

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

# 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." (Isa. 8:20).

Devoted to Evangelism, Missions, and Bible Doctrines.

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

VOL. 12, NO. 13

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1943

WHOLE NO. 272

## PROPHECY FULFILLED!



## The Worst Unionism Of Which Baptists Are Guilty

We've been having to take quite a lot of criticism or recent date because of what we've said about lodges. However, I am always ready to either give a reason or else apologize for what I say. If I can't prove my charges against the lodges, I'll withdraw them and apologize for them.

My contention is that all lodge Baptist preachers are always unionists.

### The Bible Definition of Unionism

The fullest and most complete definition of a unionist in the New Testament is found in 2 Cor. 6:14-18. The books of Ezra and Nehemiah have a good deal to say about unionism. But they are not as full as Paul. We hope, if God wills, to expound what they say about it a little later on. Just now, however, we want to teach our critics their grievous error on that subject, because Paul goes into that question more fully than any other New Testament writer. These critics will probably treat the inspir-

ed Word of God on the unionism question just like they treat Paul's language, commanding women to keep silence in the churches. But they will be without excuse for their sin and disobedience, when we expound to them the Scriptures. Here is Paul's definition of unionism. That definition is inspired and inerrant and infallible. Read it.

"Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them and walk in them; and I will be their God and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing." (2 Cor. 6:14-17).

(Continued on page two)

## Why I Oppose the Seminary

On a recent date we have had several inquiries as to why we oppose the seminary at Louisville. We consider a fair question. A man ought to be able to give reasons for his opposition to institution, teaching, or measure. And be ready always to give answer to every man that ask you a reason of the hope that is in you." (1 Peter 3:15). I am, therefore, glad to give my reasons for my opposition to the seminary.

Let me state at the outset that I was not always opposed to it. One of the happiest days of my life were spent within its walls. In the few brief months that I was privileged to attend it before a serious complication arose with my life, I enjoyed the seminary and was as happy there as I ever was in my life. Even for months and years afterwards, I was just pronounced for it as I am out now against it.

There have been some reasons for my change of attitude, and (Continued on page four)

## Ampbellite Testimony

R. R. Burnett, one of the leading Ampbellite editors of a generation says: "The Baptists have a line of succession, which extends back three hundred and years, where it connects with the Waldensian line, and reaches the apostolic day. This is not a line of succession, but the Baptists have a line of succession with this line, and (Continued on page two)

## \$1,500 Unclaimed Reward

Thousands of copies of the following tract in leaflet form have been distributed for the past twenty eight years in Canada, and the writer has never been called upon to pay a single reward. Frequently Roman Catholics have taken the leaflet home and with great confidence have said: "I shall secure a Bible, and be back in a few days for my reward." They have either not returned or have returned only to acknowledge that the doctrines of their church cannot be upheld by Scripture.

—\$1,500—

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture proving that we ought to pray to Mary.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the Virgin Mary was born without sin.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that St. Peter had no wife.

\$50 Reward to any one who will

produce a text of Scripture to prove that priests ought not to marry.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that St. Peter was Bishop of Rome.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the Pope is the Vicar of Christ or the successor of St. Peter.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that priests can forgive sins.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the wine at the Lord's Table ought to be taken only by priests.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that there is such a thing as the sacrifice of Mass.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the priests have power

to change the bread and wine into the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus Christ

\$50 Reward to anyone who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that there are seven sacraments.

\$50 Reward to anyone who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the use of images was recommended either by Christ or His Apostles.

\$50 Reward to anyone who will produce a text of Scripture to prove the existence of such a place as purgatory.

\$50 Reward to anyone who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that there are more mediators than one, between God and men.

\$50 Reward to anyone who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that we ought to pray to the saints or for the dead.

\$50 Reward to anyone who will (Continued on page two)

## The First Baptist Pulpit

### "A Baptist Who Didn't Go To Church"

(Read John 20:19-31)

Months ago I sat by an open fire place in my living room and idly toyed with a bed of coals on the hearth before me. With a pair of tongs, I raked two of the live coals out on to the hearth, thus separating them from the balance of the fire. Immediately a change came over them. Whereas they were hot, they began to cool. Instead of their glow, they became

lifeless. They soon lost their red color and gradually turned first gray then brown and finally black. It was only a matter of a few minutes until a complete change had come over them. To be sure, the change was gradual, but in just a few brief minutes they were black, cold, and lifeless.

Contemplating these coals on the fire place and the change

which came over them, I thought at once of various church members. I have seen Christians as long as they attended church services regularly and fellowshiped with other Christians, whose lives were warm and bright, and they actually glowed in their testimony for the Lord Jesus Christ. I have seen those same individuals who (Continued on page three)

## Do You Know About Baptists?

In Matthew 16: 18, 19 Jesus recorded as having said to Peter:—"Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

From that day until now there has been a church in the world bearing the marks of New Testament origin. Jesus instituted the church and made Himself the "Chief corner stone." (Eph. 2:20). Therefore the church was not built upon Peter or Peter's Confession, but upon Christ. We also read in I Cor. 10:4: "And that Rock was Christ." He is the "Head of the church." (Col. 1:18).

John the Baptist, called and ordained of God, was the first Baptist preacher. (Matt. 3:1). Jesus walked sixty miles to be baptized by John. With Jesus it made a difference by whom He was baptized. (Matt. 3:13-17). From a study of Acts 1:21-22 and other passages, (Continued on page four)

## Only 8 Years To Live

In The Bermudian the following advertisement appeared:

YOU CAN'T LIVE FOREVER: Insurance statisticians show the average span of life is only 60 years!

If you are 30 ..... You only have 30 years left ..... You'll sleep half of that time That leaves only 15 years ..... You'll work a third of each day; (Continued on page four)



## THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

### JOHN R. GILPIN—EDITOR

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### THE WORST UNIONISM OF WHICH BAPTISTS ARE GUILTY

(Continued from page one)  
That is the fullest description of unionism in the Bible. And every one of those Baptist preachers who are Oddfellows or Masons, are guilty of every form of unionism that Paul prohibits. And so is every other Baptist that belongs to any secret order. So much for the Bible definition of unionism.

### The Proof That Every Baptist That Belongs to A Lodge Is A Unionist

Here are the specifications of what his unionism includes. A Baptist who belongs to any lodge, is fellowshiping with unrighteousness, has communion with darkness hath concord with Belial, is in partnership with infidels, and is in agreement with idols. I know that is a bold charge; but by the grace of God and the help of the Spirit, I will prove it. If the proof I give is not satisfactory, I have a great deal more and will be glad to introduce it.

Pres. John Quincy Adams said: "I am prepared to complete the demonstration before God and man, that Masonic oaths, obligations and penalties, cannot by any possibility, be reconciled to the laws of morality, of Christianity or of the land." This was from a letter to Ed. Livingston. If Pres. Adams told the truth on them, then all these Baptist preachers, are not only unionists, but the worst of unionists; for they are united to orders that can not be reconciled to the "laws of morality, Christianity or of the land."

Daniel Webster said: "It is my opinion that the future administration of all oaths and the formation of all such obligations, should be prohibited by law." Pres. Millard Fillmore said: "The Masonic fraternity tramples upon all rights, defeats the administration of justice and bids defiance to every government, which it cannot control." In that respect Masonry is just like the Ku Klux used to be and the Jesuits.

On page 285 of Grosh's Manual of Masonry he says: "The descendants of Abraham (Jews), the diverse followers of Jesus, the Pariahs (Hindoo) of the stricter sects, here gather around the same order as one family, manifesting no difference of creed or worship, and discord and contention in words of humanity and peace." That proves every charge I have made against them. They unionize in "creed and worship" with heathen and Jews, who say Jesus is a bastard and a mere man. Mackey in Lexicon p. 404 says: "The religion of Masonry is pure theism in

which its members engraft their peculiar opinions, but they are not permitted to introduce them into the lodge, etc."

Masonry has a religion. They say so. Their religion is not based on the Bible for heathen join in. Masons say so. Their religion is pure theism. That means that they deny the deity of the Lord Jesus and the personality of the Holy Spirit. Their worship therefore is idolatry and they are in concord with Belial. The Advance, a Presbyterian paper, quotes a Masonic writer as saying that Masonry is an attempt "to harmonize the mysteries of Christianity, Judaism and paganism; for the most scholarly Masons hold that there is only one religion, and that religion is the worship of deity under the image of the sun." And that is proven true in every Masonic funeral you ever attended. They are sun worshippers. Does not everyone know that the "high monkety-monk" of each local lodge opens each meeting by rising up in the east end of the lodge hall—just as the sun rises in the east? Is it not generally understood that one of their number is called "Worshipful Master?" This is idolatry and blasphemy of the worst type. They are the worst of unionists and Jesus Christ is left completely out. That is lodgism of all types.

Masonry is not only a religion, but it teaches that Masonry will take their lodge members to Heaven. So do Odd-fellows. Go to their funerals. They clearly say that the wickedest of men have gone to the grand lodge above. They are hypocrites and liars, if they do not believe what their lodge unionism teaches. They are betrayers of Christ and the gospel if they do believe that the lodge takes men to Heaven. This puts Baptist preacher brethren, who are lodge men, in a most embarrassing dilemma. If the lodge takes them to Heaven, their preaching is a lie; if their lodge does not take them to Heaven, their lodge worship and their funerals are a lie.

The proof is abundant as to their teaching on that. In the Odd-fellows' Manual, 1895 edition, page 109, "All men have God for their Father—all are brethren." Page 100, "What regeneration by the word of truth is in religion, initiation is in Odd-fellowship." There it is in black and white. Initiation into the lodge is the new birth, according to the Odd-fellows' manual. Catholics and Campbellites both teach that initiation into the churches is the new birth. These lodge brethren teach that initiation into the lodge, is the new birth. If there is more diabolical unionism than that to be found on this earth, God pity those who teach it. Mackey on page 22 of his booklet "The Ritualist" says: "The lodge then is the time of the reception of an Entered Apprentice, a symbol of the world, and the initiation is the type of the new life which the candidate is about to enter. There he stands (the candidate) without the portals, on the threshold of his new Masonic life, in darkness, helplessness and ignorance. Having been wandering amid the errors and covered over with the pollutions of the profane world, he comes inquiringly to our doors seeking the NEW BIRTH and asking a withdrawal of the veil which conceals Divine truth from his uninitiated sight."

Masons and Odd-fellows both say initiation from the outer into their respective lodges is the new birth. That is unionism and agreement and concord and fellowship and being yoked together and communion and these Baptist preachers are one with them and they are all together in concord and accord with Belial.

One other proof will suffice for the present. If our critics are not satisfied, we will try to satisfy them.

The Moody Church some years ago published an anti-lodge book called "Let There Be Light." All our quotations we present below come from it. "I do not see how any Christian, most of all a Christian minister, can go into these secret lodges with unbelievers." D. L. Moody. "A Christian can not belong to a secret, oath-bound society and be true to the Church of Christ." W. J. Erdman. "Among the greatest hindrances to the churches of Jesus Christ are the Masonic and other secret orders." R. A. Torrey. "The first dawn of light I received was at a funeral in my pastorate in Asheville, N. C., when I noticed among the white aproned men standing around the casket and the grave, the dead sticks of my church—I mean they were dead spiritually." A. C. Dixon. "Ain't it the truth"—when he calls the lodge members of Baptist churches "dead sticks?"

Permit my personal testimony in this respect. The worst opposition I have had in my pastorate here in Russell has come from the lodge crowd, who used to be members of our church. They are surely spiritual "dead sticks." One of them got so mad at me that he walked up the aisle, like a big bully and threatened to hit me during a church service last November. Another sent me word that she was my friend but could not come to church because of her heart, as she couldn't come up the steps into the church building. At the same time, she never missed a lodge meeting, even though the lodge hall was located on the third floor of a building here in town. I can think of a half dozen or more whom we have had to exclude, who never missed a lodge meeting when it conflicted with church services. In other words, the lodge came first and the church was subordinate. A. C. Dixon was right—the lodge crowd that used to be in our church were the spiritual "dead sticks" of the church. But, thank God, they are no more in our church, for we severed relations months ago with them.

"I am ashamed to say that I am also a Shriner, though not in good standing, because I must confess that the only meeting I had ever attended was the initiation; and the coarse horse-play, buffoonery, revelry, debauchery and drinking of that first meeting was too much for me. I never went back to the shrine." E. Y. Woolley.

Charles Herald, chorister of Moody Church, says: "I can only give my actual experience as regards these secret orders. First, I have seen a church utterly ruined for spirituality and effective Christian service, because its boards were composed principally of Free Masons and other secret order men.

Second, I have seen men by the score become worldly and forsake the church, when they regularly attended the lodge.

Thirdly, I have heard from the lips of scores more that the religion of the lodge was good enough for them."

And lastly, C. A. Blanchard was for years president of Wheaton College. Mr. Blanchard said before his death: "I am more and

more coming to believe that the Anti-Christ of the great tribulation will be selected by the secret lodges of the world. It requires no argument to show what the attitude of Christian organizations should be respecting these monstrous organizations."

### \$1,500 UNCLAIMED REWARD

(Continued from page one)  
produce a text of Scripture to prove that we should fast on Fridays or during Lent.

\$50 Reward to anyone who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the Pope is infallible.

\$50 Reward to anyone who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that baptism "cleanses from original sin, makes us Christians and children of God, and heirs to the kingdom of heaven."

\$50 Reward to anyone who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that unbaptized children after death go to a place called "Limbo," or that there is such a place.

\$50 Reward to anyone who will produce a text of Scripture to sanction the baptism or blessing of bells.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that a man should be persecuted and cursed who conscientiously leaves the religion in which he was born to accept that of Jesus Christ.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the Bible should not be read by everybody.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that priests have any right to forbid the people going to hear the pure gospel of Christ preached.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that a man sins when he leaves a false religion to accept the religion of Jesus Christ.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that Christ did not believe in freedom of conscience and freedom of speech.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that any one is justified in blindly submitting to priests, bishops, or pope.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the Church of Rome the first church or the oldest church.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the Church of Rome is the Church of Christ.

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that there is salvation in any other way but through faith in Jesus Christ, the Lord, who said, "Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Mt. 11:28).

\$50 Reward to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that any man is safe who delays the salvation of his immortal soul. "For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul." (Mark 8:36).

\$1,500 Reward to any one who will produce the required texts of Scripture on the above questions. We will furnish Bibles to those who desire them. "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." (Ps. 119:105).

Jesus said: "Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of Me." (John 5:39).

The Holy Scriptures are the only

infallible source of truth that has revealed for our salvation, the only and absolute rule of life. As a religious guide they are complete. It is therefore the sacred duty of every man fully to use this means which has provided to learn the way of salvation.

By the late Rev. G. R. Mackay, M. A., Ottawa, Canada.

### CAMPBELLITE TESTIMONY

(Continued from page one)  
through it have connection with the Apostles. We were speaking about successional connection. The Apostles in what they taught and practice." (Christian Messenger, Dec. 8, 1886).

Alexander Campbell, the founder of the Campbellite Church, gave this testimony on Baptist History.

Mr. Campbell in "Born of Water" (pp. 69 and 70), says:

"The Baptists can trace their origin to the Apostolic times—produce unequivocal testimony of their existence in every century of the present time; and the more of their peculiarities, the more they afford. First, the history, Anno Domini, 33, we find in a well attested history, of a Baptist church which was founded and exhibited as a grand delusion, by the immediate agency of the Holy Spirit; on the day of Pentecost three thousand souls were illuminated, led to repentance, converted, baptized and added to the church. The history of the church, and of many others, is clearly and forcibly written by an inspired writer, styled Luke the physician. This Luke is the greatest ecclesiastical writer in the world. He writes a history of the Christian church for a little more than thirty years. See his title styled "Acts of the Apostles" 2:41, 42."

### OMINOUS SIGNS

A Baptist layman of Kentucky has just driven some 2500 miles on a business tour in the South. He states, "On my way home I spent some time at Dothan, Ala. On Sunday morning we could hardly find a parking place when we got into the auditorium of the First Baptist Church. I found a tremendous crowd. It all seemed unusual for this time of year, but we soon discovered that the man was the speaker of the hour. The preacher announced that the evening hour there would be no preaching; instead, a service would be shown."

This same brother said that evening he was in another Alabama church which was the First Church of that city. He said it was a large auditorium and beautiful, but only a very, very small crowd, evidently because the Lord's Supper was being observed.

Surely all this is but an indication of the times. It surely appears that it is hard to find places where the Word of the Lord is preached and is being contemned. This is but another of the signs of the times. God help us.

### THE ARMY AND DICE

Jersey City, N. J. Mar. 10, 1941.—Col. Henry B. Barry, Commanding Officer of the army's Quartermaster Office of the army's Quartermaster depot here, said today that 750,000 pairs of dice have been distributed to men in the service. Colonel Barry said that while the Army holds no brief for gambling, "our job is to supply things that keep the morale high."

—Courier Journal  
Editor's Note: How can our country (Continued on page four)



BAPTIST WHO DIDN'T GO  
TO CHURCH

continued from page one)

themselves from the and who, on the Lord's did not seek fellowship with Christians in God's house, their enthusiasm for Christ, noticed the glow depart from lives, have seen the fire die in their soul, and have seen lives actually blackened by sins of the world. Thus, proximity with the world, the absence of fellowship with people in God's house brot to pass the same results in waves of church members as they feeling the coals from the bal of the fire on the hearth.

I Scripture tells us how that one of Jesus' apostles, away from the church. It is hard to understand why so. Of one thing we are sure — Thomas was a charter member of the First Baptist Church of Jerusalem. When Jesus His twelve apostles, Thomas one of the original twelve. He, himself, was a preacher — a minister under Jesus. He had one of the most zealous of His disciples. When it appeared that Jesus might be slain if He went to Bethany when Lazarus died, as proof of his sincerity, Thomas said unto the balance of the disciples, "Let us also that we may die with him." (John 11:16). I say it is hard to understand why that Thomas stayed away from the church. He was a good pastor — in fact, he was a member of the only church that ever had a perfect pastor, the Lord Jesus was pastor of the church. Finally, let it be that Thomas was a member of the orthodox church. There was but one like it. If any church, the Lord Jesus Himself was close by to rectify the situation. Thus we can truly say that the only truly orthodox church that ever existed.

It is hard to understand why a Baptist preacher like Thomas could have stayed away from the church services. Certainly, under such ideal circumstances, he would be expected to be in his church, and yet for some reason, we cannot find him in the services on the Lord's day.

It is hard to understand why people stay away from God's house today. It is true that many alibis are given, very few of which are really excuses. One will deprecate that he has to work and that work keeps him away from church, little realizing the absurdity of such an excuse, for while work might keep him away from one service on the Lord's day, he ought to be able to attend either the morning or the evening service.

There are those who say they have to visit their relatives on the Lord's day. What a lack of love it reveals. To those who have the complex of relatives on Sunday, may it be that you do not "lay down" your work and visit them on Sunday. Of course, you know that to do so is to lose the week you would have

to visit them on Sunday means that you steal God's day. What an insight as to their spiritual condition. Truly they love money more than they love God. Listen: "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me" (Matt. 10:37, 38). I used to know a deacon, — in fact, I was his pastor, — who gave up a Sunday School class of young men because as he said, "It tied him down too much on Sunday; he couldn't visit his relatives as he wished."

Another excuse that is commonly made is that of recent death in the family. While the average person within a few days after a death, goes about his usual work, pursues his ordinary interests, and follows his usual habits, yet that same individual will absent himself from the house of God often for weeks and months after a death and the only excuse he can offer is the death which has occurred within the family. If the deceased were saved, then that one is now in Heaven observing our every act. Listen: "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." (Heb. 12:1). You will notice in this verse that Paul speaks of a cloud of witnesses. The word "witnesses" really means "spectators." He speaks of those who have died and gone on to Heaven as spectators who are now observing our every day actions. Surely if we want to even please those whom we have loved and lost, we would be in our places regularly in God's house.

Then there are those who stay away from church in order to go on picnics on Sunday. In my first pastorate there was a man who was a banker, who was actually the only person of unusual ability and outstanding talent in the whole church. When I appealed to him to take his place in a definite way in the regular Sunday services, he said: "I am tied down in the office all week, so I give my Sundays to my family." What he meant was they spent pretty nearly every Sunday enjoying some type of picnic. I would like to ask for the chapter and verse that would authorize any person to thus spend the Lord's day.

Still again, others stay away because their feelings have been "hurt." Others don't like the pastor or certain members of the church. The name of this group is legion. Frankly, their actions would indicate that they are serving the pastor or other members of the church more than they are God.

Then there are those who stay away because of their pride. This particularly affects the feminine members of our churches. When their hats and dresses and shoes are not fully seasonable, how easy it is for Satan to suggest that it wouldn't hurt to miss one Sunday or until one can get new clothes. About Easter and Christmas time this is especially true, and particularly Easter when so many refuse to go to God's house because of a lack of new clothes, it being ordinarily thought that Easter is a "dress-up" occasion.

Then there are those who stay away from church because they

have "Morbus Sabbaticus." That is a Latin phrase for "Sunday sickness." It is a most prevalent disease among Baptists. The individual awakens rather drowsily on Sunday morning, stretches, yawns, turns over and decides that he just won't go to the first service, that he is so tired he must get another nap, but he will get up and go to the second service. Then, strange to say, when it is time for him to get up to make ready for the second service, he finds that he feels just about as he did when he made his decision earlier in the morning to take another nap. This time he finds it easier to make the same decision, and pretty soon the whole morning is gone. Along about dinner time he will dress, and though he was too sick to go to church, he finds that it has not affected his appetite one bit, and after eating, he is usually able to read the Sunday paper, and in the afternoon most often goes for a drive. Another attack comes on about time for the church services on Sunday evening and he retires with the thought in mind that he will do better next Sunday, but usually the second Sunday is but a repetition of the first. This disease is never fatal to the body, but it is fatal to the soul.

These are a few of the many excuses which are offered as to why people stay away from God's house. I tell you it's hard to understand why Thomas stayed away from church, and it is just as hard to understand why people stay away today.

## II

When Thomas stayed away from church, there was a good deal that he missed. First of all, he missed the fellowship that he might have had with Christ, which fellowship the balance of the disciples enjoyed. Listen: "Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. And when he had so said, he showed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord." (John 20:19,20). This was the first Sunday after Jesus' resurrection. Possibly the disciples had met for worship. At least, they were assembled together. All the doors were locked since they were fearful of the Jews. They had a reason to be afraid; their Leader had just been crucified. Suddenly Jesus miraculously stood in their midst and sweetly said, "Peace be unto you." What a joy it was to them to behold those hands that had been pierced and His side that had been riven with a spear. This was positive proof that the One whom they loved, whom they knew had been dead, and whom they knew had been in the grave, — this was positive proof that He was now alive. It is no wonder then that we read that the disciples were glad. This was truly an hour of fellowship. It was the sweetest fellowship the disciples had ever had with Jesus, for it proved that He was truly the Jewish Messiah. Certainly none of these disciples had ever had such fellowship before.

Yet Thomas missed all this. He did not go to church that Sunday. I don't know why, but for some reason he stayed away. Thus he missed this fellowship with Jesus. Every time that a Christian today stays away from God's house, he misses the same fellowship. While it is true that we do not see Jesus in the flesh, nor can we ob-

serve His pierced hands nor riven side, yet every Lord's day is an anniversary of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Thus when one does not go to church, he misses that resurrection fellowship with Christ.

In the second place, when Thomas did not go to church, he missed the fellowship with his brethren. The other brethren doubtless had sweet fellowship together, but Thomas missed this. There is a fellowship which all saints of God have when they worship together. John spoke of this when he said: "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren." (1 John 3:14).

Yet, Thomas missed all this, and every Christian who stays away from God's house on God's day misses this same fellowship. Long years ago, Jonathan said to David, "Thou shalt be missed, because thy seat shall be empty." (1 Sam. 20:18). Not only is it true that when a Christian fails to go to church that he is missed because his seat is empty, — it is also true that he misses the fellowship that he might have with his brethren. Realizing the grave danger of this, the apostle Paul exhorted Christians to be punctual, regular, and faithful in their church attendance. Hear him: "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is." (Heb. 10:25).

Not only did Thomas miss his fellowship with Christ and his fellowship with the brethren when he stayed away from the church, he also missed Christ's commission. Listen: "Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, receive ye the Holy Spirit: Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them and whose soever sin ye retain, they are retained." (John 20:21-23). When Jesus met with these disciples in the upper room on the first Sunday following His resurrection, He gave them a task — a commission. Just as the Father had sent Him out, so now He sent them out. They went forth with the full realization that whatever they did on earth was going to be ratified in Heaven. Ten of the disciples were there to receive this commission.

Don't forget though that Thomas was absent. He missed this commission. All during the week following, while the others had work to do, Thomas had no task. Ten of the preachers were to be busy representing Jesus. Thomas was a non-commissioned preacher without a single duty for the week following Christ's resurrection. I am personally convinced that anyone who stays away from church today will be in about the same position as Thomas. He is not liable to be commissioned of Christ to any work. In fact, Jesus has no commission as to work — He has no task to give to any individual who does not have time for worship and who is out of fellowship with Him.

Above all else, when Thomas stayed away from church, he missed Christ's great resurrection sermon, and what a sermon it was! It was not so much what Jesus said as it was what He showed. Listen: "And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side." (John 20:20). Here was an object sermon. The pierced hands and the riven side were proof that the One who stood before them was the One who had died on the cross. Now that He stood there alive was positive con-

vincing proof as to His resurrection. Thomas missed all this. He did not see those nail scarred hands. He did not see the side with the gaping, ugly wound in it. He did not observe the mutilated body of Christ. He missed this resurrection sermon.

Whenever anyone stays away from church, in addition to whatever sermon the preacher may deliver, he will also miss Christ's sermon on the resurrection. Every Sunday is a commemoration of the resurrection of Christ. In just being absent from church, a Christian misses that if nothing more. Then, in addition, there is the sermon which God has laid upon the heart of the minister which a person likewise misses when he stays away from church.

Oh, I tell you, beloved, Thomas surely missed a great deal when he did not go to church. He missed his fellowship with Christ; he missed his fellowship with the brethren; he missed Christ's commission as to work; and he missed Christ's great resurrection sermon. When a Baptist today stays away from God's house, he will miss also the same things. He may miss even more than Thomas, but nevertheless, he will miss everything that Thomas missed when he did not go to church.

## III

It is rather interesting to notice Thomas during the week following his absence from church. His reaction is typical. He had the blues; he was melancholy; he was morbid; he was discouraged; he actually became a skeptic. There was no joy in his life. When the disciples, overjoyed because they had seen the Lord, tried to tell Thomas that Jesus had been raised from the dead and that they had seen Him and had had fellowship with Him, Thomas declared, "Except I see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe." (John 20:25).

Don't you see, beloved, the effect that it had upon Thomas in that he did not go to church. Whereas ten of the disciples were happy, Thomas was miserable. Whereas they had something to do, Thomas was idle. Though they were filled with faith, optimism, and hope, Thomas had the blues. His unbelief and skepticism weighed heavily upon him. This was his reaction for one whole week just because he did not go to church.

Well, it is always thus when people stay away from God's house. Missing church services today brings results similar to those which came in the life of Thomas. Do you recall the little poem which says:

"A Sunday well spent, brings a week of content,  
And joys for the cares of tomorrow;  
But a Sunday profaned, whatever be gained,  
Is a sure fore-runner of sorrow."

When Napoleon marched against Moscow, a great and formidable army marched with him. When the snowflakes began to fall and Napoleon began to retreat, the soldiers built big bon-fires at night and lay down around these to sleep. Those nearest to the fire survived, while those in the outer circle froze, and when morning came, many of Napoleon's men were found stiff in death, having frozen since they were too far from the heat. Although he marched against Moscow with 45,000 men, when he returned to Paris, it was with a mere handful of 9,



000 men.

As I have said, the most of his army had frozen since they were too far from the source of heat. How true many many times of God's people. I do not mean to say that any Christian will ever lose his salvation, for when one is saved, he can never be lost; but the spirituality of many a Christian is chilled and frozen, and many of God's people, just like Thomas, go for weeks out of fellowship with the Lord and thus become skeptical, unbelieving, unfaithful, and distrustful. More frigidity and spiritual coldness in our churches results from people staying away from God's house than from any other cause. It is just Thomas' experience lived over in this modern twentieth century.

How many times I have had church members tell me that this was their experience. How many times I have observed it in the life of our congregation. I tell you, beloved, you cannot be warm in the service of the Master, — you cannot be on fire for Him, — you are bound to be cold, frigid, and icy toward Him if you stay away from the services in God's house.

#### IV

Thus far we have noticed Thomas's reaction — the reaction of this Baptist who did not go to church. Now may we notice the reaction of his pastor—the Lord Jesus. You get this one week after Thomas' failure in going to God's house. Listen: "And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them; then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing, And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God." (John 20:26-28)

After a week of spiritual declension, the Lord Jesus met Thomas face to face. Thomas was actually a backslider. This then would tell us that the Lord Jesus is interested in every backslider. One week after He had dealt with the balance of His disciples, He gave Thomas a special revelation. Most preachers allow their church members to get cold and careless without a great deal of concern. Not so with Jesus. He was tremendously interested in Thomas. It may be that you are cold. Well, if so, Christ is interested in you. He has a particular interest in all those who are backslidden and careless as to their service.

Do you remember the experience of Simon Peter as to his denial of Jesus. Though he denied his Master three times, Jesus did not turn him loose, — He did not forsake him.—He sent a special invitation to Peter to meet him in Galilee. Listen: "But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter." (Mark 16:7). Thus He had a special message for Peter when he was backslidden just as He had a special revelation for Thomas when he stayed away from the church.

I say again, beloved, that if you are cold and careless—if you are backslidden and have lost the joy of the Lord Jesus, He is interested in you. He wants you to come back into fellowship with Him and into fellowship with your brethren. He wants you to serve Him.

In my imagination I am standing now in an old cathedral. The windows are broken, the doors stand ajar, cob-webs hang from

the ceiling, much of the plaster and paint is gone, and the seats, the furniture, and the organ all show dis-use. As I look, a stranger comes in and sits down at the organ. After he runs his fingers slowly over the keys, he begins to play, and what music it is. It is the sweetest music that has ever come from the organ in many years. The old master who had built the organ has returned to it and thus he brings forth from it this exquisite music. He made the organ and knew all about it and thus he plays it. Do you know the meaning of this parable in your own soul? Backslidden and cold, each Christian who has been staying away from God's house is like this old organ. Let the Master who created you and saved you, again have right-of-way in your life. He can make the music box of your soul echo and re-echo as in days gone by.

In closing, may we inquire as to why this incident was recorded. Immediately after John tells us about Thomas staying away from church, he tells us why John's Gospel was written. Listen: "And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye might have life thru his name." (John 20:30, 31). Thus every instance in John's Gospel was written to bring unbelievers to a saving knowledge of Jesus. May this particular instance have its God-given effect now, and may it enable you to see the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. God bless you.

#### WHY I AM OPPOSED

(Continued from page one)  
now let me cite these reasons.

##### Its Alien Immersion

I think it is a pretty well known fact that certain members of the faculty are believers in alien immersion. I can recall off-hand at least five who are now members of the faculty or have been within the last few years, who have been alien immersionists. These five and perhaps others, have advised or else have received alien immersion. I think it was President Mullins who said over his signature some years ago that if a Campbellite church would adopt the seminary creed he would be in favor of receiving them into denominational fellowship without baptizing them.

##### Its Unionism

President Mullens took a prominent part in Y. M. C. A. work in Camp Taylor and was on the platform with Jew, Catholic, and others who are bitter enemies of the Baptists and the truth. Then came President Sampey whose unionistic record is well known. We quote a statement from President Sampey: "We must recognize all evangelical denominations as our allies, and not as our enemies." Even though the leadership of the seminary has changed, its tendencies are still toward unionism. At its last conference, a Presbyterian was given the outstanding position on the program. And even now scarcely have the echoes of his modernistic, unionist address died away from the conference hall in which he spoke.

Several years ago J. B. Gambrell in the Baptist Standard of Texas called attention to the unionism of the seminary. He declared that in Sunday School work, in pulpit affiliation, in inter-denominational conferences, in war work, in out-

spoken defense of "unionism" and in some forms of mission work, the seminary had been very friendly and helpful. As I recall, he said that the seminary was most friendly to "unionitarian" work.

##### Its Undenominational Program

Two members of the faculty (one has since retired), had correspondence with a Missouri editor several years ago in which they stated that they had a broader program than to build up Baptists. They stated that they were working for the up-building of the Kingdom of God. These are not their exact words, but it is the substance of their contention. In this respect, the connection and affiliation of ex-president Sampey with the Federal Council of Churches will serve as a good illustration.

##### Its Invisiblisticism

Ever since I was a boy, the majority of the seminary professors have been pronounced and outspoken in their contention for the invisible church. When Mr. Powell was professor of Church History, he declared openly that Baptists did not have a corner on the truth and that he was only a Baptist because he believed Baptists were nearer to the truth than anybody else. That certainly was leaving a large loop hole, for heretics and all the universal church crowd must have rejoiced over his statement. Just to the extent that the various teachers of the seminary have espoused the theory of the universal church — to that extent have they been hurtful and detrimental to the true churches of the Lord Jesus.

##### Its Whitsittism

Over and over again when it looks like the Whitsitt controversy has been forgotten, some seminary professor or speaker on their conference program revives it. This old error or Professor Whitsitt in which he denied the perpetuity of Baptist churches and in which he spouted his protestant Pedo heresy was that any church which has started since the reformation of Luther is just as much of the Lord Jesus as Baptists. That was the heart of Whitsittism. There is plenty of it alive in the seminary today.

##### Its Higher Criticism

At some later date I expect to call attention to a number of text books in the seminary which teach higher criticism, the universal fatherhood of God, and other equally deadly heresies. Some of the Old Testament miracles have been blatantly denied and some of the doctrines of grace have been blasphemously mutilated by text books which are used in the seminary and some of which were written by seminary professors.

These are some of my reasons for being opposed to the seminary. I think they are good and just. There are many others who also oppose it for the same reasons.

#### DO YOU KNOW?

(Continued from page one)

we see all the apostles were baptized by this same Baptist preacher, including the successor to Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Jesus. Out of this Baptist material Jesus built His church.

No reliable historian has ever pointed to a single man who claimed the honor of being the head and founder of the Baptist Church this side of Jesus and the apostles.

On the contrary numerous historians have borne eloquent test-

imony to the APOSTOLIC ORIGIN OF BAPTISTS, and not a single one we quote is a Baptist author. We quote as follows:

#### BUREAU OF THE CENSUS UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE:

"The Baptist bodies of today trace their origin as distinct communities to the Protestant Reformation. It is claimed, indeed, that the churches of the apostolic age were in doctrine, polity and ordinances the exact counterparts of Baptist churches today."

CARDINAL HOSIUS (Catholic 1554), President of the Council of Trent:

"Were it not that the Baptists have been grievously tormented and cut off with the knife during the past twelve hundred years, they would swarm in greater numbers than all the Reformers."

The "twelve hundred years" were the years preceding the Reformation in which Rome persecuted Baptists with the most cruel persecution thinkable.

JOHN CLARK RIDPATH (Methodist):

"I should not readily admit that there were Baptist Churches as far back as A. D. 100, although without doubt there were Baptists then, as all Christians were then Baptists."

PROFESSOR WM. C. DUNCAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GREEK AND LATIN, UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA, SAYS:

"Baptists do not, as most Protestant denominations, date their origin from the Reformation of 1520. By means of that great movement they were brought out of comparative obscurity into prominent notice. They did not, however, originate with the Reformation; for long before Luther lived, yea, long before the Catholic Church itself was known, Baptists and Baptist churches flourished in Europe and Asia and Africa."

It is well to remember just here that Baptists are not Protestants, no more than they are Catholics; they originated 1500 years before the Protestant Reformation under Luther.

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, HEAD AND FOUNDER OF THE SO-CALLED CHRISTIAN OR DISCIPLES CHURCH, including the Church of Christ, says:

"From the apostolic age to the present time the sentiments of Baptists have a chain of advocates and public monuments of their existence in every century can be produced (MacCalla-Campbell debate)."

He also said that the church at Jerusalem was a Baptist Church and also at Samaria. Thus we have the historical perpetuity of the Baptist Church. Now we turn to OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

Of these we know their head and founder, also the date of their origin, and we give them as follows:

The Roman Catholic Church had its actual beginning in the 4th century with Boniface as its first papal head ..... 4th Cen.

The Greek Catholic Church separated from the Roman Catholic ..... 1050

The Lutheran church was founded by Martin Luther in ..... 1525

The Episcopal Church by King Henry VIII ..... 1534

Presbyterians, by John Calvin in ..... 1535

Dutch Reform Church separated from Roman Catholic Church in ..... 1540

Congregationalists were founded by Robert Brown ..... 1560

Methodist Church, by John Wesley ..... 1740

Freewill Baptist, by Benjamin Randall ..... 1780

The Christian or Disciples Church, Church of Christ by Alexander Campbell, at Mayslick, Kentucky, .....

The Mormon Church, by Joseph Smith .....

Nazarenes, out of which come about 100 different kinds .....

Holiness, by S. F. Breece .....

Christian Science, by Mary Baker Eddy .....

Russellites, Jehovah Witnesses .....

or Millennial Dawn, C. T. Russell in .....

Thus we have the origin of the leading denominations as churches, dates and foundation about which there can be no question, all of which came into existence far too late to be designated "The Church THAT WAS BUILT!"

— Bert Calhoun

#### ONLY 8 YEARS TO LIVE

(Continued from page one)  
that leaves only 10 years to live. You'll be sick about a month and a year .....

That leaves only about 8 years to live. Barring accidents you haven't time to live .....

Really just Sundays and even-ings. So to best enjoy these moments visit your neighborhood theatre regularly!

According to the unerring of the Lord there are some takes in the advertisement we should like to point out.

When the Lord Jesus Christ sent Himself as the Bread which came down from Heaven, He added: "If any man eat of this Bread, he shall live forever: and the Bread which I give is My flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." (John 6:51).

Again He said: "This is the Bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this Bread shall live ever." (John 6:58).

The advertisement says: "Can't Live Forever!" but the Lord Jesus says: You can Live Forever!

Why not believe the Lord Jesus? Why not heed His word and eat the "living Bread?"

He gave His flesh for the life of the world—and now lives in power of an endless life.

To "eat" would be to appropriate Him by faith. "He that believeth on the son hath everlasting life." (John 3:36).

It is another mistake to imagine there is nothing more enjoyable to gather from the "fleeting moments" which Sundays and even-ings afford than to spend them in your neighborhood theatre!

The Bible speaks of "joy," "exceeding joy," and "unspeakable"—all to be had in the Lord Jesus Christ. And the believer goes on to "fulness" and pleasures for evermore.

One who tried this world's pleasures to the full said: "the end of that mirth is heaviness." (Proverbs 14:13). Why waste time pursuing heaviness?

"So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom." (Psalm 90:12).

—From "Now"

#### ARMY AND DICE

(Continued from page two)  
un-try ever hope to win a war under conditions existing as described above. Remember: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I forgive them from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (Chron. 7:14).