keep piling up. I can hear him as he speaks like Jacob, "All these things are against me."

I say then, beloved, that we can learn from this age old problem of

our troubles, that God stands back of all these experiences. There are no accidents in a world governed by God. Nothing ever takes place by blind chance, but all that comes, comes by the providence of the hand of God.

"Truth forever on the scaffold,
Wrong forever on the throne;
Yet that scaffold sways the future,
And behind the dim unknown
Standeth God within the shadows,
Keeping watch upon His own."

I remember a few years ago that Mrs. Gilpin was ill in the Boothe Memorial Hospital of Covington, Kentucky. For three nights and two days I had been by her bedside, and early one morning, I walked out of her room into the hall in the hospital to get a little breath of fresh air. I had not even had my clothes off since her illness began. I was unshaven for three days, and worn in body, mind and spirit. Coming from somewhere, I heard a song. Later I learned that it was the nurses who were having a brief prayer service before they went on duty for the day, and as I paused, I heard them sing

"Be not dismayed, whate'er betide,
God will take care of you;
Beneath His wings of love abide,
God will take care of you."

Though it was the nurses singing, to me it was a message from God, for I realized again that back of all our problems stands God, and all through the turbulent days that followed, and the months of waiting during a long seige of illness, I could hear Him say again and again, as the Psalmist has said, "Be still and know that I am God." (Psa. 46:10).

I want you to know, beloved, that in all the troubles that come to us in life, that back of them stands God. I remember on another occasion on an early Thanksgiving morning, Mrs. Gilpin was in a hospital in Ashland. After spending the night with her, I walked out on the sun porch to look out upon a dreary world covered with fog and a cold drizzling November rain. Glancing back from the sun porch window, I saw some little sparrows hovering under the roof of the house in the dry. Immediately God spoke a message of comfort to my heart when He reminded me of the words of the old song:

"Why should I feel discouraged,
Why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely
And long for Heav'n and home,
When Jesus is my portion?

My constant Friend is He!
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.
'Let not your heart be troubled,'
His tender word I hear,
And resting on His goodness,
I lose my doubts and fears;
Tho' by the path He leadeth
But one step I may see;
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know he watches me."

Another lesson which we can learn from these problems, and trials, and troubles of our lives, is that

everything which happens in your life or my life, is for the best. Of this we are assured by the apostle Paul: "That all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." (Rom. 8:28.)

It was thus in Jacob's life. There wasn't anything that happened but what was for the best, for God was back of it all preserving Jacob and his posterity. How I do rejoice today that there is nothing that ever happens in the life of any of us but what it is for the best, and that God is moving, God is leading in all these problems to work out His program for our lives.

"God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm."

Deep in unfathomable mines
Of never-failing skill,
He treasures up His bright designs,
And works His sov'reign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;
The clouds ye so much dread
Are big with mercy, and shall break
In blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flow'r."

Another lesson which we gather from these vicissitudes and vexations of life, is that while we may not understand them at the time we pass through them, there does come a time of future revelation. After a while, Jacob understood. When he faced the fact of surrendering Benjamin, he said, "All these things are against me," but later he learned the truth. When the sequel of life's story was made manifest to him, he learned that it wasn't true that Joseph was not, it wasn't true that Simeon was not. He learned that Joseph had made ample provision to care for him and his family throughout the future.

It is thus with us and our problems. While we do not understand when these problems arise, after a while we see God's plan and behold God's hand in it all. We need but to listen to the words of Jesus who said to Peter, "What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter." (Jn. 13:7). Or listen to the words of the apostle Paul: "For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face; now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known." (I Cor. 13:13).

"We are often tossed and driven
On the restless sea of time,
Sombre skies and howling tempests
Oft succeed the bright sunshine.
In that land of perfect day
When the mists have rolled away,
We will understand it better by and by."

By and by when the morning comes
When the saints of God are gathered home
We'll tell the story how we've overcome,
For we'll understand it better by and by.

We are often destitute
Of the things that life demands,
Want of shelter and of food
Thirsty hills and barren lands.
We are trusting in the Lord,
And according to His Word,
We will understand it better by and by.

Trials dark on every hand,
And we cannot understand
All the way that God would lead us
To that blessed promised land.
But He guides us with His eye
And we'll follow till we die,
For we'll understand it better by and by.

Temptations, hidden snares,
Often take us unawares,
And our hearts are made to bleed
By some thoughtless word or deed,
And we wonder why the test
When we try to do our best,
But we'll understand it better by and by."

Another great lesson we gather from these problems of life is the need of sympathy and kindness toward others in their times of trouble. Paul, by inspiration, would teach us that we are to "rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep." Rom. 12:15) Yet so many times we are forgetful of this. It is necessary that God send these problems to us in order that we ourselves might deal with others with greater sympathy and kindness. Yes, perhaps the troubles you have today may be just God's way of bringing you to the place where you can definitely assist some one else who may suffer with the same problem which now confronts you.

However, perhaps the greatest lesson that Jacob learned from his troubles was that his troubles brought him eventually to see the governor. If it had not been for his troubles, Jacob would never have seen Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Yet, these troubles finally brought him down to Egypt, and then Joseph introduced his father to Pharaoh. What a sublime scene it was! Listen: "And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh; and Jacob blessed Pharaoh. And Pharaoh said unto Jacob, How old art thou? And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, The days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years; few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage. And Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from before Pharaoh." (Gen 47:7-10).

Just as Jacob's troubles brought him eventually to see the king, so it is that our troubles often bring us to God. Troubles always have one of two effects upon us. With some,

troubles drive them farther from God. Yet, if a man is one of God's elect, his troubles bring him unto God.

We have a good illustration of this in the experience of Nebuchadnezzar, who, in spite of his pride, made an image of gold and demanded that all men worship before it. Though God dealt with him then, and though Nebuchadnezzar became respectful of God, he did not accept Him to be his God, but rather put Jehovah God about on the same plain as that of any of the other gods. Then God turned Nebuchadnezzar into a beast and for a period of time Nebuchadnezzar ate grass like an oxen, and was driven out from his own people, demented, maniac to live in the fields like a beast. When God gave him back his reasoning, Nebuchadnezzar realized that God had dealt with him for his pride, and therefore, he became a believer in Jehovah, and you hear him say: "Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment; and those that walk in pride he is able to abase." (Dan. 3:37). Thus, his troubles brought him to God. It may be that God in dealing with you today, is doing so that you too might be brought to a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. It is true that we see through a glass darkly. Yet, there are many lessons we can learn as we face these problems of life, it is my prayer that particularly you shall learn the lesson that God may be calling you, and that you might today believe Him, and become now a child of God by faith in Jesus Christ.

I look about the religious world with the full assurance that there is far more heresy and false doctrine preached than the truth of God. So many multiplied millions are depending upon one man, the head of their church, to whom they confess their sins and expect him to give to them absolutions; while on the other hand, there are multiplied thousands who do not believe in the hell of the Bible, but rather declare that there is no burning future hell of torment; and all in between these two extremes, are those who believe that they can be saved by their own works, or by the waters of baptism, or by some religious ordinance. As I look at all this religious hodge-podge, knowing that there is no salvation in any of these forms, I often say, "Why does God permit these to continue?" It seems so against us. It seems so utterly contrary to the Truth. These heretical doctrines are all directly opposed to the Truth of the Bible. We simply can't understand these providences which seem so against us. Well, this is just the age old problem — the problem of our troubles, which is the problem that Jacob faced when he said, "All these things are against me," and the same problem that Paul dealt with when he said, "Now we see through a glass darkly."

II

However, in spite of this age old problem of trouble, there are some lessons which we can learn.

First of all, from our troubles we can learn how little, how helpless, and how dependent we are. Our problems are bigger than we, and we can't solve them. We are even utterly unfit to form opinions about a single day's experiences. Whenever we face these problems of life, we learn anew and afresh as to our littleness, helplessness, and our dependence upon God.

The second lesson we can learn from our difficulties, is the lesson as to how poorly we understand our problems. Paul says, "Now we see through a glass darkly." We do not even understand our problems correctly. It is just as the weaver works at his loom, seeing only one side of the cloth, and then that side which he does see is the wrong side which it is with us. We don't see everything pertaining to our problems, we only see one side of them, our side, and that is often the wrong side. So while through these troubles we are learning lessons of our littleness, our helplessness, and our dependence upon God, we also learn that we but very poorly understand these problems.

As a third lesson, these problems teach us that back of all that happens, stands God. After a while, Joseph, the son of whom Jacob mourned as dead, revealed himself to his brethren in Egypt as being alive, saying to them: "Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life. For these two years hath the famine been in the land: and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be earning nor harvest. And God sent me before you to preserve you and a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance." (Gen. 45:5-7). Notice these words: "And God sent me before you." Joseph, too realized that back of all that had happened, was God. Back of the pit, back of the Ishmellites, back of the thirty pieces of silver, back of Potiphar's home, back of the lie Potiphar's wife told relative to Joseph, back of his two years in the dungeon, yea, back of all these experiences was God, and God had done all this just in order to preserve the Jews and to give them a posterity in the earth.

FIFTEEN REASONS WHY I CAN NOT BELONG TO A SECRET LODGE

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stowed only for good works done in the name of Christ and for His glory alone, I Cor. 3:11-15; Rev. 22:12.

7. No lodge is really out-and-out for Jesus Christ. It may use His name and His Word, but at heart it is selfish, carnal, and concerned about the things of the world. Anything not positively and altogether for Jesus Christ is against Him, Matt. 12:30. When lodges use the Bible in their ritual and services, they leave out the important passages on repentance, new birth, the blood of Christ, the insufficiency of good works for

salvation, etc., (thus handling the Word of God deceitfully, 2 Cor. 4:2).

8. Many people make the mistake of thinking that living up to the lodge vows will get them to heaven, and thus they neglect repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus. They substitute the Lodge for Christ and the church, and thus the lodge for them becomes the enemy of Christ and His churches.

9. Belief in a Supreme Being and a high moral code is not equivalent to Christianity. These things do not necessarily make people any better in the sight of God, and many good people are lost and going to hell because led to trust in such insufficient standards, John 3:1-16. The lodge really has all the elements of a religion (a deity, worship, prayers, ritual, Bible, altars, temples, etc.), but it is a false religion, not Christianity, because the Son is not given pre-eminent honor, John 5:23.

10. Jesus Christ did not and could not have belonged to a lodge. He did not have money enough, Matt. 8:20. He spoke nothing in secret, John 18:20. He hates the hidden things of darkness, I Cor. 4:5. He would have exposed all lodge secrets Luke 11:23. He did not desire nor heed the prestige, influence or aid of lodge membership, John. 5:20-23; Matt: 26:53.

11. A Christian is not to have any dual or triple allegiance; all his allegiance is to be for Jesus Christ, Rom. 12:1, 2; Gal. 6:14. To divide his allegiance with a lodge is to weaken it for Christ, 2 Tim. 4:10; Matt. 6:24.

12. A Christian does not need the standing, prestige, membership, and "pull" given him by a lodge. If God is for him, who can be against him? Rom. 8: 31, 32. Imagine Paul trying to get out of difficulties and tight places by showing his lodge pin or card! Paul denounced all such things. Eph. 5:11, 12.

13. A man who has lost out with God and the Holy Spirit may need the help of a lodge to get into the confidence and good will of men, but not a blood-washed regenerated, Spirit-filled child of God who knows how to trust his Heavenly Father and to pray! Phil.4:19; Eph. 3:20; Matt. 21:22.

14. Lodges use such terms as "brother," "prophet," "priest," etc., in unsriptural ways. They assign to their officers, in many cases, silly, preposterous, and blasphemous titles. Matt. 21:22.

15. Lodges are anti-Christian in many of their teachings. They take the emphasis of the blood of Christ and put it on good works; they teach the continuation of their lodges in the next life; they often offer false hope and comfort to bereaved relatives or lodge members; they teach the universal Fatherhood of God, John 8:44.

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Why adopt Daylight Saving Time to conserve electricity and let honky-tonks and booze joints operate wide open until wee hours of the morning to waste it?