

PREMILLENNIAL -o- BAPTISTIC -o- CALVINISTIC -o- BIBLICAL

The Baptist Examiner

The Paper With a National Circulation

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

Devoted to Evangelism, Missions and Bible Doctrines.

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

WHOLE NO. 360

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1945

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CAN A CHRISTIAN TRUTHFULLY SAY, "SO MOTE IT BE?"

COWARDS IN THE PULPIT

Walter E. Eisenhower

Afraid to preach the burning truth,
Afraid to warn the wayward youth,
Afraid to cross man's crooked path
Lest he should stir the devil's wrath;
Afraid to preach against the wrong;
Because it's practiced by the throng;
Afraid to preach in thunder tones
Against the wicked on their thrones.

So many compromise today
For pulpits large and lots of pay;
For praise of men, both great and small,
Though God may frown upon it all;
Yes, compromise with Satan's fleet
That they may live on easy street,
While souls are going down to hell
Where they in agony shall dwell.

O pulpit coward, turn to God!
And go the path our Saviour trod,
Lest you should lose your precious soul
And fail to reach the heav'nly goal,
Along with those you failed to win
From paths of wickedness and sin.
To Christ who died to set men free
From sin and all its misery!

God wants the preacher to be brave,
And not to be a spineless slave
To men of base desire and pride
Who go the downward road too wide;
But who will warn the worldly folk
That sin and hell is not a joke,
Then lead them to the Saviour's feet
Where they may find salvation sweet.

—From: The Bible Witness

By Richard Kretzschmar

Oh, bid now every prejudice be gone,
Before your God weigh duly pro and con,
Then take your stand and say,
"Thy will be done!"

Our neighbor was a Jew and no Christian. He also was a Freemason. And you know that many Jews and other people who are opposed to the Christian religion are considered members in good standing by the Masonic Order.

As a Jew our neighbor, with whom by the way, we always had very pleasant neighborly relations, tried to work his way to heaven according to his Jewish religion, as a Freemason, however, according to his Masonic religion. And both as a Jew and as a Mason he expected to be saved on the merits of his character, his conduct, his works.

One night we heard terrible groans emanating from the neighbor's house. The poor man was in the pains and agony of death. The next day we were informed (Continued on page two)

Rules For A Holy Life

Did I awake spiritual, and was I watchful in keeping my mind from wandering this morning when I was rising?

Have I this day got nearer to God in times of prayer, or have I given way to a lazy, idle spirit?

Has my faith been weakened by unwatchfulness or quickened by diligence this day?

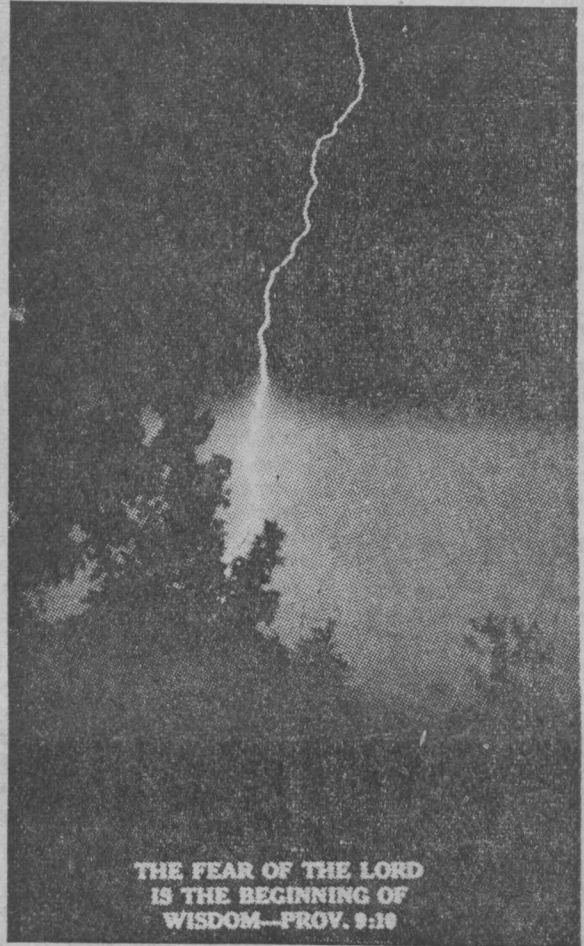
Have I this day walked by faith and pleased God in all things?

Have I denied myself in all unkind words and thoughts? Have I delighted in seeing others preferred before me?

Have I made the most of my precious time, as far as I have had light, strength and opportunity?

Have I governed well my tongue this day—remembering that "in a multitude of words there wanteth not sin?"

Do my life and conversation adorn the Gospel of Jesus Christ? —John Fletcher



You May Believe In Praying Sinners Through Yet It Isn't In Bible

Most preachers pride themselves on believing and practicing only that which is in the Bible and then proceed to hatch out a lot of odd colored fowls that can claim no kin whatsoever with the Bible revelation! This is true even of some Baptists! We claim the Bible to be our sufficient and sole rule of "Faith and Practice," yet many practice things in their Churches that are foreign to the Scriptures. I believe that a person ought to be honest and either stop

saying he is "Biblical" or else throw overboard the practices that are certainly not found in the Bible!

There is not one single verse of Scripture that tells you that a sinner must bow at a certain place in the Church and be prayed for or "Prayed through," as the usual way of talking about it.

(Continued on page two)

Ten Reasons Why I Am A Baptist And Not A Seventh Day Adventist

D. B. EASTEP

"Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."

— 1 Peter 3:15.

I. BECAUSE I CANNOT AGREE WITH THE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST ON THE DATE SETTING QUESTION ESPECIALLY WITH REGARDS

TO THE COMING OF CHRIST. Although I believe as they in an early, near, visible, personal and imminent return of our Savior, Jesus Himself said: "Of that day and hour knoweth no man." — Matt. 24:36.

II. BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN A LITERAL HELL OR ETERNAL TORMENT WHICH THE BIBLE PLAINLY DECLARES. There is no context to prove that Hell-Fire is to be taken figuratively. (Continued on page two)

FAULT FINDING REBUKED

There was a blacksmith who was always carping at professors of religion, especially when he could get a Christian to talk to, or knew of one who was near enough to overhear him. Some choice morsel of scandal was sure to be served up about an erring minister, or a sinful deacon, or a Sunday school superintendent who had "fallen from grace."

One day he was dilating with uncommon relish on his favorite theme to a venerable elder. The good old man bore it quietly for a while, and then he said, "Did you ever hear the story of the rich man and Lazarus?" "Yes, of (Continued on page four)

-- The First Baptist Pulpit --

"DID CHRIST HAVE A HUMAN FATHER?"

"And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus." — Luke 1:30,31.

For a number of years wave after wave of destructive criticism in one form or another of religious liberalism and modernism has swept over America. Throughout this period I have come face to face with many critical attempts by way of the denial

of the virgin birth, yet never so much as of recent date.

A little while back, I talked with a so-called preacher who declared that Jesus was not "the" Son of God, but merely "a" Son of God. In other words as each of us are sons of God, so Jesus was only a Son of God in that respect. He declared that Jesus was not born of a virgin but rather the story which Mary told as to her condition was a "trumped up" matter in order to cover over the shame occasioned by the ex-

posure of her sin.

If this seems incongruous, then may I tell you how a midwestern university sent out a questionnaire some months ago to a large number of preachers, asking their convictions on various tenets of faith. The replies were tabulated in two groups. The first group was comprised of those who were preachers already settled in a pastorate, while the second group was comprised of student ministers. On the question of the virgin birth, (Continued on page three)

DIDN'T MENTION HIS LORD

When I was a boy of about fourteen years a minister stayed in our home overnight. In the morning as he started on foot for a neighboring village, I went with him to assist with his baggage. I have never forgotten that walk; it comes back to me with a feeling of sadness. One great desire was surging through my soul, and it was, "I wish he would talk to me about Jesus and my soul"; but he didn't. How much sin and sorrow I might have been saved had he spoken the word I believe God wanted him to speak. Men unsaved expect it of you, Christian, and they have a right to expect it. —A. B. Kendall, in S. S. Times.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN - EDITOR

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TEN REASONS WHY I AM A BAPTIST AND NOT A SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

(Continued from page one)

III. BECAUSE I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE SOUL SLEEPS IN THE GRAVE, AS ALL TRUE ADVENTISTS DO. Paul said: "To be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." — 11 Cor. 5:8. The body sleeps — but the soul returns unto God.

IV. BECAUSE I HAVE NEVER FOUND IN THE WORD OF GOD ONE SINGLE SENTENCE WHERE PATRIARCH, PROPHET, APOSTLE OR ANYBODY ELSE IN THE NEW TESTAMENT EVER COMMANDED A GENTILE TO KEEP THE LAW OF MOSES.

V. I KNOW THAT SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS QUOTE I Jn. 2:4-6 and Rev. 22:14 AS GROUNDS FOR KEEPING THE LAW OF MOSES, BUT I Jn. 3:22-24 RIGHTLY INTERPRETS THESE TWO PASSAGES, AND I BELIEVE GOD'S INTERPRETATION IN PREFERENCE TO ANY MAN'S.

VI. BECAUSE I BELIEVE THE WORD OF GOD WHICH TEACHES ME THAT I AM SAVED BY GRACE AND NOT BY LAW. Romans 3:2-28; 7:6-8; Galatians 2:16; 3:10, 19-26.

It is an axiomatic fact that all laws must operate in the realm in which they belong, and ONLY THERE. Now sin is a spiritual disease and the remedy must be spiritual — NOT WORKS.

VII. BECAUSE BAPTISTS AND NOT CATHOLICS WERE THE FIRST TO OBSERVE SUNDAY AS THE DAY OF WORSHIP. BECAUSE EARLY CHRISTIANS WERE ALL BAPTISTS.

1. The Lord arose on the first day. Luke 24:32-41. Also Ps. 118:24.

2. The risen Lord first appeared to the disciples on the first day of week. Jn. 20:19,20.

3. Moneys were to be collected by early Christians on this day. I Cor. 16:2.

4. John, on the Isle of Patmos, saw the Lord on the Lord's day, and that day was Sunday.

VIII. BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTY IN HARMONIZING SOME SCRIPTURES AND THE PRACTICES AND TEACHINGS OF SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS.

(Continued on page four)

CAN A CHRISTIAN CONSISTENTLY SAY, "SO MOTE IT BE?"

(Continued from page one)

that he was dead.

As a Jew he was buried accord-

ing to the rites of his Jewish religion. Rabbi H. conducted the funeral service, spoke a prayer, and tried to show that the deceased had passed into a better and happier life on the merits of his character, his conduct, his works; for he had been a good Jew.

As a Mason he was buried according to the rites of his Masonic religion. The Chaplain of the lodge conducted the service, spoke a prayer, read the ritual, and tried to show that the deceased had entered a better and happier life on the merits of his character, his conduct, his works, that he had been admitted to the "Grand Lodge Above," where all fellow-Masons hope some day to be reunited with him; for he had been a good Mason.

Fellow-Jews listened to the words of the Rabbi with silent consent.

Fellow-Masons, some Jews, some Christians, listened to the words of the lodge chaplain, not with silent consent, but with a consent given vent to in words, saying time and again, "So mote it be! So mote it be!"

Let us now consider for a moment the discordant situation of the Masonic Christian.

As a Mason he stands at the grave of a Jewish or any other fellow-Mason who never believed in the Christian religion. He hears the chaplain of the order say the prayers and read the ritual adopted by all Masons. The deceased is said to have entered a better, a happier life on the merits of his character, his conduct, his works; because of his having been a good Mason, he was admitted to the "Grand Lodge Above," where all Masons hope to be reunited with him some day. And he, the Masonic Christian will say, "So mote it be!" For that is his Masonic belief, the Masonic way of salvation.

As a Christian, however, he is bound to accept the infallible words of the Bible and of the Savior: "No man cometh unto the Father but by me." John 14:6. "He that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." John 3:36. "Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12. "All have sinned, . . . being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." Rom. 3:23, 24. "Through faith, and that not of yourselves, . . . not of works, lest any man should boast." Eph. 2:9. That is every true Christian's belief, the only Christian—the Biblical way of salvation.

How in the world can these two beliefs, the Masonic belief and the Christian belief, be harmonized? How can both be found in the same heart? They are as irreconcilable as darkness and light, as death and life. To be a conscious, conscientious, and consistent Christian makes it absolutely impossible to be at the same time an intelligent, loyal, and consistent Freemason. If you want to be consistent, you must choose one or the other, Christ or the Lodge.

Suppose you would attempt the impossible and, as a Freemason, still want to cling to Christianity, to salvation through Christ, then there is no getting away for you from the clear and definite injunction: "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers; . . . for what communion hath light with darkness? . . . What part hath he that believeth with an infidel? . . . Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord." 2 Cor. 6:14-17.

If, as a Christian, for some supposed gain and advantage, you

still want to hold to the lodge, the Masonic belief of a salvation without Christ, how can you expect to escape your verdict, Matt. 12:30, "He that is not for Me is against Me?" "What is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Matt. 16:26.

Moreover, we might also inquire, How can a Christian consistently say, "So mote it be!" When he realizes that the Masonic worship is directed to an imaginary, fictitious diety, which is made to be acceptable to Jewish and other non-Christian lodge-members, who would never think of praying in the name of Jesus, of accepting and worshipping the Son of God, or the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, or the Spirit proceeding from the Father and the Son while every Christian knows that is the one true God, who revealed Himself in the Bible, and who earnestly enjoins us: "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me. My glory will I not give to another. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father?" Ex. 20:3; 1 John 2:23. Christians always want to pray only to this true God, and they desire to do so in the name of Jesus, as He told them to do, John 16:23; for they always remember that they and their prayers are acceptable to their Father in heaven not because of any merits of their own, but solely through the merits of Jesus Christ, their Savior.

Oh, let us entreat all sinners, whether they are members of the lodge or not, Come, worship the living and loving God of the Bible! Listen to the Gospel of your salvation: Christ died for all; He is the only and all-sufficient Savior. 2 Cor. 5:15. His blood cleanseth us from all sin. 1 John 1:7. Neither is there salvation in any other. Acts 4:12. Therefore repent and believe in Jesus Christ, and you will be saved. Acts 16:31.

May no Christian, therefore, take the conflicting and contradicting stand with these who are denying Christ by teaching a Masonic god and Masonic way of salvation on the merit of character, conduct and works!

Hence we must conclude that for a Christian to say with the lodge, "So mote it be! So mote it be!" it is not only a disastrous inconsistency, but above all is denial of his faith and his Savior.

YOU MAY BELIEVE IN PRAYING SINNERS THROUGH BUT IT ISN'T IN THE BIBLE

(Continued from page one)

Where did all this nonsense come from that a sinner must go to the altar, get on his knees, pray through and get up shouting or else he wasn't saved? The Bible doesn't know anything about that.

I remember being in a church when a revival meeting was going on. You guessed it, it was a Baptist Church. Standing in front of me was a nice looking man who evidently had been spotted and thus known to need the Lord. During the invitation, five different people came to persuade him to "go to the altar and be prayed for!" In fact one told him that unless he went up there, knelt down and was prayed for he would go to hell! He said, "I'll get Brother Smith to go up and pray for you!" (A compliment!)

These five people did not tell this man what the Bible wanted him to tell. He had heard a fine sermon that would tell him all that he needed to know. But since they had more zeal than knowledge, they consumed the time creating unrest in the man's mind and defeated the sermon that had

been preached. No one told him that Jesus died for his sins. No one bore witness that Jesus "came to seek and to save that which was lost." No one told the man, "I tell you nay, except you repent you shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:3) Not one told him to "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." (Acts 1:31) Not one told him, "By grace are you saved through faith and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God, not of works lest any man should boast." (Eph. 2:8-9). Not one told the man that "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Rom. 10:13).

Instead of telling a poor sinner what he needs to know, these people who are bent on calling themselves "Scriptural" and hatching out their own methods of saving a sinner, tell him to go to the altar and pray through. I know some of my readers may resent this, but look in the Bible and if there is anything in there about "praying a sinner through to salvation at the altar," I'll apologize and retract every word.

This method of getting people saved is an act of begging God to do something that he has been wanting to do ever since the person became accountable to Him for his sins. All things have been ready for his salvation ever since Jesus died! He is pleading with the sinner through the preaching, witnessing and the work of the Holy Spirit to get the sinner to take the salvation. I never go to a home for dinner, look at the well prepared meal and start begging my host for something to eat. I never say, "Please give me some bread, some potatoes and some meat." The fact that I was invited and I came to sit down at the table, proved that I did not have to beg for anything to eat. You don't have to beg God for salvation, dear reader. Just take it. That is what we read in Rev. 22:17, "Whosoever will let him TAKE the water of life freely."

So often people criticize the Roman Catholic people for having the Altar, the Rosary and the Crucifix in their religious system. But let me tell you that there isn't a bit of difference in that and erecting a "Mourners Bench" in your Church and demanding a poor sinner that he must go to it and "Pray Through" else he is not born again." You may do it but it isn't in the Bible! If you forbid others to place something between you and Jesus Christ then don't be guilty of placing an Altar between a sinner and Jesus Christ.

It is true that Christians need to pray. They are to pray without ceasing. They are to pray in secret. They are to pray far more than the average person does pray. But his praying and a sinners praying are two different matters. The sinner calls upon God, believing in his heart. for salvation and instantly God hears. The Christian may pray months about certain matters that concern the glory of God, before the answer comes.

There wasn't a single sinner "prayed through" in the experience of Jesus and the disciples. Mathew was "Seated" at the place to collect taxes, and he got up and followed Jesus. The woman listened to Jesus talk and was convinced and went to tell men of the city about Jesus and they believed. (Jn. 4) Zacchaeus was sitting up in a tree and at Jesus' invitation "came down." (Lk. 19) The publican was standing in the temple and merely asked for mercy. He "went down justified." The eunuch was sitting in his chariot. Philip read the 53rd chapter of Isaiah and told the man that he could have Jesus and he was saved! (Acts 8) There is no record of praying any through. The Pentecost experience was not praying for sinners but it was a mood to be in so as to be receptive to the historical coming of the Holy Ghost.

Again, I say, you may do it, but it isn't in the Bible. You may have altars but these kind are not in the Bible. The kind to have in the New Testament is in your heart! A great many people have been saved in spite of these things, though some thought they were saved by their aid. But if you want to be "Biblical" you will have to admit that there is not one verse in the Bible about such. —Tabernacle News

WHY NOT THE CIGARETTE

We picked him up, this soldier, for a few miles lift.

As he lit a cigarette he remarked that the greatest relief from the boredom of army life was smoking. Then we admitted a thing that must have made him wonder what sort of a curio was the chap riding beside him. We told him we never had had a cigarette to our lips!

Discerning that he would at least listen respectfully, we proceeded to give him four reasons why we refuse the abominable cigarette a place in our life:

1. It is poison, therefore destructive to good health.
2. It is expensive.
3. Its use is discourteous to others.
4. It does not enhance the testimony of a Christian, but hinders it.

These reasons for us are ample, and though we may seem to many an eligible specimen for a museum, we are not ashamed that we have never defiled ourself by the filthy weed.

Furthermore, we are sure of this: we should not wish to be puffing tobacco smoke when the Lord Jesus comes in the air for us.

Would you?

—Faith and Works

Miss Ollie Walden, Bellwood, Ala., writes that she enjoys deeply the messages of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. She says that after reading the paper completely, she passes them on to others. She not only says that she appreciates the paper, she shows it, by enclosing a nice contribution of "folding money."

The Chritian Alphabet

Adopted	Justified	Redeemed
Born again	Kings	Saved
Chosen	Loving	Transformed
Dead to the world	Merciful	Unspotted
Elected	New Creatures	Vigilant
Forgiven	Obedient	Workmen
Glorified	Patient	Yielded
Holy	Quickened	Zealous
Immortal		

MARCH 10, 1945

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE THREE

DID CHRIST HAVE A HUMAN FATHER?

(Continued from page one)
about half of the pastors denied it, and almost ninety percent of the student ministers declared that it was impossible to believe in the virgin birth.

Just of recent date a liberal and modernist preacher was speaking over the air, and in the course of his sermon, he referred to Jesus as a "war baby." He declared that in connection with every war a large number of babies were always born. He insisted that Jesus' mother was a Jewish girl living in the land of Palestine and that his father was a Roman soldier who was quartered there at that time, and that Jesus was the illegitimate offspring of these two. It was thus he referred to Him as a "war baby."

In the light of these experiences and many others of like nature which I might relate, I wish to insist at the very outset that I believe that He was miraculously and supernaturally conceived by the Holy Spirit; that He was born of a human mother, yet without a human father; and that the Holy Spirit of God was His Father. There are a number of reasons which I wish to offer for believing thus.

I BELIEVE THAT JESUS WAS BORN OF A VIRGIN IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT HIS BIRTH WAS REPORTED BY A DOCTOR. Luke is often called the "beloved physician." He might, therefore, be referred to as "Dr. Luke." Surely as a man of science, and in view of his position as a physician, we ought to give credence to his statement. Since he was a doctor, he was in a better position to know and understand the facts of Jesus' birth than if he were outside the medical circle. Our text was therefore written by Luke, and since he as a doctor believed that the virgin birth of Jesus was true, then I am impressed that we too should believe the same.

I realize in thus believing, I am assuming that each of you believe the Word of God. If it be not so, then I have not one word to say to you. I would not waste my time arguing, discussing, nor talking with anyone who does not believe the Bible to be God's Word. However, if you do believe this, then we have a common ground for considering this subject.

II
I BELIEVE THAT JESUS WAS BORN OF A VIRGIN IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT IT WAS PROPHESED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT. At least three scriptures in the Old Testament hint at the virgin birth.

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall crush thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." — Gen. 3:15.

This is the fountainhead of all prophecy — it is the first prophecy given in the Bible. You will notice that it is a definite statement concerning the birth of Jesus. It refers to Him as the "seed of the woman." All others are the result of a combined seed of man and woman, yet not so with Jesus. He was peculiarly the seed of the woman. This verse very strongly suggests by this expression that He was to be born of a virgin without a human father.

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign: Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." — Isa. 7:14.

What could be clearer or plainer than this statement? Though Isaiah lived between seven and

eight centuries before Jesus was born, he clearly foresaw that Jesus was to be born of a virgin, and in this prophecy thus speaks.

"Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall

Matt. 1:25.

As you will recall, when Joseph was debating the matter as to whether he should marry Mary, he was given assurance of the angel that her child was conceived of the Holy Spirit. Acting upon this heavenly revelation, he proceeded with the marriage, and yet God's Word declares that he "knew her not" until after Jesus

posed upon everyone guilty of adultery. Listen:

"And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbor's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death." — Lev. 20:10.

After the revelation from the angel, Joseph and Mary were married. Instead of being thus stoned as the law demanded, she was honored in marriage. Hence, since Mary was not stoned, this proves that her friends and acquaintances believed that Jesus was virgin born and that He was not born through adultery.

In view of the way in which the crowd desired to treat another woman who was actually guilty of adultery (John 8), then we are led to believe that if this crowd had thought for one moment's time that Mary was an adulteress, she would have been stoned. The fact that this penalty was not imposed, leads us to know that her acquaintances, relatives, and friends believed her statements as to Jesus' supernatural conception.

VI
I BELIEVE IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT BEES AND OTHER SMALL ANIMALS MULTIPLY IN THIS MANNER. When there is reproduction through a female apart from any influence of the male, this is parthenogenesis—that is, generation by a virgin.

I don't know a great deal about bees, but I do know that it is thus that they reproduce. I am sure that if God uses this method for the reproduction of bees and smaller animals and insects all the time, that He could, if He so desired, use this same method for the conception of Jesus.

We are assured that all things are possible with God. Listen: "For with God nothing shall be impossible." — Luke 1:37.

In view of this Scriptural statement, then surely God could, and doubtlessly did, use the virgin Mary to produce the Lord Jesus without a human father.

VII
I BELIEVE IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH IN VIEW OF PAUL'S STATEMENT. It is often argued by the liberals and modernists that the virgin birth is not true in view of the fact that though Paul wrote some thirteen or fourteen books in the New Testament, he never once referred to Christ as having been born of a virgin. Yet, this is far from true. When Paul wrote to the churches of Galatia, he declared in substance that Jesus did not have a human

father. Listen:

"But when the fulness of time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that are under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." — Gal. 4:4-5.

Notice the expression: "Made of a woman." Christ was really thus produced. If I had no other Scripture to depend upon, this would be sufficient for me to believe in the virgin birth. Yet with the many other Scriptures that I have already given to you or shall give to you, it is more than conclusive to me that Christ was thus conceived.

VIII
I BELIEVE IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH BECAUSE OF THE LOGIC OF THE SITUATION. To me it is most logical that Christ's birth should be thus accounted for. If His birth were of a natural order, then who was his father? Surely it was not Joseph since he disclaimed the paternity of Mary's conception. This would mean then that Jesus was either begotten by the Holy Spirit, or else He was conceived outside of wedlock and outside of betrothal. In the light of Mary's exemplary life, then the latter is not only ridiculously preposterous, but unbelievable in every respect.

Surely from the standpoint of logic, we say that no one could have been the father of Jesus except the Holy Spirit.

IX
I BELIEVE IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH SINCE JESUS WOULD NOT CALL JOSEPH NOR ANY OTHER MAN HIS FATHER. When He was twelve years of age, He was taken up to the Temple at Jerusalem for the first time. It was during this visit that He was lost and separated from His parents for three days. When they came back into His presence, the following conversation ensued:

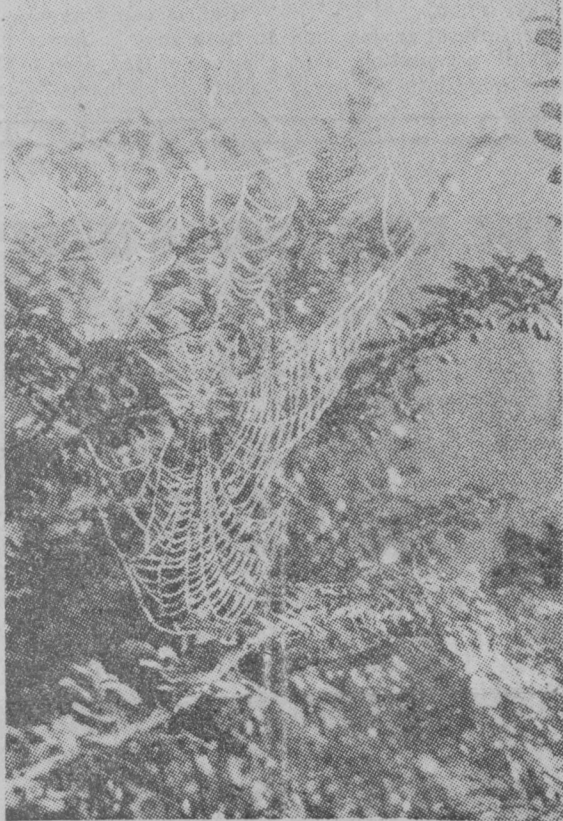
"And when they saw Him, they were amazed: and His mother said unto Him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. And He said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" — Luke 2:48,49.

Here is a wonderful play on words — play on the word "Father." Naturally Mary referred to Joseph as Jesus' father. This is logical since he was Jesus' foster-father. However, Jesus refused to call any earthly man "father." On various occasions He referred to Mary as His mother, but never

(Continued on page four)

A WARNING

"... THE PATHS OF ALL THAT FORGET GOD
... SHALL PERISH: WHOSE TRUST SHALL BE
A SPIDER'S WEB." JOB 8:13,14



come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure." — Dan. 2:45.

This text is taken from Daniel's interpretation of King Nebuchadnezzar's forgotten dream. Daniel not only told the king what it was that he had dreamed, but interpreted the dream unto him so that the dream actually became a preview of history. He declared that the head of gold represented Babylon under Nebuchadnezzar; the chest and arms of silver, represented Media-Persia; the belly and thighs of brass represented Greece under Alexander the Great; the legs of iron represented the Roman Empire. Then he said that he saw a stone which was "cut out of the mountain without hands" which destroyed this image. Of course, this stone represents the Lord Jesus Christ who is to put to an end all Gentile dominion and Gentile kingdoms. They shall be destroyed by Him as a smiting stone. Daniel referred to this stone as "cut out of the mountain without hands." This then is a latent reference to the miraculous and supernatural manner of Christ's birth.

I say then, in view of these prophecies of the Old Testament, that I believe Jesus was born of a virgin without a human father.

III
I BELIEVE IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT JOSEPH KNEW NOT MARY UNTIL AFTER THE BIRTH OF JESUS. Listen:

"And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and called his name Jesus." —

birth.

Of course, you understand this expression "knew her not" refers to sexual conjugation, and therefore would indicate that Joseph lived an entirely continent life until Jesus' birth was accomplished. Surely this in connection with other events which are well known and attested, and especially in the light of the exemplary life of Mary, is enough to indicate that Jesus was born of a virgin.

IV
I BELIEVE IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT DECLARED THAT CHRIST WAS VIRGIN BORN. You must recall that it was the Holy Spirit who told Joseph that Jesus' birth was supernatural. Listen:

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with a child of the Holy Spirit." — Matt. 1:18.

The Bible was written under the direct guidance and was verbally inspired by the Holy Spirit. Thus when we read this statement as to Jesus' birth, we are reading the declaration of the Holy Spirit Himself. Certainly for one to deny the virgin birth of Christ means that he is literally denying the truthfulness of the Holy Spirit.

V
I BELIEVE THAT THE VIRGIN BIRTH IS TRUE IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT MARY WAS NOT STONED FOLLOWING THE BIRTH OF JESUS. The Old Testament law demanded that the penalty of stoning be im-

HOW'S YOUR I. Q.?

There is something wrong with your knowledge of:

BOTANY—if you have never discovered the True Vine (John 15:1).

GEOLOGY—if you are still ignorant of the Rock of Ages (Deuteronomy 32:4).

CHEMISTRY—if you are unacquainted with the great Catalyzer (II Pet. 3:7).

MATHEMATICS—if you have not considered the breadth and length, and depth and height of the love of Christ Jesus our Lord (Eph. 3:18,19).

BIOLOGY—unless you can trace life back to its primal cause, "In the beginning God" (Gen. 1:1; Jn. 1:1-4).

PHYSICS—until you have an experimental knowledge of the operation of the Spirit of the Risen Christ (Eph. 3:7,16,20).

SOCIOLOGY—if you seek any other cure for sin than that which God has provided through the blood of Jesus Christ His Son (I John 1:9; John 1:29).

ASTRONOMY—unless you are prepared to witness the rising of the Bright and Morning Star (Rev. 22:16).

—A. M. E., in Bible Students Treasure House.

DID CHRIST HAVE

A HUMAN FATHER? once did He own to any man as father except the Father in Heaven.

X

I BELIEVE IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH BECAUSE OF CHRIST'S SINLESS NATURE. It is most interesting to me always to notice that Christ was perfectly sinless. He thereby is a contrast to us. He had no sinful bent nor inclination in the direction of wrong doing. His nature was sinless. Listen:

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

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

"For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens"—Heb. 7:26.

These Scriptures thus declared that He was sinless. If He had been conceived in the usual manner. He, like each of us, would have been the possessor of a sinful nature. Yet he was sinless. He alone could declare that He was sinless from birth. Listen:

"Thou art my God from my mother's belly."—Psa. 22:10

No one else but Jesus could ever have made this assertion, and He could never have made it if He had been conceived naturally as were each of us.

Some months ago I read a most unusual book written by an eminent physician who declared that by actual experiment and tests, it had been proven that the child's nature and blood are inherited from the father. This has been proven in view of syphilitic tests that have been made. Through these tests it has been seen that for a child to be born with syphilis, he must have received such from his father. This is a marvelous revelation of the fact of the value of heredity.

Well, in this connection, Christ had a sinless nature which He could never have gotten if He had been conceived in the normal manner. The fact of the absence of such a sinful nature indicates the virgin birth.

XI

I BELIEVE IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH IN VIEW OF THE EXPRESS STATEMENT OF MATT. 1:16 Listen:

"And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ."

In those first sixteen verses, forty-two generations—or in other words, the generations from Abraham to Christ, are enumerated. Concerning each of these generations it is said of the individual that he was begotten. However, when the author comes to the Lord Jesus, he does not declare that Jesus was begotten, but rather says that Jesus was born. This in itself is not only an un-

usual change of terms, but doubtless was put there for a specific purpose to teach us that Christ's birth was not by a begetting, but by the supernatural and miraculous manifestation of God.

XII

I BELIEVE IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH SINCE MARY MAGNIFIED THE LORD BECAUSE OF HER CONDITION.

"And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord."—Luke 1:46.

Immediately after she received the announcement from the angel Gabriel that she was to become a virgin mother, she went to visit her kinsfolk. Then it was that she spoke the words of this text. In it, and in the verses following, she praised God because of her condition. She praised and magnified the Lord since she was to become the mother of the Lord Jesus. What a contrast this presents between Mary and some young girl who is soon to become an unmarried mother. Many times in the days gone by I have dealt with those who were soon to become unmarried mothers. Never yet have I found one who praised, magnified, and blessed the Lord because of her condition.

This would all surely indicate that Mary sincerely believed that her child was to be born without a human father.

XIII

I BELIEVE IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH SINCE MARY WAS NOT ASHAMED OF HER CONDITION. Immediately after it was announced by the angel that she was to become a mother, she went to her relatives and told them of her condition. Listen:

"And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda."—Luke 1:39.

Again she presents a very decided contrast with the girl who is to produce a child outside of wedlock. In dealing with girls of this problem, I have always found them to be most reluctant as to telling their parents concerning their experience. There are some parents even here this morning who know that it has been necessary on my part to even come to you to tell you of that which has befallen your own children when those children felt embarrassed to do so. Yet this was not true of Mary. She was not ashamed; she was not embarrassed. The very fact that she thus came and told her condition to her relatives is a strong proof that the virgin birth is a reality.

XIV

FINALLY, I BELIEVE IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH SINCE IT IS A WELL ATTESTED HISTORICAL FACT. The Word of God declares that two or three witnesses are sufficient to establish the truthfulness of any fact. Well, let's find our two or three witnesses. Mathew was one of these, for he wrote of the virgin birth. Luke was a second, for he told about it. Paul was a third, for he declared that Jesus was "made of a woman." Mary was a fourth, for she believed that the child which was born of her was of the Holy Spirit. Joseph was a fifth,

for he accepted the testimony of the angel, and acting upon it, proceeded to marry Mary.

While the Scriptures declare that every word may be established by two or three witnesses, here are at least five witnesses which we are able to offer who declare their belief in the virgin birth. It is thus a well attested historical fact, and accordingly we are forced to the conclusion that Jesus was conceived and born of a virgin without a human father.

Thus since Jesus was God's own Son, having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, it behooves each one to accept Him as Savior and Lord. He came for the purpose of dying for our sins. Listen:

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."—Luke 19:10.

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world

to save sinners; of whom I am chief."—1 Tim. 1:15.

In view of this fact, then you need Him. You need more than a man for a Saviour. You need the supernaturally conceived, divinely begotten, and miraculously produced Son of God—Jesus Christ. He alone can save.

When Peter would walk on the Sea of Gennesaret with his Lord, he sank beneath the waves. Then it was that he looked toward Jesus and cried, "Lord, save me or I perish." Just as Jesus lifted up this sinking apostle, so the Lord Jesus will do the same for each one who believes upon Him and who will receive Him by faith. May God open your heart to believe this wonderful truth of the virgin birth, and this still greater truth that God's virgin born Son is our only Savior.

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

THE FOG HANGS DEEP

The fog hangs deep, I cannot see!
Where is the way that I should take?
What the decision I should make?
Oh, Saviour, pilot me.

I dare not take one step alone!
Such fateful dangers hover near;
I tremble, Lord, aghast with fear,
O, Saviour, guide me on.

Teach me the way that I should go!
Make plain my path, the darkness through;
With thine own grace my strength renew,
O Saviour, grace bestow.

Then, when I reach Thine happy shore,
Beyond the fogs which now obscure,
Beyond the mists which now endure,
I'll praise Thee evermore.

—R. E. Neighbour.

FAULT FINDING REBUKED

(Continued from page one)
course I have." "Remember about the dogs—at the gate there—how they licked Lazarus' sores?" "Yes. Why?" "Well, you remind me of those dogs—always licking sores. All you notice in Christians is their faults."—Christian Life and The Word of The Cross.

TEN REASONS WHY I AM A BAPTIST AND NOT A SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

(Continued from page two)

1. If Christians are required to keep the Sabbath day, why do Adventists depart from their dwellings on that day, seeing those to whom the law was given were plainly commanded not to do so?—Ex. 16:29. Let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.

2. If they keep one Sabbath, the seventh day, why not keep them all, the seventh year and the year of Jubilee? Who authorized any one to make the distinction in favor of the seventh DAY? Lev. 25:1-22.

3. If Christians are required to keep the Seventh Day Sabbath how are they to live in cold climates? Ex. 35:1-3. And Moses gathered all the congregation of of the children of Israel together, and said unto them, These are the words which the Lord hath commanded, that ye should do them.

2 Six days shall work be done,

but on the seventh day there shall be to you an holy day, a sabbath of rest to the Lord: whosoever doeth work therein shall be put to death.

Ye shall kindle no fire throughout your habitations upon the Sabbath day." This is one proof that it was for Israel.

4. Is it the duty of Christians to put to death those who desecrate the seventh day? Numbers 15:32-36.

"And while the children of Israel where in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the Sabbath day

And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation.

And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him.

And the Lord said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp.

And all the congregation brought him without the camp, and stoned him with stones, and he died; as the Lord commanded Moses."

IF YES, WHO WILL BE THE PUBLIC EXECUTIONER? If no what will you do with Ex. 35:2? "Whosoever doeth work therein shall be put to death." If you say that the penalties are abolished, I answer: The passage you use to establish this proves beyond the

shadow of a doubt that the LAW was abolished too. If they admit that the penalties are in force, then why not execute the penalty? "Render unto God, etc."

5. Why did not Jesus require the young ruler to keep the Seventh Day Sabbath when enumerating the commandments? Matt. 19:16-29; Mark 10:17-22; Luke 18:18-24.

6. If Adventists keep the Seventh Day Sabbath because it was before the law of Moses, why do they not observe circumcision? Because it too was commanded before the law of Moses. Gen. 17:1-14.

7. If Christians are required to keep the Seventh Day Sabbath, how are we to account for the open violation of the law by Jesus who is our example, unless by saying, THE POWER THAT MADE THE LAW CAN TAKE IT AWAY, AND THAT HE DID IT? Matt. 12:1-8; Jn. 7:23,23.

8. If early Christians kept the Seventh Day Sabbath, why did they break bread on the first day of the week? Acts 20:7.

9. If Christians are to keep the Seventh Day Sabbath why did not the apostles and N. T. writers command it? Col. 2:4-23. "And this I say—lest any man should beguile you with enticing words... as ye have received the Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him... Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit... And you hath he quickened... having forgiven you all trespasses: blotting out the handwriting of ordinances (the law) that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the Sabbath days:

Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ."

10. Why should we insist on keeping the Seventh Day Sabbath when God himself said that he would cause even Israel's sabbath to cease? Hosea 2:11.

I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts.

11. If the Seventh Day Sabbath is to be kept ought not feast days and new moons to be kept, and solemn feasts such as PASS-OVER, PENTECOST and TABERNACLES?

12. If Seventh Day Sabbath is to be kept ought it not be kept according to the law?

(a) Offering of the burnt offering. Num. 28:3-10.

(b) Stay in your homes. Ex. 16:29.

(c) Have no fire in your house on Sabbath. Ex. 35:3.

This should ALL be observed for it is written: "He that offendeth in one point is GUILTY OF ALL." and again: "Cursed is EVERY one that continueth not in ALL things that are written in the law."

IX. BECAUSE SUNDAY HAS A GREATER SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE GOSPEL AGE THAN HAS SATURDAY.

New: Rest (in Christ) then work (because saved).

Old: Work (to be saved) then rest (in a salvation that is not secure). Eph. 2:8; Rom. 11:6.

X. BECAUSE I BELIEVE CHRIST MEANT WHAT HE SAID ON THE CROSS WHEN HE CRIED: "IT IS FINISHED." And I can do nothing to obtain salvation but to receive it.

The love of Christ will cause us to do the work.

AMEN! HOLY ROLLERS TAKE NOTICE!

Pliny informs us that Zeuxis once painted a boy holding a dish full of grapes so well that the birds were deceived, and flew to the grapes to peck at them. Zeuxis, notwithstanding, was dissatisfied with the picture. "For," said he, "had I painted the boy as well as he ought to have been painted, the birds would have been afraid to touch them." Thus does the Christian dwell more on his shortcomings than on his attainments. — F. F. Trench