

Man Draws the Color Line at White, Black, Yellow or Brown: God Draws It Only at Scarlet

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

The Baptist Examiner

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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).

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WHOLE NO. 326

What Roman Catholics Will Find When They Study Their Own Bible

What The Bible Says About Strong Drink

By Sam Morris

People frequently say: "I think a preacher ought to preach the Bible and stay off the drink question."

A preacher can't preach the Bible and stay off the drink question.

Read your Bible.

The children of Israel drank no wine or strong drink during all their forty years of wilderness. (Deut. 29:6).

Some Rechabites were spared at the fall of Jerusalem because they had obeyed the admonition of their fathers and had drunk no wine or strong drink. (Jer. 35).

God commanded the priests to drink no wine or strong drink as they ministered about the tabernacle or temple. (Lev. 10:9).

God commanded the Nazarite to drink no wine or strong drink. (Num. 6:3).

God commanded the mother of Samson to drink no wine or strong drink. (Judges 13:4).

Samson, the strong man of the Bible, being a Nazarite, was a total abstainer. (Judges 13:5).

Samuel the great judge of Israel, a Nazarite, was a total abstainer. (1 Samuel 1:11).

Daniel, the great prophet, was a total abstainer. (Dan. 1:8).

John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus, was a total abstainer. (Luke 1:15).

Paul, the apostle of the Gentiles, took upon himself the vow of the Nazarite (Acts 18:18), was a total abstainer, and wrote to the church at Rome:

"It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak. (Rom. 14:21).

Simon Peter, the leading apostle to the Jews, declared:

"Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul." (1 Peter 2:11).

Drink and the Downfall of Nations

Read your Bible.

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CHURCH FINANCE

"A tenth, indeed," said the tight-fisted church member, fastening on his coat with a jerk. "I think our pastor has gone to seed on tithing. Of course, I do not keep an account of how much I give; I'm not such a Pharisee as that; but I'm sure I give more than a tenth. Indeed, I should not be surprised if I gave a twentieth," he snorted as he left.

Give a penny and hear it squeak,
Give a quarter and hear it speak,
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"OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES"

It was not quite train time, and among the waiting passengers a gentleman walked to and fro in the long depot, holding his little daughter's hand.

A commotion near the door attracted general attention, and several officers brought into the room a handcuffed prisoner. It soon became known that he was a notorious criminal who was sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment.

The little child looked at him, first with wonder and horror; then, as she saw the settled, sullen gloom of his countenance, a tender pity grew on her sweet face, until, dropping her father's hand, she went over to the prisoner, and lifting her eyes to his face, she spoke a few low words.

He glared upon her like a fiend, and she ran back, half-afraid, to her father's hand. But a moment after, she was at his side again, pressing nearer than before in her self-forgetful earnestness, and this time the prisoner dropped his defiant eyes as he listened, and a slight tremor passed on his hard face. Then her father called, and the little child went slowly away, looking back pityingly.

The train came presently, and the prisoner went quietly on board, and during the journey he gave the officers no trouble.

Upon their arrival at the prison his conduct was most excellent, and continued to be so. And when opportunity offered he was found studying the Bible.

Some months passed, and his good conduct won the confidence of those in charge.

At length someone asked how it was that he brought with him such a reputation for wilfulness, since he had proved himself quiet and well-behaved.

"Well, sir" said he, "I'll tell you, I did act as bad as I could after they took me; I meant to kill somebody, for I did not care what became of me. I should 'a' done it, too, I know I should; but God sent His little angel to speak to me.

"It was when I was waitin' in the depot, before I came here. A little mite of a girl was there with her father. She wa'n't much more than a baby, and she had long shiny hair

flyin' over her shoulders, and such great blue eyes as you won't often see. Somehow, I couldn't help lookin' at her.

"By 'n' by she let go her father's hand and came over to me, and says she, 'Man, I am sorry for you; an' you wouldn't believe it, but there was TEARS in her eyes! Something 'peared to give way inside then; but I was proud, and wouldn't show it; I just scowled at her blacker than ever.

"The poor little dear looked kind of scared-like, and ran off to her father; but in a minute she was back again, and she came right up to me, and she says, 'Man, JESUS CHRIST is sorry for you.' That clean broke my heart. Nobody had spoke to me like that since my good old mother died, years an' years ago. I'd hard work to keep the tears back, an' all the way down here I was just thinkin' of mother, and of many things she used to teach me, when I was no bigger than that blessed baby—for I'd a good bringing up, though more's the shame to me. Well, the whole on't is,

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Does Dying In Battle Guarantee Salvation?

Though only a boy in his teens, the editor well remembers that during World War No. One, there were many preachers who declared that if a soldier lost his life fighting for his country that he would be saved. An old friend tells me, that to stimulate patriotism, it was taught during the Civil War. Only recently did I hear of a minister making such statements again.

This reminds me of the false comfort and groundless assurance which General MacArthur gave those who had lost loved ones at Bataan. He said:

"To the weeping mothers of its dead, I can only say that the sacrifice and halo of Jesus of Nazareth has descended upon their sons and that God will take them unto Himself."

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"I WILL"

Our God is not only the great "I am, who is, who knows, who cares, but He is also the great "I Will" as shown by the following Scripture passages, and what a wealth of COMFORT they contain in the light of 2 Cor. 1:20 and 2 Peter 1:4.

- I will bless thee, Gen. 12:2,
- I will not fail thee, Josh 1:5,
- I will heal thee, 2 Kings 20:5,
- I will guide thee, Psa. 32:3,
- I will instruct thee, Psa. 32:3,
- I will teach thee, Psa. 32:3,
- I will deliver thee, Psa. 50:15,
- I will satisfy, Psa. 132:15,
- I will help thee, Isa. 41:10,
- I will strengthen thee, Isa. 41:10,
- I will uphold thee, Isa. 41:10,
- I will hold thine hand, Isa. 42:6,
- I will not forget thee, Isa. 49:15,
- I will comfort thee, Isa. 66:13,
- I will forgive, Jer. 31:34,
- I will restore, Jer. 30:17.

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A Modern Curse - Weeping Prophets

It is the custom of some to cry when they have sorrow; to weep when they have joy; and to shed tears when they find themselves without either.

Likewise, it is the custom of some preachers to "turn on the water-works" when they desire "joiners" for their church. It is considered that a good evangelist is one who can make his audience laugh one minute and cry the next by a mingling of jokes and sob stories. Of course, this holds a crowd, gets lots of unsaved members into the church, and incidentally fills the purse of the falsely so-called evangelist.

I'd rather have the old mourner's bench any day with all of its attendant evils, than to have one of these emotional, sobbing evangelists do

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A Challenge To Read The Scriptures Alone

"When we say "their" Bible, we have reference to the Douay Version published by John Murphy Company, Baltimore and New York with the approbation of James Cardinal Gibbons, Arch Bishop of Baltimore.)

Roman Catholics are taught many things. They are often told about the contents of their Bible. If they would study it for themselves, they would find that their Bible encourages investigation and reading.

They would find that they are admonished by Christ Himself to "search the Scriptures" (John 5:39); that people are liable to make mistakes if they do not know the Scriptures (Matt. 22:29); that those are blessed who read the Scriptures (The Apocalypse 1:3); and that "all Scripture inspired of God is profitable to teach" (2 Timothy 3:16).

They would find that their Bible is the only rule of life and that no man has right or authority to make any church laws contrary to it, nor dare they add to or take from it.

"For I testify to every one that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book: If any man shall add to these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book. And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of the prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from these things that are written in this book" (The Apocalypse 22:18, 19).

"Every word of God is fire tried: He is a buckler to them that hope in Him. Add not any words to His words, lest thou be reproved, and found a liar" (Proverbs 30:5,6).

They would find that there is no Bible record of Peter being in Rome at any time, hence no apostolic succession. Paul never built upon another man's foundation and so that is evidence no Apostle had been in Rome before him (To the Romans 15:20). In writing to the Romans in A. D. 58 he salutes twenty-six people and never mentions Peter. Peter writing from A. D. 60-63 was then in Babylon (1 Peter 5:13). Paul writing to Timothy in the last year

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The First Baptist Pulpit

"A VISIT TO THE POTTER'S HOUSE"

"The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying, Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words. Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels.

And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the

potter so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it. Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying, O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the Lord, Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel." — Jeremiah 18:1-6.

It is significant throughout the Scriptures that God often leads His preachers into strange places to give them the sermons they are to preach. It is highly conspicuous that the inspiration for many of the sermons which God gave to His prophets came

(Continued on page three)

"U. R. STUCK"

An irate merchant of Dallas, Texas, brought a "hot" check to the district attorney's office and demanded justice.

In addition to the fact that the check was worthless, he said he could not read the signature. Mrs. Alex Cason, who handles such matters for the prosecutor, calmly figured out the signature. It was "U. R. Stuck."

While smiling at the merchant for

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WHY THE BAPTIST EXAMINER ISN'T ALWAYS REGULAR

This is a common inquiry from our readers. We wish we could always be on time, but since we can't I am glad to tell you why your paper is sometimes late.

We don't own our own printing shop. We hope to soon, but at present our printing is done commercially. Many times, we are late because we have to wait on the printer. Don't blame him, for all printing plants are working under definite handicaps of labor shortage. Sometimes, our regular printer gets us behind so that we have to hire another printer to help us catch up. It is then that you get four copies at once, or as one brother in Michigan says: "The Baptist Examiner is like bananas; they come in bunches."

Even after they are printed, there is a big job in addressing 7,800 of these papers. Sometimes we can't get enough help to address them on time, and a few times, we have thus delayed the paper by our inability to mail them fast enough.

Many times, the local post office has to wait from one day to two weeks to sort and handle the paper after we mail it. It is a tremendous task in itself and the post office is short of help.

Sometimes your own post office is careless in delivering the paper to you. Many papers are lost and destroyed in your own office. A few investigations have revealed this.

These are a few of the reasons for delay. Remember, we are not by ourselves in this respect. I received December papers the last of January. It is thus every month with the 100 odd papers that we receive. Many editors have been compelled to make similar apologies.

However, one thing is certain about THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. You always get fifty-two issues of the paper during the year, even if some of them are delayed. Pray for us, and some day we hope to have our own plant and its our desire then to be so regular that you'll be able to set your clock by the time the postman arrives at your house with this—the best Baptist paper published today.

CHURCH BENCHES NEEDED

There are three Baptist Churches nearby who need church benches, opera chairs, or seats of some description in order to conduct Divine services. If any of our readers know of such for sale at a moderate price, or even such that may be had for

the asking, if you will write this editor, he'll be only too happy to contact the churches needing such, and thus help along the cause of Christ.

WANTED: OLD RELIGIOUS BOOKS

Actually we are not in the book business, but in order to help the readers of this paper, we delight in selling books, either new or used. We have requests constantly for certain old books which are no longer in print. As examples, we need for our readers, now:

- Spurgeon's Memorial Library (20 vols. of sermons)
- Spurgeon's Treasury of David (7 vols.)
- Spurgeon's Treasury of The Bible (8 vols.)
- Also any books by Barnes, Boston, Calvin, Haldane, Pink, Luther, MacLaren, Carroll, Ryle, Strong, Vincent, Finney, Myer, Morgan, Orr, Torrey, Trench, and Westcott.

Look about your home and see what books you have you may wish to sell. Write me, giving the title, author, and condition and I'll make you an offer in the light of what we can sell them for.

What The Bible Says About Strong Drink

(Continued from page one)
Notice, how it portrays the part strong drink has played in the downfall of nations.

Drunkenness characterized the generation that perished in the flood. (Luke 17:27).

Drunkenness was one of the sins for which God destroyed Sodom. (Luke 17:28).

Drunkenness turned the glory of Ephraim into a fading flower. (Isaiah 28:7).

Drunkenness played its part in the downfall of Nineveh. Nahum 1:10).

Drunkenness brought defeat to the Amalekites following their victory at Ziklag. (I Samuel 30:16).

Drunkenness brought defeat to Benhadad and thirty-two allied kings in the battle between Syria and Israel in the days of Ahab. (I Kings 20:16).

Drunkenness brought doom to Babylon and death to Belshazzar as he and a thousand of his lords and their wives and concubines drank wine and praised the gods of gold and silver and wood and stone. (Dan. 5:1).

The Bible says: "It is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink; lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted. (Prov. 31:4, 5).

As it was in the days of Noah; as it was in the days of Lot, drunkenness will characterize the last days of this dispensation. (Matt. 24:49).

That is why the Lord has admonished us:

"Take heed to yourselves, let at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares." (Luke 21:34).

Yet some people say that a preacher ought to stay off the drink question.

Drink Tragedies Recorded in the Bible

Read your Bible, neighbors! Look at the personal drink tragedies recorded in it.

Noah's feet were hardly dry before he was drunk. (Gen. 9:20-27).

Lot was made drunk by his daughters and his life story ends in a moral blackout with them. (Gen. 19:30).

Nabal, the son of famous old Caleb, died in a drunken debauch. (I Sam. 25:36-38).

Drunkenness played its part in David's sins of adultery and murder. (II Samuel 11:13).

Handsome young Absalom employed strong drink when he murdered his half-brother, Amnon. (II Sam. 13:28).

Elah, king of Israel, was assassinated while he was drunk. (I King 16:9).

Good queen Vashti was dethroned by wicked Ahasuerus because she would not put on a "strip tease" or "floor show" at his wild, drunken party. (Esther 1:1-22).

Drunkenness held high carnival the night Belshazzar saw the handwriting on the wall signifying that he had been weighed in the balances and found wanting. (Dan. 5:27).

John the Baptist was slain at a drunken birthday dance. (Matt. 14:1-12).

Drunkenness disgraced the fellowship of the church at Corinth as they sat about the Lord's Supper and brought a rebuke from the apostle Paul. (I Cor. 11:20-22).

It evidently marred the fellowship of the church at Ephesus because he wrote and admonished them:

"Be no drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit." (Eph. 5:18).

Bible Warnings Against the Use of Strong Drink

Read your Bible. It is clear in its teachings on this drink question.

Look at the warnings in it against the use of strong drink.

Proverbs 20:1 declares:

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

Could anything be plainer than that? It takes in everybody, everywhere, all the time. "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

Isaiah declared:

"Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them." (Isaiah 5:11).

And again:

"Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, men of strength to mingle strong drink; which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him." (Isaiah 5:22-23).

Habakkuk declared:

"Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and maketh him drunken also, that thou mayest look upon their nakedness." (Heb. 2:15).

Proverbs 23:29-33 reads:

"Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes?"

Here is the answer:

"They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine."

And listen to this admonition:

"Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright."

Because:

"At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder. Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things."

"Look not upon it"— Let it alone.

Have nothing to do with it. Abstain from the use of it. Shun it like you would a snake. Avoid it as you would a poisonous adder.

And listen to this unequivocal warning that ought to make every drunkard's heart miss a beat when he hears or reads it:

"Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envying, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like; of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." (Gal. 5:19-21).

There it is ladies and gentlemen. It is in the Holy Bible.

There is no getting around it. There is no room to evade, hedge or dodge that declaration.

You must either give up your bottle or go to Hell.

The door of the kingdom is barred against the drunkard.

There is no middle ground. You must choose between Heaven and your bottle.

Nothing could be plainer in the Bible.

"They which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

The Drunkard's Hope

But thank God, the Bible doesn't stop at that statement.

After Paul had written to the church at Corinth and classified drunkenness along with all of these other vile sin as a lust of the flesh he then wrote:

"And such were some of you; but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." (I Cor. 6:11).

That was the remedy for them. That was their hope.

That is the hope for all men. "Ye are washed"— that was cleansing. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (I John 1:9).

"Ye are sanctified"— that was purification, perseverance, preservation, and consecration.

"Ye are justified"— that was judicial freedom. The old account was blotted out. The records on high were cleared. The bill had been paid.

"In the name of the Lord Jesus"— He it was who paid the debt. He made our redemption possible. He is the propitiation for the drunkard's sins. He makes forgiveness possible.

"And by the Spirit of our God"— that's not reformation; that's regeneration. Resolutions, weeping, regrets sighs, ner tears won't solve the drunkard's problem. They won't provide him with strength to overcome. The agent of redemption is the Holy Spirit.

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; that being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." (Titus 3:5-7).

The Myth of Moderation

"But," somebody says, "I am not a drunkard. I only drink in moderation."

The Bible answers that one too. There is no difference in your state and standing before God.

The Bible puts adultery, fornication, stealing, idolatry, hate, murder, extortion, seditions, covetousness, revellings and drunkenness all in the same category as lusts of all flesh.

You had as well talk about committing adultery in moderation.

You had as well talk about worshipping idols in moderation.

You had as well talk about committing murder in moderation.

You had as well talk about coveting in moderation.

You had as well talk about stealing in moderation.

You had as well talk about envying in moderation.

You had as well talk about hating in moderation.

You had as well talk about committing murder in moderation.

You had as well talk about coveting in moderation.

You had as well talk about stealing in moderation.

You had as well talk about envying in moderation.

You had as well talk about hating in moderation.

You had as well talk about lustings in moderation.

They are all marks of carnality. They are all "works of the flesh."

None of them have any place in a Christian's life. They are not to be indulged in at all to any degree.

They are to be wholly given up, abandoned, forsaken, put under foot and crucified.

The Victorious Walk

Nothing could be plainer in the Bible.

It declares:

"They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts." (Gal. 5:24).

The Bible says:

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (Romans 8:1).

The Bible says:

"Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof." (Rom. 13:13, 14).

The Bible says:

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

Who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

"These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority." (Titus 2:11-15).

CHURCH FINANCE

(Continued from page one)
But if you'd hear a real live holler Drop on the plate a silver dollar.

Some folks give their mite, Others give with their might, And some don't give who might!

A father gave his son a dime and a quarter and said, "keep the dime and put the quarter into church." He put the dime in church, saying, "God loves a cheerful giver, and I gave the dime more cheerfully than I could have given the quarter."

— Ralph Webb

We've tried organization, we've tried smartness, wit, the unusual and they are getting us nowhere—why not try God? — Campbell Morgan.

Thinking, trying, toiling and trusting in God is all of my biography.— John Wannamaker.

May 6, 1944

VISIT TO THE
POTTER'S HOUSE(Continued from page one)
unusual sources.

As an example, on day God lead him out into a cemetery. While in this cemetery, the wind began to blow in a gale and as a result of the fury of the storm, the ground was blown back, and the graves were all uncovered and soon Ezekiel was standing looking upon a valley filled with dead dry bones. As he looked, these bones came together and life came into them. Then it was that God said, "Son of man, these are the whole house of Israel." (Ezek. 37:11).

Thus it was that God gave a great sermon to Ezekiel on the regathering of Israel. However, this sermon which God gave Ezekiel was given under no more unusual circumstances than the message which God gave to Moses years before. God had lead him into the back side of the desert and there appeared to him in a burning bush. As Moses stood still he noted this bush which burned with fire, and yet was not consumed. Standing thus on holy ground in the presence of God, he was lead to understand that this burning bush typified the fact of Israel's suffering in bondage, and yet the fact that it could not be destroyed. Thus was that God gave to Moses a message as to the continuance of the Jewish race, and at the same time called him to be the deliverer who should lead the Jews from Egyptian bondage into Canaan.

Then it was interesting how that God lead Israel's spies to the home of Rahab, the harlot. The whole nation of Israel was encamped on the east side of the Jordan just prior to their entrance into Canaan. They wanted to know something as to conditions within the city of Jericho. Hence these spies went to the home of Rahab. It seems a strange place to go to get God's message, and yet they learned that God would take the taking of the land of Canaan.

I cite three instances to illustrate the truth that God does lead His preachers into strange places to give them messages. Surely it was a strange place to which God lead Ezekiel—out into a cemetery. Surely it was a strange place that God lead Moses—to the back side of the desert. Surely it was a strange place that God lead Israel's spies—to the home of a harlot. And yet, God was leading in each of these instances and there He gave the sermons that His servants were to preach.

It was thus that God led Jeremiah to the potter's house. Actually this meant that God took him to an industrial plant—the potter's house, in order to give to him the message. Many times I have gone into the railroad shops here in Russell or to the Rolling Mill over in Ashland, or to other industrial plants and there I learned lessons which have been of great worth to me in the preaching of God's Word. It was thus that God led Jeremiah and there in the potter's house he learned some unusual lessons.

First of all, Jeremiah learned the sovereignty of God and the feebleness of man. He did not have to tell the potter say a single word. All that was necessary was that Jeremiah observe the acts of the potter. He was making a vessel and for some reason known best and only to the potter, he marred it and then

made it over again.

Certainly the potter was sovereign and the clay was only feebly pliable in the potter's hands. As Jeremiah observed his, he thus learned that the potter represented God and the clay was typical of Adam's descendants, for God spoke to Jeremiah, "O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the Lord, Behold as the clay is in the potter's hands, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel." (Jer. 18:6).

This then is a marvelous lesson. *God is sovereign. He does as pleases Himself.* There is no truth in all the Bible which is more prominently mentioned than this. Listen:

"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." — Rev. 4:11.

"The Lord hath made all things for himself, yea, even the wicked for the day of evil." — Prov. 16:4.

He is sovereign in respect to creation. This world and all therein came about as a result of His creative ability. He has made it as it pleased Him. In the first chapter of Genesis, ten times the expression occurs, "And God said." These are the ten commandments of creation. He created this world and all there is within it just as pleased Himself. He is sovereign in respect to creation.

Then God is likewise sovereign in the way in which he governs His creation. When the world had been in existence nearly two thousand years God brought a flood of waters upon it thereby destroying all life except that which was safely housed with Noah. It was God who purposed and brought this flood. Listen:

"And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die." — Gen. 6:17.

Still later God ordered a series of plagues to fall upon the land of Egypt. In number there were ten of them. They increased with intensity and severity as each passed and another came. It was God who brought these plagues to pass. Listen:

"And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the Lord sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground: and the Lord rained hail upon the land of Egypt." — Ex. 9:23.

There were cities that were highly displeasing to God forty centuries ago, and by His power God destroyed these cities from the face of the earth. It was God who burned up the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. Listen:

"Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven; and he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground." — Gen. 19:24, 25.

Thus when you look upon the flood as it came over all the earth, the plagues as they were brought upon the land of Egypt, and the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah as they were destroyed it is easily noticeable that God is sovereign in the manner whereby He governs His creation.

Furthermore, God is sovereign over the creatures of His creation. That He is sovereign over the frogs may be seen in that he brought a plague of frogs upon all the land of Egypt, and at His own word took that plague of frogs away as easily as He brought them. Listen:

And the Lord spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch forth thine hand with thy rod over the streams, over the rivers, and over the ponds, and cause frogs to come up upon the land of Egypt. . . . And the Lord did according to the Word of Moses; and the frogs died out of the houses, out of the villages, and out of the fields." — Ex. 8:5, 13.

That which was true of the frogs was likewise true of flies. Another of the plagues which He sent upon Pharaoh was that of flies—great swarms of them. While this plague fell upon the Egyptians, God spared them from the children of Israel so that there were no flies in their homes. Listen:

"Else, if thou wilt not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies upon thee, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thy houses: and the houses of the Egyptians shall be full of swarms of flies, and also the ground whereon they are. And I will sever in that day the land of Goshen, in which my people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there; to the end thou mayest know that I am the Lord in the midst of the earth." — Ex. 8:21, 22.

In time of a most unusual famine in the Old Testament, God had one faithful preacher that He wished to particularly take care of. God told Elijah to go to the brook of Cherith, and that He had commanded the ravens to feed him there. Thus it was for days that Elijah had the ravens for his butler and his valet and through them God took care of His prophet. Listen to this Scripture:

"And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook." — I Kings 17:6.

At another time in the Old Testament, God had a servant who was hated because of his religious devotion. His name was Daniel. Plotting against him, his enemies secured an edict whereby he was thrown into a den of lions. However, God took care of him. Daniel had a lion skin to sleep on, and with the lion on the inside of it. He had a lion for a pillow, a lion for a back rest, and a lion for his foot warmer. Yet, those lions could not harm him and all night long Daniel fearlessly spent the night in the lion's den just because God was sovereign over the lions.

In the New Testament, Simon Peter was one day troubled with an age old problem—he had the jitters about like most people have around the 15th of March—he had to pay his taxes and he didn't have the money wherewith to do so. He didn't even have to tell Jesus what was troubling him, for the Master knew without asking. Therefore Jesus said: "Go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: take that, and give unto them for me and thee." — Matt. 17:27.

From these instances we can see that God is sovereign not only in creation and in the way in which He governs His creation, but He is also sovereign over the creatures of His creation. Frogs, flies, ravens, lions, and fish hasten to do His bidding. They hurry to do His will. Over each of these creatures of His creation, His is absolutely sovereign.

In like manner, He is sovereign over the angels. They do that which He demands. In one night's time, at God's command, an angel slew 185,000 of the Assyrian forces. These

"ministering servants" are entirely subject to God. Listen:

"The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity." — Matt. 13:41.

Certainly God is sovereign over the Devil. That the Devil is in subjection to God, may easily be seen, for John the apostle says: "Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." — I John 4:4.

As an illustration of the sovereignty of God over Satan, observe how that Satan could do nothing in the case of Job except that which God permitted him. He wanted to destroy Job completely, but God would not allow it. He could not even touch Job until God gave him permission. A wolf may prowl around a sheep fold desirous of a leg of lamb or some lamb chops, but if the door is locked, his prowling and wishing is all in vain. An old fox may walk repeatedly about a hen house and his mouth may water for a nice hen or fryer, but if the door is locked, his appetite goes unsatisfied.

In like measure, until God breaks down the hedge which He Himself has placed around His children, the Devil is powerless. He could not touch Job's property nor his family nor his health until God permitted him to do so. This, incidentally, is a mighty good reason why that a saved person can never lose his salvation, for God won't permit the Devil to pass beyond the precincts of His saving grace. God is absolutely sovereign over the Devil.

While noticing the sovereignty of God, may we note that He is also sovereign in the realm of salvation. Those whom He will, He saves. Those whom He saves are those whom He chose before the foundation of the world. Listen:

"According as he that chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love." — Eph. 1:4.

"But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth." — 2 Thess. 2:13.

Here then is the first lesson which Jeremiah learned in the potter's house—the sovereignty of God and the feebleness of man. Oh that God might help each of us to learn the same lesson!

The second lesson that Jeremiah learned was that our lives may be marred. He learned this from the clay which was marred in the potter's hand. Just as that clay was marred, so may our lives be marred too. If you will go back to the Garden of Eden, you will find that a great temptation came to Adam and Eve through Satan. Since that day, all of God's work as appertains to this world has been marred.

Even the physical world itself is marred. It produces today that which it did not produce originally, for there were no thorns nor thistles marred the world as God originally established it. They came, and they have marred the world as a result of sin. "Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field." — Gen. 3:18.

Paul even declares that this whole world groans as a result of the corruption which came as a result of sin. Listen:

"Because the creation itself also

shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now." — Rom. 8:21, 22.

The prophecy is that some day this physical world will not look as it does now. Isaiah declared that "The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose." — Isa. 35:1.

What a day then is in store for this world when all the thorns and thistles shall be removed and the world itself shall be nothing but one beautiful rose garden. It is beyond our comprehension to imagine the whole world so beautiful that the most wonderful flower garden today pales in insignificance when compared with what the world shall be when God makes it over. However, until that day comes, may we remember that even this physical world is marred as a result of sin.

Even human society is marred. If you would see the scars and the marks of sin showing how marred human society is, then note the words of Paul: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucemakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of Godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." — 2 Tim. 3:1-5. These are but outward symptoms but indicate that there is something wrong on the inside of human society.

You have doubtlessly seen an armored motor car drive up to a bank and a half dozen individuals with sawed-off shot guns and pistols stand on each side of it while messengers carry money from this armored motor car into the bank building. Of course, worldly wise folk would declare that that is just efficiency: While it may into the bank building. Of course, be efficiency, it is far from Christianity. It merely goes to prove that human society is scarred and marred by sin.

Even our bodies are marred. Our minds are not what they were originally. They have been marred by sin. "But even their mind and conscience is defiled." (Titus 1:25).

Man's imagination is not what it was when first placed within this world. It too has been marred. "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." — Gen. 6:5.

The heart shows how that we have been marred by sin in that it is spoken of as being incurably wicked. "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked." — Jer. 17:9.

Time would fail us to tell of all the organs of the human body. Yet suffice it to say that God declares that even the whole body has been thus marred and mutilated. "From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment." — Isa. 1:6.

Certainly looking at our bodies, we are reminded that sin has left its marks and scars upon us. We can say that in both mind, imagination, heart, and the whole body we have

been marred by sin.

Even our morality is marred. Observe the man who has drunk until he is inebriated. See him as he staggers along the street bleary eyed and blotched in face. Compare him with Adam in his perfection in the Garden of Eden. What a contrast between the two!

Or you might compare a woman who makes her living from the merchandising of her womanhood as she assails prospective patrons on the streets, bold in her manner and without shame. Compare her with Eve in her purity, ere the coming of sin. What a contrast between the two! Certainly we can say today that our morality as well as our bodies, human society, and the physical world is marred. Everything since man's fall in the Garden of Eden so far as this world is concerned, is marred.

III

The third lesson that Jeremiah learned was that the marred life can be shaped again. He learned this by observing the potter as he took the vessel that was marred and made it over. Well, that's the way God can and does do with us. He shapes again our marred lives.

I knew of a great preacher who was talking to one who had been marred by sinful habits and to whom he said: "If you could see Christ face to face and talk to Him, what would you ask Him to do for you?" Without a moment's hesitation, he said, "Sir, I would ask Him to make me over again." Well, God can do so.

The Salvation Army has a song which tells this in a most striking manner, for they sing that

"A man may be down,
But he's never out."

How true it is. One may be down, his life may be marred, his soul may be scarred, but he is never beyond the reach of God's power. His life can be shaped again. That this is true can be seen from these Scriptures:

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

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." — I Tim. 1:15.

"Wherefore he is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." — Heb. 7:25.

In observing the geneology of Jesus as recorded in Matthew's gospel, you will find that even old Rahab, the harlot, became an ancestress of Jesus. Though marred by her sin of years, when saved by grace through faith, she became an ancestress of our Lord. It is further conspicuous in the geneology of Jesus, only four women are mentioned and that three of these four were fallen women. What a revelation then a marred life can be shaped, remolded, and made over again.

Look at the apostle Paul, who though spotless in his morality, was so distorted and twisted in his mind that he thought he was actually doing God a favor by killing Christians. Later, he himself was saved and became a great worker. He himself declared that though he was made over that it was no praise to himself but rather, it was all of grace. Listen:

"But by the grace of God I am what I am." — I Cor. 15:10.

In Jesus' day as He sat by the well at Sychar, a woman came to draw water who had been married five times and was then living with a man to whom she was not married. Though she had been much married, she was then living a life of open shameless sin. However, as a result of meeting Jesus, she was saved and then the Scripture tells us that she brought the whole town to the feet of Jesus. As she went about from house to house within the city, she said, "Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?" — John 4:29. Observe her after meeting Jesus and one is convinced that a marred life can be shaped over again.

Over in New York City a man who had been professedly an infidel all his life, was found dead in his apartment. Pasted on the wall near his bed was the words of the following poem which evidently he had written telling of his experience with the Lord:

"I've tried in vain a thousand ways,
My fears to quell, my hopes to raise
And all I need, the Bible says,
Is Jesus!

My soul is night, my heart is steel,
I cannot see, I cannot feel;
For light, for life I must appeal
To Jesus!

He dies, He lives, He reigns, He pleads,
There's love in all His word and deeds;

All, all a guilty sinner needs
Is Jesus!

Though some will mock, and some will blame,

In spite of fear, in spite of shame,
I'll go to Him, because His name
Is Jesus!"

May you, like Jeremiah, learn these same lessons. May you rejoice that He is sovereign. May you weep over the scars of sin and the marred life which you have as a result of sin. May you by faith yield to Jesus and trust His grace that you might be made over again.

"U. R. STUCK"

(Continued from page one)
accepting such a check, ask yourself if you have anything more than a document signed by "U. R. Stuck" for what you believe.

You may smile at the cleverness of a crook passing a "hot" check on a merchant, but it is not a laughing matter to "sell" or "exchange" your priceless soul for a theory or a religion signed by U. R. Stuck!

And without doubt, you are "stuck" if you believe anything but a "Thus saith the Lord." His Word is as good as His bond. He will make good every promise and threat He has uttered.

"To the Law and to the Testimony: if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them." (Is. 8:20). — Now.

A Challenge To Read The Scriptures Alone

of his life says "only Luke is with me" (2 to Timothy 4:9-12). Not a word about the Apostle Peter. Finally, it is further proven that Peter was the Apostle of the circumcision and worked among the Jews, while Paul was the apostle to the uncircumcision and worked among the Gentiles and therefore the Lord's will that Paul and not Peter go to Rome.

(To the Galatians 2:7, 8; The Acts 23:11).

They would find that Peter (also called Simon) who is claimed to be the first pope, was a married man. (St. Mark 29-31).

They would find that Zachary was a married priest (St. Luke 1:5, 13) also that bishops were permitted to marry (1 to Timothy 3:1-4) and that to forbid marriage is not sound doctrine. (1 to Timothy 4:1-3).

They would find that their Bible forbids bowing down and the ownership of images, pictures or relics. (Exodus 20:3-5).

They would find that God only can forgive sins (St. Mark 2:7) and that Esdras the priest taught the people to confess to God and not to himself.

"And Esdras the priest stood up, and said to them: You have transgressed and taken strange wives, to add to the sins of Israel. And now make confession to the Lord the God of your fathers. (I Esdras 10:30-12).

They would find that there is no mention made of purgatory or prayers for the dead, but that if men are ever fitted for heaven, they must be before death or not at all.

"After death, the judgment" (To the Hebrews 9:27).

Abraham could not help the dead (St. Luke 16:19-31).

David knew it was no use praying for the dead (2 Kings 12:16, 19, 22, 23).

They would find that their Bible forbids them to call any man "father" as a religious title.

"And call none your father upon earth; for one is your father who is in heaven. (St. Matthew 23:9).

They would find that the Gospel is free "without money and without price." No charges should be made for it. (St. Matthew 10:7, 8).

They would find that there is only one Mediator between God and men and that this Mediator is neither Mary the mother of Jesus according to the flesh, nor some priest, but the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

"For there is one God, and one mediator of God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 to Timothy 2:5, 6).

"But if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the just" (1 of St. John 2:1-13).

"Be it known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God hath raised from the dead, even by Him this man standeth here before you whole. Neither is there salvation in any other. For there is no other name under heaven given to men, whereby we must be saved" (The Acts 4:10, 12).

They would find that Christ is the only way of salvation and that no man-made system of religion can take the place or even assist God's way of salvation.

"Jesus saith to him: I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No man cometh to the Father, but by Me" (St. John 14:6).

"Him, who knew no sin, He hath made sin for us, that we might be made the justice of God in Him" (2 to the Corinthians 5:21).

They would find that a person can be saved and know it in this life, that a person can realize and experience peace in his heart and have the assurance of his sins forgiven. These precious facts come to us only through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His shed blood on the Cross.

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the remission of

sins, according to the riches of His grace (To the Ephesians 1:7).

"Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things as gold or silver, from your vain conversation of the tradition of your fathers: But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb unspotted and undefiled" (1 of St. Peter 1:18, 19).

"Who his own self bore our sins in his body upon the tree: that we, being dead to sins, should live to justice by whose stripes you were healed" (1 of St. Peter 2:24).

Also read Isaiah 53:4-6; Galatians 3:13; St. John 6:37; 2 to the Corinthians 5:21; To the Colossians 1:20-22.

They would find that when men and women die, they go to either heaven or hell and that it is an eternal place and state of conscious joy or torment from which there is no deliverance. (St. Luke 16:19-31; St. Matthew 25:41, 46).

They would find that the hope of the church is not earthly power and greatness, but a path of suffering as her rejected Lord suffered; and to wait for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ in a personal, visible manner as He once left this earth, and that He may come at any moment.

"And if I shall go, and prepare a place for you, I WILL COME AGAIN, and will take you to myself; that where I am, you may be also." St. John 14:3).

"Who also said: Ye men of Galilee, why stand you looking up to heaven? This JESUS who is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come, as you have seen Him going into heaven" (The Acts 1:11).

"Watch ye therefore, because you know not what hour your Lord will come. Wherefore be ye also ready, because at what hour you know not the Son of Man will come." (St. Matthew 24:42, 44).

In conclusion, we would advise Catholics to read their Bible and find the simple way of salvation as revealed therein. The Bible itself declares the way is so plain that "fools shall not err therein" (Isaiah 35:8).

We are more and more convinced that the need of the day is to search the Scriptures, which never change, to see if what bishops, priests, ministers and teachers tell us is the truth or not. In Apostolic days, this was done.

"Now these were more noble than those in Thessalonica, who received the word with all eagerness, daily searching the Scriptures, whether these things were so." (The Acts 17:11).

They who do not preach and teach the Gospel as it is found in the Scriptures are under the curse of God and should not be received into the house.

"But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach a Gospel to you besides that which we have preached to you, let him be anathema (meaning accursed)." (To the Galatians 1:8, 9).

"If any man come to you, and bring not his doctrine, receive him not into the house, nor say to him, God speed you" (2 of St. John 10, 11). — Tract.

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES

(Continued from page one)
sir, I made up my mind I'd never rest till I found my mother's God, and O, sir," he exclaimed while the tears ran down his face — "O sir, He's saved me—He's saved me!"

The man is still a prisoner, and no doubt the little child is growing up, the sunshine of some happy home not knowing that her childish words have led a soul to God.

But if their two mothers had taught their children well, they could not have told, nor could either have understood the glad news of Christ's love. — From "Streams."

Does Dying In Battle Guarantee Salvation?

This is but false comfort. Men are not saved by personal righteousness. Personal valor and sacrifice will save. Listen to God's Word:

"Without shedding of blood is remission." — Heb. 9:22.

"I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved." — John 10:9.

"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me." — John 14:6.

"But to him that worketh not, believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted righteousness." — Rom. 4:5.

"Neither is there salvation in other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved." — Acts 4:12.

"He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." — I John 5:12.

"I WILL"

(Continued from page one)
I will be your God, Ezek. 36:28
I will put my Spirit within you
I will—save you, Ezek. 36:27, 28
I will love him, John 14:21.
I will honour him, Psa. 91:15.
I will bring you up out of affliction, Ex. 3:17.
I will raise him up at the last day, Jno. 6:40,
I will make of thee a great nation, Gen. 12:2.

Child of God, ponder these wonderful "I will's" of the Lord and be strengthened by them. There are many others— "Search and ye shall find."

A MODERN CURSE — WEEPING EVANGELISTS

(Continued from page one)
what he calls personal work through the audience while the invitation song is being sung.

Hyman Appleman said that he had won more folk through his tears than through his preaching. After listening to him, I don't wonder but that it is true. The question is, what did he win them to? It would be well for him to ponder Paul's words: "Then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." Rom. 10:17.

We have one of these professional "sobbers" in Ashland. He can cry, sob, and shed tears by every meeting he holds enables him to report great numbers of professions, but what do they amount to? They have a good cry, they get weight, they fall away faster than they "jined," and in the end the pastor, and converts are much wicker off. He held a meeting in one tucky town some time ago, and afterward, one of the members of the church told me that the church had another revival to get the converted that this "boo-hoo-er" succeeded in getting into the church. Oh, that men would be content with preaching the Word of God and would leave the results in His hands. Sad it is indeed, when a preacher tries to play preacher and the Holy Spirit too. May God deliver