

The Baptist Examiner

The 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."—(Isaiah 8:20).

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Lessons From the Snow



"Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."—Ps. 51:7.

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."—Is. 1:18.

"Willing To Go Shabby!"

"Though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might become rich". Cor. 8:9.

From the "Wonderful Word" we get the following story of loving and joyous giving by a class of girls in the Moody Church, Chicago, for the spread of the gospel. There are 110 girls in that class, all working girls but one. Eighty of them pledged \$6,000 for missions, not in five years, but for this year. There is not a church with 100 members in Blood River Association that could not do better, if they had the spirit of these girls. Here is how they did it.

Many of the girls have denied themselves a vacation, have made over their old clothes to take the place of new ones, and as one girl expressed herself, "We are willing to go shabby for Jesus' sake," but not one of these girls is shabby, but all of them are self-sacrificing.

Out of this class, which was organized three years ago May 7th, with seven girls present, there have been twenty missionary volunteers and one of the girls is already in China, one in Africa and four are going to Africa in the fall, and others are anxious. The first missionary offering of this class was to the Jew.

The teacher, Mrs. Fred C. Hatchle is a woman well taught in the Scriptures and deeply devoted to each girl. Surely, this is a missionary record and so far as we know, is nowhere duplicated in all America.

The following are excerpts from the personal testimonies of the girls when asked for the reason of the missionary spirit of the class.

Said one, "The first reason is that the Word of God is taught in our class." Another, "We love to give for Jesus because Jesus gave Himself for us." Said another, "Because we want to obey His command to send the gospel to the uttermost part of the earth." Another one says, "I am sure this wonderful missionary spirit in the class has come about through prayer." Another one declares, "The teaching is the pure gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and it satisfies the heart as nothing else can." And yet another, "We all love to share our riches with others so that they may come to know our Saviour." Another girl, "It is because the Word of God is given out in such a way that one cannot help but give to missions to bring the gospel to them who sit in darkness."

These testimonies indicate the source of true spirituality and missionary vitality.

There is but one business of every church and that is evangelization. This is the one and only ministry.—News And Truths (September, 1919.)

A Serious Question: Can the B.Y.P.U. Or B. T. U. Be Made Scriptural?

Recently there came to our desk the query as to how to run a B. Y. P. U. and not have the women violate the Scripture. Also there have been a number of requests that the Editor give his opinion as to whether a B. Y. P. U. is scriptural or could be made so. So far as our knowledge goes practically all of them, as now organized and conducted are not scriptural, but subversive of Scripture teaching and promoters of the rationalistic denial of Pauline inspiration and authority; for to teach young people to disobey Paul's plain prohibitions in 1 Cor. 14 and 1 Tim. 2 is to cause them to doubt the authority of Paul's teachings on all other subjects and raise up a

generation of young people, who have no regard for the authority of God's Word. It is that spirit that made Germany count her own contracts as "mere scraps of paper." The man or woman does not live that can lose regard for the binding authority of God's Word and in a crucial test retain any regard for the binding authority of his own promises and contracts. The B. Y. P. U. as now run in most places is not only unscriptural, but anti-scriptural.

The question is asked: Can it be made scriptural? I don't know. As it is often said so many of the women "buck" if they are not put to the front, that it is

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WHEN IMMERSION IS NOT BAPTISM

Every baptism is an immersion; but every immersion is not a baptism. A man walking a log might fall into the creek and be immersed, but that would not be baptism. Men in hatred of the truth have tried to make baptism a joke and an object of ridicule by all sorts of grotesque immersions; none of them were baptisms, even if blasphemously performed in the name of the Trinity. Men have immersed themselves; but that was not baptism. In Acts 19:1-5 we have an account of twelve men who were baptized for the wrong purpose. They thought the baptism was the main thing. They had not even heard of the Holy Spirit. They were not proper subjects for baptism, for they

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Spiritual Pernicious Anaemia Always Deadly To Baptist Churches!

One of the best friends I ever had died years ago of "Pernicious Anaemia." That's the trouble with our churches. All over the country they are dying with spiritual "Pernicious Anaemia". No red corpuscles in the blood. Here is a sample of what that will do for any church. I clipped the following back in 1929:

"The Baptist Record of Iowa publishes the statement that ten years ago the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Campbellite Churches in Hot Springs, S. D., united to form a Community Church, and today the whole combination is no stranger than anyone of them was ten years ago."—Miss Record.

What red corpuscles are to

the blood, Baptist doctrine is to a Baptist and a church. A Unionist in a Baptist Church has no red corpuscles—only white. What is worse still many of them are white-livered hypocrites; miss prayer meeting to be at their lodge; pay more to the lodge than to the blood-bought Baptist Church to which they belong. No doctrinal backbone. No iron in the blood. To them one church is as good as another and a lodge or club is better than any church. Conscienceless anaemic, backboneless hypocrites! No love for Christ nor for His church nor for His gospel, nor for a lost and dying world. They are dry en-

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WAR HERESY

A Christian lady visited a soldier terribly wounded, lying in the ward of a large military hospital. A nurse entering said to him: "You have no need to worry over your sins; anyone who gives his life for his country, as you have is alright." The man smiled faintly, but he shook his head and said, "Ah! lady, that is a mistake! When I lay out there in the open, I knew I had done my bit, I hadn't failed king and country; but that did not help me to face God. I was not fit to die, and I knew it, and

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"WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?"

By Evangelist JOHN R. RICE



The Plan Of Salvation Made Plain To Sinners

From The Word Of God

What must I do to be saved? Here in the simplest, short-

est form is put the question to which every man must learn the answer, or spend eternity lost, away from God, suffering the torments of the damned! Thank God, this question is asked and answered in the Word of God, so simply that every soul can understand it. There are other questions in God's Word which affect the soul's welfare, and many places in the Bible is the plan of salvation made plain, but only one place is this question given word for word, and

there, too, we find the answer. Paul and Silas were in jail in the city of Philippi and at midnight they sang and prayed until God broke down all the doors and broke the stocks which held their feet, with a mighty earthquake. The poor jailer, frightened and convicted of his sins, came to these two preachers and asked this question. Read it in Act 16:29-31.

"Then he called for a light and sprang in, and came trembling" (Continued on Page Three)

A TRUE STORY

In one of my former pastorates in Arkansas, the writer was invited to dine in one of what was considered to be a well-ordered home. On the dining table was a very large cut glass bowl filled with different kinds of fruit. During the course of the meal the lady of the house (a leading member of that church) remarked, "Brother Stranburg, I won that bowl as the first prize at our card club." Just at that juncture her son, who was sitting by the writer's side, drew from his pocket a roll of bills

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John R. Gilpin—Editor

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FOR HIS SAKE

A preacher gave for his text, "For My name's sake hast laboured, and hast not grown weary." (Rev. 2:3). He urged the power of the name of Christ to keep one from evil curses and besought his hearers to let the thought of the love of Christ prove the restraining power to keep them and give them the victory over sin. "For His name's sake," to try it.

In his audience was a cross, scolding man, who was given to unkindness to his wife and children. The words came home with divine power to his soul and made him utterly ashamed of himself and his wretched conduct.

It happened that while he was listening to the truth of God, an accident happened at home, which aroused intense alarm in his wife's mind. She upset the cage in which was his favorite canary, and the bird was killed.

How could she dare to tell him?—Her children took care to be on hand to protect her in case of special need. She met him at the door, and said with trembling voice, "O Tom, I am so sorry, we have had an accident while you were out, I knocked the cage over and your favorite canary is dead."

Instead of the scolding she expected, a smile lit up his face, and he said cheerfully, "Well never mind, accidents will happen sometimes. 'For His sake,' we won't mind it."

Nothing more was said by any member of the family and they were all astonished at his cheerful manner.

When he had gone out again, one of his sons said, "Mother, what's the meaning of it?" "I don't know more than you, but we only hope it will last."

One of his daughters said, "He said 'for His sake,' what does that mean?"

"I'm sure I can't tell you," answered her mother, "it is something he has picked up, and we will wait to see what comes of it."

The next few days the family, and especially the mother, had reason to be thankful, for several times, "for His sake," came from the father's lips, and it means gentleness, consideration, politeness, fatherly speech and conduct. He did not explain himself to them, but as actions speak louder than words they began to see a wonderful change had taken place inwardly.

Somehow the news reached the ears of the preacher, and he straightway bought the best singing canary he could find and sent it to his house with the brief but blessed words, "for His sake."

The blessing was lasting. Do all things for Christ's sake, and

you have the power which surpasses all other—Do not forget that Christ said, "Without Me ye can do nothing," and that one who knew by blessed experience, the secret of power said, "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me."—Exchange.

A SERIOUS QUESTION: CAN THE BYPU OR BTU BE MADE SCRIPTURAL?

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doubtful whether it can be made to conform to the Scriptures. But it is worth the effort. The purpose of the B. Y. P. U. is a good one, namely, to train and indoctrinate our young people. But the one training they need above all else is to be taught to reverence and obey God and His Word. The indoctrination they most need is to be taught the truth, the whole truth, without any addition or subtraction. They don't get either in the average B. Y. P. U. as now conducted.

To make a B. Y. P. U. scriptural there ought to be some radical changes in its organization and methods. Instead of the main thing being a program, the main thing ought to be class work and study. A man ought to be the teacher. He ought to be apt to teach. If divided into groups then the teacher of the girls and young women ought to be a woman, discreet, consecrated, chaste, modest, spiritual, and who knows her place and stays in it. Instead of teaching young women to talk and push themselves to the front, they ought to be taught what Paul says for older women to teach younger ones in Tit. 2:3-5. Instead of demanding that young women disobey the Scriptures and speak in public in order for each member to have the necessary credit to be an A-1 B. Y. P. U. young women ought to be given credit for work done in visiting the sick or strangers or shut-in or other work of similar character and counted as real contributors to the work of the B. Y. P. U. as the young men who talk or pray or take part otherwise in the program.

WAR HERESY

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it has been an awful trouble to me every day since. But just now, as I heard that lady's prayer, I saw that the Lord Jesus had been punished for all my sins, and I might go free, and such a peace has come into my heart. How wonderful for Him to die for the likes of me! No, I'll not be afraid to die now, because He has forgiven me."—Selected.

A TRUE STORY

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and laid them on the table and remarked, "Brother Stranburg, here is \$90 I won last night in a game of poker." The mother arose from the table and cried out, "My son, oh, my darling boy; O God, is it possible that my boy, my darling, is a gambler?" "Yes, mother, your boy is a gambler and you taught me how. You gamble for cut glass, and I gamble for cash; what is the difference?" Listen, card playing mothers, as you sow so shall you reap. That card-playing mother is now dead. The old gray-haired father still sits with his hand upon the throttle of a locomotive in another state, and that boy (God pity, forgive and save him) now wanders from city to city a confirmed gambler. Where did he learn it? In his home. Who taught his first lessons? His mother. Oh, for shame. God pity the boy or girl who must be reared in such a home and by such a mother.—Baptist Advance.

SPIRITUAL PERNICIOUS ANAEMIA DEADLY TO BAPTIST CHURCHES!

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ough spiritually to make a big bon-fire when they land in hell. The sooner the better for the church to which they belong. Poor, blinded dupes, going to hell and do not know it. Some of them are preachers and deacons and superintendents and teachers—on their way to hell and do not know it. Blind leaders of the blind, all will land in the ditch. No love for Christ; no interest in missions. These two are inseparable. Jesus said, "If ye love Me ye will keep My commandments." His last command was to make Christians, make Baptists, indoctrinate all the members of Baptist churches. That is what Missions is and does. God pity the multitudes of Baptists and Baptist churches that are dying with spiritual "Pernicious Anaemia."

WHEN IMMERSION IS NOT BAPTISM

(Continued from Page One)

had not received the Holy Spirit. Paul gets down to the heart of the matter when he asks them: "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" (19:2 R. V.). Then when they trusted Christ they were baptized; not re-baptized, but baptized. Immersion can be repeated; baptism cannot. A man who did not receive the Holy Spirit before he was baptized has not been baptized. He may have been immersed in the name of the Trinity, but the name, an act is done in does not validate the act, if the subject or design was wrong. In other words it takes more than immersion to make a baptism. It takes a qualified administrator, a Baptist preacher, acting under the authority of a New Testament church; and a right motive and design, a love to the Lord Jesus and a desire to glorify Him, by being buried with Him in the likeness of His resurrection.

It takes all these to have a scriptural baptism. These twelve men in Acts 19 had the right act, but they were not saved subjects and that voided the whole performance. It takes more than an immersion to make a baptism. Even Baptist baptism is not baptism, if the man baptized did not receive the Holy Spirit before he was immersed. That is one reason why the Disciples of Alexander Campbell can't baptize. They can immerse folks; but they can't baptize them. They deny the personal, direct work of the Holy Spirit and deny that men can receive the Holy Spirit before baptism. Of course they have no authority to baptize, except from men; but even if they did have the authority, they could not baptize, because those, whom they immerse, have not received the Holy Spirit. Peter said to the six men, who went with him to the house of Cornelius: "Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, who have received the Holy Spirit as well as we?" No Holy Spirit in the heart; no baptism. That is God's order. It does not make any difference who immersed you, you have not been baptized, if you did not receive the Holy Spirit, when you believed and before your baptism. It takes more than an immersion to make a baptism.

"Though a hundred crooked paths may lead to temporary success, the plain path of honesty alone can lead to lasting fame and the blessings of posterity."

The Query Box

Readers are invited to send in questions to be answered in this department. However, anonymous questions and those intended as a personal thrust at any person whatsoever will not be considered. Please do ask or expect personal replies. All correspondence intended for the editor of The Query Box should be addressed: The Query Box, c/o The Baptist Examiner, Russell, Ky.

1. What is the meaning of total depravity?

Total depravity does not mean that man's natural depravity is total in its degree. Men are never as wicked as they might be perhaps, and wicked men are said to wax worse and worse. 2 Tim. 3:13. Total depravity does not mean that men by nature are unable to do things that are good according to human judgment. Depraved man may even render outward obedience to the law.

Total depravity does mean that the natural depravity of the human race is total in its extent. Depravity has reached and affected the whole of man—intellect, emotions, and will. The intellect has been so affected by depravity that man by nature cannot receive the truth. 1 Cor. 2:14. The emotions have been so dearranged that man loves darkness rather than light. John 3:19. The will has been made so perverse that men left to themselves cannot and will not turn from sin to Christ. Jer. 13:23; John 5:40; 6:65; 12:39.

It would be impossible to give a finer or plainer expression of total depravity than is given in Isa. 1:5, 6. Other passages bearing on total depravity are as follows: Gen. 6:5; Jer. 17:9; Rom. 8:7; Psalms 58:3; Rom. 3:13; Col. 2:16.

2. How do you interpret Acts 2:38?

First of all, let it be noted that this passage does not speak of baptism as being "for" or "unto" the obtaining of the remission of sins. Whether or not the passage means this depends upon the teaching of Scripture in general. The general teaching of Scripture does not support such a meaning. In fact, Peter himself, the speaker of the words of this passage, makes it clear that he did not teach that baptism is unto the obtaining of the remission of sins. In 1 Pet. 3:20-21 Peter tells us that baptism saves only in a figure, that is, that it only pictures salvation. This it most certainly does and very beautifully. Peter also says that baptism saves in the same manner that the water of the flood saved Noah and his family. The water of the flood did not save actually, for then the ark would have been useless. The water did not put Noah and others into the ark and did not make them any safer after they had gone in. The water simply bore up the ark and demonstrated the salvation of the occupants. Furthermore Peter tells us that baptism does not wash away the filth of the flesh, but is the answer of a good conscience toward God. A good conscience is the possession of no man except those that have been washed in the blood of Christ. Heb. 10:22.

Having ascertained all of this we turn to Matt. 3:11 to find an explanation of the word "unto" that shows the harmony between Peter's words in Acts 2:38 and his words in 1 Pet. 3:20, 21. In Matt. 3:11 we find John describing his baptism as being "unto repentance," and here we have for "unto" the same Greek word that occurs in

Acts 2:38 and is translated "for" in the K. J. V. and "unto" in the R. V. Now even a Campbellite would contend that baptism is in order that one may repent; for Campbellites place repentance before baptism. And we know that John demanded evidence of repentance of those that came to his baptism. The meaning of John's language is simply that his baptism was in order to the public profession of repentance. Likewise Peter's words in Acts 2:38 mean that baptism is in order to the public profession of the remission of sins.

3. What is the meaning of Hades in the Bible?

Hades is the word used in the Revised Version wherever that word occurs in the Greek. "Hades" being only an Anglicized Greek word. The revisers used this word to eliminate the confusion in the King James Version because of the use of the word "hell" to translate both "Hades" and "Gehenna." Scholars agree that "Hades" means simply the "unseen world," the abode of the dead. It is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew "Sheol." That Hades, according to the New Testament, is the abode of the righteous as well as the wicked dead, is shown by Acts 2:27, where it is distinctly implied that the spirit of Christ was in Hades (translated hell by K. J. V.) during the time his body lay in the tomb. That the ancients looked upon Hades as being the abode of the righteous dead is shown by the fact that in some of the Greek manuscripts (those relied on mainly by the King James translators) it occurs in 1 Cor. 15:55, where the reference is distinctly to the righteous dead and is translated "grave" in K. J. V.

Some may ask how this can be when the Bible teaches that the righteous dead are with the Lord. There is no difficulty here. Hades is not a locality but a conception that exists only in thought. Hades simply covers that realm of human existence that is unseen.

4. Do you believe that a Baptist should commune with a Baptist church other than the hall with which he holds membership?

I believe the Lord's supper is not merely a Christian ordinance, nor a demonstrational ordinance, but a local church ordinance. In this ordinance a local New Testament body shows its unity by partaking of the one bread or loaf. 1 Cor. 10:17. For that reason I partake of the Lord's supper with no church except the one of which I am a member.

5. Don't you think that Baptists would progress faster if they were not so strict?

No, I do not. Facts sustain me. English Baptists, on the whole, are looser than American Baptists; yet American Baptists are stronger. The southern states of our country make up the greatest Baptist stronghold on this planet, and significantly enough, it is these southern states that Baptists have been least affected by modernism, unionism, and looseness in general. Facts prove that Baptists are strongest where they are strictest. The logic is inexorable. If Baptists have no distinctive message to proclaim and contend for, they ought to die, and when they cease to proclaim and defend a distinctive message they do die always and everywhere.

"God's love will leak out of our hearts if we are not watchful unto prayer."

"Blessed is the man whose watch keeps church time as well as business time."

"WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?"

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ling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

"What must I do to be saved?" "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved!" There is God's plan of salvation, the only plan He has for every man, woman and child who was ever born into the whole world.

What Must I Do?

Sinner, there is something you must do if you would be saved. There was hope for this jailer because he saw himself a lost sinner and came trembling to inquire, "What must I do?" Reader, you are a sinner. The Word of God from beginning to end emphasizes that fact. In Isaiah 53:6 we learn:

"ALL we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned EVERY ONE to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us ALL."

We have all gone astray! The Lord is not content for sinners to be left believing themselves good. In Romans the third chapter, how positive, how certain is the Word of God that every man, woman, and child is a sinner!

"What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are ALL under sin; as it is written, There is NONE righteous, NO, NOT ONE; there is NONE that understandeth, there is NONE that seeketh after God. They are ALL gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is NONE that doeth good, NO, NOT ONE!" (Romans 3:9-12.)

In verses 22 and 23 it is stated again that "there is no difference; for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." That is the reason that Jesus said to Nicodemus in the third chapter of John, "Marvel not that I said unto thee, YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN." And a little later in the same chapter, verse 18, He said that the man who has not believed in Jesus is already condemned.

Certainly these Scriptures must make it clear to every man who believes the Word of God that he is a sinner, and until he has believed in Christ and has been saved, he is a lost sinner and needs saving. The heart is wrong, and only God can make that right. Then if you want to be saved, you must admit in your own heart "I am a sinner. I am lost and need to be saved." No one ever was saved without coming for salvation as a sinner.

Christ Died To Save Sinners, Not Good Men

Oh, I beg you, see it today! You are a poor, lost sinner, a Hell-bound sinner! Your heart is black. You have hardened your heart, you have resisted the call of God, you have rejected Christ. However good you are in man's sight, you are a terrible sinner, and unless you turn to Christ you must spend eternity in Hell. A SINNER! That is what you are. Admit it in your own heart, confess it to God. You are a sinner and you need saving worse than you need anything else in the world.

If you have settled in your heart that matter, then you are ready to learn God's answer to your question, "What must I do to be saved?"

Believe On The Lord Jesus Christ

Here is God's simple way to be saved. You are a sinner, your

heart is wrong, you cannot save yourself, you are already condemned. The thing you are to do then, to be saved, is to simply trust the Lord Jesus with that matter. When you do trust Him, then you have God's promise "thou shalt be saved."

I do not mean that you are simply to believe that there is a God or that there is a Saviour. Devils believe that and tremble (James 2:19). You can believe that a certain physician is a good doctor without calling him to be your doctor when you are sick. You can believe that a certain man is a good lawyer without taking him as your lawyer to defend your case. You are not just to believe the truth about Jesus, you are to believe on Him, that is, depend upon Him, risk Him, trust Him; and when you do, you are saved.

Not Saved By Good Works

Of course, you do not deserve salvation. There is nothing you can do that will make you worthy of it. You cannot be saved by keeping the ten commandments, for the Scripture clearly shows that you have not kept them. Romans 3:20 says:

"Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight; for by the law is the knowledge of sin."

The same thing is told in Galatians 3:11 which says:

"But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident; for, The just shall live by faith."

Many, many Scriptures repeat again and again that there is no salvation through human goodness.

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost" (Titus 3:5).

"FOR BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED THROUGH FAITH; AND AND THAT NOT OF YOURSELVES; IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD; NOT OF WORKS, LEST ANY MAN SHOULD BOAST." (Eph. 2, 8, 9.)

We had as well admit then, that no man deserves saving and no man can save himself. Salvation must be free or the sinner could never get it. In fact, it takes blood to pay for sin, for the Scripture says:

"Without Shedding of Blood Is No Remission"—Hebrews 9:22

"For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly" (Rom. 5:6).

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6).

Peter tells us that all of us are bought by the blood of Christ:

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (1 Peter 1:18, 19.)

Every lamb, bullock, heifer, goat, turtle dove and pigeon offered in Old Testament times on the altar pictured this, that man, a guilty sinner, must have some innocent one to shed his blood to pay for man's sins. Jesus died for our sins, and, thank God, salvation is bought for every man in the world, if he will have it, as the free gift of God.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the GIFT of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

Dear sinner, remember, that church membership will not save you. If you have been baptized

that cannot save you. Baptism does not save, does not keep anybody saved, it is only an act of duty for those who have already found Christ as their Saviour. A moral life, or lodge membership or good citizenship, these must all fail to bring salvation, for it is "not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us" (Titus 3:5). Don't depend, then, on what you do, but on what Jesus did and promises to do for you.

What About Repentance?

Does not the Bible say that we must repent? Yes, the Bible plainly says that "God... commandeth all men every where to repent" (Acts 17:30), and again, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3, 5).

This was the preaching of John the Baptist, of Jesus, of Peter and of Paul, that men should repent. And certainly repentance is God's plan of salvation. The trouble here, however, is that men misunderstand what repentance means, and there has grown up an idea that repentance means a period of weeping and mourning over sin, or sorrow for sins. This idea comes from the Douay Version of the Bible which instead of "repent" says "do penance." So the place of inquiry, where people should be taught the plan of salvation from the Bible, in revival meetings, became "the mourner's bench" and thousands of people have been taught that God would not hear their prayer nor forgive sins until they went through a process of sorrow and mourning over their sins!

Do not misunderstand me. God is anxious for you to have a penitent, broken heart over your sins. You have gone away from God. You have trampled under foot the blood of Jesus Christ, wasted years of your life which you can never live over again. You have served your father the devil. There is plenty for you to weep over, and I am not surprised if you feel deep shame and sorrow in your heart that you have so mistreated the God Who made you and the Saviour Who died for you. I am not surprised if you cannot keep back the tears! But what I want you to know is that tears or no tears, however much sorrow you may have in your heart, or not have, those things do not save you.

You ought to be sorry for your sins and ashamed of them. "Godly sorrow worketh repentance" (2 Corinthians 7:10)—the right kind of sorrow leads to immediate repentance, but mourning is not itself repentance.

"Could my tears forever flow, Could my zeal no respite know These for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone."

Instant Salvation!

The jailer did not go through a period of mourning. He was told to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ; he did just that and was saved, and his whole family was saved the same way, immediately, the same hour of the night. Everywhere you look through the New Testament you find that people were saved all at once without any process, without any period of mourning. Zacchaeus, up a tree, trusted Jesus and made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully (Luke 19:6-9). Jesus said, "This day is salvation come to this house." When Peter told Cornelius and his assembled household that they could be saved by believing, immediately "while Peter yet spake these words," the Scripture says, the Holy Spirit came on them and they were happily saved (Act. 10:44-

48). The thief on the cross, wicked sinner that he was, who a few minutes before had been railing at Jesus, was saved immediately when he inquired of Jesus (Luke 23:42, 43). In the first chapter of John, verses 35 to 49, we see where Andrew, Simon Peter, Philip and Nathaniel were all converted, one by one, immediately by faith in Christ. There is no record of any person in Bible times who was ever told to wait, or mourn, or weep over his sins, before trusting Jesus and being saved! One who believes in Christ has repented. Repentance and faith are the same thing put in different words, and neither requires a long period of time, nor a process of mourning and sorrow.

Salvation is instantaneous. All that keeps you today from being saved is the wickedness of your heart that holds on to sin and will not run to Jesus to trust in Him for salvation. I beg you, turn in shame and sorrow from your sins this minute, and trust in Christ and be saved!

Can One Be Saved Without Prayer

In the Bible there are many cases of sinners who prayed like the thief on the cross or the publican in the temple. In fact, Romans 10:13 says:

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Many people believe that sinners cannot be saved without a period of prayer, without consciously calling on God. However, the Bible does not say that a sinner must pray in order to be saved. In fact, immediately following the verse in Romans 10:13 is an explanation which shows that calling on God is an evidence of faith in the heart and that it is really faith which settles the matter. Read it again.

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed?" (Romans 10:13, 14.)

The Lord encourages the sinner to pray, and the Lord hears and answers the sinner's prayer, if that sinner trusts in Jesus Christ for salvation when he prays. He heard the prayer of the thief on the cross, of the publican in the temple, of blind Bartimaeus. But the Scripture says, "How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed?" Certainly every one who is to be saved must believe prayer is evidence of faith. No matter how long one prays, if he does not trust in Christ, he can never be saved. If he trusts in Christ without conscious prayer, then he is saved already. There is just one plan of salvation and just one step a sinner must take to secure it. That step is to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ!

Some way we preachers have left the impression on this poor world of sinners that God is hard-hearted and that it takes many tears and loud cries and long periods of sorrow before He will hear and save the sinner. We have left the impression that God does not care whether sinners are saved or not, and that sinners must some way touch the heart of God and get Him ready to forgive. What a slander on a good and holy God who "so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Man's sins are already paid for; God's wrath is already turned away from any sinner who wants to be saved. Both the Father and the Son are a million times more anxious to save every sinner than the sinner can be to get

saved! Thank God He will forgive my sins. He will do it the minute I am willing to trust it with Him.

How To Get The Change Of Heart

This simple way of being saved by faith seems so easy, and it is. Some sinner may say, "But I thought one must have a change of heart." So you must dear sinner, but that is God's part. Jesus was talking to Nicodemus when He said, "Ye must be born again." And in the same chapter He tells Nicodemus how to get the new birth, in John 3:16.

"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."

The change in your heart, sinner, is God's part and you may be sure He will attend to that. Your part is to simply believe in Him. Whatsoever else is necessary in your eternal salvation, the Lord attends to when you trust in Him, or believe in Him.

How Should I Feel?

Some people have an idea that the change of heart is a matter of feeling. Some do not want to claim Christ as Saviour until they have the mysterious feeling that they want. Do not let the devil deceive you here. I believe in heart-felt religion, and thank God for the joy which He gives to me day by day. But the Bible nowhere tells how one must feel before he is saved, nor does it anywhere say how you will feel after you are saved. In fact, people do not feel the same. Feeling varies with the person saved, some laugh, and a few shout aloud the praises of God. One is no more saved than the other. What you want, dear sinner, is salvation, and you should be satisfied to feel any way that will please the Lord, just so He forgives your sins.

Be sure you notice another fact, too, and that is that you cannot feel right until you get right. Rejoicing does not come before you trust the Lord. One does not feel the result of medicine before he takes it. The Children of Israel, in the wilderness, bitten by fiery serpents and at the point of death, were not healed and did not feel healed until they looked to the brass serpent on the pole (Numbers 1:6-9). People are not saved by feeling, they are saved by trusting in Christ. The prodigal son, away from home in the hog pen, decided to arise and go to his father, but he did not feel good. He was without shoes, clothed in rags, without the ring of sonship, without any evidence of his father's forgiveness, perishing with hunger! Yet he arose and came to his father, not by feeling, but by faith in his father. Thank God, his father received him, like God receives every sinner who will come. And when the prodigal boy has sat down at his Father's table, with shoes of the gospel of peace, clothed in the garments of the righteousness of Christ with the ring of sonship on his finger, eating the fatted calf at the right hand of his Father, happy in His love, then he has plenty of feeling. Feeling comes after salvation. Leave the feeling with the Lord and come to the Saviour by faith today.

After you are saved, you will get peace and joy out of following the Lord in baptism, reading His Word, winning souls and otherwise pleasing Him. You need to go to the Lord again and again day by day for the joy of a Christian life. But thank God that salvation is settled once and for all when you simply depend upon Christ as

(Continued on Page Four)

"WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?"

(Continued from Page Three)
your Saviour.

What About Public Confession

Every person who is saved ought to publicly confess Christ. Matthew 10:32 and Romans 10:9 plainly teach that God will claim as His child any of us who will claim Christ as our Saviour, but we simply confess with the mouth what we have already trusted in our heart. Romans 10:10 concerning that very matter says:

"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

To claim Christ as your Saviour simply proves that you trust Him in the heart. Likewise with all other promises in the Bible about how to be saved. "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out," says John 6:37, and salvation is promised in John 1:12 to as many as receive Jesus. But you could not come to Christ without trusting Him, and John 1:12 shows that receiving Jesus is the same as believing on His name.

Dear sinner, do not make this a difficult matter. There is one simple step between you and Jesus when you trust Him, everything else is settled, and you have repented, you have come to Christ, you have received Him, you have done everything necessary to be saved. Take the answer in Acts 16:31 at face value: "BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND THOU SHALT BE SAVED!" All through the Bible in dozens of Scriptures, salvation is promised to those that believe, many, many times, God has promised all any poor sinner would ever need when he believes on the Lord Jesus Christ.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that BELIEVE on his name." (John 1:12).

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: that whosoever BELIEVETH in him should not perish, but have eternal life. 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." (John 3:14-16).

"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" (John 3:18).

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that BELIEVETH not the son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

"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" (John 5:24).

"And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son and BELIEVETH on him may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 6:40).

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that BELIEVETH on me hath everlasting life" (John 6:47).

"To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever BELIEVETH in him shall receive remission of sins" (Acts 10:43).

"And by him all that BELIEVE are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses" (Acts 13:39).

Read again the Scripture we started with:

"What must I do to be saved? BELIEVE on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." (Acts 16:30, 31).

Trust Jesus The Great Physician

If you were sick and about to die, and there was some good doctor whom you could trust, would you not risk him to take your case, give you the necessary treatment and with God's help get you well? Then just like that, trust in Christ, depend on Him for your salvation, and turn it over to Him today. With the same kind of faith that will call in a doctor and risk him for your body, you can call in the Lord Jesus Christ and risk Him to forgive your sins and save your poor lost soul! He said, "They that are whole need not a physician, but they that are sick" (Luke 5:31). He is the Great Physician and will heal your soul instantly, if you will trust Him. As you would trust a doctor, submit to his treatment, depend on him for results, so trust Jesus today about your soul. To be sure, human doctors fail many times, their results at best are gradual and so no doctor is a perfect picture of Jesus. The doctor can work no miracles, but Jesus can, and the change that is needed in that poor, wicked heart, He will make immediately, instantly, without any further effort on your part, when you trust Him!

Jesus Is Our Lawyer

If you had committed a crime and were thrown in jail, probably the first thing you would do would be to send for some lawyer in whom you had confidence and trust him with the entire matter of your defense. In God's sight you are a criminal, condemned already and with the wrath of God upon you day by day. But God has provided somebody to take the part of us poor sinners, criminals before the bar of God's justice, and Jesus is that lawyer, for the Scripture says:

"If any man sin, we have an advocate (or lawyer) with the Father Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:1, 2).

Jesus will not only be your lawyer to defend your case; He has already paid the penalty and you may safely trust Him to have you immediately pardoned and justified! Why not simply risk Jesus as you would risk a good lawyer? Jesus is better than any lawyer, of course, and you do not have to pay Him a fee, and He never fails.

A Wedding

A young man and young woman stand together, side by side, before the preacher. The preacher says, "You will join right hands." Then to the young man he says, "Do you take this young woman to be your lawfully wedded wife, to love her and cherish her until death do you part?" He answers, "I do." To the young woman the preacher says: "Do you take this man to be your lawfully wedded husband until death do you part?" She answers, "I do." Then the preacher says: "I pronounce you man and wife," and they are married in the sight of God and man. What a simple picture of salvation! Jesus is the Bridegroom and we who trust Him are to be His bride. Already Jesus has loved you and has long urged you to accept His love. Jesus invites you to believe in Him right now and be saved and so become a part of His bride. Will you not right now with the same simple faith of that young woman who takes a

husband, accept Jesus as your Saviour and say to Him, "I do?"

Make It Sure—Claim Him Today

The way is plain and you can be saved this moment if you will.

Surely it has become plain, dear lost sinner, that it is your own fault if you are lost! Do you hate Jesus Christ? Will you hold on to your sin and go to Hell for your stubbornness? Nothing in the world could show your wickedness like postponing this matter. You can be saved right now, this minute. I beg you, do it now. Turn your whole heart from sin to trust in Christ. Choose for Heaven, against Hell, choose for Christ against Satan. Do not let Satan deceive you any longer. If you delay, it may result in a hardened heart, a wasted life and a tortured soul in Hell! And if you are not saved, when God has made the way so plain and paid the price for your sins, then you have no one to blame but yourself. Will you trust Jesus Christ today and be saved?

"Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth" (Proverbs 27:1).

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2).

"Today if ye will hear his voice harden not your hearts" (Heb. 3:7, 8).

God has given you this heartbeat, this breath, this moment in order to trust Christ, but there is no promise of another. I beg you do it right now, and then claim Him as your Saviour.

If you realize that you are a sinner, if you believe that Christ died for you, if you will honestly trust Christ as YOUR Saviour, depending on Him to forgive all your sins, will you not sign the following statement and send it to me, so that I may rejoice with you? Then you have the assurance that Jesus will confess you before His Father, as you confess Him before men, for He said:

"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 10:32).

You are saved when you trust Christ, but much of the assurance and joy you get when you claim Christ, and He claims you and sends the Holy Spirit to make you happy. If you are willing to claim Him, then just say so today in the following statement.

....., 19
Evangelist JOHN R. RICE,
Wheaton, Ill.
Dear Brother Rice:

Realizing that I am a sinner and believing that Christ died for my sins, I here and now trust Him to be my personal Saviour, depending on Him to forgive all my sins, change my heart, and give me everlasting life as He promised to do. I am glad to confess Him as my Saviour and gladly mail this to let you know.

Signed

Address

"The message, 'What Must I Do To Be Saved?' published in this issue, is printed in an attractive booklet of 24 pages, size 3x6 inches, on India tinted paper, with brown ink, and with a pictured cover. More than three quarters of a million copies of this booklet have been printed and over 800 people have claimed to trust Christ as Saviour through reading it.

"This booklet is offered absolutely free to anyone who wants

it. Teachers may order a supply for their school rooms, Sunday School teachers for their classes, or chaplains and soldiers, sailors and marines, may secure them to give out to men in the service. You may have as many as you will carefully and prayerfully use, giving the booklet only to those who either ask for it or agree to read it. Write and tell Brother Rice how many you want, and how you plan to use them. The cost of printing is approximately \$1.00 per hundred, but the booklet is given free on request, as the Lord provides.

"For copies of this message in booklet form address Evangelist John R. Rice, 145 North Hale Street, Wheaton, Ill."

"Did you ever notice," said the old lady smiling into the troubled face before her, "that when the Lord told the discouraged fishermen to cast their nets again, it was right in that same old place where they had caught nothing? If we could only get off to some new place every time we get discouraged trying again would be an easier thing. If we could be somebody else, or go somewhere else, or do something else, it might not be hard to have fresh faith and courage; but it is the same old net in the same old pond for most of us. The old temptations are to be overcome, the old faults to be conquered, the old trials and discouragements before we failed yesterday to be faced again today. We must win success where we are if we are to win it at all, and it is the Master Himself who, after all these toils, disheartening failures, bids try again." — Sunday School Times.

In Hawthorne's wonderful story, "Rappacini's Daughter," he describes a chemist, who, in the study of poisons, has a garden full of lovely but poisonous flowers to whose breath, in a fiendish experiment, he exposed for years, his beautiful daughter. The girl became so filled with the poison that her own breath was deadly to any living thing. This is a true picture of those who yield to the lure of the world in the influences around about them. They are poisoned by it and become poisonous in turn.—Witness.

Franklin, Ky.

January 14, 1943

John R. Gilpin,
Russell, Ky.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I have been receiving The Baptist Examiner now for two years or more, and have never known who is responsible for the favor. Since H. B. Taylor's "News & Truths" was silenced by the editor's death, there has been no paper coming to my home that even approached the task of filling its place, till your B. E. came to me.

I love the Word of God, and I love the man of God who proclaims His Word in reverent fear of the Author of the Word. I am fully convinced that God has raised you up for this age. In accepting this truth, I thank our Heavenly Father for your willingness to be used of Him in making plain to hungry hearts, the Way of the Lord.

You will find inclosed my personal check for five dollars. This is sent to you in person (undesignated) so you will feel free to use the money in that way or manner the cause of Christ seems to stand most in need.

Should the Lord further indicate to you the need of enlarging the B. E. (as per recent intimations) I will gladly give aid in that venture also. We rejoice that C. D. Cole is joining you as a contributor to the B. E. from now on. It was my pleasure to hear him in one of Bro. Taylor's Bible Institutes years ago.

May the blessings of God upon your labors and may the Holy Spirit ever find you an humble, empty, and eager follower after Jesus Christ. Please continue my B. E. My wife joins me in appreciation of the B. E. We read every line in it in spite of the fact that four other Baptist papers are coming in our home.

Your brother in Christ,
Carey E. Witt

Is a lie beautiful? How can a thing be beautiful which lies on God? God is every where. That is akin to the Catholic superstition that substitutes Mary for the Lord Jesus because Mary is more sympathetic. Lots of idolatry and superstition in man's day.

"Keep your happiness in circulation."

"IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE"

IT IS GENERALLY ADMITTED THAT THE MOVIES ARE ALMOST AS GREAT AN INFLUENCE ON CHILD EDUCATION AS ARE THE SCHOOLS

YET

RECENT SURVEYS SHOW THAT OVER 50% OF AVERAGE RUN PICTURES HAVE SCENES IN WHICH DRINKING IS TOLERATED IF NOT GLORIFIED



WHICH TO BELIEVE?

AMERICAN BUSINESS MEN'S RESEARCH FOUNDATION