

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IS DUE TO PARENTAL DELINQUENCY; NO CHURCH CAN MAKE A GOOD CHILD IF ITS HOME LIFE IS BAD.

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

The Baptist Examiner

The Paper With A National Circulation

Devoted to Evangelism,
Missions, and Bible Doc-
trines.

"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." (Jno. 8:20).

VOL. 13, NO. 27

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1944

WHOLE NO. 338

I Should Like to Know . . .

1. Does the ordination of a preacher authorize him to baptize?
Not unless the church authorizes it. Baptism is by church authority, not by preacher authority.

2. Was Philip ordained as a preacher or only as a deacon?
He was ordained as a deacon and later became an evangelist. Supposedly he was later ordained as a preacher but the Scriptures are silent on that question.

3. Our church adopted new rules giving women the right to make motions and to speak — everything but to be deacons and preachers, ought I to help to pay for such preaching?
Yes, if you stay in the church. You pay to the church, not to the preacher as long as you are a member of the church you ought to contribute to its support.

The Lord Jesus is the head of the church and you are a member of His body. For you to fail to contribute to the support of the church, which is His body, is for you to be in rebellion against the body of Christ. When

The Slow Death Of A Great Denomination

By Dr. W. B. Riley

Speaking of the situation in the Baptist Denomination sometime ago we stated that modernism would rather see the denomination die than release its strangle hold upon offices. The absolute truth of that statement is now finding abundant illustration. The denomination is dying and its murderers are even tightening that hold.

The Sickness Kept Secret

The doctors and nurses in whose care the denomination has been left for the last twenty-five years are in collusion. They have done their best to keep the denomination's state of health from the public. They have doctored up annual reports to make them appear passable. They play up the large number of conversions on such fields as fundamental missionaries hold and if there be a dollar's advance in any department, they call eloquent attention to gain. Thereby

(Continued on page two)

THE PARSON'S PRAYER

I do not ask
That crowds may throng the temple
That standing room be priced;
I only ask that as I voice the message,
They may see the Christ!

I do not ask
For churchly pomp or pageant,
Or music such as wealth alone can buy;
I only ask that as I voice the message,
He may be nigh!

I do not ask
That men may sound my praises,
Or headlines spread my name abroad;
I only pray that as I voice the message,
Hearts may find God!

I do not ask
For earthly place or laurel,
Or of this world's distinctions any part;
I only ask when I have voiced the message,
My Saviour's heart!

Mrs. Prayer Meeting Suffers And Dies A Most Horrible Death

Mrs. Prayer Meeting died recently at the First Neglected Church on . . . Avenue. Born many years ago in the midst of great revivals, she was a strong, healthy child, fed largely on testimony and spiritual holiness, soon growing into worldwide prominence and was one of the most influential members of the famous church family.

For the past several years Sister Prayer Meeting has been in failing health, gradually wasting away until rendered helpless by stiffness of knees, coldness of heart, inactivity, and weakness of purpose and will power. At last she was but a shadow of her former happy self. Her last whispered words were inquiries concerning marts of trade and places of worldly amusements. Her older brother, Brother Class Meeting, has been dead for many years.

Experts, including Dr. Works, Dr. Joiner, disagreed as to the cause of her fatal illness, administering large doses of organization, socials, contests, drives and religious education but to no avail. A post-mortem showed a deficiency of spiritual food coupled with lack of fasting, faith,

The New President Of The Northern Baptist Convention

"A lovely lady is now president of the Northern Baptist Convention," so says the Pastor's News Letter (June 2, 1944) which is sent semi-monthly to all pastors affiliated with the Northern Baptist Convention.

Thus Mrs. Leslie E. Swain is heralded as the new president of the Northern Baptist Convention. The Pastor's News Letter goes on to state that:

"No one is better qualified, either by experience or spiritual capacities, to lead us than Anna Canada Swain . . . She will be a symbol of our unity, and our desire to accomplish the will of God in modern life."

Well, what do you think of that? The Northern Baptist Convention is now manned by a woman. Of course their leaders would say that this is just a little matter. May it be remembered that little things are always

the tests of character. Eve's blunder was a little thing, but it brought all our woe. Jesus said, "He that is faithful in that which is least, is faithful also in much." (Luke 16:10). Jesus also said, "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven." — Mt. 5:19. In I Sam. 15, we read how Saul lost a kingdom and Samuel departed from him and came to see him no more, because like the Northern Baptist Convention, he thought a little wavering from the letter of God's command could be gotten by with. It is the little rift in the lute that spoils the music. God wants exact obedience even in the least of His commandments. Nothing else will satisfy Him.

However, the sin of the Northern Baptist Convention is no little sin. They have sinned in failing to de-

clare the whole counsel of God on the woman question. Northern Baptists have for years been getting farther from the Word of God and now by this latest act of untrustworthiness have become flabby in doctrine by their cowardly and compromising stewardship.

When I learned that Mrs. Swain was thus selected, I wrote her at once as to a number of doctrines, desirous of learning her position on them. She says in her reply that she is a unionist and an open communionist:

"I believe most earnestly in co-operation with other denominations. I also believe that all who accept Christ as their Lord and Saviour should be welcome at His table."

As to the matter of women preachers she says:

(Continued on page two)

Ananias, Sapphira, And Other Liars Whom I Have Known

By E. F. Webber

There are those who repeat untrue stories about someone else. How would you like to have someone repeat untrue tales about you and ruin your reputation? Then be very careful not to do it to others. It is so easy to splash mud, but to help keep someone clean is noble. This includes the fearful sin of gossiping. A gossip is a public menace and ought to be muzzled, for a biting human tongue can do more harm than the snapping jaws of a mad dog. A Gossip can break up a church, start a run on a bank, ruin a reputation, make neighbors hate one another, shatter the happiness of a town; and no person living is immune from the serpentlike flashing of a gossip's tongue.

The Bible says, "Thou shalt not lie." There is one sure way to cure a gossip. Give the scandal-monger the cold shoulder; he'll starve to death on that kind of a diet. A gossip ought to be treated like a pest. Dr. A. B. Simpson, founder of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, once said: "A wise Christian will

(Continued on page two)

The First Baptist Pulpit

"THE CITY OF THE LIVING GOD"

Text: "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

"But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city." — Hebrews 11:10, 16.

Ordinarily, men are lovers of cities. There are notable exceptions; yet, in the main, men move from forest

and farm and mine to dwell in cities; thereby they become bigger and greater. Thus, London, New York, Chicago, Berlin, Paris, Tokyo, and Rome have been developed. These have become the greatest cities of the world, all because men love cities.

Yet, great as these are, and wonderful as they are with opportunities, I want to talk to you of a greater city — the City of the Living God,

as described by John in Revelation.

"And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God." — Revelation 21:10.

Even in our hymnology, we speak of Heaven as a city.

"There's a holy and beautiful city,
(Continued on page three)

PIE IN HIS EYE

Coffeyville, Kas. (AP) — The young people of the Christian church were holding a pie auction and Kurt Kime offered to be the target if anyone bid more than \$5.00 for the pineapple cream. In no time at all the bid went up to \$6.75. Kime got it in the eye. — Ashland (Ky.) Independent, Sunday, June 18.

(Continued on page two)

THE MIZPAH BENEDICTION

The writer was always amused when attending Young People's Society meetings when the group leader would dismiss the assembly by saying, "We will repeat the Mizpah." Little does the average Christian Endeavor Society realize what the Mizpah means. Let us look at

(Continued on page four)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN—EDITOR

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

Editorial Department, RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, where communications should be sent for publication.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

Per Year in Advance 50
(Domestic and Foreign)

Send Remittances to Russell, Ky.

Entered as second-class matter May 31, 1941, in the post office at Russell, Kentucky, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Paid circulation in every State and many foreign countries.

Subscriptions are stopped at expiration unless renewed or special arrangements are made for their continuance.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE NORTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

(Continued from page one)

if other women are ordained."

"I have no desire myself for ordination — but I do not object

I also asked her position on election, salvation by grace, and the security of the believer; likewise, if Jesus established a Baptist Church; also, if she were a Modernist or a Fundamentalist. To these she gave me an artful and skillful evasion. In three paragraphs of her letter she labored to say that she would rather not answer these questions, due to differences within the denomination. That answer is enough to say where she stands on these issues, for if she had had an answer founded on the Word of God, she would never have hesitated to offer it. Her refusal to answer positively merely shows that she is attempting to follow the policy of the convention of which she is a member. May God help her and that religious monstrosity of which she is president!

Remember the Pastor's News Letter declares that she "will be a symbol." What a symbol! A unionist, an open communionist, and a feminist by her own admission, and by implication a modernist.

One Northern Baptist pastor, who stands squarely on the Word of God, writes this editor, saying:

"I think this is a disgrace to the name Baptist. However, I know that they have already departed so far from the Scriptures that they are no longer Baptists anyway."

May God help those faithful few, who are in the denomination to hear and heed Jesus' words: "Come out of her, my people." (Rev. 18:4). May those who live within the confines of the Northern Baptist Convention be true to Jesus and His Word, regardless of the cost to do so.

The Slow Death Of A Great Denomination

(Continued from page one)

the Baptist public has been deceived into supposing that all is well and real progress was being made.

The Facts Find Expression

At last the truth is leaking out and it is most alarming, revealing as it does the slow death of one of the

greatest denominations the world ever knew. Here are some of the facts to which attention has recently been called by men who speak what they do know.

Fact 1. "Thirty years ago Northern Baptists had over 13,000 churches. Today the number is slightly over 7,000."

Fact 2. Sunday School attendance in these same churches in this same length of time has experienced a kindred decline.

Fact 3. "In 1921 Northern Baptist contributed 9,900,000 dollars to all missionary objects. Last year with far more money in circulation than ever in the history of our missionary giving, unified budget and world emergency fund included amounted to 3,672,000 dollars."

Fact 4. "In 1923 we had 844 missionaries on the foreign fields under the General Board and the Woman's Board and in 1943 the number was reduced to 434 missionaries, only 282 of whom are on the field."

Fact 5. In my five-state region of the Northwest 25 years ago there were six four-year Baptist colleges in operation. Today there is not a single one of them left.

Fact 6. Thirty years ago there was a strong conservative, weekly Baptist magazine in most of the States of the Northern Baptist Convention. They were wiped out in the interest of centralization with a notable exception of the Watchman-Examiner, which refused to capitulate. Today the central substitute sleeps in a dishonored grave, having cost the denomination many thousands to keep its sickly form alive through its brief years.

Fact 7. There is not an organization within the control of the Northern Baptist Convention that is not equally ill and experiencing kindred decline and yet the same doctors and nurses insist upon retaining their professional positions and continuing the same treatment that has produced the same results and amazement of amazement, at increased salaries.

Is it not time that

The Murderers went to Trial?

The doctors of the A. B. M. F. S. are only the first. Already their case is on the calendar and while they have sought a favorable position for the first hearing Atlantic City, another year will probably bring a change in venue and the Middle West, the place of fair hearing, may prove to be the locality of final decision.

But the A. B. M. F. S. is not worse off than the other organizations, nor are its caretakers less guilty. Every organization in the denomination is involved in the sleeping potion that is producing death and each must be dealt with in its turn.

Denominational-salvation depends upon an entire change of doctors and nurses. If we want it to die, leave it in present hands. The disease will be perfected. If we want it to live, now, and not later, is the time to go to its relief.

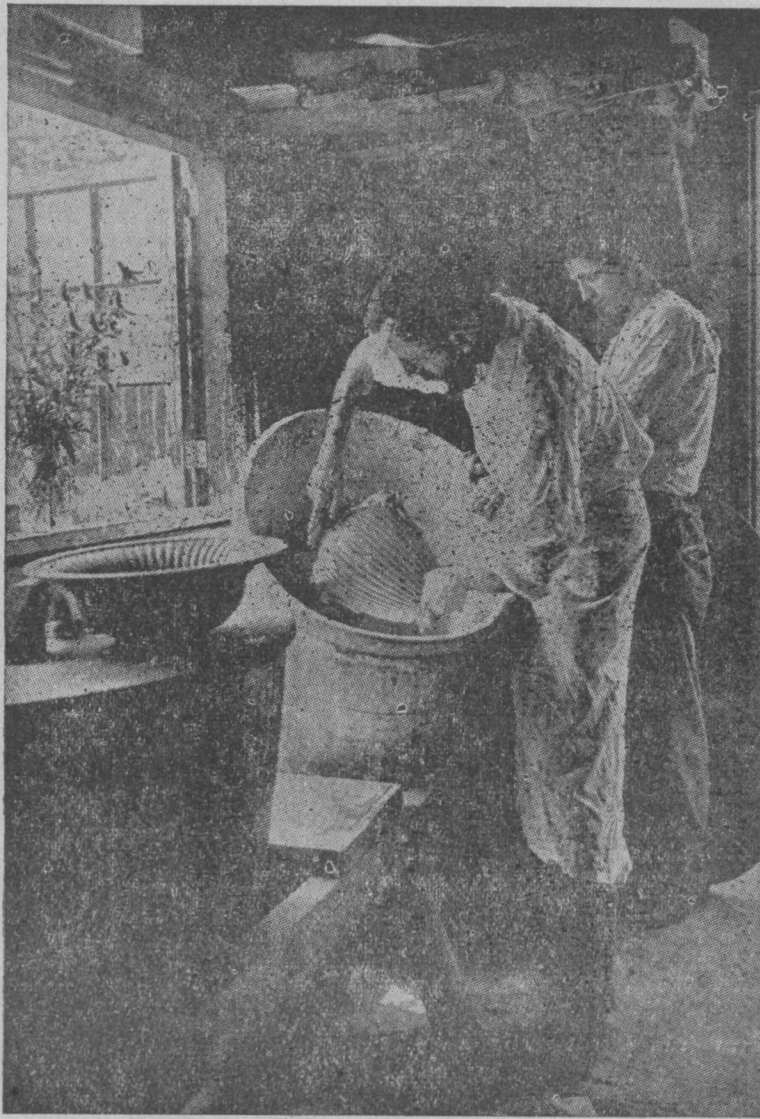
— The Outlook

Ananias, Sapphira, And Other Liars I Have Known

(Continued from page one)

spend much of his time like a well-pitched roof, shedding things and letting them roll into the gutter and go into the sewer where they belong; others spend their lives like the gutters and sewers catching all the de-

The Potter



"Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words . . . 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." — Jer. 18:2, 6.

vil's rain and all the dirty water that his emissaries are so ready to throw out, and passing it on until their own lives become rusted, defiled and polluted."

Lying about God's Ministers is very dangerous. God said: "Touch not mine anointed and do my prophets no harm." Oh, how the Christians need to learn this lesson today. A friend of mine wrote me a letter last week from El Reno, Oklahoma. In the letter she said a friend of hers told her something about me on the phone and told her she could prove it. My friend went right to the home of this person and said, "Show me the proof about Brother Webber." Her friend admitted she could not do it. I answered the letter saying, "You are always safe when you demand the proof of the story. That lady was lying about me and declaring she could prove it until asked for the proof." That is the way with so many people today, they believe their own lies half of the time and try to make themselves believe they have the proof. Do you think such a person will go unpunished? The great A. B. Simpson said, "I would rather play with forked lightning, or take in my hand living wires with their fiery current, than speak one reckless word against any servant of God as thousands of Christians do to the hurt of their own souls." Be sure of one thing, God will make you give account of every idle word. You never lied about a servant of God in your life that some punishment from God did not visit you.

I read of a fine young preacher just starting out in life of service for the Master. He was a consecrated,

powerful preacher, respected and loved in his community and was doing well with his charge. There was one lady in the choir who always wanted the place of prominence in the Church activities. The young preacher soon saw that she just wanted to show off and did not call on her for anything special in the activities of the Church. This made the lady angry and she proceeded to spread lies about the young preacher in the community. What could the young man do? To deny the charges would only make matters worse, because then everyone would surely believe there must be something to the story. So the young man decided he would just make it a matter of prayer. He called on God to vindicate him.

One evening in her home the lady tried to pray and could not. Her words seemed to choke her, she could not sleep, she paced the floor all night and God convicted her and showed her what a terrible evil she had committed against His servant. She pleaded with God to forgive her and promised to go to the preacher the first thing in the morning. The next morning she called at the parsonage. The minister invited her into the house, and there she confessed her sin and said to her pastor, "I will do anything you ask me to do to undo the great wrong I have done you. I will go to the people I have lied to and confess, oh I'll do anything you ask." The pastor asked, "Will you do anything I ask?" "Yes," said the woman, "anything." "All right," said the young minister, "I want you to take that pillow off the sofa, rip the end off it and go out onto the porch and scatter the feathers out of it

to the wind." "Why," said the lady, "that is a peculiar thing to ask me to do." "You said you would do anything I asked, that is what I ask you to do." "All right, I will," said the lady, and she took the pillow. Ripping the end off it, she went out onto the porch and she shook the feathers into the wind which promptly carried them away. "There," said the lady, "I did what you asked." "Oh, there is one thing more," said her pastor, "now go and pick up every one of those feathers." "Why, that is impossible," the lady said. "Yes," her pastor replied, "it is impossible and it is just as impossible for you to right the wrong you have done me. All my life the lies you have told will follow me, no matter where I go they will be there." The woman dropped on her knees and sobbed and prayed for she never dreamed the wrong she had done God's servant. There has never been one true servant of God in all the history of the Church that has not been lied about.

Ed. Note: In this connection, it is well to remember the words of our Lord, when He declares:

"ALL LIARS SHALL HAVE THEIR PART IN THE LAKE WHICH BURNETH WITH FIRE AND BRIMSTONE." — Rev. 21:8.

Through the years gone by, this editor has seen many good men slandered by a slanderous tongue. What a shame that supposed-to-be Christians and so-called preachers should sell themselves to the Devil to do his dirty work. Within the past few years in the city of Ashland, Kentucky, two preachers have been scandalized until their influence has been greatly marred. It is preachers and church members who have thus slandered these two good and godly men. A similar group have tried to wreck this editor. In the light of Rev. 21:8, what a fearful day is in store for the liars of Ashland, Russell, and elsewhere, unless they repent before God!

PIE IN HIS EYE

(Continued from page one)

Now what do you think about that? Paul said concerning the last days, that churches would have "a form of godliness" (II Tim. 3:5). Yet this doesn't even have a form of godliness.

Those who sponsor young peoples' societies say that they are training the young people for future Christian service. That's how the BYPU crowd attempt to justify their monstrosity of religion. Above everything else, they ought to be trained to be reverent in God's House. Listen:

"God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him." — Psalm 89:7.

"But if I tarry long, that thou mayst know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." — I Tim. 3:15.

Whenever I read or hear of such disgraceful, irreverent, blasphemous, sinful escapades in the house of God I remember the words of Jesus, when He said, "But from the beginning it was not so." — Mt. 19:8.

Elder R. S. Trueworthy of Richmond, Maine recently ordered a number of copies of an issue of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER wherein appeared an article relative to women preachers. He says, "I believe as you do. I never saw a woman but what preached in the flesh — no power."

The City Of The Living God

(Continued from page one)

Whose builder and ruler is God; John saw it descending from heaven, When Patmos, in exile, he trod; Its high, massive wall is of jasper. The city itself is pure gold; And when my frail tent here is fold, Mine eyes shall its glory behold.

No sin is allowed in that city, And nothing defiling or mean; No pain and no sickness can enter, No crape on the door-knob is seen; Earth's sorrows and cares are forgotten, No tempter is there to annoy; No parting words ever are spoken, There's nothing to hurt or destroy.

No heartaches are known in that city, No tears ever moisten the eye; There's no disappointment in heaven, No envy and strife in the sky; The saints are all sanctified wholly, They live in sweet harmony there; My heart is now set on that city, And some day its blessings I'll share.

My loved ones are gathering yonder, My friends, too, are passing away; And soon I shall join their bright number, All in eternity's day; They're safe now in glory with Jesus, Their trials and battles are past; They overcame sin and the tempter, They've reached that fair city at last.

In that bright city, pearly white city, I have a mansion, an harp, and a crown; Now I am watching, waiting, and longing For that white city that's soon coming down."

IT IS MOST INTERESTING TO NOTICE THE SIZE OF THE CITY OF GOD. There is nothing small about it. In fact, it is of tremendous proportions and gigantic magnitude.

One who talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof.

"And the city lieth foresquare, and its length is as large as the breadth; and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal." — Revelation 21:15.

It is thus pictured as being twelve thousand furlongs long, broad, and high. Yet, to the average person, to speak of this city as measured in furlongs offers but little information as to the size. When we remember that a furlong is approximately six hundred feet and that this city is twelve thousand furlongs on each side, and when this is reduced to miles, it would mean that the city is approximately

FOURTEEN HUNDRED MILES on each side. Still again, this doesn't mean a great deal to the majority of people; for the average person has no conception of the length of four hundred miles. To illustrate, if one might go to Vancouver, Washington and put down a cornerstone, and then come east across southern Alberta through British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba to the waters of Lake Superior, we would have approximately fourteen hundred miles. Then, if we might go south and follow the course of the Mississippi River to New Orleans, we would have approximately the same distance again. Then, turning east to the Pacific Coast and back

up the west coast to our starting point, we would have a complete square of approximately fourteen hundred miles on each side. In other words, the whole western half of the United States from the Mississippi River westward comprises a square of about fourteen hundred miles on each side.

This gives us some little idea as to the size of the City. In addition, the City is surrounded by a wall made of jasper which is in itself two hundred sixteen feet high. Listen:

"And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel.

"And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass." — Revelation 21:17, 18.

Beneath that wall are foundations which are garnished with all manner of precious stones.

"And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald;

"The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysophasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst." — Revelation 21:19, 20.

Even the twelve gates of that City are made of a complete pearl.

"And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass." — Revelation 21:21.

Yet, even this does not give us a complete description of the size of the City. Although it is fourteen hundred miles long and broad, the City itself towers above the gates of pearl and the walls of jasper for another fourteen hundred miles, since it is just as high as it is broad and long. If it were built as a modern skyscraper, it would rise some six hundred fifty thousand stories in the air.

Imagine then a city covering the entirety of the twenty-two western states, or covering two-thirds of the total area of the United States, and, at the same time, six hundred fifty thousand stories in height.

Surely the City of the Living God is to be a place of tremendous size. This is the prophecy of all of God's Word.

"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." — John 14:2.

"And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven." — Matthew 8:11.

"And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God." — Luke 13:29.

I realize that there are those who would object to the size of the City, stating that the majority go to Hell, and but very few go to Heaven. In fact, there is a Scripture which is usually interpreted as thus teaching:

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." — Matthew 7:13, 14.

But, beloved, this is spoken of those who have to find the way to Heaven. Scientists tell us that at least four-fifths of the human family die before they reach the age of accountability. There is no question but that four-fifths of the human family then go directly to Heaven; unless you believe the God-dishonoring heresy that there are babes in Hell, then you must admit that at least four-fifths of the human family go to Heaven.

BABES ARE SAFE

It might be interesting to notice that the Word of God explicitly states that all children who die in infancy go immediately to Heaven.

"Why did I not from the womb? Why did I not give up the ghost when I came out of the belly? "Why did the knees prevent me? or why the breasts that I should suck? "For now should I have lain still and been quiet, I should have slept: then had I been at rest." — Job 3:11-13.

In the light of this Scripture, we are assured that all babes go at once into the immediate presence of the Lord Jesus. Certainly a portion of the remaining one-fifth will be saved too. Then this means that the majority will go to Heaven and a very small number proportionally will go to Hell. In fact, the largest word that is used in the Bible to describe Hell is that of a lake, and the second largest is that of a ditch.

There is a second objection that is often brought concerning the size of Heaven in that it is alleged that the Bible teaches that only one hundred forty-four thousand will be saved, and in proof of this, the following Scripture is often cited:

"And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel." — Revelation 7:4.

If you will notice the context of this Scripture carefully, you will see that it is speaking only of those that are saved during the tribulation period. It is not speaking of them that have been saved from the day of Abel down to the present time or of those who shall be saved on down until Jesus comes; it merely talks about those who will be saved during the days of the Great Tribulation. Even this one hundred forty-four thousand is a reference only to the Jews who are to be saved during that period. The verse itself says " . . . and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of Israel." Following, the writer enumerates that there were twelve thousand saved out of each tribe.

Then after mentioning these Jews that are saved, he goes on to tell of the great multitude of the Gentiles who are saved during this tribulation period.

"After this I beheld, and lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;" — Revelation 7:9.

Thus, you see, that instead of Heaven being a place only large enough for one hundred forty-four thousand persons, even in the Great Tribulation period—between the rapture and the revelation—there will be at least one hundred forty-four thousand Jews saved and a great multitude of Gentiles which no man can number. In addition to all of these, there will be those who have been saved since the days of righteous Abel unto the time

of the rapture and, in addition, all those who shall be saved during the Millennium. Certainly Heaven will be considerably larger than that of one hundred forty-four thousand.

II

THIS IS A CITY OF INCOMPARABLE BLESSINGS. NO CITY IN ALL THE WORLD IS SO RICHLY BLESSED AS IS THE CITY OF GOD.

IT WILL NEVER HAVE A PAVING PROGRAM, FOR ITS STREETS ARE PAVED WITH GOLD.

"And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass." — Revelation 21:21.

This is, ordinarily, one of the big problems which any city faces—the paving program. Whether the cost is met in one lump sum or a bond issue over a period of years makes very little difference—the paving program is always a problem. This is not true of the City of God, for its streets are paved with pure gold.

MEN MUST BE SAVED

This is one reason why men will have to be saved before they go there. Otherwise, through the covetousness of their unsaved nature, they would dig up those golden streets. In fact, I doubt if any unsaved man could be in Heaven twenty-four hours without finding a pick-ax and start in to amass the worth of the City. I tell you, men have to be born again to be fit subjects for that City.

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

"Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

"Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." — John 3:3, 5, 7.

THE CITY OF GOD WILL NEVER HAVE A WATER SHORTAGE, for it is supplied by water from the river of the water of life.

"And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb." — Revelation 22:1.

Water satisfies as nothing else will. In reality, there is no drink that will take the place of water in bringing satisfaction. Then, since Heaven is to be supplied by water from this wonderful stream, we are thereby assured that it will be a place of complete and everlasting satisfaction.

IT WILL NEVER HAVE A SCARCITY OF FOOD, for the tree of life yields fresh fruit every month.

"In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." — Revelation 22:2.

What a blessing that there shall never be hungry children—or for that matter, what blessing that no one shall ever be hungry; for all will find complete happiness and satisfaction with the longings of their appetites satisfied by the fruit from the tree of life.

THIS CITY WILL NEVER HAVE ANY LIGHTING PROBLEMS; for the Lamb Himself is the light of it.

"And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it; for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof." — Revelation 21:23.

I imagine there is someone who might object, saying that we will be unable to endure the intensity of Heaven's light. I imagine someone will recall Paul's experience on the roadway to Damascus when he saw that light from on high and, as a result, was blind for three days following.

"And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus." — Acts 9:8.

However, let me remind you that when that day comes, we will not have the same bodies that we now have, not will we see through the same natural eyes that we use today. Then we will have bodies like the Lord Jesus and, as a result, we ourselves will shine with the same intensity of brilliance.

"So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:

"It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.

"It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body." — I Corinthians 15:42-44.

"And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

"For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

"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 Corinthians 15:49, 51-57.

IN THIS CITY THERE WILL BE NO HOUSING PROBLEM. This is one of the big problems which affects and confronts most cities today. Yet this will never be a problem in the City of God.

"In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." — John 14:2.

Every inhabitant of Heaven will have his own mansion, and every mansion will have its own inhabitant.

FURTHERMORE, THERE IS NO UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM. Of course, today this is no problem among the nations of the world; yet most of us can remember those terrible days of the depression when both jobs and positions could not be had even at a premium. In Heaven there will be no unemployment. God's people will continually and forever serve Him.

"And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him." — Revelation 22:3.

ANOTHER BLESSING OF THIS CITY IS THAT THERE WILL BE NO UNDESIRABLE NEIGHBORS THERE. Both the neighborhood and the neighbors are continual problems in the average city. Yet, not so in the City of the Living God. All of the undesirables will be shut out. Lis-

ten:

"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the like which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." — Revelation 21:8.

"For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie." — Revelation 22:15.

Everyone in Heaven will have the same nature — and that nature will be the nature of God Himself.

THERE WILL BE NO DEATH IN THAT CITY. No hearse shall ever creep along its golden streets. There will be no crape on the door-knob and, as the old song says, "No graves on the hillside of Glory." There will be no parted loved ones left behind to weep and sorrow over the going of some friend or relative.

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." — Revelation 21:4.

"But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage:

"Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection." — Luke 20:35,36.

Death comes to all of us here, but to none yonder. How we do rejoice that we can sign, "My Heavenly home is bright and fair, I'm going home to die no more."

THERE WILL BE NO SORROW IN THAT CITY — AT LEAST, NO ABIDING SORROW. It is highly possible and very definitely probable that when we get to Heaven, tears will cloud the eyes of many of us when we see Jesus and realize what He has done for us and how little we have done for Him. It is certainly probable then that tears will start from our eyes. How marvelously God's Word tells us, though, as to the disposal of them, for we are assured that they will be wiped away by Jesus Himself.

"And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." — Revelation 21:3,4.

"For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of water: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." — Revelation 7:17.

ANOTHER INCOMPARABLE BLESSING WHICH IS OURS WITHIN THIS CITY IS THAT THERE IS NO CHURCH BUILDING THERE.

"And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it." — Revelation 21:22.

Here, when we desire to worship, we usually go into some building; but there, we shall go directly to the Lamb Himself.

THERE WILL BE NO EDUCA-

TION PROBLEMS WITHIN THAT CITY, for everyone will have perfect knowledge.

"For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

"But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away." — I Corinthians 13:9,10.

Knowledge is an incomparable blessing either for earth or Heaven. There we will understand the things we have not understood down here — the tangled skein will be unraveled, the mysteries will all be made plain. Problems we failed to understand will all be solved. We will understand then the mysteries of life, the inequalities of human experiences, and the complex mystery of death.

Not now, but in the coming years. It may be in the better land, We'll read the meaning of our tears And there, sometime, we'll understand.

We'll catch the broken thread again, And finish what we here began; Heav'n will the mysteries explain, And then, ah, then, we'll understand.

We'll know why clouds instead of sun Were over many a cherished plan; Why song has ceased when scarce begun;

Tis there, sometime we'll understand.

Why what we long for most of all, Eludes so oft our eager hand; Why hopes are crushed and castles fall,

Up there, sometime we'll understand.

God knows the way, He holds the key,

He guides us with unerring hand; Sometime with tearless eyes we'll see; Yes, there, up there, we'll understand.

Then trust in God thru all thy days; Fear not, for He doth hold thy hand; Tho' dark thy way, still sing and praise,

Sometime, sometime, we'll understand.

IN THIS CITY, THERE IS PERFECT ENVIRONMENT. Nothing unclean can enter there.

"And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life." — Revelation 21:27.

In that City, we ourselves will be transformed to look like Jesus. What wonderful days are out before us! All the scars and marks and imperfections of our physical body will be done away. We ourselves will be transformed and transfigured to look like Jesus. In each of us, His glory will shine through. No truth is more prominently taught in the Word of God than this.

"Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself." — Philippians 3:21.

"And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly." — I Corinthians 15:49.

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren." Romans 8:29.

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." — I John 3:2.

What wonderful fellowship there is in store for each child of God throu-

ghout eternity. Just to think that we will associate with and have fellowship with the angels, the cherubim, the seraphim, the redeemed of all ages, and our own redeemed loved ones whom we have both loved and lost long since awhile. We will walk along the celestial avenues — avenues paved with gold — throughout the eternal ages, enjoying the fellowship of the citizens of Heaven and the redeemed saints of the earth.

"For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known." — I Corinthians 13:12.

What a blessing to know that we will see and know and associate again with those of our loved ones who have gone on before. It is this fact which confronted David when his child had died. He looked forward to seeing that child again.

"And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live?"

"But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall say to him, but he shall not return to me." — II Samuel 12:22,23.

FINALLY, IN THIS ETERNAL CITY, WE OURSELVES WILL HAVE AN ETERNAL ASSOCIATION WITH HIM WITH NOTHING EVER TO SEPARATE OR HINDER THAT ASSOCIATION. We will be with Him eternally.

"For I am in a strait betwixt two; having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better.

"Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you." — Philippians 1:23,24.

"Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:

"(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

"We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." — II Corinthians 5:6-8.

"Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." — I Thessalonians 4:17.

III

MAY I ASK YOU A VERY PERSONAL QUESTION? "ARE YOU BOUND FOR THAT CITY?" You doubtlessly recall the Negro spiritual which says, "Eberbody talkin' 'bout Hebbin ain't going there."

In view of the statement of this song, I ask you this question, "Are you going there?"

There is only one way that you can have assurance of ever entering the gates, and that is through Jesus, and Jesus only.

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

May God bless you, and may you make your calling and election sure in Him and know now that you are definitely bound for that City.

I SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW . . .

(Continued from page one)

the building committee hire you and pay you so much per diem. But do not take God's money against His will. One tenth of your income, one tenth of your profits in business, one tenth of the increase of your proper-

ty when you sell it, one tenth of any inheritance or gift that comes your way belongs to God. One tenth of all cash receipts should be paid in cash.

If an Old Testament saint needed to keep the tithe of his crop to feed on or for seed, then he was to let the priest pass on its value and add one fifth thereto to be sure that God was paid in full. The querist does not live in Kentucky. We do not want to seem harsh or unkind. But we know so many folk in Kentucky that treat God the same way, that it is hard to keep from saying some things. The kindest thing that can be said about a course like that is that it reveals two things, namely, a desire to hold on to money when we get it and a disposition to take advantage of God and keep His money and put off something else on Him, when we ought to pay Him what we owe. We cannot make trades with men without their consent; neither can we take from God what is His without His consent and get by with it. That looks like a man, who hasn't full time work, and puts in time working for God, when He has no job and charges God up with it and keeps the tithe in his pocket to pay himself. No more reprehensible course is imaginable than that. And the next is worse still if possible.

6. My wife buys material, makes dresses, sends them to our orphanage and credits her tithe account with less than the dresses would cost at the orphanage. Is this missing our tithe more than sending it through our church?

That isn't tithing at all. You still owe God every dollar of all the tithe you have taken from Him no less volens. Here are some of the sins in a transaction like that. First taking advantage of God and putting off on Him, what He does not want, when He has plainly said what He does want. He wants the tithe of all your increase, not a worthless substitute. Second, He wants obedience, and that is not obedience. Third, he wants the first fruits, not a poor substitute for any kind of fruit. Fourth, read Malachi. God talks very plainly about those, who think any thing is good enough for God. He calls giving God such things as that "despising His name," "offering polluted bread" "treating Him contemptibly," "cursed be the deceiver," and says that His dealings with those, who treat Him thus are "dreadful."

7. The church, where I have membership sends its money through the Northern Convention. I do not think they are teaching the Word of God, as they deny the Deity of Christ, the Inspiration of the Bible, etc. Is it right for me as a steward of the Lord's money to help teach such doctrines?

No. What you ought to do is to come out of a church that permits such things and be separate. 2 Cor. 6:14-18. "Be not partaker of their sin."

8. What is the duty of Christians about moving their letters to a church that does not practice what the Bible teaches?

Every Baptist ought to move his church letter where he lives if the church is anything like Scriptural. Otherwise, he should keep his letter in a church that is orthodox even if he doesn't get to attend once a year. Abraham got into trouble every time he moved his tent and did not move his altar. No exceptions. None now. He went to Egypt and Philistia. Both times he lied. Both times his neighbors reproached him. Both times God

had to come to his rescue. Both times he had to move. So did Isaac, when he moved for business reasons and left his altar back where he came from. Lot ruined his whole family and lost all his property by putting business first and moving into Sodom and left his altar behind. No exceptions to that. A man has only one life to live. He ought to let his light shine all the time. He can not do that and have his membership in one place and his home at another. James plainly tells believers to always consult God's will before they move. Jas. 3:13-17. A saved man has no right to move into any place where there is not a live, orthodox Baptist church simply to make money. His first duty is to God and then to look after the religion of his family. God first. Lots of Baptists are going to find great gaps in their records, with nothing to show for their lives at the judgment, because they put money first and left their membership at home: "saved as by fire" and all their works burned up. The only justifiable reason for any Baptist moving where there is no church is to do mission work.

MRS. PRAYER MEETING SUFFERS AND DIES A HORRIBLE DEATH

(Continued from page one)

heartfelt religion, shameless desertion and non-support as contributing causes for her death. Only a few were present at her last rites, sobbing over memories of her past beauty and power. Carefully selected bearers were urged to bear her remains tenderly away, but failed to appear. There were no flowers. Her favorite hymns, "Amazing Grace" and "Rock of Ages," were not sung. Miss Ima Modern rendered "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere," but none had any idea where this fancied isle might be. The body rests in the beautiful cemetery of Bygone.

In honor of her going the church doors will be closed Wednesday nights save on the Third Wednesday of each month, when the Ladies Pink Lemonade Society serves refreshments to the members of the Men's Handball Team.

— "The Grace Ambassador," Huntington, West Virginia.

THE MIZPAH BENEDICTION

(Continued from page one)

the entire context as recorded in Genesis 31:25 to 55, when Laban uttered these words.

Laban was angry with Jacob. He accused Jacob of being a thief. There was no thought of love or benediction in his heart. His thought was: "I can not be here to watch to see that you keep your side of the bargain. May the Lord watch you to see that you do not defraud me again."

Jacob thought the same thing of Laban. Hence the words, "May the Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent one from the other."

There are many other verses in the Bible which could be much more appropriately used than the so-called Mizpah. Psa. 19:14 is one of them. "Let the words of my mouth, be the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, Strength and My Redeemer."

We could also suggest Numbers 24 to 26, as well as many more.

— The Baptist News