

# Wanted: A Ministry That Will Not Follow Our Civilization, But Rather Will Lead It.

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

## The Baptist Examiner

The Paper With A National Circulation

Devoted to Evangelism, Missions, and Bible Doctrines.

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

"To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." (Isa. 8:20).

WHOLE NO. 314

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1944

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### WELL - FED BLACK SHEEP NAZIS

Three black sheep — far too well-fed looking to be part of the half starved flock with which they were "grazing" — caught the eye of Moroccan troops in Italy, who investigated and found them to be Germans encased in sheepskins who had crawled on all fours into No-Man's Land to cut Allied communications.

The Germans had tried to imitate other members of the flock, but their walk was at best a waddle and their "baa" had a distinct nasal tone.

The Moroccans stalked the strange beasts from rock to rock, crawling on all fours themselves to avoid detection.

Finally, the Moroccans charged the bogus black sheep. The "sheep" promptly stood upon two feet, cast off their camouflage and revealed themselves as fully-uniformed German soldiers. They were taken prisoner.

The Germans' sheepskins, com-

plete to the head, were found to have ties which fitted around the Nazis' necks, wrists and waists so that the skins could be removed for fast action and rolled up in a bundle.

They had chosen black skins because they made less outline against the dark gray mountain landscape than white skins.



How up to the minute the Bible is! Almost 2,000 years ago the Lord Jesus urged His followers to: "Beware of false prophets which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

Ye shall know them by their fruits!" (Matthew 7:15-16).

What these disguised Nazis attempted to do to the Allies, false prophets, false teachers (2 Peter 2:1), false apostles (2 Corinthians 11:13), and false brethren (Galatians 2:4) endeavor to accomplish in the flock of God.

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### What We Should Do For One Another

1. Love one another (John 15:17).
2. Serve one another (Gal. 5:13).
3. Receive one another heartily (Rom. 15:7).
4. Bear one another's burdens (Gal. 6:2).
5. Forgive one another (Eph. 4:32).
6. Exhort one another (Heb. 3:13).
7. Lovingly consider one another (Heb. 10:24).
8. Subject ourselves one to another from the heart (Eph. 5:21).
9. Be kind to one another from the heart (Eph. 4:32).
10. Abound continually in love to one another (1 Thess. 3:12).
11. Comfort one another with words of the Lord's Coming (1 Thess. 4:18).
12. Pray much for one another (James 5:16).

— The Evangel.

### TWO MIRACLES OF GRACE!

Haskin's Camp was situated in Northern Minnesota. Raymond and Tim were working with a large party of choppers.

At that moment a monarch of the forest came to the ground with a resounding crash. Above this noise rang out a cry of terror and pain.

It was poor crippled Tim. He had chanced to stand where the great branches swept him from his feet and pinned him to the earth. Raymond was the first to reach his side. Carefully the men freed him, finding the poor bent body fearfully mangled.

"I guess it's all over with me, boys," he said, trying hard to keep his voice steady.

"Ray, stay by me. O, be careful!" They carried him to the camp. A man was started on horseback to the nearest village, twenty miles distant, for a doctor. All feared Tim would not live until the doctor arrived, and his suffering was great.

When he had been laid on a rude bunk near the great stove he looked up wistfully into the faces of his companions.

"It's death, boys. Tell me 'bout God — no one ever told me."

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Tim had been a member of the crew for many years. Notwithstanding his dullness and physical deformity he was a general favorite. To the surprise of all, he seemed attracted to tall Raymond. He expressed his preference in many unobtrusive ways, and won a kindly tolerance from the young man.

Thanksgiving day came. On that morning, Raymond woke from a troubled sleep. All night his dreams had been haunted by visions of his past.

Snow was falling rapidly, for winter had already come to that

### Unlimited Horrors And Persecutions Are Being Heaped Upon God's Own — Jews

In a recent issue of The American Mercury, there appeared two heartrending articles under the caption, "The Extermination of the Jews." Ben Hecht, the writer of the first, gives a resume of Nazi brutalities inflicted upon innocent Jewish victims. Here are two paragraphs from that article which he calls "Remember Us!"

"In the town of Freiburg in the Black Forest, two hundred of us were hanged and left dangling out our kitchen windows to watch our synagogue burn and our Rabbi flogged to death. In Mannheim and Hindenburg, the Germans drove us all into our burning churches where we knelt and prayed and died while they sang their German songs outside,

"Break the skulls of all the Jews and future glory win Proudly will our banners fly When Jewish blood runs from sa-

#### HEAD IN A NOOSE

Mark J. Goodger, the "Highway Bible Evangelist," covers the United States every year on a bicycle giving out tracts from door to door. At one two story house in South Carolina he rang the bell six times because he heard sounds within. Finally a man opened the door, received the tract, and slammed the door violently in Mr. Goodger's face.

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bre high!"

"In the town of Szezuczin in Poland on the morning of September 23rd, which was the day set aside for our Atonement, we were all in our synagogue praying God to forgive us. All our village was there, our bakers, millers, harnessmakers, our students, wives, mothers and sisters and every child that was old enough to pronounce the name of God. Above our prayers we heard the sound of motor lorries. They stopped in front of our synagogue. The Germans tumbled out of them, torches in hand. The Germans set fire to us. When we ran out of the flames, they turned machine guns on us. They seized

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### The Unsinkable Ship

At the time of the sinking of the Titanic, one of our great American preachers was in Belfast, Ireland. The Titanic had been built in Belfast, and there was a great local pride over the mighty ship. She had been heralded far and wide as "the unsinkable ship." Sixteen members of the church in Belfast, all skilled mechanics, went down with her. The mayor said that Belfast had never been in such grief as that which came over this terrible tragedy. When the news finally was verified that the gallant ship was certainly lost, so deep was the grief that it is said strong men met upon the streets, grasped each other's hand, burst into tears, and parted without a word. The visiting American preached the Sunday after the

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### Questions, Answers, And Other Material Concerning Masonry's Origin And Claims

We have been having a great number of questions about lodges, especially about the Masons. The following are some of the questions and our answers:

1. Was John the Baptist a Mason?
2. Was Jesus Christ a Mason?
3. Was John the Apostle a Mason?
4. Was Solomon a Mason?
5. Is Masonry of ancient or modern origin?

Neither John the Baptist, Jesus Christ nor John the Beloved were Masons. Solomon was not a Mason. Masonry of ancient or modern origin?

Chambers Library of Universal Knowledge says that Masonry was first a building craft: that it got the name "freemasonry" because several papal bulls exempted it

from the laws controlling common laborers; and that so-called speculative Masonry was of British origin and began in the 17th century. There is no more history for saying that Free-Masonry dates back of the 17th century than for saying the Campbellite church began before 1811. Both claims are frauds. Elias Ashmole and some of his friends were the founders of "free and accepted masonry."

6. Is Masonry a religious institution?

Masonry claims to be a religion; that initiation is the new birth; that all Masons, who die in good standing in their lodges go to the grand lodge in heaven, regardless of whether they were Jews, Mohammedans, Buddhists, Free-thinkers or what not. Masonry certainly claims to save.

7. Was Washington a Mason? Washington was a Mason but be-

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### The First Baptist Pulpit

#### "PRECIOUS"

"Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature,

having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 2 Peter 1:1, 4.

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

But with the precious blood

of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." — 1 Peter 1:18, 19.

These three texts come from the pen and heart of Simon Peter, wherein he speaks of "precious faith," "precious promises" and "precious blood."

In his early life, Simon Peter

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#### CHRIST THROWN OUT

According to an article in the Literary Digest some time ago, "Father Divine," the self-styled RETURNED CHRIST, was tossed out of Dr. Henry Emerson Fosdick's church in New York City. A peace convention was called to meet at his church. Someone sent an invitation to "Father Divine." He came and brought 600 of his

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## THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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## Rambling With The Editor

During the recent holiday season, Elder A. B. Griffin, pastor of the Woodlawn Baptist Church, of Bristol, Tennessee, in sending holiday greetings, wrote, "May I say that I have enjoyed so much being a reader of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER this year. It has been a real blessing in my life. I write you these words to encourage you in your work."

And then, we had recently a real letter from Elder L. D. McClung, who is pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church of Fabens, Texas. He says: "I just want to write to tell you how much I enjoy and appreciate your paper. I am pastor of one of the best churches in the world, and am happy to know that a number of our members read THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. So many papers won't print what God's Word teaches. This is the reason I like to read yours — it is true to the Word."

The First Baptist Church, Cincinnati, Ohio are now ordering 200 copies of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER weekly to scatter in the community where their church is located. This is a fine missionary move. This paper is like the Bible — it will make Baptists if it is read.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Sergeant, Leon, West Virginia write: "We can't write without praising THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. It is surely fine. Hope you can continue to publish it." That's our desire too. Your prayers, gifts, and "subs" will make this a reality.

Brother Lester, a medical doctor of Many, Louisiana, has just written an excellent tract of 15 pages entitled "The Bible, the Judgment and You." I don't know Brother Lester personally, but if we never meet in this life, we'll have a good time in Heaven talking about things eternal. In view of this splendid tract, I know we could have real fellowship together. Write him for a copy of it.

Brother Clyde Stephens, pastor of the Baptist Church of South Point, Ohio is starting a church library for the benefit particularly of his young folk. He has already ordered about 35 volumes of Hutchins' and Moore's books. This is a fine

method of combating juvenile delinquency. We commend this policy to others of our readers.

Our deep appreciation to Gaye Carroll, Shoals, W. Va.; Florence Hutchinson, Huntington, W. Va.; Elder W. B. Cornutte, Louisa, Ky.; Elder Vollie Maggard, Ashland, Ky.; Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Qualls, Milton, W. Va.; Elder E. A. Spencer, Monticello, Ky.; Elder J. H. Thomas, Benhams, Va.; and Mr. Eustace Adkins, Cerado, W. Va.; — our thanks to each of these for contributions the past few days.

T. B. Grissom, Burnside, Kentucky, who is vacationing with his family in Fla., and who for years has been one of the editor's closest friends and one of the best friends THE BAPTIST EXAMINER has ever had is suffering with an old chronic stomach ulcer. Pray for his recovery. He means much to this editor!

## Unlimited Horrors and Persecutions Are Still Being Heaped Upon God's Own

(Continued from page one)  
our women and undressed them and made them run naked through the market place before their whips. All of us were killed before our Atonement was done. Remember us!"

"HORROR UNLIMITED"  
The second article is from the pen of Eugene Lyons and is titled, "Horror Unlimited!" This account of actual Nazi devilry graphically pictures Hitler making good on his promise that countless numbers of those who laughed — no longer laugh today. Can you imagine anything more heartless and cruel than this:

"A Gestapo agent in charge of Jewish deportees, called forward a trembling boy, and pretending friendliness asked him if he was afraid. The boy whispered, 'I am.' 'You'll fear no more,' the brute reassured him, leading him to the wall, where he emptied his revolver into the body of the child." — Coulson Shepherd.

Ed. Note: Don't forget God's promise, "I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee." — Gen. 12:3.

## Two Miracles Of Grace!

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A strange silence fell upon the group of men, a silence broken only by the howling of the wind outside. Tim spoke again, "Ray, tell me. It must be ye know, 'cause ye're different from the rest of us."

All eyes turned toward the young man. He bent lower over Tim asking: "What is it you want to hear?"

"All 'bout Him. Will He be mad 'cause I never thanked Him? You see, I don't know much, and nobody ever told me. Can't you tell me about Him? Can't you, my boy? Pray for me."

Raymond Lee's face grew stern and white. His father was a minister. He had himself been a theological student. The influence of a skeptical classmate and the reading of books loaned by him had instilled doubt into Raymond's mind. Dominated by an idea of his own mental superiority, the youth went on, until a day came when he scoffed at the faith of his dead mother and denied God. He resolved

to cut himself loose from home ties. He wrote defiantly to his father of his change of views, and went out into the world, leaving no clue whereby he could be traced.

Dark days followed. He had to learn the emptiness of a life without hope in God. He hungered for the sound of his father's voice, but was too proud to return home and beg forgiveness. In a fit of desperation he had hired out to the foreman of Haskins' lumber camp.

All those things flashed through his mind in a moment. This dying man was asking him to pray. A groan broke from his lips. "Tim, I cannot. I . . ." and he paused, unable to say that he did not believe in the God to Whom, in the hour of death, even Tim had turned.

"Can't. Why, I 'sposed ye knew Him. Ye've had a chance."

Raymond could bear no more. Turning away, he rushed out into the storm. For hours he strode back and forth through the trackless forest. He heeded not the wind nor the snow. Face to face he met and grappled with the problem of man's relation to his Creator.

Raymond Lee was alone with God. In that hour his boasted skepticism fell from him. The theories of science and law, upon which he had rested, gave way beneath him. There was but one sure foundation.

Shadows were beginning to gather in the room, where Tim lay when the door opened to admit Raymond. With a firm step he crossed to the side of the dying man.

"Tim, I have been with God. He has forgiven me, sinner that I am. Now I have come to tell you of His love."

Simply, tenderly he told the story of God's love in sending His beloved Son into the world to die for sinners — to become the Sin-bearer of all who will put their trust in Him as Saviour.

"God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us," Rom. 5:8.

"The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin," I John 1:7.

Others gathered around the bed. Could they doubt the truth of the words spoken when they saw the light that came in Tim's face? "I see," he gasped.

Raymond knelt down. First one and then another of the rough men dropped upon their knees. Never had Raymond Lee prayed as in that hour. God was with him. Round him were men who in Tim's own words had "never had a chance." He prayed with a faith born of absolute belief in God's willingness to save.

"It's all right," Tim murmured. "I'm going to Him. Ray, you tell everybody."

"Yes, Tim. I will spend my life telling this story."

The dying man said feebly, "I thank Him." A few moments more and all was over.

Raymond faced his fellow workmen. "Tim is gone. Boys, I have gone back to the service I pledged to God many years ago. You heard my promise to Tim. Will you forgive the spirit I have shown toward you, and let me begin by telling you?"

"Yes, we will," was the reply of the leader among the men. "When we come where Tim is, we will wish we had heard." And he told

the "Old, old Story" of Jesus and His love to them.

Before Raymond slept that night he wrote a long letter to his father. He would remain where he was until he received an answer to the letter. The next night he held a meeting and began to tell the story of the life of Christ; His death and resurrection.

The third evening came. At the close of Raymond's informal but heartfelt talk, the door opened to admit a stranger, a tall spare man with snow-white hair. "Father!"

"My son! I came to help you here," and Raymond Lee was clasped in his father's arms.

The work begun at Haskins' camp went on until seventy souls were brought to know the Lord Jesus as their own Saviour.

— Echoes of Grace

## The Unsinkable Ship

(Continued from page one)

tragedy in the church to which the sixteen members who had been lost belonged. Not only was the building packed with people, but on the pulpit were the lords, bishops, and ministers of all denominations. In the audience many new-made widows were sitting, and orphans were sobbing on every side. The great preacher took as his subject, "The Unsinkable Ship." But he did not apply that term to the Titanic, which on her first voyage had gone out into the Atlantic and crashed into an iceberg, carrying her precious cargo of human lives down to a watery death. No, the preacher's message was about that other "unsinkable ship" — the frail boat on the Sea of Galilee, unsinkable because the Master of the land and sea was asleep on a pillow in the after part of the vessel. Thank God He still lives and rides the billows and controls the storms, and when the children of men take their only true Pilot back on board, we will ride out the present storms and He will bring the vessel through to the fair harbor of our hopes. — From the American Fundamentalist.

## CHRIST THROWN OUT

(Continued from page one)  
followers. He took them into the church and took charge of the services. Someone called Dr. Gardner, assistant pastor, and he came hurriedly, elbowed his way thru the milling, sweating, enthusiastic throng; took the Negro by the collar and threw him out.

But why raise a stir over throwing this colored imposter, calling himself the Returned Christ out of this So-Called Baptist church? Several years ago, this same church tossed out the REAL, VIRGIN-BORN, CRUCIFIED, RESURRECTED, ASCENDED AND SEATED CHRIST with HIS baptism. His church, His miracles and most every doctrine dear to His heart. BUT FOSDICK'S CHURCH IS NOT THE ONLY ONE THAT HAS TOSSED CHRIST OUT. — Bulletin Barren Plains Baptist Church, C. O. Simpson, Pastor. — Ex.

## Head In A Noose

(Continued from page one)  
Goodger's face. A week later he was strangely led to ring the bell of the same house. This time, the

man soon appeared. He led Mr. Goodger up to the attic. At the top Mr. Goodger immediately saw a rope dangling from the rafters, a noose at the end and a box below. The man said, "Sir, when you kept ringing my doorbell last week my head was in that noose. I was ready to jump. Because you were persistent, I decided to go down and see who it was. After receiving your tract, I again returned to the garret, but I sat down because I was arrested by the title of your tract. I read the tract, and God spoke to me. Now I am trusting in the Lord." As the man sat on the box, Mr. Goodger seized his opportunity to show him clearly the way of salvation. But for a tract the man would have been in eternity without Christ. — From Moody Church News.

## Well-Fed Black Sheep Nazis

(Continued from page one)

At the risk of being considered uncharitable, we must heed the Lord's warning; for these false characters will resort to a host of false things to accomplish their evil purpose.

False, False, False  
All these false things will be in their train:

False report ..... (Exodus 23:1)  
False matter ..... (Exodus 23:7)  
False way ..... (Psalm 119:104)  
False tongue ..... (Psalm 120:3)  
False balance .... (Proverbs 11:1)  
False gift ..... (Proverbs 25:14)  
False vision .... (Jeremiah 14:14)  
False dreams .... (Jeremiah 23:33)  
False oath .... (Zechariah 8:1)  
False accusation .... (Luke 19:15)  
False Christs .... (Matthew 24:24)

Our best method of guarding against wolves in sheep's clothing is to read, believe, study and carefully digest the Word of God which is Truth.

Emulate Psalmist  
And therein is revealed the man who said: "I am the Way, Truth, and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father but by Me" (John 14:6).

Emulate the Psalmist David, who said: "Concerning the works men, by the word of Thy lips have kept me from the paths the destroyer" (Psalm 17:4). Now.

## HIS CALL

I heard His call, "Come, follow." That was all.  
My gold grew dim,  
My soul went after Him,  
I rose and followed:  
That was all.  
Who would not follow  
If they heard Him call?

—William R. New

## Hotel Directory

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# PRECIOUS

(Continued from page one)

was a fisherman. That is, before he started preaching, he made his living by fishing. It is true today, and it was true then, that the individuals who are content to live beside streams and eke out a small existence by fishing, are ordinarily rough, illiterate, and uncouth people. And since most people who follow Peter's trade of fishing are uneducated, then I am sure that Simon Peter was unlearned, rough, illiterate, and uncouth too before he began to preach. I am sure he was a stranger to schools. I am sure he was a stranger to culture, learning, and refinement. There isn't one bit of indication from the gospels nor from the epistle of Peter that he ever had any education or that he had any secular learning.

Yet, beloved, I wish you would observe him thirty years after he was saved, and read these two books, Peter and II Peter. Now he writes of "precious faith," "precious promises" and "precious blood." You don't expect to find a fisherman using the word "precious." It is merely an indication and a revelation of a definite change that had taken place so far as Simon Peter was concerned. It merely shows, beloved, that God had fashioned him over again and that Simon Peter was a different man - a different person to what he had ever been heretofore.

Well, that's in accord with God's Word. Listen:

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." — 2 Cor. 5:17.

Look at Simon Peter before he was saved, — a rough, illiterate, unlearned, untutored, uncultured, unrefined fisherman. In contrast, after he is saved, he is a new creature in Christ Jesus. Old things have passed away and all things have become new. Now you hear him talking about things that to him have become "precious."

Let's observe some things that Simon Peter says were precious to him.

I

In the first place, beloved, he speaks about "precious faith." My first text says: "Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained the precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 1:1)

What is faith? (We don't have to get out of God's Word to get our definition.) We have a definition of it here in the book of Hebrews. Listen:

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." — Heb. 11:1.

That's faith. At least, that is a theological definition of it. But would you like to have a literal definition? Then, beloved, faith is synonymous with trust; faith is literally that which couples us or binds us on to God Himself.

You go into a store and select something from an article which you wish to purchase and you say "charge it" to the man behind the counter, and if the merchant has faith in you, he will let you take the article away unpaid for. That's faith in the realm of business.

You see a patient lying upon

the operating table in a hospital. In just a moment's time they put a gauze over the face of that individual and administer an anaesthesia, all because the patient has faith in the surgeon that is going to do the operating. That's faith in the realm of surgery.

A passenger gets on a train, retires to his pullman berth and goes to sleep. Why? Because he has faith in that train crew that is operating the train. He doesn't go up and tell the engineer where all the curves and the tunnels are; he doesn't tell the conductor what stops are to be made. He lies down to sleep, because he has faith in those who are operating that train. That's faith in the realm of railroading.

Or, here's an individual who goes to the bank and deposits his money. After he has done so, he does not go back home and get his shot gun and sit by the door of that bank and help them watch his money. Why doesn't he? Because he has faith in that bank that the people who work there will be able to take care of that money. That's faith in the realm of banking.

Listen, beloved, when you go into a store and open a charge account and a merchant credits you, that's faith in business. When you go to the hospital to be operated on, that's faith in the surgeon who will perform the operation. When you get on the train and retire at night in a pullman berth, that's faith in a railroad. When you go to the bank and deposit your money, that's faith in that banking institution.

Beloved, it's that very element of life that brings salvation to us. Peter says it is "precious faith."

I wish you would notice that it is this same "precious faith" that Simon Peter speaks of, which brings salvation. Listen:

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." — Jn. 1:12.

"He that believeth on him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." — John 3:18.

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

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." — John 5:24.

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

"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 through his name." — John 20:30, 31.

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

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." — Eph. 2:8,9.

Notice these Scriptures. Here

are eight of them and they might be multiplied many times over. All eight, and many others of like nature, tell us one truth, namely, that it is faith which brings salvation to us. Beloved, it is because faith brings salvation to us and makes salvation a glorious reality in your life and in mine, because of that, Simon Peter calls it "precious faith." Certainly it is precious this morning. It has taken you as a child of the devil and has made a child of God out of you. It has taken you when you were lost and now you are found. It has taken you when you were dead, and now you are alive. It has taken you when you were far away, and now you have been made nigh. I tell you, beloved, since faith works such wonders and brings salvation in such a marvelous way, then it is no wonder that Simon Peter speaks of it as "precious faith."

II

Though it's precious to us to talk about "precious faith," we pass from that to speak about "precious promises." Listen to my second text: "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises." (2 Peter 1:4).

Do you remember that old song which says:

"Precious promise God has given To the weary passer-by."

Well, here they are right here in God's Word, — "precious promises." Better than thirty thousand promises, precious promises, are to be found within the Bible. Promises that God has made to the Jew; promises that God has made to the Gentile; promises that God has made to those that have been saved; promises that God has made to unsaved whereby they may be saved; promises that God has given concerning His church that it shall triumph and persevere to the end; and promises that God has given concerning our future. Here they are in the Word of God, better than thirty thousand of them, and Simon Peter calls them "precious promises." And, beloved, they are indeed precious to us because we know that every one of them will be ultimately and completely and literally fulfilled. There isn't a promise in this Bible but what will ultimately be completely fulfilled. As we sang a little while ago:

"Darkness may o'er take me And my song forsake me; But alone I never shall be, For the Friend beside me Promised He would guide me. And will keep His promise to me. He will keep His promise to me, All the way with me He will go; He has never broken any promise spoken, And will keep His promise I know."

I tell you, beloved, they are "precious promises" because they are promises that God has made, — promises that God is going to keep.

I was thinking of those promises this morning. Did you ever try to analyze them and see how many different types of promises He has given? Of course, it would be a task beyond human comprehension. However, let's just notice a few of them.

There's the promise He has given relative to the Bible, this old blessed Book that becomes more and more precious to me every day. Do you know what that promise is? Listen:

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass

away." — Matt. 24:35.

That's God's promise concerning the Bible. Some of these days, the ground on which you walk is going to be no more. Some day the heavens themselves are going to depart like a scroll. Some day, beloved, this old world is going to be burned over and every vestige and every evidence of sin is going to be removed. When that day comes, this old Bible will be just as fresh as it was when God spoke every word through the mouths of the prophets. I tell you, beloved, that's His promise concerning the Bible.

Then notice His promises concerning salvation:

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." — John 3:14-17.

"Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men and blasphemies wherewithsoever they shall blaspheme." — Mark 3:28.

"And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." — Luke 5:31,32.

Here are three Scriptures, beloved, that could be multiplied ten fold, a hundred fold, a thousand fold, that shall stand as examples of promises that have to do with salvation. They are right there in God's Word. They are precious. Why? Because those three verses that I have read to you tell us that there isn't a sin in this world that a man may commit, not a blasphemy that a man may utter, not a crime that a man may stand guilty of in God's sight but what he can be forgiven by trusting the Lord Jesus Christ Who was lifted up on the cross just like Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness. These are precious promises to the sinner.

But there is also His promise to assist and protect the child of God. I was noticing this morning with a new aspect, the 10th chapter of Matthew and verses 28 to 30 in this respect. Listen:

"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

That's God's promise to assist and protect His own. Have you got anything to worry about this morning? Are you worrying about anything at all? God knows this morning, beloved, all about it, for even the hairs of your head are numbered. The sparrow that may have fallen to the ground last night, God knows all about it. That is His promise to assist and protect the child of God.

But notice again: There is His promise as to our work as Christians. He has not thrust us out nor sent us forth into this unfriendly world alone, but He has given us a promise, when He said:

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." — Matt. 28:19, 20.

What a marvelous promise! I'm not in this world alone, and you, as a child of God, are not in this world serving the Lord by yourself, — you've got a promise, and that promise is: You go out and do My work in the fullest and I'll stand by you all the way even to the end of the age.

And then, beloved, He has given to us a promise relative to the grave. I think everyone of us are haunted at times with the thought of the grave. Unless Jesus comes within fifty years' time, better than 95 percent of this audience will be in their graves. When that becomes a reality with you, what promise do you have? Listen:

"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." — I Cor. 15:54-57.

That's His promise concerning the grave.

But look at His promise concerning false churches that are here within the world today. Listen:

"Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up." — Matt. 15:13.

Any hope, brethren? What does God say? Listen:

"And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire." — Rev. 17:16.

This text reveals that the old whore and her harlot daughters, which I verily believe represents Roman Catholicism and all the Protestant churches that have come out therefrom, shall some day be destroyed. That's His promise concerning these false churches. They may spout their Modernism and Armenianism today, but the day is coming when things are going to be different. They may tell you today that a man can be saved by works or by water, they may deny the doctrines of the Word of God, and say that it is all right for women to preach and take an active part in public worship service; but, beloved, there is a day coming when things are going to be different. We have God's promise concerning these false churches.

Then we have His promise concerning the church which He established when He was here in this world. Listen:

"And I say 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." Matt. 16:18.

I want to tell you this morning, I have not a bit of doubt that there will always be Baptist churches within this world. I know the world is against the things that Baptists stand for generally; I know the world hates the things that true orthodox Baptists stand for and have stood for through the years; but there will never be a time when there will not be a Baptist church in this world. The light grows dim sometimes, and there have been periods when it looked like the light had practically gone



out; but He has kept His promise and for twenty centuries there has never failed to be a church in this world like the church that Jesus built. That's His promise concerning His church.

Time would fail me to tell you of all the promises, beloved; but there is especially His promise concerning the second coming. Listen: "He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus." — Rev. 22:20.

What a promise! On the night before His death, you find Him saying:

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also." — John 14:3.

That's His promise concerning His second coming. It has been a long time since Jesus went away.

Sometimes we think it has been so long that He must have forgotten about us. Sometimes we think that so many things have happened that surely He won't remember us. There have been so many scoffers arisen that we wonder if Jesus will ever come back to this world again. The world is in such a turmoil today, with war, strife, bloodshed, and hatred all over the world characterizing the people that make up the nations of this earth, that we wonder, Will He ever come back. Thank God, we have His promise. He is going to keep that promise and all the balance of these promises. That's why it is that Simon Peter refers to them as "precious promises."

### III

Lest I be tedious to you though, I will pass from the thought of the promises being precious to that most precious truth that His blood is precious. My third text says:

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

His blood is precious. There are three reasons why that Jesus' blood is precious to me.

In the first place, it is precious because it is penal blood. When I say penal, I mean, beloved, it is blood that paid the penalty of sin. Listen to this Scripture:

"Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree." — Gal. 3:13.

He took the penalty; He bore the curse; His blood was penal. It is precious to me because He bore my penalty.

God only knows how many times from this pulpit I have made this statement that sin has to be paid for. Either we trust Christ Who paid for it on the cross, or else we pay for it ourselves in Hell. It has to be paid for. It can't be forgiven unless somebody pays for it, and beloved, thank God, Jesus Christ paid for our sins by His death on the cross. He suffered our punishment, and the penalty that should have fallen on us, fell upon Him. To me, His blood is precious because it is penal blood — it is the blood that bore the penalty that I myself ought to have borne.

Then there is a second reason why His blood is precious, namely,

because it was voluntary blood. Listen:

"No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again." — John 10:18.

Christ's death was not a martyr's death, but it was the death of a willing voluntary subject who willingly and voluntarily died for our sins. Listen again:

"Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?" — Matt. 26:53.

This was spoken when Simon Peter had drawn his sword and had clipped off the ear of the servant of the high priest, and Jesus in substance said: "If I wanted to, I could defend myself. I could call to my rescue twelve legions, yes, more than twelve legions of angels, better than 60,000 angels, to stand by My side." In the Old Testament, in one night's time, one angel slew 185,000. What then could twelve legions of angels have done? Beloved, the death of Christ was not the death of a martyr, but it was the death of one who voluntarily gave Himself for our sins. Listen again:

"Jesus, when he had cried with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost." — Matt. 27:50.

Here's the picture of His death. He is dying, and it says that He yielded up the ghost. The word for "yielded" is literally that He "dismissed" His spirit. The Greek word implies a definite act of His own will. He did not die like you or I might die, He actually dismissed His spirit.

He didn't die because He was crucified. The book of Hebrews tells us that He endured the cross. Listen to it:

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross." — Heb. 12:2.

Crucifixion didn't kill Jesus. He endured it. Why did He die? He literally dismissed His spirit and yielded it to God.

I tell you, beloved, His blood is precious to me, for when I stand there and see that blood dropping out from His hands, with His head down upon His chest, and I see that blood as it flows from the wounds of His body down upon the ground before Him, to me it is precious because He voluntarily, freely, and willingly did all that for your salvation and for mine.

Then there is a third reason why His blood is precious. Precious, as I have said, because it was penal, precious because it was voluntary, but beloved, precious also because it was substitutionary. He took our place. Listen:

"For he hath made him, who knew no sin, to be sin for us; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." — 2 Cor. 5:21.

"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." — I Peter 2:24.

"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit." — I Peter 3:18.

Don't you see, beloved, His blood was a substitutionary death, the just One suffering for the unjust.

I tell you then this morning, His blood is precious to me.

I remember a teacher in a Baptist school some months ago who said to a group of young Baptist preachers: "The blood of Jesus Christ means no more to me than the blood of a dog." Not so with me. It means something to me today. His blood is precious because it is penal, it bore the penalty of my sins. His blood is precious because it was voluntary, He willingly suffered for my sins. His blood is precious because it was substitutionary. He was my substitute offered in my behalf and in my stead to God.

I realize this morning, beloved, that I have spoken too long when I have discussed with you the precious faith that is ours as a gift from God; the precious promises that He has given us within His Word; and the precious blood of Christ which saves us from our sins. However, I have done so because — this precious faith, these precious promises, this precious blood — all this gives rise to a precious death when we come to die. The Psalmist, speaking of that death, says:

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." — Psa. 116:15.

Let me tell you, beloved, if a man has received this precious faith; if the precious promises of Christ have become real to him; and if the blood of Jesus Christ has been made precious to him, then, beloved, when he dies, his death is going to be precious in the sight of God.

When you go to a store and make a purchase, you want to take that article home with you, don't you? Sometimes you can hardly wait until you get home to unwrap it and look at it again. Did you ever order anything from one of these mail order houses? You almost die with expectancy for a week or ten days while waiting for it to arrive. You want to have what you purchase, wanting to have it in your own possession.

Well, beloved, let me tell you this morning, the Lord Jesus Christ has purchased us and He wants to have us where He is. Listen:

"Father, I will that they also, whom thou has given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me." — John 17:24.

Death is going to bring God's children home to Him. It is no wonder then that He says: "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." It brings His children home to Him. The article that He has purchased, that one for whom He has died, those for whom He suffered on the cross have not been brought home to Him and they are precious in His sight. Why? Because they have precious faith, they are depending upon precious promises, and they have been washed in the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

May God grant today to stir your hearts that you will come to love Him and that He will be more and more precious to you as the days pass by. May God bless you!

### Questions, Answers, And Other Material Concerning Masonry's Origin

(Continued from page one)

came disgusted with it and in a letter to a friend, Dr. Snyder, said he had not been in a Masonic lodge

but once or twice in 30 years.

8. Can a Catholic be a Mason?

Pope Pius IX was a Mason and was expelled from the Grand Orient after Garibaldi's triumphant entry into Rome. For many years he was both a Catholic and a Mason. There are thousands of Masons in Brazil who are Catholics.

9. How did the secrets of Masonry get out?

The secrets were published in this way. In 1826 the Masons killed Wm. Morgan for giving away the secrets of Masonry. 45,000 out of 50,000 Masons in this country seceded and became non-affiliated. All over New York these non-affiliated Masons held public meetings and gave publicly the initiation into the first three degrees. The Masons, who did not secede, went to the courts to have these public initiations stopped. When these affiliated Masons were put on the stand and sworn, here is what the court demanded that they testify to. Is this initiation into the first three degrees of Masonry correct? If they said "no," they had no case. If they said "yes," they said under oath that what these seceding Masons had told were the secrets of Masonry. So that these published books giving the first three degrees of Masons are sworn to as correct in open court by affiliated and active Masons.

10. Can an infidel be a Mason?

Voltaire, Aaron Burr, and Benedict Arnold were all Masons. Judge for yourself.

In addition to answering these questions, it is well to get clearly in mind some other facts not usually known about lodges.

1. All secrets of all lodges are known, for the Son of God said: "There is nothing covered that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known." The man is a fool, who thinks God cannot bring out and expose all lodge secrets.

2. Here is the oath of the "entered apprentice" (Illinois work): "To all this I most solemnly and sincerely promise and swear, with a firm and steadfast resolution, to keep and perform the same without any equivocation, mental reservation or secret evasion of mind whatever, binding myself under no less penalty than that of having my throat cut across, my tongue torn out by the roots and buried in the rough sands of the sea at low water tide, where the tide ebbs and flows twice in 24 hours, should I ever knowingly or willingly violate this my solemn oath or obligation as an Entered Apprentice Mason. So help me God and keep me steadfast in due performance of the same."

3. Mackey in his Manual for Masons says that the Entered Apprentice comes to their doors "seeking the new birth." The Ku Klux Klan said practically the same thing. Jesus said: "No man cometh to the Father but by Me." That means no man goes to heaven but by Christ. The Mason cuts out Christ and puts in His place entrance into the Masonic lodge. The priest puts in Christ's place the Catholic Church; the Exalted Cyclops put in the place of Jesus the K. K. K. The Bible says there is only one way to heaven; yet here are four: the Catholic Church, the Masonic Lodge, the Ku Klux, and the Lord Jesus Christ. Which way are you in? I'm depending on Jesus to save. What are you depending on? If you say you are

depending on Jesus and yet belong to the Masons or the Klan or the Catholics, you are a traitor to Jesus your Lord. If He has saved you, He ought to have all the glory. If you are trying to divide the honor that is due Him and Him alone with some other worldly order, when you try to get Him will probably answer, "I never knew you."

Later I will probably have much to say about the religion of Masonry. Suffice it to say at present they are a religion; but a religion without Christ, without the Holy Spirit, with no confession and blood atonement. What a travesty on the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ!

4. When the attitude of the lower degrees of Masonry towards the Lord Jesus and the fact that Masons are forbidden to pray in the name of Jesus occurs in the Knight Templar degree. That probably is true; but with all that the most blasphemous degree, the 32 in Masonry is Knight Templar degree. In that degree the candidate is made to drink from a human skull, using the name of Jesus. Using the name of Jesus in such a way is impious and blasphemous. "May all the sins committed by the person whose skull this is be heaped upon my head in addition to my own, should I knowingly and willingly violate my solemn obligation." Light Masonry, page 183. Such an attitude reflecting upon the blood of Jesus is the worst of sacrilege and reverence.

5. Charles G. Finney quoted from Town: "Every good Mason of necessity truly and emphatically a Christian; and is assuredly his election and final salvation." Sickell's Monitor, page 144. "Hail Masonry divine, Thou art divine."

Mackey says on page 1 of his Lexicon: "A Mason, who is in strict obedience to the obligations and precepts of the fraternity is free from sin." These are but samples. We can give you similar quotations from many authors. What a wicked slander of Jesus and His precious blood God pity the poor dupes who believe it! They will need infinite and eternal pity when the Lord Jesus gets through with them.

6. Dr. Dalcho, a compiler of a book of Constitutions for the sons of South Carolina, says: "Neither Adam nor Moses nor David nor Solomon nor St. John the Baptist nor John the Evangelist belong to the Masonic order. (We compare these words to the slander of Hiram Abiff). Hypothesis in history is absurd. There is no sacred or profane, to induce belief that these holy and distinguished men were Freemasons and our traditions do not go to those days. To state that were Freemasons may make vulgar stare, but will rather cite the contempt than the elevation of the wise. It is a fraud an insult to the common sense of any intelligent man." Selah.

If you meet opposition, indicate that you are doing something that counts. In digging wells, Isaac had no opposition from the Philistines until he struck water. — The Christian Digest.