

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).

Devoted to Evangelism, Missions and Bible Doctrines

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

WHOLE NO. 290

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1943

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Why God's People Should Keep God's Temples Clean

I am speaking to you this morning on the subject: "Keeping God's Temples Clean." There are three passages from the Bible that I call your attention to. The first declares—

"Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: Therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." I Corinthians 6:19-20.

The second passage of Scripture is taken from the first two verses in the twelfth chapter of Romans. They read like this: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." Romans 12:1-2.

The third Scripture is taken from the life story of the Apostle Paul when he wrote, (Continued on Page Four)



Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeoning of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the horror of the shade;
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishment the scroll,
I am the master of my fate;
I am the captain of my soul.

Invited by Wm. Menley

Out of the light that dazzles me,
Bright as the sun from pole to pole,
I thank the God I know to be
For Christ the conqueror of my soul.

Since His the way of circumstance
I would not wince nor cry aloud.
Under that rule which men call chance
My head with joy is humbly bowed.

Beyond this place of sin and tears
That life with Him! and His the aid,
That spite the menace of the years
Keeps, and shall keep me unafraid.

I have no fear though strait the gate,
He cleared from punishment the scroll,
Christ is the Master of my fate;
Christ is the Captain of my soul.

"My Captain" by Dorothea Day

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Stirring Message On The Work Of The Preacher

If you will make your first sermon from the text, "I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified" (1 Cor. 2:2), you will do well. That is the King's business and you are His ambassador. Read often Paul's charge to Timothy and Titus: Yours is a high, holy, and heavenly calling, and make your closet your power house.

Remember that you are a specialist under a great commission, and not a cyclopedia, a lecturer, or an all-rounder to do housecleaning for the world. You have a message from Heaven, dyed with divine blood. Preach the preaching God bids you and remember that "he that winneth souls is wise."

Declare the Whole Counsel of God

The source of all evil in the world is sin, and the only sovereign remedy is the Gospel. It is high treason to God Almighty for a preacher to turn aside from the great themes of ruin and redemption to be a smart trumpeter of sociology, science, or the glories of our splendid intellectual and materialistic civilization. (Continued on Page Four)

A Loved Florida Layman Writes On "The Way Of Salvation Made Plain"

It is generally admitted by teachers and preachers of the many groups of Christians, that salvation is all of grace, but very near all, after explaining their position, seem to clearly teach that Eternal Life depends on some measure) on something CARNAL, UNREGENERATE SINNER MUST DO IN ORDER TO OBTAIN IT. In all our teaching, we ought to be careful not to make God's Truth clearly contradict itself. If we do THAT, we can know that we are WRONG somewhere.

The old covenant was—do and live; but it was clearly proven that covenant had continued in force, no one could have been saved. (To save space, in most cases, I shall only refer to scriptures for the evidence or proof.) In Heb. 10:9, 10, 14,

15, 16, we see something made SURE in the new covenant, therefore, not left to the WILL OF CARNAL DEPRAVED MAN. The Holy Spirit writing in the heart is as indelible ink; it does not rub out. Heb. 9:14, 15, my Saviour did more than just make salvation possible. I rejoice in the FACT that He made it SURE. His salvation is not a happen-so or chance salvation. There is but one plan of salvation. If I am saved, it can only be because Christ my Saviour died for me; made atonement for me; was my substitute. Isaiah 53:8. Matt. 1:21, (Continued on Page Two)

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END IT! MEND IT!
Love your enemies, do good to them that hate you.

"There is a cunning little proverb

From the sunny land of Spain,
But in northland or in southland,

Is its meaning true and plain;
Write it deep within your heart,
Neither lose nor lend it—

"Two it takes to make a quarrel;
One can always end it."

WHICH IS TRUE?

Physically, we live by science.—News-Democrat.

Seeing that He (God) giveth to all life and breath and all things.—The Bible.

Which is true. The Bible says: "Let God be true and every man a liar."

Ice From Heaven Soothed A Fevered Brow--In Answer To Simple Faith

"And Nothing shall be impossible."

Mrs. Leh was burning up with fever. She tossed restlessly on an old pallet, in a dark corner of the dirt floor of the Chinese hut that she called home.

The day was sultry. Not a breath stirred the mulberry trees along the canal, or relieved the fetid air of the sick room. The flies buzzed noisily about and the mosquito plied his deadly work unmolested. The month was August; the sun-dial in the temple grounds showed the shadow far past noon, but the world still simmered in heat.

The missionary doctor, on his daily rounds of mercy, appeared in the open doorway of the dingy hut. The patient's face brightened, and she stretched her thin, yellow hand toward him as he knelt beside her in kindly solicitude and breathed a word of earnest prayer to the Great Healer. While the doctor ministered to her professionally, he noticed that her eyes were fixed on his face with intense eagerness, then she opened her lips and spoke:

"Tell me, Doctor, does God want His children to have what is good for them?" The Doctor beamed.

"Oh, yes, Mrs. Leh. He is a loving Father, and will not withhold any good thing from those who ask in faith." Then (Continued on Page Two)

Russo-German Pact

One of the country's outstanding news commentators and columnists, the writer of the syndicated column, "Washington Merry-go-round," in his Sunday evening, June 20th, broadcast, listed among his predictions a PEACE BETWEEN RUSSIA AND GERMANY.

Nor is he alone among outstanding figures who are of that opinion. Other observers see in Germany's present move of facing heavy forces on the Russian frontier an effort to bring Russia to the place where she could rather settle their war than continue to fight.

In line with such predictions (Continued on Page Four)

By ROY MASON, Tampa, Fla.

"For Aaron had made them naked unto their shame."—Exodus 32-25

Sin, nakedness, and degradation have always gone hand in hand. All you have to do to prove that to your satisfaction is to simply read the Bible, and observe what is plainly before us in the world. In the text which I quoted a moment ago, we have one of the most shameful happenings in Bible history. Israel has been brought out of the land of Egyptian slavery by a mighty miracle. The mighty

hand of God has never been exerted in a more marvelous way in behalf of any people than it was on behalf of the people of Israel, in bringing them out of Egyptian bondage. Not only had they been delivered from Egypt, but at Mt. Sinai God had given them a code of laws, to which they had said, "all these things we will observe." But they didn't hold out any length of time. While Moses was up on the mount communing with God and receiving from Him the regulations that were designed for their profit, the people became restive and demanded some sort of a god which they

could see, to worship. And Aaron like many a minister of religion down through the ages, was willing to give the people what they wanted whether it was what they needed or not. So under his direction, golden calves were set up as objects of worship. And when Moses came down from the mount he found those people doing a dance around those calves. And not only were they practicing idol worship, and dancing, but they were naked. For says the text, "Aaron had made them naked unto their shame." I say this is one of the most degraded scenes (Continued on Page Three)

A Help In Trouble

Men have always had trouble, but "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Regardless of the nature of the trouble, "God is a very present help" in it.

Abraham had land trouble (Genesis 13:1-18).

Jacob had business trouble (Genesis 31:36-42).

Joseph had rationing trouble (Genesis 31:46-57).

Moses had inferiority-complex trouble (Exodus 4:10-16).

Samson had romantic trouble (Judges 16:4-31).

David had "in-law" trouble (I Samuel 18:12-23).

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THE FIRST BAPTIST PULPIT

"Nasty Days Are Here Again"

The Baptist Examiner

John R. Gilpin—Editor

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LOVED FLORIDA LAYMAN WRITES ON "THE WAY OF SALVATION MADE PLAIN"

(Continued From Page One)

"He shall save his people from their sins." We receive the HOPE and JOY of that salvation here in time only by or through FAITH. There is a faith the natural man (the not born again man) may have, and there is a SPIRITUAL faith, SAVING faith. The natural man is capacitated to have natural faith; but to have spiritual faith, one must be born of God; and this faith is the gift of God, and comes with, or follows, the new birth. Paul says, "The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God." The Saviour said to such, "ye will not come to me that ye might have life", and the reason, "they loved darkness rather than light". Again, He said, "He that is God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not because ye are not of God." John taught the same, 1st Jno. 4:6. Paul taught the same truth, 1st. Cor. 1:18,24. See Jno. 3:32.

Hear the words of John the Baptist, speaking of Christ, "What he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man (natural man) receiveth his testimony." The old prophet, long before He came, wrote, "He is despised and rejected of men." WE MUST LET THE SCRIPTURES SAY WHAT THEY WANT TO, so as not to contradict, REGARDLESS OF OUR MIND AND CHOICE. See John 6:44, 45, 64, 65. God's way of salvation is such that none can claim any praise or glory in obtaining it, 1st Cor. 1:29; Rom. 11:5, 6. Positively, salvation is a FREE GIFT. It's not obtained by works of any kind, and therefore not merited, or, in any sense a reward for something done. The blood of Christ cleanseth from All sin. If He paid the debt, surely it's paid in FULL. I am afraid to find myself believing any other way. Many who appeared to be believers will be rejected. They seemed to be looking to their works to help get them in, Matt. 7:22. If I get in, it will be a free ticket. I will not have to pay for it. My righteousness will be the imputed righteousness of Christ. The new birth and the imputed righteousness does create within us holy principles. So, GOOD works and a PURE heart are the RESULTS, or EFFECTS, of salvation (regeneration), and not the CAUSE, as many seem to teach.

Paul tells the Ephesians "When we were dead in sins we were quickened together with Christ, by grace ye are saved. By grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it (the faith) is

the gift of God". In another place it is written, "It is of faith that it might be by grace, to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed". Isaiah 53: 10, 11 speaks of the seed. This faith here under consideration is not a HUMAN capacity or the product of the natural man, if it were so, it would be merit or reward. It is a divine gift. SOMETHING IMPARTED. It cannot be WORKED UP, or TAUGHT INTO. IT MUST BE SENT DOWN. Faith comes from God, the giver of every good gift. When we have the true God-given faith, we do truly have a "Title Deed" to a home in Heaven, and no power is able to take it from us, praise His holy name! (See 1st. John 5:4). None of God's children that He knows as His, will ever finally fall away and be lost. (Remember the born again do not choose to live in sin). Rom. 8:28-39; Jno. 10:27-29; 2 Tim. 2:19; 1st Jno. 2:19.

Now, to those who think that water baptism has a part in obtaining salvation. The church was given but two ordinances: Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and they are both a picture, or emblem of something, for the ONE baptism that does something TO you and FOR you, see Matt. 3:11 and John 1:33.

We notice in Rom. 6:4, we are buried by this water baptism into death, not into life, which is a perfect picture that we are to rise from that death (which it represents) to walk in newness of life, which was given us when we were baptized by the Holy Spirit into one body as shown in 1st Cor. 12:13, which must precede water baptism to get the true picture. Then, in Rom. 6:5 on the same subject, we read, "For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection." Again in Gal. 3:27, certainly it's the Spirit that BAPTIZES INTO CHRIST, NOT WATER. Water baptism only SHOWS and CONFESSES that we have been baptized into Christ, and is a righteous act of the Spirit born child, and initiates one into the fellowship and privileges of the church. Paul tells the Galatian brethren, "ye are all children of God by faith in Christ Jesus."

We have plain CONTRADICTIONS if we put WATER BAPTISM as a WORK in obtaining salvation, Rom. 11:5, 6, 7. Now to John 3:5; "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot, etc.". The natural birth is known as the WATER birth. The NATURAL and the SPIRITUAL births are the two births here under consideration, and that's made plain in verse 6, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit." Christ likens the Spirit birth to the "wind blowing where it listeth". I feel sure it is not procured or obtained by water baptism. In 1 Cor. 1:17, Paul says, "Christ sent me not to baptize, but to PREACH the GOSPEL". So, if it requires water baptism to beget life, he must have failed in his gospel message most of the time. (We can't entertain such an idea).

To the Jailor's question, "What must I do to be saved?" Paul's answer was quick and positive, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved". There are a great many places where only belief, or faith, is the only thing mentioned as a condition in obtaining, or receiving, Salvation. (In very few places is water mentioned in connection with faith, and surely not in the sense of HELPING TO BEGET LIFE.) It was understood from the beginning of the Christian faith, and was

so practiced, being the command of the Lord, that the first duty after belief in Christ, was to be baptized, immersed in water. Peter confessed it was "not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God." The good news of the gospel is... "Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and rose again for our justification", and is now at God's right hand interceding for us. He PAID the DEBT IN FULL. We must not ADD anything TO, or make any change in the GOSPEL OF GOD'S GRACE.

Salvation seems too simple and easy for most folk. They seem to think they OUGHT and MUST do something to obtain it. See the question the people asked the Saviour: John 6:28, 29—"What shall we do that we might work the works of God?" Note the answer: "This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent". He requires faith, and his mercy and grace give the faith to his elect or chosen ones. Paul taught such a faith in many places (as did Christ and others in the Apostles time), see Phil. 1:29.

When Moses put the serpent of brass on the pole, it was a likeness or picture of how the Christ would make the sacrifice for the sins of His people. And as it was true, when one was bitten by the poisonous serpent, "When he beheld the serpent of brass he lived," so it is true when the sinner reaches the place that he SEES and FEELS himself a CONDEMNED LOST SINNER, when by FAITH he sees Christ as his only hope, he LIVES; and he LIVES NOW, before he gets to the water.

Surely some are perverting the gospel of God's grace. I know we are living in the last days, and we read "there will be a falling away". Is it not right to contend (as Jude wrote) for the faith once delivered to the saints? I feel sure if one is bold enough to contend for the faith, all of it, as taught in the beginning of this gospel age, he will receive much persecution. Some of the faith is very unpopular, so but few seem to have the courage to preach it all. I suppose they hope to do more good by leaving it off. Baptists used to be quite different from all other sects, and stood aloof from them much more than at the present. We must not be standing as firm on Truth as we did up to 100 to 150 years ago. Baptists used to be a more "peculiar people" than they are now. Are they standing as firm on Truth as they did during former times?

In the beginning there was but one sect, or church. In a few centuries the Catholic Faith seemed to dominate for 1200 years, during which time the true church (the Baptist Faith) was severely persecuted. The seventeenth chapter of Revelation speaks of "Mystery Babylon, the great, the mother of harlots, and abominations of the earth". Mother means there are children. How many, and where are they? When that voice speaks saying, "come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not her plagues;" I can but wonder—where shall we go? There are so FEW that seem WILLING to contend for the FAITH. When the Son of Man cometh shall He find Faith on the earth?

The doctrine of Election and Atonement and Redemption of the Elect only, and effectual calling of the same, is clearly taught in old Baptist History and Confessions (and was one of their most PROMINENT and DISTINGUISHING doctrines)

and it seems plain to me that it's taught in the Bible. Fallen, depraved man loves darkness rather than light. He has the privilege of choice, but naturally he CHOOSES THAT most in HARMONY with his NATURE (and that needs no comment.) When they CHANGE and CHOOSE the GOOD, they do so because of a WORK of GRACE WITHIN, which is ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY before the REAL CHANGE CAN COME. The word of truth abundantly proves that to be true. The invitations to "WHOSOEVER WILL", just applies to EVERY ONE who has been blessed with the new created heart and will. Surely the SPIRITUALLY dead, UNREGENERATE sinner DOES NOT HOLD THE KEY TO LIFE, Rev. 1:18.

Paul called on all men everywhere to repent, teaching "repentance toward God, and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ". But he confessed to be able to reach only the SAVED or CALLED OF GOD, 1 Cor. 1:18, 24. Peter was commissioned to "feed lambs and sheep". So the gospel BEGINS TO SAVE AFTER we are CALLED OF GOD, or Born of God. Can we do better than the Apostles did?

Sincerely, with a burning desire to believe and teach only Truth as clearly revealed, and to avoid, as much as possible, going to extremes or riding any hobby too hard. Naturally I lean most to that which is most neglected.

W. L. Hancock,
Lakeland, Fla.

ICE FROM HEAVEN SOOTHED A FEVERED BROW IN ANSWER TO SIMPLE FAITH

(Continued From Page One)

her face grew more eager and her hot fingers clutched him. "Doctor, would not ice be good for me?"

The good physician afterwards admitted that he was conscious of a mental recoil as the question smote hard upon his reasoning faculties and he saw the inevitable trend of her logic, but he stood to his guns bravely.

"Yes, my good woman, ice would be very good for you, but you know that this is mid-summer and it is hundreds of miles to the nearest ice factory, and we must try not to want the impossible."

Such a reply might have quieted you and me, but not this ignorant Chinese woman. She had a great need and a simple faith. What did she care for nature's laws? So she insisted: "But is God all-powerful?"

The doctor shifted uneasily as he felt himself being driven on to what he considered dangerous ground; but there was only one reply to make and he made it with a steady voice but with a trembling heart.

"Yes, nothing is too great for Him."

The clutch of the woman's fingers tightened and the glassy eyes searched his face for final satisfaction.

"Then, Doctor, will you go home, gather the missionaries together and have them beseech God and He will send me ice to cool my burning fever."

The missionary felt that the eyes of heathendom were upon him as the woman's friends gathered close to him and peered into his face to hear what his answer would be. Could God do more than Buddha? Would He make ice on a hot summer's day for a poor woman like Mrs. Leh?

The missionary man of science said he felt himself being hurled, with tremendous force, up against the promises of God, by this simple woman of great

faith who but yesterday was a heathen. Believe in prayer? Of course he did, otherwise he would not be a missionary, but to ask the Great Creator and Sustainer of the universe to send ice out of a blazing August sky to please a querulous fever patient—that seemed little short of presumption. And yet—he was God's representative. He could not desert the woman in her extremity. He would go any distance, do anything in reason to give her what she so sorely needed.

Then the truth broke upon him; how much more would his Heavenly Father hear the prayer of His trusting child, who was just turning to Him from the heathen darkness? Yes, he would go home, humble his intellectual pride and pray for the impossible.

The doctor's wife, noting his rather downcast mien as he entered the mission compound, ran to meet him. She was told of the desperate challenge to his faith and the disastrous result that might follow should his prayer not be answered. To his surprise his wife responded joyfully.

"How lovely! I have just been longing for a real adventure in faith! And here it is! Of course we are not going to be disappointed. I will send the prayer call at once!"

These friends, comrades in an alien land, had stood together many times in spiritual emergencies. So now, as the messenger ran from door to door, they dropped their ordinary work and hurried to the doctor's house. There the incident was rehearsed. They took counsel together. They reviewed God's promise. They prayed. They pleaded that His name might be glorified among the heathen, and that the faith of this suffering woman might be honored as in the old Galilean days. Then a great burden of intercession fell upon them, and they forgot time and place until they were suddenly brought back to themselves by a terrific clap of thunder. Then another, and another, as though the heavens would split.

As they rose from their knees a heavy rain was pouring down the eaves, and backed by a tempestuous wind, was driving through the open window sheets. The dusty trees were drenched and rivulets were running down the sides of the walks. The confusion of the storm was presently augmented by a sharp bombardment, being dashed against the window panes and on the roof. When the doctor cautiously opened the door to see what was taking place, great hailstones rolled across the floor and were seen banked in glittering heaps of coolness on the sills about the steps.

"The ice! the ice! I knew it would come!" and the doctor's wife clasped her hands together in solemn ecstasy.

"Hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?" queried the evangelist.

"Yes, truly," responded the doctor, as he hurried into the hall for his hat and umbrella. Then, putting his head back through the doorway long enough to say, "Please return thanks," he ran out into the flooded streets, making his way along the wet cobblestones to the home of his patient.

When he came in sight of the house, the storm had almost spent itself, leaving a delightful freshness in the air; but the wind was still struggling through the bamboo branches. The mulberry trees had been riddled by the hail, and bits of green leaves

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"NASTY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN"

(Continued From Page One)

In all Bible history. Here we have linked idolatry—dancing—and nakedness—truly a devil's trio!

And let us just take a glimpse of nakedness in the Bible. There in the garden of Eden the first man and woman were not clothed in ordinary garments but the Bible seems to indicate that they were clothed in "garments of light." But when they sinned, they lost this divinely provided covering, and became conscious of nakedness. (Gen. 3:7-11).

"And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons."

And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day; and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?"

Self-consciousness, sex-consciousness, and sin we find going hand in hand. And God clothed this sinful man and woman—not because of heat or cold, but that they might not go about naked.

The second instance of nakedness we find over just a little further. It was after the flood that this occurred—let me read about it. (Gen. 9:20-24).

"And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard:

And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent.

And, Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without.

And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness.

And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him."

Here we find drunkenness and nakedness coupled together. Noah got drunk and in his drunkenness he took off his clothes. One of the sons of Noah acted disrespectfully—instead of grieving over the miserable condition of his wine-soaked father, he made fun of him. I can just imagine him saying, "Come here boys, and look at the old man. He's sure stewed!" But this attitude brought punishment.

The Beach and Sex Appeal

Another instance is that one that we read about in the life of David. Let me read (2 Sam. 11:2-5):

"And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house; and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon.

And David sent and inquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam the wife of Uriah the Hittite?

And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness:

And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with child."

Here is the case of a beautiful woman bathing—and although she may have been wholly nude, she couldn't have had on much less than women wear around the beaches today. I believe that the careful study of this account will convince one that this woman—Bathsheba deliberately displayed herself before David in the deliberate intention of tempting him. And I believe that that is exactly what the modern semi-nudity of the beach is designed to do. While a great many wear the scanty costumes of today just because they are the "style" I believe that back behind the whole thing is the design and intent and plan to appeal to the sex appetites and desires. And I believe that modern beach attire and the practice of modern mixed bathing is a shrewd scheme of the devil to utterly destroy modesty and utterly destroy purity of life. Well, if the devil has so planned it, one thing is sure—his scheme is certainly working out to perfection.

So, here we have nudity coupled with adultery, and deceit and even murder on the part of David. But step over into the New Testament and we find the story of the demon possessed man of Gadara. He wouldn't keep his clothes on until Jesus cured him of demon possession and saved him, then shortly after this we find the man sitting before Jesus "clothed and in his right mind." Here we have nudity coupled with demon possession. Don't you see—every one of these instances cited from the Bible couples nakedness with the worst things known. And it has been that way all down through the ages, and it is that way right today. It is because that this is true that I am taking the time to discuss this question today. This nudism craze—this craze to get off clothes practiced completely in nudist camps, and practiced only a little less on the beaches and up and down the streets, is not only an indication of a low moral state, but it is a curse to our nation.

Shorts and Sun-Backs

Now some people may argue that they don't see any harm in going around nearly naked—on the beach, or in shorts on the street or at home. When people say that, one of several things are true: Either they are telling a plain falsehood; or they don't care a snap what God Almighty says in His Word, or else they have become so color-blind morally that they have ceased to distinguish between right and wrong. There is one passage here in the New Testament that should be enough to settle this question for any Christian. That passage is I Tim. 2:9, which reads like this: "I will . . . that the women adorn themselves in MODEST APPAREL." The woman who has a spark of respect for the word of God, can't put on a modern bathing suit and go out in public with it on. A woman who has a spark of respect for the Word of God, can't put on a pair of shorts and be seen in public with them on. A woman who has a spark of respect for the Word of God, can't wear a sun-back dress with the back slashed to the waist, and go out in public with it on. Now that's plain talk but it is absolutely the truth, for this command to wear modest apparel is just as much a command of the Scriptures as is the command, "thou shalt not steal." Many people are showing their utter contempt for the teaching of the Word of God, by the way they dress. I am not advocating

that women go around in dresses that drag the ground; I am not advocating unbecoming clothing—I'm simply saying that God Almighty says for you to put enough clothes on to be called "modest apparel."

Display of Human Carcass—Nasty!

Not only is proper clothing necessary to modesty and purity of life, it is necessary to common decency. To go around in shorts or with clothing almost off, is not only to show contempt for the Bible and the commands of God—not only to fit in with the immoral standards of a world whose god is the devil, but it is to offend against culture and good taste and is to descend to plain nastiness. That's the reason why I called my sermon, "Nasty Days Are Here Again." Just as soon as Spring and warm weather get here, we begin to see women in the stores and one the streets and working in their yards, with less clothes on than they ought to have in the privacy of their bedrooms. And we begin to see boys running around without their shirts on, and men working around with their hides exposed to public gaze. Aside from all moral considerations, why do we have to look at the old yellow, sun-baked carcasses of men and women? I say it is plain nastiness, and utterly unbecoming to a Christian to expose himself or herself in such a fashion. And one thing that ought to characterize a Christian home—the kids ought to be made to wear some clothes. While I was in Brazil as a missionary I used to see children up to ten years of age running around without a stitch of clothing on, and about half of the men of the peon class went around shirtless. However I will say this, the man who went without his shirt in Brazil wasn't allowed to get on a street car with decently dressed people. They run two street cars together—one for people properly clad, and the other for the shirtless. At that time, I thought of shirtlessness and nudity as the badge of heathenism, and I was proud to think that we didn't have such in the United States, but we have come to the place during the last few years, where we have the same thing here that they have in Brazil. Yes, we have worse, for while the low class in Brazil went almost unclad, I never saw a woman in shorts or anything resembling such while I was in South America. There was too much respect for womanhood down there, for such a thing to be permitted.

Dressing Like a "Hussy"

In Brazil I used to see the children of the unChristian, heathen people, running around without clothes, and often when one was preaching those children would walk into the church unclad. I remember to have seen one boy that looked very much like "Kayo" of the funny papers, come stalking into the church, with nothing on but an old derby hat which he had acquired somewhere. But he hadn't stood there in the middle aisle long until a woman turned around and in a hoarse whisper said to him in Portuguese, "Go home and get some clothes on." And I'll tell you that's exactly what ought to be said to men who run around without their shirts; boys who go nearly naked, and women who gab about in shorts. But listen: down in Brazil when those shirtless heathen are converted, they invariably put some clothes on. And when Christ comes into one of those degraded homes, they put clothes on their children. One of the marked differences be-

tween Christian and non-Christian in Brazil is the matter of dress, and the same thing ought to be true in this country. What is more unbecoming for a so-called Christian home than for that home to have a whole generation of kids running around shirtless and nearly naked? What woman can have the respect of her neighbors as a Christian, when she exposes herself like a hussy? I tell you, I can't condemn this nudity in terms that are too scathing. It's a practice that ought to be literally stamped on. You know I am telling the truth, when I say that a few years ago, the worst harlot would not have come out on the street in such scanty attire as we see worn almost daily by the ordinary housewife. That just shows how decency and public morals have sunk to the gutter during the last few years.

Sunday School Beach Parties

And the deplorable thing is, schools are helping this nudist movement along by stripping the children for the play ground, and churches are helping it along with their swimming parties and Sunday school picnics at the beach. Just recently a young man of another Baptist church came to see me about the matter of transferring his membership to Buffalo Avenue. For several years he was an unconverted member of the church to which he belongs, but he was saved, and he came to have a hunger for a different life. The Sunday night before he came to see me, they were making plans in his B. Y. P. U. for the beginning of their mixed swim parties, and he could hardly stand it. The young man said to me, "I used to serve as a life guard around swimming places, but immediately I was saved, I knew that all of that nakedness of men and women around the beaches is wrong." Yes, and any other genuinely converted person knows it too!

Swapped Mates

I could tell you of two married couples, members of a B. Y. P. U. in a church, who were leaders in this swimming party business. They got to swapping husbands as escorts to those swimming affairs, and it wasn't long until they got divorced and swapped husbands and wives permanently—or until they got divorced again. That's what that sort of thing leads to. In a town where I was formerly pastor, a worldly couple got to chaperoning beach parties. They would take young people out in the evening and they would stay until late hours. Those beach parties resulted in several illegitimate children being born. That's what that sort of thing leads to! I'm talking after having observed this thing widely and for years. You can go around churches which exist in close proximity to the beaches, and you will scarcely ever find a speck of spirituality. Fleshliness and lust and brutishness—and those are the things engendered by the practice of mixed bathing—never lead to spirituality or a vital Christian life. I had just as soon have to combat a string of saloons close to the church as a bathing beach. In fact, I think I had rather go up against the saloons, for drunkenness is more easily dealt with than lust.

Now I realize that a great many people go to the beaches and mix in the "moblolly" of mixed bathers without thinking. I think of a young preacher who was attending school at Stetson. He was planning to spend his vacation at the beach, and bathing was to be his chief sport, but he got hold of a copy of Faith and Life containing one

of my sermons on mixed-bathing. That young man read it—and he didn't do like some people. Some people never ask if these things that I say are so or not—they just get mad, because what I say goes contrary to the way they have been doing. This young preacher read the sermon, and he said, "I can't deny the truth of that." Then like the honest young fellow he was, he said, "that thing is wrong, and I'm off of it from now on." A lot of people would do better if they were taught better. But their pastor is a mixed bather; their Sunday school and B. Y. P. U. picnics at the beach; and the Baptist Assembly asks the young people to bring their bathing suits when they come to the Assembly. When the Baptist Assembly met here in Tampa a few years ago, the then B. Y. P. U. secretary advertised this "devil's dipping vat" out here at Sulphur Springs as one of the attractions of the Assembly. My friends, such religious leadership of our young people as that is one thing that is wrong with the morals of this day.

Let 'Em Hop!

"But, oh Brother Mason, you are so old-fashioned, you are so in the minority—don't you know that everybody approves of these things that you condemn, nowadays?" No, I don't know that everybody approves, for they don't. I get letters constantly from young and old, approving the stand I take. And I am preaching to a whole lot more people than most of the preachers who take their stand with the world. Sometimes some person gets red hot when I preach along the line that I am preaching today, and they go hopping off hopping mad. I'm sorry, but if they can't stand the truth, let them hop. I believe that the majority of this church is behind me in my preaching against this mixed bathing and nudity evil.

Let me make clear—I am not opposed to bathing, and I am not opposed to the ocean or the gulf. I love few things better than the ocean. I love to spend time along the ocean, and to live on the water, but I am going to get away from the gang of naked beach alligators that hang around. The thing that I condemn is public exposure of men and women on the public beaches.

And let me say that because the majority do these things that I condemn—because a thing is popular—because "everybody is doing it"—that doesn't make it right by a thousand miles. When the majority goes off after a certain way, it is almost certain to be wrong.

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ICE FROM HEAVEN SOOTHED A FEVERED BROW—IN ANSWER TO SIMPLE FAITH

(Continued from Page Two)

mingled with icelayer along the ground where lately there had been only brown dust.

As the doctor entered the humble doorway the setting sun broke through a cloud and threw a ray of light across the face of Mrs. Leh, which was transfigured by an expression of radiant serenity, as though the Lord Jesus had been there Himself, with His healing touch.

Her hands were full of melting hail placed there by her awed and wondering friends, who were standing in groups talking about the "Jesus doctrine." At the sight of the physician she broke forth joyously,

"See, Doctor! God has sent me ice from Heaven, now I shall be well. Tell my friends about the 'Jesus doctrine,' for they also believe."—Evangelical Christian.

"NASTY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN"

(Continued from Page Three)

Why? Because this world's god is the devil—that's why. And the devil sets the world's standards, and it ill behooves us Christians to go gawping at the world to find out what it is doing in order that we may follow. God's Word says, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world—if any may love the world the love of the Father is not in him." God's Word says, "Know ye not that friendship with the world is enmity against God?" Who will you follow—the true God—the God of the Bible, or the god of this world—Satan?

Would Make a Buzzard Gag

And I want to ask you, hasn't the world's god, the devil, gotten this world into a mess? Under his guidance the world is today in the throes of a war that threatens civilization itself. That is the world's way. And under the devil's guidance international morality has disappeared, and we are seeing nations go like gangsters into other nations to take them over by brute force. And, under the devil's guidance we have seen governmental and political affairs in this nation go down to the level of the racketeer, until government of the people and by the people, has given place to the government of the grafter, for the grafter, and by the grafter.

Under the devil's guidance, our news stands are piled with sex magazines, so foul and putrid that they would make a buzzard gag to read them. Under the devil's guidance the level of culture has dropped until music has been supplanted by the barbaric strains of the dance orchestra and the slobbery croon of the crooner. Under the devil's guidance wrong is now called right, and right is called wrong and most people turn a baleful glare upon you if you dare to stand up for God's standard of decency and morality.

In the midst of this condition—and no truth telling person can deny that this is the condition—I feel like standing here and crying out as did the Apostle Peter on the day of Pentecost "save yourselves from this crooked generation." I feel like standing here and crying out in the words of God's Holy Book, "the wicked shall be turned into hell, with all nations that forget God." Just like those vast herds of buffalo used to stampede on the western plains and in droves used to rush pell mell over a precipice to their destruction, so great masses of humanity today are rushing to hell in droves. And because of this, I stand here in the name of God to condemn the leadership of the devil and the ways of this world which lead inevitably to hell. The only hope for any person is to make a complete break with the world, and come out from under satanic domination. You may be called a fool for doing it; you may be looked upon as crazy; but you will have the eternal ages to thank God for doing it.

Who Has the Courage?

Who is there here today who will say, "I'm breaking with the devil right now—realizing that the wages of sin is death?" Who is there who will say, "I take Christ as my Master—not to half way follow Him—but to really follow Him wherever He leads?" Salvation my friends, is in a Person—and that Person Christ Jesus. "For there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved, but the name of Jesus." Who do we have

present, who recognizing that great truth, will receive Him right now as Saviour, Lord, Master? Men across seas are being asked to die for unworthy, unrighteous causes, and out of loyalty to ungodly and bloody dictators. In the name of Christ I call you—not to die—but to live for a righteous Lord, and for His Cause which is right and just and which thanks be to His name, shall eventually prevail! Who has the courage to break with the world, and to enlist under His blood-stained banner today?

WHY GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD KEEP GOD'S TEMPLES CLEAN

(Continued From Page One)

"Every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air; but I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection, lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." I Corinthians 9:25-27.

All three of these Bible admonitions emphasize the importance of the body. It is the temple of the Holy Ghost. It belongs to Christ the same as does our spirits and souls. We are to worship Him through the exercise of our bodies the same as with the devotion of our hearts and the praise of our lips. We are to present our bodies as living sacrifices—that is we must daily say "no" to the fleshly and bodily indulgences and dissipations that weaken us physically and mar our spiritual witness. This is our spiritual and reasonable service. This we must do if we would know the good, and acceptable and perfect will of God.

The last verse I quoted gives us the rule of the great Apostle Paul. He says that he kept his body under and made it subject to him, lest by over indulgence of physical pleasures or appetites he should become a castaway—that is lest he should be laid aside on the shelf like an old worn out shoe, or plow, or car.

I played football four years on the varsity club at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, where I took my undergraduate work. We were forbidden to eat sweets, forbidden to smoke, forbidden to drink alcoholic beverages. We trained, exercised and "worked-out" two or three hours a day. Why? To bring our bodies under subjection; to make them responsive to our wills. Not all of the boys would conform to those rigid rules. Sometimes a big, healthy, strong boy would come out for the team but he would smoke, or eat the wrong foods, keep late hours or in other ways dissipate. The result was that he would not make the team. He would sit on the bench while the other boys played the game. He was a castaway.

Men and women who want to succeed and be their best must be the master of their bodies. Esau was a slave to his body. He traded his birthright for a mess of pottage. There are millions of men and women today who are slaves to bodily appetites. They can't say "no" to smoking. They excuse their weakness and inability by saying: "Everybody does it, 'I don't want to be different' or 'what's the use.'"

They would rather be popular than powerful
They would rather be regular than right.
They would rather do what "everybody's doing" and fail

Than to be different and succeed.

This matter of temperance is a moral matter. It is a physical matter. It is a spiritual matter. It is an economic matter. Dissipation weakens and harms your body. It is wrong in the sight of God. It is contrary to the best interests of the soul. It costs money to drink and smoke and indulge.

Let me tell you one of the most thrilling stories I ever heard. Some of you are familiar with it; others are not. Several years ago down here in Kansas, they had a very bad schoolhouse fire. One little boy was so badly burned that the doctors shook their heads when they had finished treating and dressing his burns and said, "He will never walk again."

That was a terrible verdict. The thought of being consigned to an invalid's chair for the rest of his life. But that little boy wasn't made out of ordinary stuff. He wasn't a quitter. He worked and struggled and exercised and toiled patiently seeking to correct and mend the injured muscles. He came out for track. He made the team. He won honors. He led his school, his state and finally the nation. He is today the world's fastest runner and holds the mile record which he ran in 4 minutes and four and four-tenths seconds. Do you know who he is? Dr. Glenn Cunningham. The holder of the world's mile record.

How did he overcome that handicap and accomplish that feat? He was temperate in all things. He kept his body under subjection. He made it a servant of his soul and spirit.

But wait, the story of that achievement is only half told. I spoke in Cornell College up here at Mount Vernon, Iowa last year. Dr. Cunningham and I took lunch together. He told me about that famous race when he set up the world record. He said that he had run several times in Madison Square Garden in New York, and the tobacco smoke would be so thick and heavy that it was almost stifling. A committee from Dartmouth College in Andover, Mass., came and pled with him to come to Dartmouth and run on the indoor track there against the world record. He told them he would under one condition. He said: "If you will keep the building open all afternoon and have plenty of fresh air in it and then don't let a single person smoke a cigar, pipe or cigarette before the race in the building than I'll come over and beat the world's record. They agreed to his proposition. He broke the world's record and ran the mile in 4 minutes, 4 and 4-tenths second.

If you want to be your best let tobacco and booze alone.

If you want to glorify God in your body as well as in your spirit, both of which belong to God, then let tobacco and booze alone.

Certainly Christians especially ought to be clean.

We should be examples for the world in word, deed and clean sober living. God wants us to be different. "Be not conformed to this world." Christians and ministers and spiritual leaders to do what "everybody's doing" get side-tracked, laid on the shelf and are cast away as worn out shoes and plows and other implements.

Let me conclude with a poem:

"I have walked in summer meadows
Where sunbeams flashed and broke,
But I never saw the cattle nor the
Sheep nor horses smoke.

I have watched the birds with wonder

When the world with dew was wet,

But I never saw a robin puffing on

A stinking old cigarette.

I have fished in many lakes and rivers

When the sucker crop was ripe,

But I never caught a catfish puffing on

A briar pipe.

Man is the only living creature

Parading this vale of tears

Like a locomotive engine

Puffing smoke at nose and ears

If God had intended that he should smoke,

When first he created man

No doubt he would have made him,

On a widely different plan.

He would have fixed him with a stove pipe,

And a damper and a fire grate;

He'd made a modern smoker

That would have been up to date.

—Sam Morris

STIRRING MESSAGE ON THE WORK OF THE PREACHER

(Continued From Page One)

vilization.

Preach Christ, not only as a great teacher and an object lesson, but Christ crucified for the sins of men. If He was not God manifested in the flesh, He was the greatest pretender ever seen on earth. Study the Bible to teach it and get a working knowledge of it. Earnestly contend for the faith against destructive critics.

Study the whole Bible to be versatile in preaching. About one quarter of the Bible is prophetic. Don't neglect that. Study especially the prophecies of these last days, that you may understand the signs of the times and know what you ought to do. The Lord's coming in triumph is the pole star of our hope, and its near approach makes the study more and more interesting and important. It is spoken of more than three hundred times in the New Testament, and as we see the day approaching it becomes more and more the doctrine of a standing or a falling church. Let the obstacles of these last times stimulate and not discourage you. Have the courage of your convictions, and declare the whole counsel of God.

You are to be popular with God first of all. Paul said that God's judgment came first, his own conscience next, and that of man was least of all. Rise above the seven great principles—the five loaves and two fishes. It requires wonderful faith to overcome the present wonderful world. Provide for your family, but keep right with God if you have to live from hand to mouth—God's hand and your mouth. Feed the flock of God. Spiritual life is better than academic learning.

Preaching by Consistent Living

Preach straight, and live as straight as a divine epistle. You are ordered to be a pattern. Preach publicly and from house to house. A sympathetic, housegoing preaching makes a church-going people. The early church progressed mainly by personal evangelism. Be sure to please God, and if no friendly faces smiles upon you, look upward and forward. Make few promises; keep out of debt; live the simple life. Set up a high standard for the church, and show them how to live it. Your actions will be your loudest preaching.

If you approve the wisdom of God in organizing the Church as a consolidated body with the maximum of spiritual power and the minimum of frictional machinery, you need not reorganize it into a confederacy of worldly clubs and trumpery societies, needing the administrative ability of a preacher. If men will not do Gospel work in the church as God appoints, why should we expect them to do it in these? Are they doing it? The institutional church is an adulterous wedlock with the world.

After a house is solemnly dedicated to the worship of God, let there be no room for the tables of the money-changers, or for giddy ecclesiastics who sit down to eat and drink and rise up to play, cultivating the social elements in the realm of worldliness. Beware of the amusement heresy and cooking-stove apostasy. Ecclesiastical frivolity and orthodoxy are incompatible. The cross and not the fiddle is the central attraction for the true Church. Do not simply play at church. Feed the sheep instead of trying to amuse the goats. The less knowledge and piety a church has, the more clubs, societies, oysters, ice cream, and fun it takes to run it, and the faster it runs from God.

Go forward, brother, with mighty faith and cheerful courage. Walk closely, work earnestly, and watch constantly for that Blessed Hope, and glorious appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ.—Condensed from The Sunday School Times.

RUSSO-GERMAN PACT

(Continued From Page One)

is Russia's again-repeated demand for the opening of a second front in Europe on the second anniversary of the German invasion of Russia. As we have pointed out before, Russian dissatisfaction and impatience are growing because of the failure of England and the United States to comply with her demand that they open a second front in Europe. Such dissatisfaction can, of course, easily lead Russia to settle her quarrel with Germany, especially if the latter offers her favorable terms.

If Germany and Russia do settle their differences and cease fighting each other, such a development may well lead to their fatal alliance predicted in Ezekiel 38 which will bring them together with Turkey and certain other allied nations, "against the mountains of Israel." The Battle of God against Gog will result, and in its wake will follow quickly end-time events—the coming of Antichrist, Tribulation, and the Second Coming of Jesus.

—Midnight Cry.

A HELP IN TROUBLE

(Continued From Page One)

Jehoshaphat had military trouble (2 Chronicles 18: 1-31).
Job had Satanic trouble (Job 1:6-22).

Jonah had "under-sea" trouble (Jonah 2:1-10).

Ezekiel and Isaiah spoke of tire and shoe trouble (Ezekiel 24:23, Isaiah 3:18).

But the Lord delivered them out of them all (Psalm 34:17).

"When trouble like a gloomy cloud
Has gathered thick and thundered loud,
He near my soul has ever stood,
His loving kindness, O how good!"

—Baptist Standard.

"Blessed is the man who loves the church with his pockets as well as with his heart."